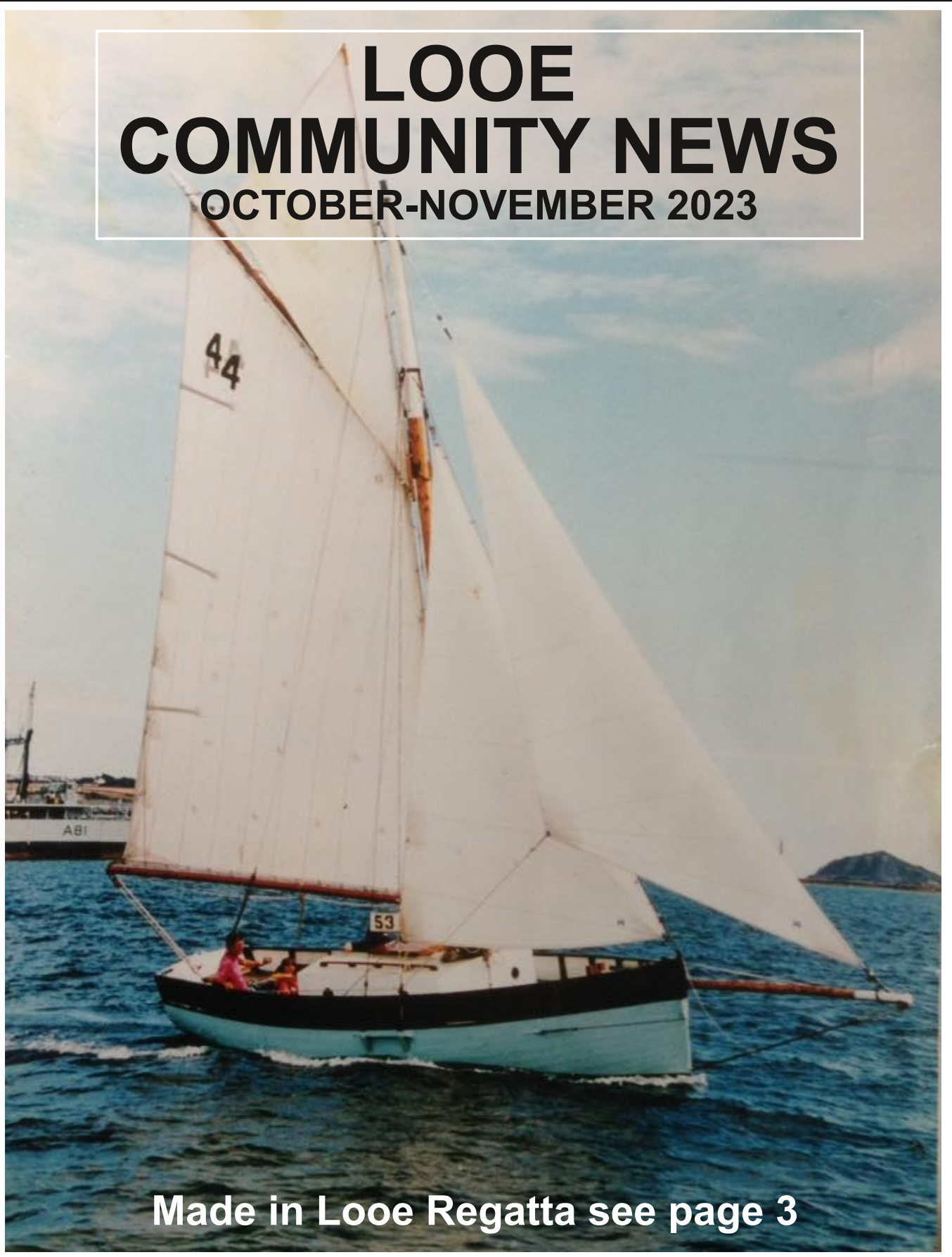


LOOE COMMUNITY NEWS

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2023



Made in Looe Regatta see page 3



136th Edition - Online
Published by Looe Development Trust
for Looe and surrounding Parishes



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“MADE IN LOOE” REGATTA

Looe is poised to have an additional harbourside event next year – and it’s one in which businesses and residents are being urged to get involved. Following on from the success of last May’s Cornish Lugger Association biennial reunion in the bay, the Looe-based organisers are planning a ‘fallow years’ regatta in 2024 but this one will not be restricted to wooden-built craft. Instead, working in collaboration with the Looe Harbour Commissioners and Looe Sailing Club, the lugger folk are launching a celebration of Looe’s centuries-old boatbuilding legacy with a ‘Made In Looe’ Regatta.

Many of the Cornish luggers still sailing today were built in the harbour in the late 1800s and early 1900s by the likes of Tom and Richard Pearce, Peter Ferris, James Angear and Abraham Pengelly. But that boatbuilding heritage also continued way into the 20th Century with the Curtis and Pape boatyard at West Quarries on the West Looe River (the business was originally established as Curtis and Mitchell at Polean); the Pearn brothers, Norman and Gerald, at the Millpool; Arthur Collings’ business on East Looe quay; Roy Dann on Polperro Road and Brian Porter at the top of West Looe Hill among others.

Within recent times the town has mourned the loss of two of the last renowned craftsmen, Clifford Adams and David Currah; the former, who died earlier this year, was still building the Uffa Fox-designed Redwing sailing dinghies way into his 90s and the latter, famed for his Pilot Gig rowing boats, was taken far too soon in 2021. The Pilot Gigs built by David and his father, Jim, in West Looe regularly won World Championships at the traditional Isles of Scilly showpiece regatta and, indeed, their boats often filled all the podium places.



Clifford Adams in his workshop. Picture: Neil richardson

“We have enjoyed such a great boatbuilding tradition in this town over the years,” said Lugger Association chairman Jeff Penhaligon, the port’s former harbourmaster, “that we felt it was time it was recognised and celebrated with an event of its own.”



The late Dick Butters’ ferryboat, which was built by Clifford Adams
Picture: John Collings

Unlike the Lugger regatta, where a wooden hull and a sail is a prerequisite of entry, the only condition for the Made In Looe Regatta is that it does what it says on the tin! As well as wooden boats – including the much-missed ‘doodlebugs’ that were hired out in the 1960s to mid-1970s – the Looe ‘yards were among the first to build GRP (glass reinforced plastic) sailing, fishing and leisure vessels, including the port’s iconic speedboats, while local enthusiasts like Joe Bussell and Harry Southern also continue to build model craft.

“As long as the boat was built in our immediate area, it will be welcomed at this historic reunion regatta” said Jeff.

The three-day festival is set for June 14-16 next year with the final day coinciding with the Looe Boatowners' Association's ever-popular raft race – and, of course, all those only-just-about-floatable contraptions were also 'Made In Looe'!

The exact format of the heritage reunion weekend has yet to be finalised. However, it is thought that all the participating boats will be moored within the harbour throughout the weekend, so the varied designs and styles of those Looe boatbuilding skills will be on show for everyone to see. A full programme of live evening music at the West Looe Quayside Centre is also planned.

"It's really up to the town how this event will shape up," said Jeff. "We will get the boats and provide the live entertainment, but others might want to come on board with stalls and 'Made In Looe' food and drink and the like – we are really open to any ideas from businesses and residents in the town."

As well as the Harbour Commissioners and Sailing Club, the West Looe Heritage Centre are supportive of the regatta and the organisers would like to hear from anyone else who has suggestions of how the event might develop. Those with boats 'Made In Looe' – and there have been thousands over the years, some now in all corners of the globe – are asked to register their interest (without obligation) by e-mailing details of their vessels to:

Paul Pengelly at: office4luggers@btinternet.com.

The organisers will meet again shortly to expand their vision and in due course will draw up a timetable of events for the June 2024 weekend.

