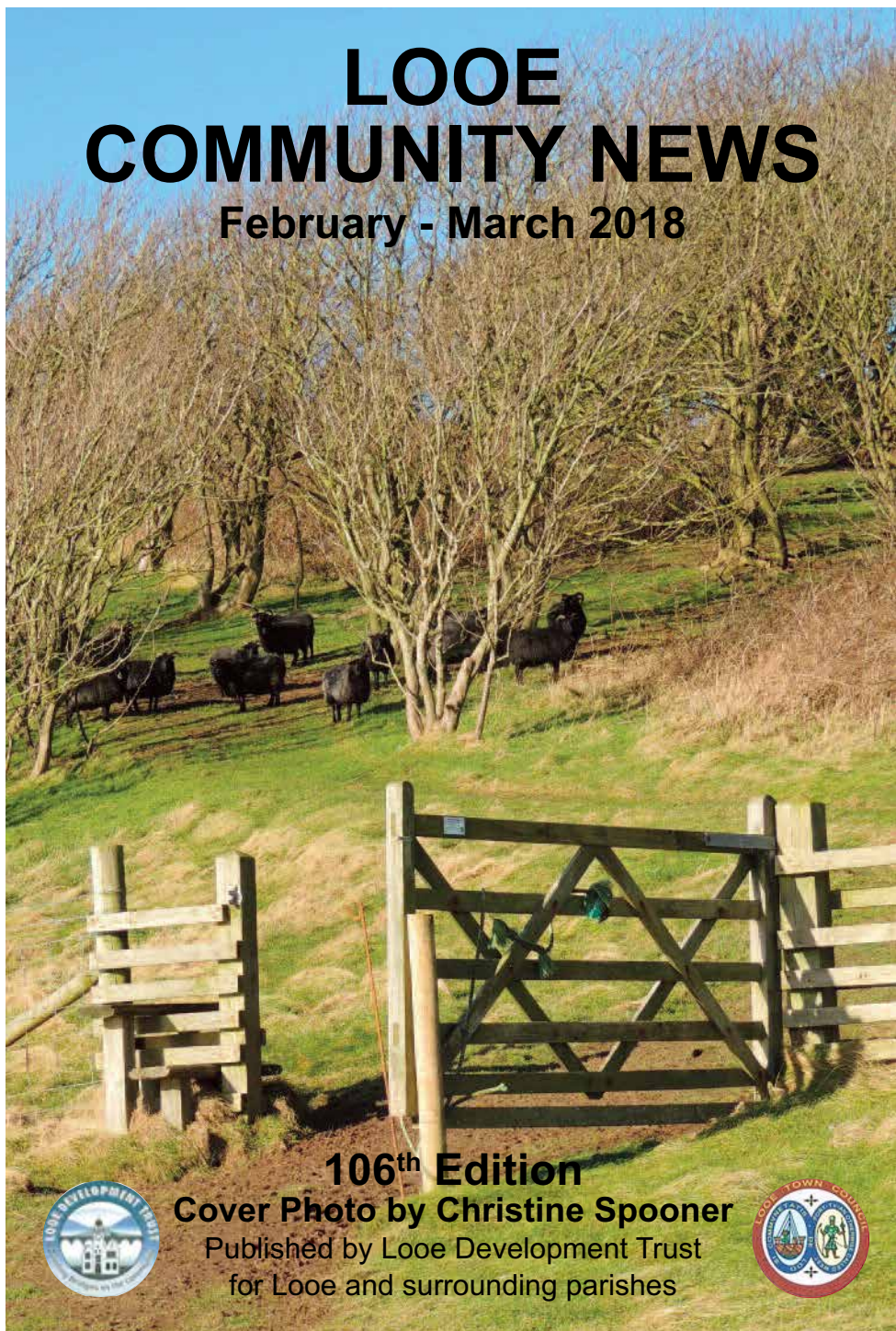


LOOE COMMUNITY NEWS

February - March 2018



106th Edition

Cover Photo by Christine Spooner

Published by Looe Development Trust
for Looe and surrounding parishes





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NEWS FROM THE EAST LOOE TOWN TRUST



Happy New Year from East Looe Town Trust.

Trustees

Like many others in Looe we were very saddened by the news in December of the sudden death of one of our Trustees, Michael Tolley. Michael gave a vast amount of time to the Trust and his wealth of knowledge and humour will be greatly missed at our meetings. Our thoughts also go to his partner Eileen at this difficult time.

