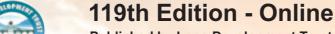
LOOE COMMUNITY NEWS October/November 2020





Published by Looe Development Trust for Looe and surrounding parishes

Gracie Giles by Kate Foster Photography and Jon Raffoul Photography (bottom right)





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EAST LOOE TOWN TRUST EMERGED FROM LOCKDOWN



Trust staff have been working hard since early May, and there was plenty to do to catch up from the brief furloughing of two staff members at the beginning of lockdown. We were pleased that we were well prepared for the nation's emergence from lockdown, and the pleasant summer weather which brought visitors back to Looe; and we do understand how important an attractive beach and seafront is to the economy of our town. Although the Trust has neither the means nor the power to enforce the Covid distancing regulations, we were pleased that overwhelmingly people were observing the 1 metre plus outside social distancing rule on the beach and seafront. (Anecdotally, there were a lot more windbreaks in use on the beach, which could be a sign of people taking extra Covid care!) The Pier Cafe, Beach Cafe, and seafront concessions business have all worked hard to be Covid secure and provide a good service for customers, from great cups of coffee to kayak hire.

St. Ives Steeplejacks paid a visit to inspect the top of the Guildhall clocktower, assess and fix water ingress issues recently. The Trust has also engaged specialist heritage surveyors, Scotts of Truro, to advise on long term maintenance of this landmark Grade 2 listed building, and we are expecting to do more work on the Clocktower before long, with the inevitable pressure on our funds.

The brilliant Looe Old Guildhall Museum volunteers have found their enforced Covid closure highly frustrating but have been busy, not least working with Mr. Colin Raddy to bring the Raddy Collection of 700 glass plate photographs to public view. Having secured a grant from the South West Museums group, the collection has now been fully digitised and is being catalogued. Petra Stephenson and the team hope to have a significant public exhibition ready for the Spring. Most importantly the Old Guildhall Museum will be reopening for booked visits from 13th October – look on the web for details: https://www.eastlooetowntrust.co.uk/museum visitor info.php

Finally, we were delighted to welcome two new businesses to trust properties. First, Quirky Boutique opened, and is a colourful presence in the Guildhall Rose Garden. Since the recent arrival of another national retailer opposite in Fore Street, Looe is strengthening its reputation as a shopping destination for major branded fashion and leisurewear. (It's great to see the Guildhall Barbers, Guildhall Market, and Pier One coffee shop back and busy as well.) Second, the new Cheese Emporium & Deli opened in Higher Market Street after a cheerful socially distanced opening ceremony led by our Mayor Cllr. Martin Gregory, Mayoress Julie Gregory, Deputy Mayor Cllr Edwina Hannaford, and County Councillor Armand Toms. The Cheese Emporium is next door to the Ocean & Earth Thai Select restaurant whose many regular customers are delighted to see them back.



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GRACIE GILES – BALLET SCHOLARSHIP

A young girl from Looe has paired dreams with dedication to secure a scholarship for the Royal Ballet School in Richmond. Gracie Giles, 11, is one of only 15 girls to gain a place this year at the prestigious school, known the world over as a centre of classical ballet training and whose alumni include Dame Margot Fonteyn and Dame Darcey Bussell.

Auditions were held over a period of six months and involved a strenuous series of ballet, interviews, physio tests and academics, at the end of which Gracie had offers of places from all three of the UK's top establishments: The Royal Ballet School, the Elmhurst Ballet School (connected to Birmingham Royal Ballet) and Tring Park for the Performing Arts in Hertfordshire.

Having made her decision, Gracie started her training at The Royal Ballet School's White Lodge in September, where she boards during the week. The surroundings of her new school were already familiar to the young dancer, as she has twice taken part in summer schools in Richmond: during both of these, Gracie was given a direct access award for the following year by artistic director Christopher Powney.

Through the Ballaré School of Performing Arts in Saltash, where she has been dancing since she was three years old, Gracie gained junior associate places with both the Royal Ballet and Elmhurst Ballet Schools, and has trained each week on Saturday and Sunday in Totnes and Plymouth respectively for the past three years.