Looe resident Peter Friend spotted the Looe-built Sheila Ann II while he was sitting by the Canal du Midi in Trèbes (near Carcassonne, South West France), enjoying a glass of rosé. "I noticed that it had the hole to attach a leg so it must have come from somewhere tidal," he said. "Then, the owner comes back from having lunch and we get talking only to discover the boat was built in Looe in the 1950s by Clifford Adams"



Sheila Ann II Picture: www.welcometolooe.com



Voyageur Picture: John Collings

DUNKIRK DUTY: One of the many lugger-style motor yachts built at the Curtis and Pape boatyard in West Looe was the Voyageur. Launched in 1938, the 51-ft Dunkirk veteran had a distinguished career and was often used on film shoots, having been regularly chartered by the famous actor, Sir John Mills.

On this issue's cover The 25-ft Valda cuts a dash as Peter Ferris' Looe-built Polperro Gaffer powers through the water under sail. She is currently under restoration in the Bristol area.

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AT POLEAN WEST LOOE

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Telephone: 01503 262839

Email: reception@looeharbour.com

Shouts: Our volunteer crew at Looe are ready to answer the pager and rescue those in difficulty. Between 13th July and 11th September our crews launched to 12 shouts. August 2023, was a peaceful month, which saw Looe RNLI volunteer crews responding to a couple of shore-based incidents without any tasking requests to launch the charity's inshore lifeboats on service. However, the start of September has seen crew pagers sounding six times, resulting in nine lifeboat launches and one shore-based incident.

Find out more at: <http://www.loolifeboats.co.uk/recentshouts.htm>



Some Photographs from Looe Emergency services day 2023 Pictures:Neil Richardson

Souvenir Shop: Subject to volunteer availability, and the weather, our shop is open daily between 11 am and 4 pm. We have a wide range of products on sale, including Christmas cards, a new range of gifts and 2024 calendars.

Albatross Boathouse: Our volunteer guides open our boathouse daily between 11am and 4pm unless there are operational requirements or adverse weather. They look forward to welcoming you and telling you all about our volunteer crew, the RNLI, the charity's launch tractors and inshore lifeboats.

Keeping safe on the coast: As we move into Autumn, the times and frequency of our SE Cornwall RNLI lifeguard patrols change. Patrols at Freathy have now finished for 2023, Patrols at Seaton and Sharrow will finish on 24 September. Tregantle will be patrolled only at the weekend until 24 September, whilst Tregonhawke beach will be patrolled daily until 24 September, then only at weekends until 15 October and the final week of October half term when patrols finish for the year on 29 October. When there is no lifeguard cover on the beaches, please take extra care.

There have been several incidents with swimmers getting caught in rip currents. Please take notice of the red and yellow flags and follow the advice of the lifeguards when they are on duty. Always Respect the Water, check the tide times, wear appropriate buoyancy aids and take a method of calling for help. If you need help or see someone in difficulties call 999 and ask for the coastguard.

If you are on East Looe beach, check the orange windsock on East Looe Town Trust's building by the Old Lifeboat Station. If it is pointing out to sea this denotes an offshore wind which can easily blow an inflatable, stand up paddleboard, kayak or canoe out to sea and hinder your attempts to return to shore safely.

Open water / cold water swimming

Open Water Swimming is becoming more popular around our coasts - whether you're swapping the swimming pool for open water or just enjoying a quick dip, please take care. Safety information can be found on the RNLI website

<https://rnli.org/safety/choose-your-activity/open-water-swimming>

Float to live: However you end up in the water, if you get into trouble, remember to Float to Live. Cold water shock is our body's natural response to entering cold water and can very quickly lead to drowning. Floating, even for a short time, allows the effects of cold water shock to pass. It enables you to regain control of your breathing and your survival chances will greatly increase.



You can learn how to float following these five simple steps:

1. Tilt your head back, submerging your ears.
2. Relax and try to control your breathing.
3. Move your hands to help you stay afloat.
4. Your legs may sink but that's OK – everyone floats differently.
5. Spread your arms and legs to improve your stability.

We actively encourage practising how to float in a safe environment. It's a lifesaving skill and having the confidence to float in a life or death situation could make all the difference.

If you see someone struggling in the water, fight your instinct to jump in and help. Stay on land and phone 999 and ask for the Coastguard at the coast, or Fire & Rescue when inland. Tell the person in danger to float on their back and throw them something that floats, which they can use for buoyancy.

Find out more at <https://respectthewater.com/>



Looe Bay from Hannafore Picture: Leo Maxwell



LOOE TOWN COUNCIL NEWS AND UPDATES

Food Festival – Thank you

A big thank you to all those who helped make Looe Food Festival a great success on Sunday 10th. It was fabulous to see so many organisations, businesses and local groups come together and create such a buzz (not to mention some great smells and tastes) along the Quayside. Thanks as well to everyone who came down to support the event and we hope you all managed to find something that suited your tastes or, at least, whetted your appetite.



As you may know, it's the first time that Looe has attempted this event for about 10 years so we're really pleased with this re-launch and hope that we can make the Food Festival an annual event in the town. We'll be in touch again soon with all those involved this year and really hope that you'll want to be a part of building on the success of this year's event.

In the meantime, many, many thanks to:

Looe Harbour Commissioners; Lions Club of Looe; Tregoad / Waterside Holiday Group; Cornish Collection; Trewithen Dairy; Tamar Fresh; Billy Martin and Copperfish; Peter Gorton; Ben Palmer, The Sardine Factory and Yamas; Julian Bran and Nick Hawke, the Old Sail Loft; Finn Johnson, Hevva, Falmouth Max Taylor, The Sea Kitchen; Nick Hawke, Old Sail Loft; Charlie, Dylan and Tom from The Sardine Factory; Andy Walton, Copperfish, Nate from Bewshea's; Mark Wilson; Woolacotts screen hire; React Scaffolding; The Polperro Wreckers; Russel Sinclair; SJM Drone Images; The Bay, Talland; MOR; Copperfish Distillery; Pengelly's; Yan's Van; Simply the Zest; Katie's Cornish Hot Pots; Penrock Distillery; Hot Doughnut Stop; Woogies; Home Farm; Quirky Boutique; Kilminorth Cottages; Cornwall Wildlife Trust; Cornwall Air Ambulance.

Coastguard Flats, Looe



At their cabinet meeting on 13th September, Cornwall Council agreed to sell the 11 Coastguard flats in Looe to Three Seas Community Land Trust for a price of £1. This will ensure these properties remain available as affordable homes in our town. The council's cabinet approved a recommendation to release the Coastguard Flats (a Grade II listed building worth £640,000) in Looe to the Trust to avoid costly maintenance. Refurbishment of the North Road building was deemed "financially unviable" by Cornwall Housing in 2021 and the building was declared surplus to the council's needs.

With support from Looe Town Council and our Cornwall Councillors Edwina Hannaford and Armand Toms, Three Seas Community Land Trust stepped in with an offer to carry out a full refurbishment of the properties at a cost of over £1m, to be achieved by grant funding, available from Homes England. Councillor Hannaford said: "Providing secure affordable housing is incredibly important for the people of Looe. The lack of affordable housing in Looe is a real emergency, replicated across Cornwall."

A public meeting is taking place at the Millpool Centre at 2pm on Saturday, 30th September where you can find out more about plans and timescales for the project and, of course, ask any questions.

Looe Safety Partnership

After some reports of shoplifting incidents earlier this year, Looe Town Council facilitated a meeting for local businesses to meet with Devon & Cornwall Police, the Safety Officer from Cornwall Council as well as Town and County Councillors. Several actions came out of this including the 'banned from one, banned from all' policy; growth of the retailers WhatsApp group; a presentation to Looe Academy pupils about the consequences of shoplifting; a Police Open Day for Looe businesses; and the forming of Looe Safety Partnership.

Partnership members include the Police, Councillors, East Looe Town Trust, West Looe Town Trust, Looe Harbour Commission, Cornwall Council Officers for Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour, as well as representatives of Looe businesses. The first meeting in September was attended by Zoe Seymour from Pubwatch to discuss the Music Weekender and safety arrangements. The Looe Safety Partnership will continue to meet quarterly and will review the issue of shoplifting at their meeting in March 2024.