We warmly welcome a new Trustee, Colin Freemantle. He replaces retiring Trustee, Colin Cotton, who we thank for his work with the Trust over the years.

Museum

The Trust Old Guildhall Museum received a cheque from the local Co-op stores in the town on the 25th November for the sum of £2523.75. This funding will be used towards various pieces of equipment including a display screen and computer equipment. Our thanks go to the local community for supporting this funding scheme, the Museum being just one of the charities benefitting.

Guildhall Windows

Towards the end of February you will see the Guildhall wrapped in scaffolding to enable repairs to the stained glass windows. The Trust have been fortunate to receive a grant from the Pilgrims Trust towards the cost of this work. The grant received will help, but significant additional costs will be met by the Trust. This demonstrates our ongoing commitment to keeping in good repair the buildings in our care. We will also take this opportunity to repaint the window frames and soffits and carry out any maintenance required to the exterior of the building.

Bathing Water Quality

Many congratulations to the Cornwall Wildlife Trust (CWT) who at the Cornwall Sustainability Awards were Highly Commended in the Contribution to Sustainability by Increasing Resilience in the Community category for the Looe Bathing Waters Project. CWT are a valued member of the Looe Bathing Waters Group, of which the East Looe Town Trust is a founder member. The Group continues to work hard on maintaining improvements in bathing water quality off our beach.

Phil Gibson and fellow Trustees

WEST LOOE PLAYGROUP



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2018

Each of us with plans for the year, whether for family, house, garden, thoughts of a holiday, work commitments. Have a successful year in whatever you do, and THANK YOU to those (numbering more this last Christmas) who displayed outside lights of every colour, static or flashing, for the festive period which made Looe a sight to behold over December.

Looe can only look better and better annually, and the public who normally visit other noteworthy locations could decide to come and view our Port's magical scene, covering the Harbour, quaysides, bridge, sea-front, streets, businesses and residences throughout Looe, including those on the valley's hillsides and thus seen from everywhere. Did you try and count how many residential properties were illuminated? A sight photographed time and again in all weathers.

WELL DONE TO EVERYONE INVOLVED!

Thanks again to all who made it possible – the Harbour Commission (and their lights team), the Town Council, WLTT and ELTT (including their lights team) plus the West Looe Coffee and Art shop for donations and electricity supply; the Looe Development Trust, and the Looe Community Forum team; the hardy electricians who kept it going in all weathers, and, of course, YOU.

It is not too early to plan for December 2018 – go on, add a few more. Think how you can add to your Christmas Display for 2018. Every addition adds more festive sparkle and magic; all culminating in the New Year's Eve Firework Displays – the dastardly weather beforehand did what it has done before – creating a break from wind and rain for a few minutes for the early display and for that crucial half hour around midnight.

Looe's festive appearance and celebrations (with all the Christmas events provided by so many throughout the month) show what a local community can do.

Last comment – from folk who had been in various places through Cornwall for Christmas – they said Looe provided the most magnificent festive appearance of all.

Congratulations to Looe and to You All!

Dave Holford
Looe Community Forum



LOOE BOAT OWNERS ASSOCIATION



Members of the Looe Boat Owners Association gathered at the Portbyhan Hotel for their Christmas Dinner on Friday December 15th. Celebrating the 15th anniversary of the Association, Chairman Laurie Watson reviewed another eventful year, including the Looe Raft Race, the annual charity event organised by the members, as well as the current Tide Tables publication, raising funds for the Looe Harbour Defibrillator Scheme.



LOOE SAILING CLUB

The curtain came down on the sailing season at the end of November when some 150 sailing members, family and friends gathered at the Hannaford Point Hotel for the annual dinner and dance.

After the meal, the Commodore Enys Dan summed up another very successful year for the club, thanking everyone involved in running the sailing for a job well done. He then invited Janet his wife to join him to make the end of season presentations.

Christmas events for the club have included running a bar on Buller Quay on the day of the arrival of Father Christmas and, on the Saturday before the big day, a children's party in the clubhouse. Christmas Eve saw a large gathering to listen to the music of Richard James, enjoy a dance and toast in the big day.

New Year's Eve once again proved to be an excellent evening with many members enjoying the comfort of the clubhouse away from the nasty weather outside.

LOOE ROWING CLUB

After a wonderful season of results, on the water rowing drew to a close for the winter. Looe Rowing Club once again focused on fundraising as the nights drew in.