She gained a scholarship place with the English Youth Ballet in 2019, and performed the famous Cygnet Dance at the New Theatre in Cardiff last summer. She also gained a place with the Birmingham Royal Ballet to dance in their performance of Swan Lake here at the Theatre Royal in Plymouth.

Gracie has won many awards for her dancing, most recently as a finalist at the International Imperial Ballet Awards held in London. For a youngster of just 11, Gracie has an impressive CV: in addition to her dancing, Gracie has been involved in many professional theatre and TV productions, as well as enjoying success in modelling and representing numerous dance wear brands.

She now trains at the School, with artistic lessons for around four hours a day, followed by four hours of academic lessons, with prep (homework) in the evenings before bed. It's a very hectic schedule, but one she is used to. Gracie has made some wonderful friends and is excited for the next few years ahead. Her absolute dream come true.

Gracie's family have been overwhelmed by support from her school, dance teachers, friends, family and the community.

Ed: Thanks to Kate Fowler Photography and Jon Raffoul Photography for the fabulous photos on the front cover.

ONLINE COMMUNITY NEWS

It's been a while, but we are back! We will publish every two months as usual, but initially online only.

If you have any items or good news stories to share or want to advertise your business or Covid-safe event, please get in touch – ewarne18@btinternet.com

The next edition will be published at the end of November.

OLD GUILDHALL MUSEUM AND GAOL

The Museum has been closed for the whole season so far and little did anyone think that we would see such a situation in 2020.

Historically the Museum staff thought of the Spanish Influenza in 1918 and found this small newspaper report related to Looe:

15th November 1918; The Cornish Times reported that the wife of George Menhenick had died and other members of the family are confined to bed and will not be able to make the funeral. Also to die in Looe that week were, Mrs Butters, Mrs Laura Moore and Miss Advenna Pearce. All deaths were linked to the influenza outbreak. The Council School has been closed for two weeks and will be for at least three more, several of the teachers are ill...

We all found it very interesting that the schools were still trying to keep open despite the severity of the Pandemic!

We have been working hard behind the scenes:

- Arranging new displays for VE Day which will be kept up throughout 2021 as well. New display fronts have been put on the cabinets downstairs, with many thanks to Neil Hipkiss.
- I put in a bid to SW Museum's Small Grant Big Improvement award scheme for the digitisation of 700 Raddy glass plates. I am delighted that we were chosen for this project, and as I write we are waiting for the plates and the new images to come back to us. We then have to catalogue and name each image: 463 of Looe, 135 of Polperro, 70 of the outlying area and 32 churches, and enter them onto the Museum Modes system, which is where all of our artefacts are recorded. We hope to have a free week-long exhibition of the images in 2021, where the images will be on sale, but for obvious reasons we can give no date for this yet.
- The Museum is going to have its own website, which will enable us to have a timed ticket system for visiting, as well as a Donate button for donations.
 We will open to the public on 13th October, and will be open for 3-4 days a week. All of the volunteers involved will have had COVID training and

we have all of the regulations in place. We are now waiting for the PPE to arrive — look out on our Facebook pages: 'Looe Museum' and training and we have all of the regulations in place. We are now waiting for 'Old Guildhall and Gaol' — for information about when we will be opening again, and please come to visit us again and encourage friends, family or visitors to come, as we have made no income so far this year and it is so important that this little museum stays open!

- In March 2021 we will have a new Augmented Reality model of Looe Island which will take you back to 1160 and the building of the chapel on the Island and Lammana, as well as telling stories of the Tin trade and Joseph of Arimathea and how the Island was linked to Glastonbury. We will also have a new immersive display of the Island, designed by PLB. This will tell the stories of the smugglers, display a timeline of the owners of the Island, as well as showing the effects of climate change on Looe. We will have lots of publicity about this nearer the time and we are really looking forward to showing our visitors a completely new experience in the Museum. Our thanks to the Coastal Communities wAVE project which has made this possible for us and the support of Cornwall Museums Partnership.
- As part of the wAVE project we also have a new virtual tour of the Museum designed by Ocean 3D which is available on our Facebook pages and will also be on our website – details to be announced very soon. Please have a look and donate if possible.
- Following our very memorable World War 2 Memory Café, shared with the Old Sardine Factory Heritage Centre and Old Cornwall Society, I have now written up all of the memories shared that day as well as inputting all of the images that were very kindly shared by so many people. We hope to have this available as an e-book as well as a paper copy, both of which will be for sale in both the Museum and the Heritage Centre. Details to follow soon on our websites and Facebook pages. It was an honour to share so many memories with so many people and our team of speakers were guided so ably by Nick Bailey. I am only sad that Alan Dingle is not here to share the book with us, but his, and many other memories will now be preserved for future generations to enjoy and remember.