Dates for your Diary

More details to be published in the coming weeks – for now please note planned annual events in Looe:

Saturday 4th November

Lantern-making workshop – Millpool Centre, Looe

Sunday 12th November

Remembrance parade and service

Saturday 25th November

Lantern-making workshop – Tencreek Holiday Park

Friday 1st December

Lantern parade and Christmas lights switch-on



LOOE TOWN COUNCIL CONTACTS



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Deputy Mayor, Cllr Stephen Remington

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Councillor Simon Barker

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Cornwall Councillors:

Edwina Hannaford

Armand Toms

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

First Floor

Looe Library and Community Hub

The Millpool

West Looe

PL13 2AF

01503 262255

enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk

CONTACT CORNWALL COUNCIL

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Children, Schools and Families	0300 1234 101
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Adult Care and Support	0300 1234 131
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Council Tax and Business Rates	0300 1234 171
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Trading Standards	0300 1234 191
Environmental Management	0300 1234 202
Environmental Health and Licensing	0300 1234 212
Roads, Transport and Parking	0300 1234 222
Fire and Community Safety	0300 1234 232



WEBSITE: www.cornwall.gov.uk

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Enquiries and applications to:

St. Martin-by-Looe School Trust at

info@stmartinlooeschooltrust.org

or write to

Rev. Ben Morgan Lundie,

The Rectory, St. Martin, LOOE PL13 1NX

closing date for applications –

September 29th 2023



VISITORS FLOCK TO LOOE FOOD FESTIVAL 2023

In September a jam-packed cast of local Cornish Chefs took to the stage to demonstrate how our great local produce can be used to create amazing food.



Ben Palmer and Peter Gorton

There were demonstrations by local chef, Ben Palmer and his team of young chefs, Charlie, Dylan and Tom from the Michelin Bib Gourmand Restaurant the Sardine Factory. Max Taylor from the Sea Kitchen, Fred Alsop from the Fish Market, Nick Hawke and Julian Bran from the Old Sail Loft, and Finn Johnson from Hevva Restaurant in Falmouth all took to the stage. They created spectacular dishes wowing the audience who were eager to pick up top tips from local chefs. A big screen sponsored by HBH Woolacotts in Plymouth enabled the audience to see the techniques used by these talented chefs.

During the afternoon, Copperfish Distillery and Nate from Bewshea's, Donderry, presented a tantalising Gin mixology demonstration, where some lucky show goers were given a tittle to taste.

A big thank you goes to headline sponsors Cornish Collection Ltd and Tregoad/Waterside Holiday Group, who played an instrumental part in bringing back 'Looe Food Festival 2023' plus, huge thanks to the Looe based React Scaffolding Ltd. for building the cookery theatre stage.

Peter Gorton an award-winning chef and a Fellow of The Masterchef of Great Britain, teamed up with chef Ben Palmer to compere the show. They entertained the audience with their charm, knowledge, and expertise. Ben said, "Looe has the potential to be a great foodie destination as we hold some of the best ingredients in the world in and around our waters. What a great way to showcase this by bringing back Looe Food Fest 2023. It was exciting and next year is going to be bigger and better and we look forward to seeing everyone there".



Sam Pengelly's fishmongers



Katie's Cornish Hotpots

Ben Palmer worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring together the spectacular line up of chefs. Many of the fresh locally sourced ingredients were sponsored and supplied by Quayside Fresh, Trewithen Dairy, Pengelly's Fishmongers and by 'The Sea the Sea'.

As well as cookery demonstrations, there was an array of stalls that lined Buller Quay. The quayside bustled with visitors eager to try the delicious food. Visitors to the festival were also treated to some fantastic live music by the Polperro Wreckers and Russell Sinclair.

Bringing back Looe Food Festival was a great achievement for Looe and a fantastic celebration of our local food, local producers and talented chefs.

Photography by Astrality Business



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someone, please contact
Looe Town Council



LOOE COMMUNITY TEA ROOM

Looe Community Tea Room in the Rose Garden is
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Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you soon.
Pat and her team



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SEPTEMBER 2023

LOOE LIBRARY

MONTHLY UPDATE

LAST MONTH AT LOOE

We enjoyed a fabulous festival celebrating the Summer Reading Challenge with a week packed full of arts, crafts and storytelling workshops. Donna camped out storytelling in the Junior Library, Catherine got messy with paints, Tania shared bracelet making skills and Sharon 'slam dunked' a basketball game. Great team work from the Library Team!

CATHERINE
SUPERVISOR, LOOE LIBRARY & COMMUNITY HUB



Festival Fun!



OUR TEA PARTY FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH RAISED OVER £300

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Looe Shedders
Imagine your garden shed, turbocharged
and full of your new friends
That's Looe Shedders



Hello all Shedders and prospective Shedders!

It feels as though we are at a turning point at Looe Shedders now that we've acquired a couple of storage units, sorted the tools we've had donated, found a source of free timber and bought a gazebo for tasks that would create too much noise or mess in the Community Hall.

In other words, we may not have our own shed quite yet, but we have everything in place to start one of our primary activities: MAKING STUFF.

Extra All-Day Meeting - 29th September

With this in mind we're planning an extra meeting each month, running from 9.30am until 4pm. The first one will be on Friday 29th September in St. Martin's Community Hall.

Please contact Chris Roy chairman@looeshedders.co.uk to let him know if you'll be there. You don't need to stay all day, just drop in when you like.

Subsequent all-day meetings will be on the 4th Tuesday of every month (Excluding Boxing Day).

Activities will include tea/coffee and chatting, creating, chatting, learning new skills, chatting, anything else you can think of and of course some chatting, but note there'll be no Repair Café on the extra day.

Our morning meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each month will continue on the same vein, but with the Repair Cafe as an add-on. The next one will be on 10th October starting at 10am.

A reminder will be sent out nearer the time.

What to Make

At our last meeting we brain-stormed on things we could make and sell with a view to raising funds for our future shed. We ended up with quite a long list but the immediate focus is on making items for the Christmas market and might include bird boxes, fence ornaments, cloth bags and Christmas tree decorations.

Any other ideas? If so, we need designs and a materials list so we can hopefully get the timber in time for the meeting on the 29th.

Also, Looe Primary School pupils have a 6-seater play bus which is beyond repair. So we are going to build a replacement bus or train or whatever they need. It will need designing, constructing and painting, so something that can involve everyone.



Looe Shedders and friends at Looe Carnival

Race Night

At the last meeting we also decided to go ahead with a Race Night in the coming months to have some fun and help with our fund-raising.

Please get in touch if you would be willing to sell tickets, play a role in helping to run it or asking local businesses whether they would sponsor it.

Community Hall Maintenance

We also did some maintenance work on the grounds of the Community Hall at the last meeting but we have more to do to get it ship-shape. Please chip in the next time we give it go! Date to be determined when we have some decent weather. The quid-pro-quo is that we get the hall for our meetings free of charge (which is a big deal) but we do need to keep the hall clean and tidy.

Any noisy/messy jobs, like using power tools, will have to be done in the car park in our new gazebo.

Volunteers Please!

We need more people to help with various tasks at Looe Shedders. In particular, we are looking for someone to help us apply for grants but we also want to expand our management team.

Please get in touch if you would like to lend us a hand!

Regards

Peter Heywood

Looe Shedders Publicity Officer

Email: contactus@looshedders.co.uk

Website: <https://www.looshedders.co.uk>



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OLD GUILDHALL MUSEUM AND GAOL: ANOTHER SEASON ALMOST OVER.



We have had a busy season at the Museum in 2023.

There has been an interesting mix of visitors from Looe & the local area, all over the country and a good selection of the rest of the world!

Our volunteers are always being asked questions about Banjo Pier and other landmarks, the arches which hold up Hannafore Road and properties that visitors are staying in to name but a few. Some of the questions are a little strange such as "When did the Boscarn stop being a nunnery?"- (Now that would make Saturday nights interesting...), "Where was the underground smuggler's tunnel out to the Island?", (An 18th century channel tunnel we presume) and "Where did all the sand on the beach come from?" Sometimes we just have to stifle a laugh and be as polite as possible!