First up. A beautiful Saturday morning in November, Looe Rowing Club set out to row 100,000m inside the foyer of Morrisons Liskeard, during opening hours, The rowing machines started whirring at 10 o'clock sharp and the metres started counting down. After a rapid 3¾ hours, we'd reached our target! Not being a club to leave early, we carried on rowing and fundraising. One of our members, Keith Holder, racked up a cheeky half marathon towards our total!

We had Junior members, veterans, male and female crews each taking their turn on the rowing machines and offering bag packing services for customers. After a long and tiring day, 1900hrs steadily arrived to mark the end of the event for the club and with 215,186m rowed, our original target was well and truly smashed. If the club had actually rowed from Morrisons Liskeard, they could have reached Southampton or the island of Jersey!

The club is very grateful to Morrisons for hosting us and we are extremely grateful to their generous customers who helped raise £833.89! Also shout out to Lee Major for organising the event and even racking up a few metres himself. Barclays have kindly offered to match our event bringing the total to over £1660 for our new gig! Looe Rowing Club would like to thank all that made this possible.

Next up, was a favourite of the club – Pig Racing! Held at The Old Sail Loft in Looe an impressive crowd turned up to cheer on, and place bets on the pigs, some dubious named ones to say the least! After several races and shall we say 'interesting – a bit blue' commentary from the co-hosts Lee and Simon, well in excess of £1000 was raised for the club and The Mission to Seafarers. Again, this is generously being match-funded by Barclays, making it over £2000 on the night. Looe Rowing Club would like to thank all the race sponsors: Castang Wines, Trehaven Manor, Rowes Suzuki, Tanner Trading, Ye Olde Salutation Inne, The Lookout and Hillcrest House.

A special thanks to Dominic and Michelle from The Old Sail Loft for helping provide such a fun evening for everyone.

And with 2017 a memory, 2018 winter training begins with the all too familiar whirl of the rowing machine. Winter miles = summer smiles, we look forward to getting back on the water and making this a season to remember.

Happy New Year from all at Looe Rowing Club
And thanks for your continued support.

LOOE MARINE CONSERVATION GROUP

2018 has started on a positive note with the people of Looe and its businesses taking proactive steps toward becoming a more 'plastic clever' town. BBC's Blue Planet and Sky TV Ocean Rescue campaign have given considerable exposure to the threats posed by ocean plastic so most people now have a far greater awareness, not only of the issue, but also the steps they can take on an individual basis to make the changes that are needed.

REFILL SCHEME: 19 businesses in Looe have signed up to the Refill Scheme permitting drinking water bottles to be refilled for free at their premises thereby reducing the demand for single use plastic bottles.

FINAL STRAW CAMPAIGN: Looe schoolchildren have written to local businesses to encourage them not to give out plastic drinking straws. And an advocate for 'The Final Straw Campaign' has emerged with a local Looe supplier sourcing paper straws and other eco friendly packaging.

SO WHAT CAN YOU DO? See our suggestions on the next page.

2018 EVENTS: Looe MCG has launched an exciting events programme.

Download a pdf from our website:

<http://looe-marine-conservation-group/whats-on/>

COMING UP SOON:

Weds 14th Feb: Love Your Beach: Beach Clean at Millendreath

Sat 17th Feb: Rockpool Ramble, Hannafore 12.30pm

Tues 20th Feb: Meeting/Wildlife Talk by Derek Spooner RNLI Station 6.30pm

Sun 4th Mar: Rockpool Identification training Hannafore with Heather Buttivant

Tues 13th Mar: Cornish Rockpools talk/meeting RNLI Station 6.30pm

Sat 31st March: Beach Clean at Seaton

If you'd like to know more about the Refill Scheme, the Final Straw campaign or how you might like to support or get involved in efforts to conserve our wildlife and the marine environment, get in touch. We always welcome new members (£6 annual membership) and you'll get all the information, news, events and opportunities direct to your inbox.

You can join and pay online at:

<http://looe-marine-conservation-group/join-looe-marine-conservation-group/>

And remember to follow us on our Facebook page at @LooeMCG

BE PLASTIC CLEVER AND HELP TO SAVE OUR OCEANS SO WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Try giving up using: Instead:

Plastic bags	Carry a jute bag.
Plastic straws	Sip!
Plastic water bottles	Buy a Refill water bottle from LMCG.
Microbeads	Now banned! Throw away unused offending toothpastes, shower gels and face scrubs. Oat, salt and sugar make great natural alternatives.
Plastic toothbrushes	Switch to bamboo ones or use an electric toothbrush.
Coffee capsules	Go back to using a percolator.
Disposable razors	Invest in a lifelong razor.
Single use coffee cups	Carry a reusable one and get discounts instore.
Plastic cutlery	Avoid and embrace reusable alternatives.
Shower gel	Use soap bars without packaging.