These are extraordinary times that we live in, but the Museum will collect all of the COVID artefacts too and keep them for future displays – one of these we hope in the future, will compare the Spanish Flu epidemic with COVID. My thanks to ELTT for their continued support of the Museum, the Museum Committee who have worked so hard and especially Penny McHugh who is now our new Curator, and has been such a support to me during the last few months.

To all of you in Looe, as well as our visitors, we hope to see many of you back, and that you all stay safe and well – We will meet again!

LOOE BOAT WATCH

LOOE BOAT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION



Like many organisations in Looe, the pandemic has meant a curtailment of Looe Boat Owner's Association (LBOA) programme of social events. Unfortunately it also meant the cancellation of this year's Looe Raft Race, organised by the Association. This is one of the prime events of the Looe calendar, and is a major fundraiser for Looe Lifeboats.

However, not all of the group's fundraising efforts have been affected, as the sale of the LBOA Looe Tide Tables has continued. This publication, carrying advertising from local businesses, is available from outlets across Looe. In recent years a significant part of the proceeds raised from their sale has been donated to organisations in Looe. In 2018 a defibrillator was purchased for Looe Harbour Commission and 2019 saw the purchase of a new set of sails for the Junior Section of Looe Sailing Club.

In 2020, the beneficiaries are Looe and Polperro Guides and Rainbows. The photograph below shows LBOA Chairman John Hillier presenting cheques for £300 each to Guide Leaders Karen Bowdler and Careen Harris of 1st Polperro Guides and Guide Leader Faye Hancock of 4th Looe Rainbows.

It is hoped that a 2021 edition will be published, so don't forget to look out for it around town.

LBOA organises social events throughout the year, on land and on the water. Membership is available to all, boat owner or not. Full details of activities and how to join can be found on our Facebook page or on our website www.lboa.co.uk



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OLD SARDINE FACTORY HERITAGE CENTRE

At the Heritage Centre, we have been open since 23rd July for pre-booked Guided Tour sessions for family groups or bubbles. We are open four days a week, from 11am-4pm, on Wednesday to Friday and Sunday. The good news is that we have been busy and safe.

During October, we are still open and there now two ways to choose from to experience a visit to the Old Sardine Factory Heritage Centre until 18th October, after which we will also run a programme of family activities and tours in Half Term from 19th-30th October. Details of each offering are below:

On Fridays and Sundays, we offer four exclusive 45-minute Guided Tour booking slots – for a group of up to 5 people from a family or 'social bubble' – starting at 11am, 12noon, 2pm or 3pm. You will have the entire Heritage Centre to yourself, with your Tour Guide explaining all about the Sardine Factory and the maritime heritage of Looe, it's fishing and the Harbour. Ask as many questions as you wish! These Guided Tour booking slots cost £15 per group.

Available October dates: Fridays: 9th, 16th and Sundays: 11th, 18th

On Wednesdays and Thursdays, we offer Open Access timed-slot bookings into the Heritage Centre between 11am-4pm (last entry 3.30pm). You can spend up to 45 minutes in the Centre with the exhibits, following our one-way system for your safety. There will be no more than six people allowed in the Centre at any one time. A Guided Tour is not included. Tickets for these Open Access sessions are £2.50 per adult.

Available October dates: Wednesdays 14th and Thursday and 15th

Our October Half Term programme will be happening between Monday 19th to Friday 30th October...full of great Family Activities and safe, exclusive Guided Tour booking slots. Full details on our website.

We warmly encourage everyone to book tickets online in advance for the Heritage Centre, as this is the safest option:

www.oldsardinefactoryheritagecentre.org

However, it is also possible to drop-in and book for our timed open access timed slots at the venue.