The museum team is always happy to help people with their questions about the house they are living in or with family history research. We do our best to find any information and photos that we can, but we do get a little frustrated when the assumption is that we have photos from the 1700s or the only details sent to us are "John was born in 1780 and he married Jane in 1820. We think, " surnames are always useful....

My two memorable information requests this year are from the lady running a fishing club up-country for photos of the shark catches on the quay (stomach churning if I am honest, thank goodness we tag and release now) and a copy of the 1875 report of Talland Cemetery detailing the stench and putrefication from rotting corpses because the ground was too shallow. She said she loved a good horror story.

We shall close for the winter season as normal at the end of October for our annual tidy-up, catch-up and new display planning. We welcome new volunteers all year round, just contact us via the East Looe Town Trust office if you fancy answering the weird and wonderful enquiries about our lovely town.

Penny McHugh
Volunteer Curator.
Old Guildhall & Museum, East Looe

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MONTHLY SERVICES

	Looe	Duloe 9.30 a.m.	Morval 11.00a.m	Herodsfoot 9.30 a.m.
1st Sunday	Holy Communion St Martin's 11.00am	Holy Communion	Family Service	
2nd Sunday	Worship St Nicholas 09.30 a.m.	Family Service	Holy Communion	
3rd Sunday	Worship St Nicholas 11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	
4th Sunday	Café Church Hall 11.00 a.m.	-	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
5th Sunday	Communion 10.30 a.m. Rotating between churches, see notice boards			
WEEKLY:	Communion St Nicholas 10 a.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays			

Priest-in-Charge: Revd. Ben Morgan Lundie

01503 261184 vicar@loeparishes.co.uk

Curate: Steve Guffick

079908 658623 curate@looevalleybenefice.org

Hon. Assist: Revd. Clive Gilbert

PLEASE NOTE:

There are a few additions to our worship schedule at **ST. NICHOLAS:**
an extra service on the 2nd Sundays and also worship **EVERY** Wednesday.

***** NEW !! *****

“OUTDOOR CHURCH”

This is an opportunity to explore Celtic spirituality and other seasonal celebrations. During the winter we have a programme of outdoor events around the area, together with a regular indoor exploration of Celtic spirituality.”

Sunday 8th October, 3 p.m.: Celtic Worship at Herodsfoot Church

Sunday 5th November 3 p.m.: St. Cuby's Well, Duloe. Meet at the church at 3.00 pm for a celebration of St. Cuby's Day followed by a procession to the well.

Sunday 12th November, 3 p.m.: Celtic Worship at Herodsfoot Church

In St. Martin's hall

First sundays: 7PM "ELEVATE" Praise and Worship

Good Grief Café: 1st Wednesday in month 2-4PM

Memory Café: 2nd Fri in month, 2-4 p.m.

LOOE ISLAND NATURE RESERVE UPDATE



Curlews and Whimbrels

In mid-September I again visited one of my favourite places anywhere – Looe Island. For more than 15 years I have been a volunteer with the Cornwall Wildlife Trust who own the island and manage it as a Nature Reserve. In that period, I have made the short crossing to the island more than 200 times, most frequently to watch and count Grey Seals, or to record the nests of seabirds - Herring Gulls, Great Blackbacks, Fulmars, Cormorants, Shags and Oystercatchers. Each year around 250 pairs

make their nests on Looe Island, certainly the most significant location in SE Cornwall for breeding seabirds.

But my latest trip was different – for only the second time, Christine and I stayed a few nights on the island, allowing us to absorb more fully the experience of island life. A taste of wilderness, a short distance from home. We stayed in the island's oldest building, Smugglers' Cottage, which dates from the late 18th century, but tastefully modernised by the Trust to accommodate visitors. Set in a wild garden, and backed by woodland, the cottage is a stone's throw from the beach and the rocky shore. As we sat in the garden eating lunch, butterflies and bees were everywhere and, in the distance, I could hear the seals singing on the rocks of the Ranneys, and the rowdy piping of Oystercatchers, competing with the cries of gulls and the cooing of Woodpigeons. The cottage is on the more sheltered eastern side of the island, which includes the lush vegetable gardens tended by the wardens, but wilderness is not far away. It is autumn and truly a scene of 'mellow fruitfulness', with the hedgerows lavishly adorned with blackberries and butterflies.



Smuggler's cottage

September is a particularly interesting time on Looe Island. The breeding season for birds is over, and it is a time of migration and changing bird populations. More or



Migrating Wheatear on the beach

less the first birds I saw on arrival were three Wheatears, moorland birds pausing on their great journey south to winter quarters in Africa. Later I encountered waders – first graceful Bar-tailed Godwits, then Curlews and their smaller relatives, Whimbrels, both of which have distinctive down-curved bills. The Godwits and Whimbrels, great long-distance travellers, were likely to be stopping off to feed; the Curlews were more likely to stay for the winter on the coast. The melancholy cry of the Curlew, a rising 'cour-lii', is instantly evocative of wild

places.

Each evening, as dusk approached, gulls gathered to roost on the island's main beach which looks across to Hannafore.

But I was amazed to also find a huge roost of Oystercatchers, with over 200 birds,

the biggest flock I have ever seen in the Looe area. Clearly the local resident population had been swollen by incomers from other areas. As I watched, small groups of Oystercatchers continued flying in, joining the restless and noisy throng (we could hear them from the cottage!). Flocks like this are very vulnerable to disturbance. September is also a time of changeover in the world of Grey Seals. The pupping season in Cornwall has begun. Pregnant mothers are beginning to move to their pupping sites, which in Cornwall are usually on secluded beaches or in caves in locations less likely to be disturbed, in the far west or on the north coast, or even further afield. Summer is the peak time for the Grey Seal population in Looe Bay. The rocky area south of Looe Island, the Outer Ranneys, is a favoured haul-out location for foraging seals in summer; pregnant females come to feed in the bay and rest safely on the rocks. They are accompanied by variable numbers of juveniles not yet of breeding age, and a small number of adult males.



Oystercatchers roosting



Pregnant seal resting on the Ranneys

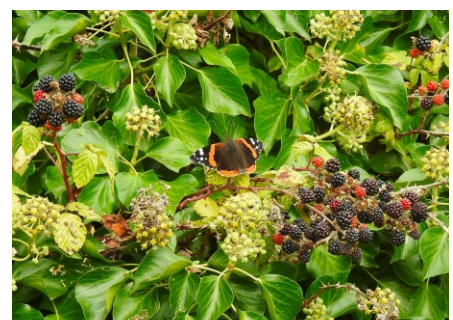
Staying on the island provided an opportunity for us to study in detail the population of seals – both in the water at high tide and hauled out on distant rocks at low tide. Because every seal has its own distinctive fur pattern, it is possible to identify individuals which are given names in a co-ordinated effort led by the Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust, which has teams of seal watchers at various locations around the coast. Taking and studying digital photographs has enabled catalogues of named seals to be assembled and shared.

Watching the seals from the southern side of the island, Christine and I encountered several veteran female seals with which we were familiar, some of which we have been watching for more than ten years – Lucille, Duchess and Snowdrop, plus several younger females which we have been seeing around Looe Island during frequent surveys this summer. Some of these were obviously pregnant, and therefore doubly vulnerable to disturbance when hauled out on the rocks for their much-needed rest. It is important that boats, kayaks and paddle-boarders keep a respectful distance at this crucial time.

In autumn the number of seals in Looe Bay will fall fast as the pregnant mums head off to give birth to their pups. In the winter months the Looe seal population will be smaller and consist largely of juveniles and non-breeding adult males.

Derek Spooner

All photographs from Looe Island by Derek spooner



Autumn berries on the island



KELTIQUE NEWS

Recent concerts

We were due to sing for the RNLI on Sunday 23rd July at 3.00pm on Looe seafront but as the weather was so changeable, we had to cancel as we could not risk our accompanist getting electrocuted!