FRIENDS OF KILMINORTH WOODS

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www.friendsofkilminorthwoods.co.uk

Three years ago a farmer approached Cornwall Wildlife Trust with the idea of releasing beavers on his farm in mid-Cornwall, in the hope of reducing flooding in his local village. Gradually the project began to take shape, but it really took off in 2017, when two animals were released onto five acres of riverside land. Beavers were back, after an absence of several hundred years! Cheryl Marriott, as Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Head of Conservation, has been closely involved throughout with this exciting initiative.

Friends of Kilminorth Woods is delighted that Cheryl has agreed to come to Looe to tell us about the project. Your chance to find out about the planning, problems and progress of the project! Might beavers one day find a home in the Looe valleys?

BRINGING BEAVERS BACK!

A talk by Cheryl Marriott

Head of Conservation, Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Friday 23rd February 2018

St Martin's Church Hall, 7.30pm

Followed by Refreshments, Raffle and at approximately 8.45pm

FRIENDS OF KILMINORTH WOODS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All Welcome!

A WARM WELCOME AT ST. MARTIN'S THANKS TO VIRIDOR CREDITS

A congregation of nearly 100 was delighted to experience the newly installed heating system at St. Martin's, Looe, on Christmas Eve, when the children enjoyed searching the church for Nativity figures to create the Christmas Story, led by Revd. Philip Sharp, and accompanied by organist John Trethewey.

This is the fourth project at St. Martin's which Viridor Credits has enabled, as in recent years they have funded UPVC doors and windows in the hall, a disabled access ramp to the church and also resurfacing of pathways. This latest project was to replace a defunct oil-fired heating boiler with a modern twin-system equivalent, which will also be much more efficient to run, and has enabled the Grade 1 listed building to be used all year round once again.



The PCC would also like to thank the Looe Town Council and the East and West Looe Town Trusts for their contributions to the project. These bodies have been very supportive of our town churches, both now and on past occasions, and we are extremely grateful.



THE BENEFICE OF LOOE & MORVAL

www.church.looe.org



	St. Nicholas	St. Martin's	St. Wenna, Morval
1 st Sunday	8am Communion (BCP) 9.30am Communion	11am Cafe Church (Hall)	11am Communion
2 nd Sunday	9.30am Morning Prayer	11am Communion (Church)	11am Family Service
3 rd Sunday	9.30am Communion	11am Sunday Live (Hall)	11am Communion
4 th Sunday	9.30am Sunday Live	11am Communion (Church)	11am Morning Prayer

LOOE VALLEY SINGERS

Well, the festive season is behind us and we sang out at various venues throughout South East Cornwall. From Fowey Christmas Market, Cotehele and Mount Edgumbe and the traditional service of lessons and carols at Talland Church, we were there.

Our return to choir after the Christmas break has been somewhat depleted due the various germs, bugs and viruses that have laid low several of our singers.

At present we're busy arranging concerts for the year ahead and also have exciting trips planned both to Bristol and the Royal Albert Hall. We always welcome new ladies, no auditions, and we meet on Thursday evenings at 7.45pm in St. Martin's Church Hall, Looe. Please come and join us.

For more details contact either Kathy on 01503 272550, Jill on 01503 240768
or see our website www.looevalleysingers.org.uk



LOOE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Branch News We wish all our members best wishes for 2018 and our thanks to all those that give their time and help with our fundraising over the previous year. We hope to hold a fundraising Quiz Night, in the Portbyhan Hotel, in March. Please look out for posters advertising the event. By donating to The Royal British Legion, you're helping us to help those in need within the Armed Forces community. The 'Legion' provides support for members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families.

Lest We Forget The Looe War Memorial contains the names of 10 members of the RAF who died in the service of their country in WWII. Surprisingly, five of those died whilst undergoing training, whilst only three lost their lives in enemy action.

Edwin Giles was a member of the RAF Volunteer Reserve and, at 18, he was learning to fly at No 3 Elementary Flying Training School. On 16th August 1940 he was flying solo in an Avro Cadet training aircraft when the aircraft stalled and crashed near Farrington, Oxfordshire. Edwin was killed instantly and the aircraft was destroyed by fire. He is buried in West Looe Cemetery.