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LOOE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

LEGION

The 'Legion' and COVID-19: As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic we, the Looe Branch of the RBL, have cancelled our normal monthly meetings until further notice. Nevertheless, the work of the 'Legion' goes on in providing financial, social and emotional support to

members and veterans of the British Armed Forces, their families and dependants, especially in these times of the pandemic when extra stresses have been placed on our lives. 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. The British Legion has been providing support since 1921 and will carrying on doing so for along as it is needed.

In Remembrance: The 'Legion' also has a duty to ensure that those who gave their lives for our peace and freedom are remembered. Sadly, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we could not mark the 75th anniversaries of the WW2 V.E. Day (Victory in Europe) and V.J. Day (Victory over Japan).

V.E. Day: 8th May is the United Kingdom's official commemoration of the end of the war with Germany, but the actual final surrender of German troops was spread over about 10 days. On 29th April 1945 the German commanders in Italy, after secret negotiations with the Allies, signed a document agreeing to a ceasefire followed by their eventual surrender. On 2nd May nearly one million German troops in Italy and Austria surrendered unconditionally to British Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander. The same day, the German troops defending Berlin surrendered to the Russians, Hitler having committed suicide in his Berlin bunker on 30th April. On 4th May British Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery, much to the chagrin of the Americans, accepted the unconditional surrender of the German forces in Northwest Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark. On the morning of 7th May the German General Alfred Jodl, signed an unconditional surrender document for all the German forces. The Germans were to cease active operations at 23:01 hours, Central European Time, on 8th May, 1945, which is now celebrated as V.E. Day.

V.J. Day: The war on Japan still continued after V.E. Day with the Americans fighting in the Pacific and the British 14th Army, the so called 'Forgotten Army', advancing through Burma. On 6th and 9th August, 1945, the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki respectively. Then on 15th August the Japanese Emperor Hirohito announced the acceptance of the terms of the 'Potsdam Declaration' which stated that, if Japan did not surrender, it would face prompt and utter destruction. The 15th August is now celebrated in the U.K. as Victory over Japan Day and, perhaps more significantly, the end of hostilities in WW2.

Looe's V.E. & V.J. Day 2020: Due to COVID-19, this year no formal ceremonies took place on V.E. Day or V.J. Day. Members of the Looe RBL did manage to refurbish Looe War Memorial's two Silent Soldiers and have them back in place for V.E. Day. To mark V.J. Day, Looe RBL decided to respect the fallen with two minutes silence, at 11am, at Looe War Memorial. At the appointed time the branch's

standards were dipped and the Looe War Memorial's flags lowered to half-mast. Our Chairman, Mr Louis Portman, recited the Ode of Remembrance ('They shall not grow old....') and the Kohima Epitaph ('When you grow old, tell them of us...').



Looe's WW2 Casualties: To mark the end of WW2, Looe RBL displayed information at Looe War Memorial on each of the 39 WW2 casualties named on the memorial. This replaced the information on the WW1 casualties which had been on display since 2014. The information, on individual casualties, from both wars, can be viewed on the 'WAR MEMORIAL' page of our website www.rbllooe.com The information was researched by our branch over a number of years and if anyone would like to add to the information, or would like a copy of an individual's details, then please do not hesitate to contact us on the telephone number or email address given at the end of this article.

Poppy Appeal: The latest instructions we have received on the Poppy Appeal is that street collections cannot take place but collection boxes will be displayed in commercial premises. Please support the Poppy Appeal.

Remembrance Sunday 2020: The Remembrance Sunday ceremony is a civic ceremony organised by Looe Town Council but, due to COVID-19 restrictions, plans for a ceremony are on hold. At the bare minimum, Looe RBL is hoping to hold a two minutes silence at Looe War Memorial, at 11am on both Remembrance Sunday (8th November) and Armistice Day (Wednesday 11th November). COVID-19 restrictions will be maintained.

Poppy Wreaths: There will be no formal laying of poppy wreaths on Remembrance Sunday but organisations, and individuals, can place poppy wreaths on war memorial at a time and date of their convenience. As ever, the wreaths will be maintained by Looe RBL as part of our ongoing care of the war memorial. Wreaths can be obtained by contacting our President, and Poppy Appeal Organiser, Mr David Bryan on telephone number 01503 264130.