We continued with our programme of concerts on the Quayside in West Looe, raising money for Ellie's Haven, our chosen charity for the year. Ellie's Haven is a charity providing holidays to families caring for children with long term and life limiting medical conditions and disabilities. We sang on Saturday 29th July, Sunday 13th August, Sunday 27th August and Saturday 9th September. On 13th August, we shared "the stage" with Rame Male Choir.

We always enjoy singing in different venues and we were invited to share a concert with the Rame Male Choir outside the Rising Sun in Kingsand on 23rd August – a great late evening event. The organisers of Sing Along the River in Lostwithiel had invited us to sing at their second and last session of the year on Thursday 31st August. It was lovely to be part of this popular Lostwithiel event and were grateful that a very appreciative audience stayed until the end of the event, including our slot despite the bad weather.



Future concerts

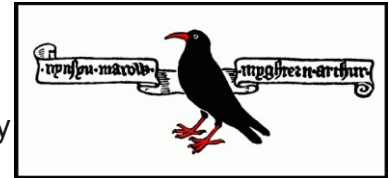
Our concert secretary Lynda is busy putting the final touches to our winter programme of concerts and we will publish it in the next newsletter.

Visit from our partner choir

Preparations are well underway for the visit of our partner choir Entre Terre et Mer from Plougerneau in Brittany which will take place from Friday 13th until Sunday 15th October. We look forward to our joint afternoon concert with them on Saturday 14th October in St Martin's Church, Liskeard

For more information about Keltique, including details of events, check out our website at www.keltique.org.uk, our Facebook page, or contact Penny at pennyweston@outlook.com

LOOE OLD CORNWALL SOCIETY



Looe Old Cornwall Society meets at 2.30 pm on the second Saturday of the month at St Martins Hall, Looe.

On 14th October, Bob Fleming will talk about the history of cricket in Cornwall, and on 11th November Kathy Wallis will tell us about Midwinter traditions in Cornwall. There will be a raffle and a chance to socialise over tea and cake. Members free, guests welcome at £2 per person. If you have an interest in Cornish History, do come along – you don't have to be old or Cornish!

This year Looe celebrates the 200th anniversary of the publication of Thomas Bond's history of Looe, the first written history of the town, drawing on medieval documents which have since been lost.

A booklet showing Looe in Bond's day, illustrated with 18th century drawings and paintings, is available from Looe Museum, RNLI, Mayflower Studios, Purely Cornish and Looe bookshops, price £2.

In addition, Mark Camp will lead a guided walk on Saturday 28th October 2023 taking a look at Looe as it was in Bond's time, starting from St Nicholas's Church at 10.30 a.m. The walk takes about two hours and all are welcome.

Please contact Norma at norma.dobinson@btinternet.com if you would like to go.

Mark also hopes to give a talk on Georgian Looe in St Nicholas Church on Tuesday 24th October, details to be confirmed.



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THREE SEAS: COASTGUARD FLATS

It's done – the deal is real.

We are delighted to announce that Cornwall Council have formally decided to sell the Coastguard Flats to Three Seas, for the sum of £1.

THANK YOU to everyone who has supported us and made this possible: Councillors Armand Toms and Edwina Hannaford, everyone at Looe Town Council, but most of all the people of Looe for your solid and sustained support, right from the start. Your enthusiasm proved beyond doubt that the town wants this to happen – we wouldn't have made it work without you.

Why £1?

The Council valued the flats as they stand at £640,000: a pretty low price, reflecting their poor condition, difficult access and very high repair costs. They are selling to us for £1 because that's the smallest nominal amount, in recognition that we will safeguard the housing for local people, and that we have to raise at least £1 million for the refurbishment. We can do it – we've done it before, and we know the process.

Some might say, why would Cornwall Council lose all that money, when they could have sold the flats on the open market? The answer is easy: £640k divided by 11 means that each home has cost the Council just over £58k. Not too bad.... Does anyone know anywhere in Looe on sale for less than £60k? Our work now means 11 high-quality, low-rent homes for local people in the town – a prize worth having, and we salute the Council for making it happen. Special thanks to the Affordable Housing Team, who have worked tirelessly to build the case within the Council's decision-making process.

The Project Plan – sorting out the detail:

We're now ready to start the detailed planning: architect's designs, green heating systems, roof repairs, drains, checks on the retaining walls... all the mass of reports and costing required. We've got three months from now to sort out everything; at the end of that, we'll have a full plan and know exactly what money is needed. Then we go to Homes England, the Govt housing agency, and other funders too... and we open a "Community Shares" opportunity for Looe people to invest in the housing personally. Full details on all that at the public meeting on Saturday 30th September at 2pm, Millpool Centre, Looe.

Creation of Looe Community Land Trust:

We are delighted to announce that the new Looe CLT group is registered and ready to start. We'll be introducing the team at the public meeting. The benefits of the new group:

- **Gives local residents a voice** in the Three Seas project, including the design and the selection of tenants.
- **Builds the support base in Looe** - critically community housing and enthusing local people to get stuck in. Looe is showing the way!

Timetable from here:

If all goes well – and there’s a lot of ground to cover, and many twists on the way, no doubt – we’re aiming to buy the flats by March and start building work by May. But please don’t hold us to it – sign up to our newsletters and we’ll keep you updated.

Please show your support:

Our “Letters of Support” still matter – we need as many as possible to show funders and doubters that the town wants this to happen.

**Many thanks,
The Three Seas Team**



NEWS FROM EAST LOOE TOWN TRUST



It has certainly been a varied year as regards the weather. The unusual amount of rain through the summer affected some planned activities in and around the town but the majority still went ahead. United Beach Missions provided their usual games and entertainment for families on the beach in the school holidays and it was good to see families, sometimes three or four generations together, having fun and enjoying the beach.

We are extremely fortunate to have Looe Beach Hire Activities right on the seafront – who hire out nearly everything you need for a fun day on the beach – from deckchairs and sun loungers to windbreaks and kayaks – along with safety equipment and advice.

Looe Sailing Club hosted the 2023 GP14 Sailing Championship and we were delighted to be able to allow them use of the seafront promenade and to launch from the beach. Again, the weather was not being overly co-operative but the visitors all seemed to be enjoying themselves and it was a lovely sight to see the racing in the bay.

Have you visited our Old Guildhall Museum & Gaol? The building may not be the largest in the town but is certainly one of the most interesting. Call in and find out more about the history of our town, see the silver key and the tin ingot and lose yourself in our wonderful collection of photos. Our volunteer guides would be delighted to tell you the stories of the town and the history of the wonderful artefacts.

As autumn and winter approach, it will be time for more work on the Wooldown to take place. As ever, we take advice from conservation and ecology management specialists in how and when to carry out the work. The Wooldown grassy areas will be cut and some work done with a remote flail on some of the bracken and brambled areas.

It seems wrong to be thinking about Christmas when the sun is still shining – but Christmas did make a brief appearance in August, when there was filming for the Beyond Paradise Christmas Special. It was somewhat incongruous to see Christmas lighting and decorations on the promenade in August but it was only there for a few days! We were delighted to welcome the Beyond Paradise crew back and we look forward to seeing the final result on TV later this year.

Chairman & Trustees, East Looe Town Trust



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TEAM OARS OF THUNDER ANNOUNCES AMBITIOUS ATLANTIC ROWING EXPEDITION AND COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH TO COMBAT PLASTIC POLLUTION



Team Oars Of Thunder, a dedicated crew from the Looe Gig Rowing Club, comprising members, Kim, Sally, Harry and Nat, has set its sights on an extraordinary goal: rowing 3,000 miles across the Atlantic for charity. Their adventure will take them from La Gomera to Antigua in the 2024 World's Toughest Row Atlantic crossing race, a gruelling journey expected to last between 35 to 50 days. This intrepid crew is determined to tackle this monumental challenge while actively seeking sponsorship and fundraising to support the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).