Owen James Geach Stevens was born in Looe in 1914, and in August 1939 was awarded his Aviators Certificate (Flying Licence) having learned to fly as part of the Civil Air Guard. When the war started he was commissioned in the RAF Volunteer Reserve and operated as a flying instructor at 9 Flying Training School. On 18th March, 1941, Owen was instructing a James Swinburne when the aircraft, a Miles Master 1, spun into the ground at Babdown Farm, Gloucestershire. Both the instructor and pupil were killed. Owen was buried at St John's Church, Wembley, Middlesex.

William Soady was a Leading Aircraftman with No 5 (Coastal) Operational Training Unit at Chivenor. On 13th October, 1941, he was unlucky enough to be taken along as a passenger on a training flight. The aircraft was a Bristol Beaufort, a twin engine torpedo bomber, and piloted by a Canadian, trainee pilot Frank Redfern. One of the engines failed, the novice pilot couldn't maintain altitude and the aircraft crashed north of Braunton, Devon. William and the pilot were killed instantly. William is buried in West Looe Cemetery.

William Stevens joined the RAF in 1938 and became an air gunner. He flew on the Bomber Command 1000 Bomber Raids, in May to August 1942, before seeing service in the Middle East. He was eventually posted to 10 Operational Training Unit at Abingdon, probably as a rest from operations. On 24th June, 1943, William was part of the crew of a Whitley Bomber taking part in an army cooperation exercise. The aircraft carried out a mock attack on a bridge, but whilst climbing away

the port wing struck a tall tree. Out of control, the bomber crashed five miles from Aylesbury. Of the seven airmen aboard the ill-fated flight, one man survived, but the rest, including William, were killed. He is also buried in West Looe Cemetery.

Eric Madge joined the RAF Volunteer Reserve in 1943 at the age of 18. He qualified as a Flight Engineer and joined 626 Squadron, flying Lancaster Bombers, at RAF Wickenby, Lincolnshire. On the night of 8th September, 1944, Eric's crew were sent out on a night training flight. About midnight they were returning to base when the pilot had to take evasive action to avoid colliding with another Lancaster. This caused the aircraft to crash-land at 200mph, narrowly missing a cottage. All the crew were injured, but Eric was the only fatality. He is buried at Efford Cemetery, Plymouth.

Branch Meetings The Looe branch meets on the first Monday of each month in the Looe Social Club at 7.30pm. Please feel free to come along and learn more about the Royal British Legion, or even perhaps become a member.

David Welch – Looe Royal British Legion Membership Secretary

LOOE U3A MORNING GROUP CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

Approximately 90 members enjoyed a delicious two-course Christmas lunch at St. Martin's Community Hall Looe recently, with catering by superb in-house Gorgeous Grub Group ladies led by Dot Dunning. Chair Elect, Chris Barwell, with Marilyn King on piano, provided much fun and laughter with audience Carol singing and Chris McArdle was the popular barman. Photo shows Polperro Ladies.



FREE FIRE SAFETY CHECKS

It's timely to remind residents that Cornwall Council offer free fire safety checks for certain home owners, and online advice for businesses.



<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/community-and-living/cornwall-fire-and-rescue-service-homepage/keeping-safe/fire-safety/>

Those with the greatest need in the community will be eligible for a free home fire safety check and will be contacted to arrange an appointment to do this. In this case we will visit your home at an allocated time and accompany you around every room in your property with the aim of:

- Identifying and making you aware of the potential risks in your home – including electrical safety to ensure your sockets are not overloaded.
- Making sure you know what to do in order to reduce or prevent these risks.
- Helping you put together an escape plan in case a fire breaks out in the future.
- Ensuring you have a working smoke alarm and if you don't, we will fit a free smoke alarm (type of alarm will vary depending on the need).

The home fire safety check will take about half an hour. A member from Cornwall Fire, Rescue and Community Safety (CFRCS) Service will be wearing a uniform and carrying an identification card. Please ask to see the identification card, and if you require confirmation telephone the freephone helpline 0800 3581 999.

To help us determine if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check please complete a home fire safety check short survey. You will find the link to the survey via the webiste link above.

If you are eligible an officer will contact you and arrange a convenient time to visit your home. Please be aware that there is a waiting list in place.



MAYOR'S REPORT

FIRE BARBICAN HILL

It is with great sadness that I start this report with the news of the death of a local resident on New Year's Eve in a fire at a residence on Barbican Hill. The resident is a member of a very local family and our thoughts and prayers are with them at this difficult time. We must say thank you to the fire service for their work on this incident with crews from Liskeard, Polruan, Saltash and Looe attending. The work for the Looe crew continued for a couple of days and the investigation is ongoing. The community response was outstanding with a number of people offering help in many different ways, we are lucky to live in such a kind community.