British Legion Centenary: Next year marks the centenary of the British Legion (it became the Royal British Legion in 1971) and also of the Looe branch. Immediately after WW1 four main ex-servicemen organisations came into being to help the plight of their unemployed and disabled comrades, but in 1921 the groups amalgamated to become the British Legion. At 9am on 15th May 1921, at the London Cenotaph, the shrine to their dead comrades, the ex-Service men sealed their agreement. The Legion had been born. Seven weeks later, on the 2nd July, 1921, the Looe Branch of the (Royal) British Legion came into existence.

Although our origins are from ex-servicemen organisations, full membership of the 'Legion' is open to everyone and many of our members have no service background. We are always on the lookout for new members. Hopefully by next year the COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted and you can join us in celebrating the Legion's, and the Looe Branch's, centenary.

David Welch - Looe RBL

Tel: 01503 265573 email: looe.rbl@rbllooe.com

LOOE SAILING CLUB

Way back in March everyone was looking forward to getting back on the water for a new sailing season. However, all hopes were dashed when the lockdown occurred. With the Club closed, meetings have been held by video link and the summer championships were cancelled.

Now the GOOD BIT: after much preparation, risk assessments and jumping through hoops we have been able to restart sailing, much to the delight of our members. The big day came on Saturday 12th September when the boats finally hit the water for an eight race mini-series, running up to the end of October.

The Club's thanks go to Looe Harbour Commissioners for their help in getting things underway also the volunteers who have made it possible.

The fleets have seen a variety of conditions since starting but all have agreed it was great to be back on the water and with the sea at its warmest even capsizes have been more bearable.

Paul Sedgbeer, LSC

www.looesailingclub.co.uk

MAYOR'S REPORT





Looe Town Council recruits six new Councillors during lockdown: Looe Town Council would like to introduce you to the new Councillors recruited since the beginning of March this year. This takes the Council to a full compliment of 15 Councillors representing the East and West wards of the town and brings a wealth of additional skills to the Council. The new Councillors are:

East Ward: West Ward: Lillian Harrison John Miller

Carla Jones Jon Holmes Viv Sullivan Tony Smith

I want to congratulate and welcome the six new Councillors who join the team. The calibre of candidates applying to join the Council has been extremely high and everyone who applied would have made an excellent Councillor. Our new Councillors bring a wealth of different skills and experience but one thing they all have in common is a love and passion for Looe and a desire to work hard to make a positive difference to the town and for its residents. They arrive at the Council at a challenging time, as we support the town during the COVID-19 pandemic, but also at an exciting time with the Council working on delivering a number of key projects.

I would like to encourage our residents to get to know their Councillors. Our meetings are freely accessible to the public and, as we currently meet virtually, are available to attend by internet or phone. It is vitally important our residents know and understand the decisions being made on your behalf. We have five committees, Planning, Environment & Devolution, Policy & Strategy, Finance and Library & Community Hub, plus full Council meetings. You will be assured of a warm welcome.

Mayor's Update: I am delighted that Looe Community News is back, albeit virtually. So much has changed this year that I hardly know where to begin. I will start with my constant pride in every resident of Looe. We are a community who stand by each other and I am immensely proud of the way we have supported each other during the height of lockdown and during an immensely busy summer season. Since March our volunteer network have taken over 1340 calls on the helplines, delivered over 340 prescriptions and helped around 310 vulnerable people with a range of essential services.

Our library was the only one in Cornwall to maintain a service during full lockdown, again dependent on volunteer delivery. Volunteers have also supported the Town Council in spray painting the streets and in maintaining our communication with messages of encouragement and hope. All of this activity was co-ordinated via our staff and Councillor team and my sincere thanks goes to everyone involved.

The Council is currently working with all the key organisations in the town on how we celebrate major events in a safe way. Please look at our Facebook page and website for messages about Remembrance Sunday, Christmas and New Year as we will be releasing them as and when we have activities arranged – most of the activities will be virtual but we hope that Santa will be able to visit the streets of Looe this year!