The team's journey is not only about endurance and determination but also about making a meaningful contribution to ocean conservation. Oars Of Thunder is thrilled to announce its partnership with the University of Plymouth for a groundbreaking observation campaign of Floating Plastic Debris across the Atlantic.



"Partnering with the University of Plymouth allows us to contribute directly to vital research that will impact global efforts to combat plastic pollution," said Kim Tolfrey, a crew member of Oars Of Thunder. The heart of this collaboration lies in the collection of real-world data on floating debris. As Oars Of Thunder rows across the Atlantic, they will meticulously record and document debris sightings along their route. These

observations will be cross-referenced with satellite images, creating a comprehensive database of plastic debris distribution and movement.

James Delaney, project leader and remote sensing scientist at the University, brings his expertise in satellite observation to this collaboration. "The combination of on-the-ground observations with satellite data is extremely useful in marine research," commented James Delaney. "Long-term, this partnership will provide

great insights into the global movement of debris and help in guiding future plastic containment strategies."

With real-world data and satellite imagery at hand, researchers can work to identify the sources of plastic pollution and devise targeted solutions to combat oceanic plastic and debris proliferation.



As the rowers embark on their training around the UK coastline ahead of the Atlantic challenge, the connection forged between these teams and the research produced by their findings holds promise for a cleaner, healthier marine ecosystem. Residents and visitors of Looe may have the opportunity to witness the Oars Of Thunder crew in action as they prepare for this extraordinary journey aboard their ocean rowing boat, Catch of the Day.

During the crossing, Oars Of Thunder will execute an astonishing number of oar strokes, exceeding 1.5 million in total. To put this incredible endeavour into perspective, more people typically summit Mount Everest in a given year than row across the Atlantic. Each crew member will need to consume over 5,000 calories per day to maintain their strength, with an average weight loss of 8kg anticipated for each individual. Their daily calorie intake will consist of a mixture of dehydrated food packets, wet food packets, and various snacks, including flapjacks and salted nuts. Furthermore, the crew members must consume 10 litres of water per day, generated through a water maker capable of converting seawater into potable water for drinking and washing. Additionally, they will carry 10 days' worth of emergency packets of water.

Navigating colossal waves that can reach up to 20 feet in height, the rowers face the constant risk of capsizing. However, Catch of the Day is equipped with self-righting capabilities to mitigate this danger. This gruelling journey demands both physical and mental fortitude, and meticulous preparation is key to the team's ultimate success.

For more information about Team Oars Of Thunder and their Atlantic rowing expedition, please visit www.oarsofthunder.co.uk.

An advertisement for R Mears & Sons Chimney Sweeps & Stove Installation. The ad features a black and white illustration of a chimney sweep in a long coat and hat, holding a broom. The text is set against a light blue background. The company name 'R Mears & Sons' is in a large, bold, serif font. Below it, 'Chimney Sweeps & Stove Installation' is in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. The text continues with 'Established over 30 years', 'Vac Brush. Full CCTV investigations.', 'Pots, Cowlings & Bird Protection fitted. Chimneys Lined.', and 'Solid Fuel Appliances, Rayburns, Woodburners, Stoves, etc serviced. Fully Insured.' At the bottom, contact information is provided: 'Tel: 01840 261221 Tavistock: 01822 664554', 'Mob: 07737 533392', and 'www.sweepdevon.com'. There is also a logo for HETAS (Home Energy Trade Association) and a circular seal with a red checkmark.

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Enjoy social events? We arrange many trips, concerts, quizzes, lunches and teas.



The motto of the u3a organisation is
Learn, Laugh, Live and that's what we do!
 Check out our website on looeu3a.org

For more information, please contact the Chair,
 Alison Currah on chair@looeu3a.org
 or the Membership Secretary on
membership@looeu3a.org



Looe Boat Owners Association

46 Portbyhan Road, West Looe, PL13 2QN

anniekwatson@gmail.com

07734.283356

President: Dave Peat Chair: Laurie Watson
 Secretary: Ann Watson Treasurer: Kath Mason
 Membership Sec: Paula Roy

LBOA FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Skittles & Supper

Friday 13th October 2023, 7.30pm
 Looe Sailing Club

Wine Tasting Evening

Tuesday 31st October 2023, 7.30pm
 Looe Sailing Club

Curry Night

Tuesday 21st November, 2023, 7.30pm
 Looe Sailing Club

Christmas Dinner

Thursday 14th December, 2023
 Venue TBN

Further details on our website

www.lboa.co.uk

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REFRESHMENTS RAFFLE
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LOOE FLOOD DEFENCE AND REGENERATION SCHEME

Looe Flood Defence and
Regeneration Scheme



The Looe Flood Defence and Regeneration Project team have been very busy over the past few weeks reviewing and analysing the results of the public consultation carried out in June and July.

As promised, we have fed back the results to key stakeholder groups and have also published the full report on the consultation on the Let's Talk Cornwall site for everyone to read. <https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/looe-flood-defence>

We are currently working with the Save Banjo Pier (SBP) and other key stakeholders on the next steps to determine if the SBP option is safe and viable before further work is done to bring it up to a level where it can be shared with the community.

This additional work has inevitably delayed the production of the Outline Business Case but we hope to present a case to government for a solution to the tidal flooding problem in Looe early next year.

As previously explained, while the key aim of the scheme is to protect Looe from frequent and severe flooding for the next 50 to 100 years, to secure the funding needed to deliver the scheme we also need to show how it will help to regenerate the town.

Looe will be competing for government funding with other projects up and down the country. We know we can show how the current options will protect the town from flooding, but to gain government support our business case will also need to demonstrate how the preferred option will promote economic growth, both in the town and the wider East Cornwall area. This will mean explaining how the scheme will protect key transport links, including main roads in and out of the town and rail services, and protect and enhance the visitor and marine economy.

Making the economic regeneration case will be vital to securing government funding for the scheme.

We will be sharing the results of the work being carried out on the Save Banjo Pier option with the public as soon as it is available. The aim is to demonstrate to government the level of support from the local community for a preferred option having seen the same technical, economic and environmental information provided for all the options.



Looe Island from Hannafore Picture Leo maxwell



Armistice Day 2023: Please try to attend our branch's short service at the Looe War Memorial on Saturday 11th November to mark the end of the hostilities of World War 1 in 1918. The service will commence with a two-minute silence at 11am, the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" followed by a bugler playing the "Last Post". The actual armistice was signed in France at 5:45 am on 11th November, 1918, and took effect at eleven in the morning. The armistice initially expired after a period of 36 days and had to be extended several times. A formal peace agreement was reached only when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on 28th June, 1919.

Remembrance Sunday – Looe: On Sunday November 12th, Looe Royal British Legion will join with Town Council and other Looe organisations for the Remembrance Sunday civic service at the Looe War Memorial. The official wreath layers are requested to assemble at the East Looe GuildHall at 10.15am before processing to the War Memorial. The service will be supported by the St Pinnock Band and the 69 names of Looe's fallen will be read out: WW1 (32), WW2 (36) and Afghanistan (1).

Remembrance Sunday – No Man's Land: Our branch members will also be attending a Remembrance Sunday service at the No Man's Land Memorial Hall at 2pm on Sunday 12th November, 2023.

Collection of Poppy Wreaths: Those individuals and organisations that have ordered poppy wreaths can collect them from October 30th. Please first ring our Poppy Appeal organisers, David & Annette Bryan, on 01503 264130 to arrange a collection time.

The Poppy Appeal: allows the Royal British Legion to provide a lifeline of support for thousands of serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. We are working hard to support the most vulnerable in our society, be it older veterans that we care for, those who suffer from social isolation, or those who are simply overwhelmed by the challenges associated with the cost-of-living crisis.

Poppy Appeal Collections: Although our branch collects for the Poppy Appeal throughout the year (A poppy isn't just for November) the official 2023/24 appeal starts on the 22nd October and last until the 14th November. Our Looe Branch will be out in strength, with Poppy Man, in the Guildhall Rose Garden on Friday 27th October. The latest poppies are made from 100% paper, the new plastic-free poppy will be available from October alongside the remaining stocks of the previous poppy. We would like to apologise to anyone who expected to see the Poppy Man in the Rose Garden on 12th August, but we had to cancel the event due to forecasted adverse weather.