CHRISTMAS WEEKEND

The first weekend of December started with the lantern procession and light switch on for the town. I must comment on the lights this year, as they get more spectacular each year and the addition of the river monster drew a lot of interest. It appears that more businesses and residents are also doing their bit for the festive lights, the Mayor's Lights competition winners are:

Best Business: Looe Bakery, with The Salutation Inn, The Sail Loft and the Harbour being given Highly Commended.

Best Residence: 37 Tregarrick, with 33 Tregarrick, 2 Bodrigan Road, The Rond House and 36 Churchlands being given Highly Commended.

Santa's arrival by train this year was very well attended and the events on the Quay made the day special for children. On Sunday, the Santa Run received the highest number of entries yet and the weather was good all weekend. Our thanks should go to all the organisations and individuals that made this all possible, a great deal of effort by them all for our enjoyment. A special thanks should go to Looe Pioneers as they attended and were part of all the events including organising the Santa Run.

OTHER MATTERS

I attended both Sheila's and Jodie's Christmas dance shows and Looe Academy School Christmas Concert. These all showed the talent we have in this area for dance and music, an excellent reflection on their abilities.

I attended the funeral of Mike Tolley who died suddenly in November. He was involved in many organisations in the town and will be missed. A man who gave time and energy to all he did.

Councillor Armand Toms, Mayor of Looe

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL AMENITIES REPORT

UPDATE ON PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Millpool toilets were targeted over the Christmas school holidays with repeated minor damage to the toilet pans and general increase in rubbish being left and the decision was taken to close the toilets at 3pm daily until the start of new term (Jan 4th). The toilets have now reopened and no further damage as been reported.

New flooring works commence at West Looe toilets on Monday 8th January for two weeks and it is anticipated that they will be finished by 22nd January.

Maintenance works have been completed on the Seafront and Guildhall toilets, both inside and out, including the seating area between the gents and ladies and to the shower area at Seafront. Maintenance works will shortly commence on Hannafore toilets which will mean closure for approx one week. Work on Millpool toilets will follow after that.

SALT BINS

An audit of all Town Council owned salt bins was completed in November and refills/ new bins ordered as required. These works have now been completed by Cormac.

SANTA'S WEEKEND / NYE SIGNAGE

We would like to express our gratitude to the East Looe Town Trust team of Antony and Billy for their assistance with moving road signage around the town during the recent road closures in December.

Laura Kellaway
Amenities Manager

Looe Town Council

Councillor Contact Telephone Numbers

Cllr David Bryan	01503 264130
Cllr Trevor Crane	01503 264535
Cllr Jimmy Dingle	01503 220038
Cllr Martin Gregory (Deputy Mayor)	01503 272796
Cllr Mrs Edwina Hannaford	01503 264160
Cllr Roy Hendy	01503 264905
Cllr James Lundy	01503 264405
Cllr Mrs Michala Powell	01503 265677
Cllr Mrs Beverley Richardson	07966 708152
Cllr Chris Rose	01503 265206
Cllr Michael Smith	07973 343242
Cllr Trevor Stacey	01503 262322
Cllr Armand Toms (Mayor)	01503 264823
Cllr David Welch	01503 265573

Further contact information can be found on the Looe Town Council website:
www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk or by contacting us on 01503 262255.

CONTACT CORNWALL COUNCIL

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Housing	0300 1234 161
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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

LOOE TOWN CRIER

Oh Yez! Oh Yez! Oh Yez!

Friends. Looers, Upcountrymen, lend me your ears!

This introduction to my Cry will be heard no longer. My bad lack of balance, now getting worse – possibly due to a hormone drug I've been taking for the last six months – has led to this decision.

I have loved the past six years: not just because of the Crying, but also the opportunity to speak to so many people. It's been an honour to serve our town.

My thanks go to Armand Toms and Ann Frith who have supported me so well, and to Sally Webb for keeping me well-dressed.

I look forward to chatting with you around Looe.

Oggie! Oggie! Oggie!

Roger Bennett



A message from the Mayor of Looe

On behalf of Looe Town Council and the Town we would like to thank Roger for his dedicated service to Looe, out in all weathers crying the news.

We will miss him and wish him all the best for the future.

Recent Shouts: There was 1 shout between 31st October and 8th January 2018. More information at www.looelifeboats.co.uk/recentshouts

Events: November to early January has been relatively quiet at the station, with two notable exceptions.