Looe Town Council is soon to have a new and improved Council website and we welcome any community news or updates. Please email any stories or information you would like to share to:enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk Also the new tourism website is currently being developed and we are working with consultants to develop a new Looe brand and logo. We would like your input on what is chosen because no-one knows and loves Looe more than its residents, so please keep an eye out for surveys on the new branding.

Looe Neighbourhood Plan is nearly ready for submission so visit Future Looe website where we will be keeping you up to date with progress.

We have had some key meetings about how we can support the town now and in future and will be communicating any successes with you. We have also set up the Looe Hardship Fund in conjunction with Looe Town Cornwall Councillors for East and West Looe, Cllr Armand Toms and Cllr Edwina Hannaford, The Rusty Bucket, Looe Valley Rotary Club, Looe Development Trust and the Cornwall Community Foundation to provide a community hardship fund for Looe. If you need to talk through your needs you can call Rusty Bucket on 07896515334 or if you have limited credit on your phone complete the form on our website https://www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk/covid19_forms.php you can also text this number and someone will call you back within 24hours.

There is much to look forward to but we have seen a monumental shift in national behaviour and we must all continue to play our part in saving lives and protecting the NHS by staying home, observing social distancing rules, wearing a mask and maintaining good hand hygiene.

I have countless reasons to be very proud to be Looe's Mayor, but perhaps never more so than when seeing local people uniting and pulling together so amazingly in the common cause of defeating this terrible disease and I am hugely thankful to you all.

Keep safe Cllr Martin Gregory Mayor of Looe #HereforLooe



LOOF TOWN COUNCIL CONTACTS



Mayor Cllr Martin Gregory 01503 272796

martin.gregory@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Deputy Mayor, Cllr Edwina Hannaford 01503 264160

edwina.hannaford@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk

Councillor Simon Barker 01503 262929

simon.barker@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Jimmy Dingle 01503 220038

jimmy.dingle@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Lillian Harrison (East Looe Ward) 07802 289334

lillian.harrison@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Jon Holmes 07940 095322

jon.holmes@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Carla Jones 07525 148169

carla.jones@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor James Lundy 01503 264405

james.lundy@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor John Miller 07903 241931

john.miller@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Michala Powell 01503 262255

michala.powell@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Beverley Richardson 07966 708152

beverley.richardson@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Chris Rose 01503 265206

chris.rose@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Tony Smith 07774 639023

tony.smith@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Viv Sullivan 07814 444981

viv.sullivan@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Armand Toms 01503 264823

armand.toms@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

First Floor

Looe Library and Community Hub

The Millpool

West Looe **PL13 2AF**

01503 262255

enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

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LOOE TOWN COUNCILLORS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS COURSE

Mayor Cllr Martin Gregory, Deputy Mayor Cllr Edwina Hannaford, Cllrs Carla Jones, and Lillian Harrison successfully completed the day long course at the Notter Bridge training centre.

The Councillors learned about current legislation in regard to running a safe event, understanding the event notification process, learned to devise a traffic management plan, create a risk assessment, identify hazards and control measures related to events in relation to highways users and event staff and demonstrated by examination sufficient knowledge to be accredited as an event steward. This qualification allows the Councillors to safely erect highways signage for road closures and run local events like the West Looe May Fayre, torchlight procession, Remembrance Sunday and New Year's Eve.

Mayor of Looe Cllr Martin Gregory said, "Keeping our residents, staff and visitors safe at town events is paramount. The course helped us understand our responsibilities in relations to the legislation including the Traffic Management Act 2004, the Health and Safety at Work Act and The Traffic Signs Regulations."

Cllr Hannaford said, "As event organisers and promotors we have overall responsibility for everyone's safety and the smooth running of our events we organise. We can ensure this by identifying the potential risks and hazards and putting in place measures to minimise these, making contingency plans should something go wrong, with communication being key."

Cllr Jones said, "We now have a better understanding of all the steps involved in planning a safe event, including the public transport strategy, identifying emergency access routes, planning for weather conditions, routing traffic within the site, correct traffic signage, access to water and waste disposal arrangements."

Cllr Harrison said, "We learned about the appropriate personal protection equipment required and the safe lifting and erection of signage as well as the correct signage to use for diversions."