Visit to RNAS Yeovilton: We would like to thank our branch member David Massey for organising a trip for a group of our members to the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm Museum at the Royal Navy Air Station (RNAS) Yeovilton.

The museum is Europe's largest aviation museum and is the home to over 100 aircraft, including the iconic Concorde 002.

The trip was enjoyed by all those that attended and here is a record of the trip in Dave Massey's own words:

"Thursday 24 August the alarm goes off 5.45, time to get up and get the bus ready for our trip to RNAS Yeovilton. Early start and after pick-ups, set off on time at 7am and headed



up to the A303, hopefully this time of the morning should be quiet, how wrong was that. A delay by an articulated truck that overturned meant being stuck in traffic just before the breakfast stop, but luckily only for about 10-12 mins and duly arrived for breakfast about 9.15. Food and drink ordered and consumed we set off for the air station 10 minutes away. Into the entrance, noticed it's a pretty good-looking station, we were soon checked in and started off at the first exhibition hall, there are four in total, so a lot to see. Yeovilton has a wide range of helicopters and fixed wing aircraft some over 100 years old. From Concorde 002, Harrier jump jet, Wessex and Lynx helicopters, to seeing an air sea rescue on the aircraft carrier, watching a video on the Falklands conflict there was a lot to take in. Lots to read and learn how aviation started from ballooning right up to modern day jet engine aircraft, it was a fantastic place to visit, really worth while going. Sadly, we came the end of the day and we had to leave, a meal and drink was achieved half an hour away in Taunton followed by the trip home via a visit to the Rod and Line in Tideford where we spent a while reminiscing over the day.”

Branch Meetings: We always hold our meetings on the first Monday of the month, come rain, snow or New Year's Day. They starting at 7:30pm sharp in the ground floor bar of the Looe Social Club, West Looe Quay. You don't have to be a member of the Social Club to attend one of our meetings, so why not come along, say hello and see what we do.

RBL Membership Direct Debit Payments: Several of our members became suspicious when their annual RBL membership direct debit payment appeared on their bank statement as apparently being paid to an individual. In August the RBL HQ had sent out a letter stating that they had changed their payment partners (whatever that means?) to 'Charles Novacroft' and not the RBL as in previous years. Unfortunately, not all members have opted to receive mail from the RBL and so were not informed of the change. Once our branch became aware of the problem, we sent out an email to our members quoting the August letter from the RBL HQ.

Helplines: If you, or your family, need help or advice from the 'Legion' then please call the Royal British Legion's free helpline on 0808 802 8080. Lines are open 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. Another alternative is the Veterans' Gateway which is a consortium of forces charities, including the RBL, with telephone access 24 hours a day on 0808 802 121.

David Welch – Looe RBL Membership Secretary email: rbl.looe@gmail.com

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Emergency Services Day 5th August 2023

Some pictures from this years event



Pictures: Neil Richardson

LOOE VALLEY SINGERS

This happy group of singers is now looking forward to a new season, planning for more performances with fundraising opportunities.

Their next concert is to be held at St Martins Church Hall on Saturday 14 October at 7.30pm where they will be joined by the Pelynt MVC. The show, in aid of St Petrocs, will be a £7 admission charge on the door and includes refreshments afterwards.

Other events leading up to the festive season will be held at Polperro Chapel, Cotehele House, and Portbyhan Hotel.

Further information on these and other concerts can be found on the Looe Valley Singers Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LooeValleySingers>



Looe Valley Singers on Looe seafront singing in aid of the RNLI

LOOE MARINE CONSERVATION GROUP



AUTUMN EVENTS: Have we got some great events for you in October!!

Sunday October 1st:

Annual Shoresearch Day in Looe 10.30 am for approx. 3 hours at Hannafore



Once a year a special citizen science survey is conducted to record the health and diversity of Looe's rockpools. Exploring the rocky shores of Looe is a journey of wonder and discovery! You will need to book a place to take part in this very special event, conducted alongside marine experts from our group and the Cornwall Wildlife Trust and, this year, joined by the Porcupine Marine Natural History Society. Better still, this year it's on a Sunday, perhaps allowing more

participation for interested people to experience survey techniques.

More details see <https://www.facebook.com/events/335107775633332>

To book a place, email Shoresearch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Tuesday October 17th:

Talk Cornwall's Marine Life & the Role of Citizen Scientists:
Millpool Centre at 6.15pm

A talk by Matt Slater from the Cornwall Wildlife Trust is always full of fascinating stories and excellent photography delivered with an infectious enthusiasm that reflects his passion for the marine environment. He was recently awarded the 2022 National Biodiversity Network Award for Wildlife Recording (Marine). So do come along to be entertained, to listen to learn or maybe, if you're a diver or a real marine enthusiast, to find out how to become involved.

More details at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1271483230076039>



Sunday October 29th:

Autumn Rockpool Ramble 11am-12.15 pm Hannafore Beach



Fancy finding some cool crabs & stunning starfish? Well why not join local experts for the last of our 2023 rockpool rambles exploring the rocky shore! We ask that all attendees come along with suitable footwear (no flip flops) and leave their nets at home as they can harm delicate rockpool creatures.

Meet us below the coastguard station on Hannafore Beach.

For more details visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/472642605050287>

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POLPERRO FISHERMEN'S CHOIR: A SINGING CENTENARY



From entertaining crowds in the magical surroundings of Polperro harbour quay to singing in a chapel in a Dublin cemetery, Polperro Fishermen's Choir has been enchanting audiences for 100 years while raising considerable funds for charity. This summer was no exception, with free centenary concerts in Polperro and an extra one in Looe on 12th September. Preceded by live broadcasts on both ITV West Country and BBC Spotlight, the enthusiastic audience at the concert in the RNLI lifeboat hall heard our compère, the inimitable Adrian Wilton, read a letter conveying the warmest good wishes of His Majesty King Charles III for a "most memorable centenary". For almost a quarter of our 10 decades, the choir has been led by musical director Phil Carrigan. Having enjoyed a career as a professional musician, Phil manages to combine his expert guidance and tuition with some much-needed patience!

The choir still has a lot more to fit into a busy year with concerts on the Isles of Scilly, a Harvest of the Sea concert in Lansallos at 6.30pm on Sunday 22nd October, a Festival of Remembrance in Liskeard Public Hall at 7pm on Sunday 29th October, and a concert in Pensilva Millennium House at 7.30pm on Saturday 25th November. December will see Christmas concerts in St Germans, West Looe, St Keyne and, of course, Polperro. Meanwhile, the Wreckers will be performing in Polperro on many Wednesday evenings.



We've also been making a short film over the summer, with the choir in and around our home village singing 'The Magic of Polperro' which was composed and written by our accompanist and talented in-house composer, Lorraine Forsdick. The film was professionally filmed, edited and produced by Kirsten Hintner Productions. Kirsten, a very good friend of the choir, is in the middle of the photo as we all enjoy a beer after some chilly filming.

The choir always gives an enthusiastic welcome to new members. There are no auditions, just a quick voice test to check vocal range. Members are drawn from a very wide range of different backgrounds and, unlike many other male voice choirs, span an age range of more than 60 years, from oldies like Ted Berridge and Murray Collings, now the choir's vice-president, to youngsters like quantity surveyor Harrison Elliott, 21, and Alfie Commander aged 20, two of the youngest members of the choir.

Peter Foster is another of the choir's younger members, a top tenor alongside his father Jon. After holidaying in Looe and attending one of the choir's concerts in Looe Lifeboat Station, Peter fulfilled his ambition of opening a bakery with the support of his family. "We discovered Polperro quite by chance and found premises there that were available," he said. "We opened Pedyr's Bake House in March 2020 - on the very day that Britain went into the first COVID lockdown. It wasn't quite the opening we were anticipating, but every cloud has a silver lining. With the village closed to outsiders, all our customers were local, so we got to know them, and they got to know us."