Our Christmas Carol Concert with Pelynt Male Voice and Pelynt Ladies Choir took place on 6th December at St. Martin's Church Hall. It was well attended by a festive and very vocal audience who joined in with the carols and enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies.

At the New Year's Day Dip, the sun made an appearance for us and we had to move the start line from the slipway onto the beach as over 250 intrepid dippers joined our volunteer crew for the 6th annual famous dip. Thanks to everyone who took part and all the spectators who came along to watch, between you all we raised over £1,000 in donations for Looe Lifeboat Station.



Looe RNLI volunteer crew together with all of our shore crew, fundraising team, boathouse guides and shop volunteers would like to thank everyone for a cracking start to 2018.

We wish you all a happy and safe 2018



**The Millpool Centre
in West Looe is a
popular venue for
wedding receptions,
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Cinema by the Sea

Wed 21 February – Dunkirk (12A)



Doors open: 7pm. Starts 7.30.

The story of the Dunkirk evacuation. In May 1940, Germany invaded France, trapping Allied troops on the beaches of Dunkirk. Under air and ground cover from British and French forces, troops were slowly evacuated from the beach

using every serviceable boat that could be found. At the end of this heroic mission, 330,000 French, British, Belgian and Dutch soldiers were safely evacuated. 106 minutes.

Wed 21 March – The Big Sick (15)



Doors open: 7pm. Starts 7.30.

New York, the present. Pakistan-born comedian Kumail and postgraduate student Emily fall in love but struggle as their cultures clash. When Emily contracts a mysterious illness, Kumail finds himself forced to face her feisty parents, his family's expectations, and his own true feelings. 117 minutes.

All films at: The Community Hall at Looe Children's Centre,
Trewint Crescent, Barbican, LOOE PL13 1ET

Tickets: On the night at the door, online via our website cinemabythesea.org.uk
or from Looe TIC, The Guild Hall, Fore St, East Looe.



ENABLING FREEDOM FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE FOR PETS AND THEIR OWNERS

We are a local charity based in St Cleer, providing a pet fostering service in Cornwall and Devon to enable individuals and families to escape violent and abusive relationships; to access the safety and support that they need before being reunited with their pets. Often people escaping such relationships are unable to take their much loved pets with them. In many cases this will stop people from leaving. Domestic violence and abuse is one of the most significant public health concerns that we experience in the UK, combined with the fact that over half of all households have pets, this is a vital service!

December was our busiest month yet, with fundraising events and pets coming in for fostering. We raised a phenomenal £2,500 in donations in November and December, including a craft fair in Looe. We also received lots of queries from potential foster carers and we have nearly caught up with the home checks we do with all of our volunteer pet carers. Since we began, in September 2017, we have fostered 25 pets and supported 19 families to escape violent and abusive relationships. We have also been privileged to reunite 7 pets with their families and have more pets going home soon which is always emotional. Seeing pets reunited with their owners reinforces the important role that animal companions play in helping their humans cope and move forward, particularly children.

We will foster any pet we can, providing we have a suitable foster home including dogs, cats, horses, rabbits, small furries, reptiles, birds and exotic pets. So far we have fostered dogs, cats, rats and rabbits! It's largely dogs who come in for fostering and in particular we are looking for foster carers who can care for large breed dogs or multiple dogs. If this is you, we would love to hear from you! We pay for vet treatment and food so there is no cost to pet foster carers, all you need to do is provide the love.

Thank you so much for your support in our first few months, it's been tough, overwhelming, fun and sad at times, but we are excited about the year ahead! A very special 'thank you' to our pet foster carers and project volunteers without whom there would be no Refuge4Pets!

For more information about Refuge4Pets visit our website www.refuge4pets.org.uk. or get in touch via the website, email: info@refuge4pets.org.uk or tel: 07497382457.

POLPERRO FISHERMEN'S CHOIR

Polperro Fishermen's Choir, one of the oldest in Cornwall, is preparing to celebrate an impressive anniversary this year. It was formed 95 years ago and is still based in Polperro Methodist Chapel where it started.

Tommy Marks, a fisherman and lay-preacher, attracted large congregations to his services. Meanwhile Eva Cloke, who was the wife of a fisherman and organist at the chapel, realised the value of preserving the tradition of the singing fishermen. So in 1923, Tommy and Eva formed the first Polperro Fishermen's Choir. Their uniform was a home-knitted roll neck woollen jersey, continuing the tradition of the old days when wives and daughters knitted jumpers for their men folk and each man could be recognised by the pattern on his jumper. It was not until 1982 that the choir modernised and adopted the black blazer and roll-necked shirt by which it is now so easily recognised.

Eva continued as conductor until the late 1960s, since when it has had only four more musical directors, including Jack Libby and Phil Carrigan, who both played an important part in developing the style and repertoire of the choir. In 2017, Stuart Reeves accepted the challenging role.

These days, there are very few true fishermen singing with the choir but the roots and traditions remain deep. The choir's love of singing and of making it fun helps raise thousands of pounds every year for charities and good causes.

There is a more detailed history of the choir on our website:
www.polperrofishermenschoir.co.uk



Old photo –
probably 1950s.

Can anyone
name the people
in it?

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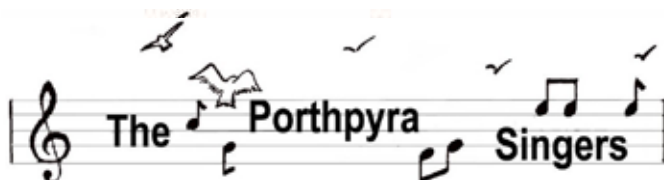
Enter our quiz for the chance to win a prize.

1. Which boat builder constructed "Our Boys", "Our Girls" and "Our Daddy"?
2. What is the oldest pub in Looe still in operation?
3. What was "repeated by county in 1689"?
4. Which Royal Navy officer and veteran of Trafalgar lived at Darloe House in West Looe?
5. The Banjo Pier was originally going to be called by what name?
6. Where in Looe was a brickworks established in the 1890s?
7. Why is Pennylands in Looe so called?
8. Which famous Looe resident lived in what is now the Golden Guinea restaurant?
9. In which year was the first Looe Music Festival held?
10. What was the name of Looe's first lifeboat?
11. Which Looe footballer went on to play for England?
12. Which local lawyer formed the Shark Angling Club of Great Britain based in "The Sal"?
13. What did the mill at the Millpool grind?
14. Where in Looe would you have found the Duchy Café?
15. Which American gospel singer is buried in West Looe cemetery?
16. Which royal prince came to Looe in 1931 to commemorate the widening of Quay Road?
17. How much did the Atkins sisters pay for Looe Island in the 1960s?
18. Which church in Looe had an adjoining prison cell?
19. Which Looe pirate, who later sailed with Captain Kidd, was baptised in St. Martin's Church in 1666?
20. For what purpose was the Masonic Lodge originally built?
21. Where can you see the only visible part of the old quayside railway line?
22. To which Saint were the two chapels of Lamanna dedicated?
23. Which type of aircraft crashed in Looe Bay in 1944?
24. Which engineer was responsible for the building of the Banjo Pier, the Hannaford approach road and the Liskeard to Looe railway?
25. How many arches did the medieval bridge, built in the 15th century, have?
26. In which area did the first inhabitants of Looe live?
27. Which famous author visited Looe in 1850?
28. What is unusual about the clock on the old St. Mary's Church building?

29. Who opened the Millpool Centre in September, 2013?
30. Which Cornish knight fought so well at the Battle of Agincourt that Henry V awarded him three oak leaves to be added to the family Coat of Arms as a symbol of conquest?

Please forward your answers, with your contact details, to the East Looe Town Trust by 11th March 2018. The winner(s) and answers will be published in the next issue.

Are you interested in joining our team of Volunteers? You can do work for us at home if that suits you, or come and help us at the Museum. Please ring 01503 263709 and leave us your details so we can contact you.



We are a small mixed voice choir based in Looe. We are a friendly group who meet on a Monday evening, 7.30pm at the Riverside Chapel in West Looe. The choir welcomes new members across all voices, particularly male voices.

We are one of the few remaining mixed voices choirs in the area, however we are very short of male voices which seems to be the situation with many mixed voice choirs. We are also surrounded by many male voice choirs which means the men are spread very thinly! Not to be disheartened we sing on and try to be optimistic that new members will join our ranks.

As a community group, the choir focusses much of its singing on raising money for local charities. Over Christmas 2017 we raised £200 for Blood Bikes; thank you to our supporters.

If you are interested in joining us please check out our Facebook page and website: **www.porthpyrasingers.com** for more information or contact Kathy Iles by email kathy@ciles.co.uk or our secretary Joan Taylor 01503 264061.

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Community News tries to be as accurate as possible in the information received from organisations. However, it is always advisable to contact the organiser(s) directly if confirmation and further details are required.



SARAH McQUAID
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