Tony Gummow has been a choir member for 30 years: "As a young boy I sang regularly in a church choir for five years until my voice broke," he said. "I didn't sing for the next 25 years until I moved back to Cornwall and met my local GP in Looe, Dr Peter Brewer. Pete was the choir's best recruiter - he asked all his male patients if they could sing and encouraged them to join."

Pete Brewer is now the choir's longest serving active member, having been singing in the choir for more than 40 years. The older members find it very reassuring having a doctor

as a member and Pete is sometimes called upon to use his medical knowledge. Polruan publican Robin Sainsbury is far from being the oldest member of the choir and does not yet have grey hair – although, having taken over as choir chairman from Navy veteran David Lashbrooke last year, that might change! Robin says: “Our choir is fabulous, and I feel very honoured to be part of it as we enter our second century.”

Details of all our concerts can be found on our Facebook page and on our website:

<https://www.polperrofishermenschoir.co.uk/>

LOOE SAILING CLUB

Regular club sailing has taken place during the summer with until recently not many cancellations although the late period of good weather did mean we lost a few races due to a lack of wind. Evening racing has now concluded leaving us with Saturday racing only until the end of October.

The juniors have also enjoyed their Saturday morning sail training and hopefully we may see some of them out either helming club boats or crewing for others next year. Many thanks to the club members who have given freely of their time to help them over the last few months.

The club were pleased to host the National GP14 Championships over a week in August with 43 boats coming from all parts of the united kingdom to take part. Overall winners Matt Mee and Chris Robinson came from Blackpool and Fleetwood sailing club.

It was good to have local interest with Darren Roach from Looe crewing the fourth placed boat and Esther Bowdler and Tom McLaren borrowing a GP14 they hadn't even seen until it arrived on the sea front managing a very creditable 25th place once they had worked out how to set the boat up.



Adam Hayler and Alex Richardson
National Redwing Champions 2023
Photo by Neil Richardson

Club members have recently returned from the National Redwing Championships held this year at Plerin Sur Mer in Brittany.

Unfortunately a lack of wind rather curtailed the action during the week however with a first and a second Adam Hayler and Alex Richardson from Looe were crowned champions in R244 Dragon. Many congratulations to both of them. I feel sure they want to thank former champion Colin Crabb for all the experience they both got whilst crewing for Colin during the past few years.

Next year's event will be back in Looe so they will be able to defend their crown on home waters.

Millpool Centre Timetable

Mon	7.45am– 9am 10.30am– 11.30 5pm– 6.15pm 3pm, 4.30pm, 6pm 7.30pm - 9pm	Yoga with Gocha: www.gochawellness.com Paracise: New exercise class with Lisa Gorman 1st floor Yoga with Maria - contact - 07980 533 050 1st floor Slimming World contact Rachel: 07463 929 696 Looe Karate Club –Contact Dave - 07889 310 908 1st floor
Tues	8.30am & 9.45am 11am - 12pm 2pm - 3.30pm 6.p.m - 6.45pm 7pm - 7.45pm	Pilates with Kerry - 07588 220 007 1st floor 50 Plus Dancercise with Sheila’s School of Dance 07866771429 Gentle Exercise Class with Looe Exercise Club - 01503 265947 1st floor Power Hooping : Bond Fitness 07779 059 868 1st floor Pure Stretch : Bond Fitness 07779 059 868 1st floor
Weds	7.45am—9am 6pm - 7pm 7pm - 8pm 10am - 3pm	Yoga with Gocha 07539 178 840 1st floor Adult contemporary dance with Gocha wellness 1st floor Pilates: Gocha Wellness 1st floor Lloyds Bank - Online and advice service only (no cash)
Thurs	11am - 12pm 4pm - 8.30pm 7pm - 9pm	Sheila’s School of Dance Adult Dancercise - 07866 771 429 1st floor Ballet & Tap classes, contemporary & street Child & Adult with Dance with Jodie 1st floor : call Jodie on 07584 428 163 1st floor (TERM TIME ONLY) Ukulele Club (Ground Floor) contact Roger Lane: 01503 262775(starts end July 2021) ground floor
Fri	4.30pm - 7.30pm 6pm - 7.15pm 7.30pm - 9pm	Looe Youth Theatre - 07920 282 818 (Fiona) ground floor (Term time only) Multi-Fit Exercise Class (Hooping, Body Conditioning, Pure Stretch) Bond Fitness with Denise Bond 07779 059 868 1st floor Looe Karate club 01503 264767 (Dave) 1st floor
Sat		
Sun		
Sat & Sun Centre Available For Private Hire - 01503 265947 The Millpool Centre, West Looe. PL13 2AF : manager@millpoolcentre.org		



Fancy Dress and Glow in the Dark Cricket at Fundraising Event this Halloween

Halloween 2023 will see Cornwall Cricket Centre Open its doors for children of all ages to take part in a spooky costume competition, Halloween games and glow in the dark cricket.

The fundraising event is open to everyone, with or without an interest in cricket, to take part and help raise funds for a good cause. All funds raised on the evening will help towards funding for Cricket in Cornwall.

The event takes place on October 31st from 5pm to 7.30pm at Cornwall Cricket Centre, Truro College Campus, TR1 3XX. Tickets are £5 per child and £3 per adult.

To Book visit <https://booking.ecb.co.uk/d/tpqkk9>
for details email tamsin@cornwallcricket.co.uk

Cornwall Cricket Board provides adults and children aged 5 years and upwards with the opportunity to take part in the sport across the county. It is also the official governing body for all cricket in Cornwall and is responsible and accountable to the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), the National Governing Body, for the strategic management, development and conduct of the sport.

To find out more visit the website www.cornwallcricket.co.uk
or email admin@cornwallcricket.co.uk.

Anyone interested in sponsoring or fundraising for Cornwall Cricket Board is invited to contact tamsin@cornwallcricket.co.uk.

Crowdfunder Target for Disability Team smashed!

A Crowdfunder appeal for Cornwall's first Disability Cricket Team smashed its target after reaching £12,716!

The Crowdfunder was launched at the end of May to raise £10k, just under half the amount needed for the project by Cornwall Cricket Board. Although the team still need to raise additional funds to cover the full £22k needed for the project, they are delighted to be over half way there as a result of the Crowdfunder.

Cornwall Cricket Board is aiming to provide those that already take part in Disability Cricket with the opportunity to be able to grow their skills further by joining the Super 9's County Representative Team and competing across the South West.

The team played their first county super 9 fixture away to Somerset on the 13th August. The Cornwall team the lost by just 5 wickets which for the first competitive match was a fantastic result. Building on that successful match the team decided to play a friendly match against Foxhole Cricket Club on the 3rd September losing by 7 wickets but providing a great experience for them. To end the season the team were once again invited to Somerset to play a development super 1 / 9s fixture at Taunton Deane Cricket Club against Somerset which is where they achieved their first win.



Although it was a development game and results were not that important Cornwall batted first and set 194 off their overs and Somerset only managed 173 in reply.

To maintain our development over the winter the county side are going to have a full winter training programme ready for next season where they are entering the ECB super 9 national competition with five home games and five away games - Somerset, Devon, South Wales, Dorset and Wiltshire.

Disability Development Officer David Painter said: "The response to the Crowdfunder has been amazing. A big 'THANK YOU' to all those who have so generously given towards Disability Super 9s. Our players are delighted and excited for the future".

Managing Director Joe Skinner added: "The Crowdfunder has been a huge success and the support shown has been amazing. We are very fortunate to have many generous supporters and we thank them for this generosity. We now have a great opportunity to deliver super 9s cricket for Cornwall which is a much needed development for Cornwall Cricket, exciting times ahead. Thank you!

For further information on Disability Cricket in Cornwall email David Painter ddo@cornwallcricket.co.uk

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This issue of LCN was compiled using several Open Source Software packages, some of which are listed below and all are available for download free of charge.

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LibreOffice Office package www.libreoffice.org

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