If you are thinking of organising an event you need to complete an Event Notification Form, available on the Cornwall Council website, a minimum of 12 weeks before your event. You need to ensure you have a minimum of £5m public liability insurance, complete a risk assessment and a traffic management plan should your event need a road closure, and apply for all the appropriate licences. The Council has created an event toolkit and guidance on organising your event.

https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/organising-events-in-cornwall/

For further advice on safely organising an event you can also contact Cornwall Council Business Regulatory Support Service.

Email businessadvice@cornwall.gov.uk or call 03001234212

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE

During these difficult times the Planning Committee has had to learn to adapt to a different way of engaging with both the community and colleagues. Zoom has enabled us to conduct our meetings in a really efficient way, helping us review each planning application in detail. It has been great to see members of the public still participating with us and still able to put their points across, allowing the Planning Committee to see all aspects of each application.

Having welcomed several new members: Cllr Harrison, Cllr Jones, Cllr Holmes and Cllr Miller, and also had the great pleasure of welcoming back Cllr Sullivan, this is currently the largest Committee within LTC, which helps to provide a variety of views.

Looe Town Council Planning Committee is working on submitting representation to the Government's new planning reform and is currently digesting the potential implications for our area. We have written to neighbouring town and parish councils to hear their thoughts are and what steps they will be taking – so watch this space!

I am pleased to be able to give you a brief update on the progression of Looe Neighbourhood Plan that myself and Cllr Hannaford as co-chairs have been working hard on, along with steering group members and the support of Project Manager, Steve Besford–Foster. Significant progress has been made in developing a number of key projects, including the Looe Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), the Flood Defence and Economic Regeneration scheme, the Millpool/Polean masterplan and the Looe Cycleway Hub. Finalising and delivering these projects will help safeguard the heritage, environment and distinctiveness of Looe, as well as protecting the town from the risk of flooding and supporting its economic development. Developed under the leadership of the Looe Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, supported by Looe Town Council, the draft NDP sets out a range of short and long term planning priorities aimed at ensuring that Looe is a thriving town that meets the needs of its residents and visitors in a sustainable way. Our NDP will shortly be submitted to Cornwall Council for compliance before we prepare for the plan to go to a referendum – all in all a very busy time!

May I take the opportunity to remind you that Looe Town Council Planning Committee meetings are held at least once a month. All meetings and details of planning applications can be viewed on www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk The 'planning information' page also has lots of useful information. If you would like to attend a Zoom planning meeting please contact Annette Keen on 01503 262255 or email enquires@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

As always, I would like to pass on my thanks to Cllr Rose as Vice Chair and to all planning members for their continued time and support, not forgetting Annette Keen who I would like to especially thank for all of the extra effort she has put in to accommodate these trying and difficult times that we are all experiencing.

On this note I hope you all keep well and safe and continue to support our community.

Cllr James Lundy

NEWS FROM LOOE EAST: COUNCILLOR ARMAND TOMS

Over the last few weeks when speaking to people I have reinforced the message about hand washing, social distancing and wearing masks in enclosed spaces. In my post as Chairman of the Health Committee at Cornwall Council I sit as an observer on the Local Outbreak Board so hear of the proactive work being done by our local Public Health team. The testing and retesting in areas of concern have been important to check the progress of Covid in work settings around Cornwall. The number of tests done in Cornwall has increased over the last few weeks from 4000 to 7000 a week. Locally there have been cases but small in number, so if you are in an at risk group be careful and all of us need to be doing the right things to make sure we help.

As you will have read in the papers that there have been job losses locally. 22 at Drinkmaster, the possible loss of 54 at Trago Liskeard, coming on top of the recent closure of Saltash College with the loss of over 60. I have also been told of many ones, twos and threes going in different work places which will bring hardship to many local families. Having worked with the local DWP over a number of issues in recent years, I welcome their intervention in this local problem. Working with them and the Town Council, Growth Hub, Disability Employer Team and ACAS, there will be an event later in the year to help individuals and businesses. Please remember to shop local, employ local and stay local to help the local economy and jobs.

After writing about the possibility of job losses I now write about the upcoming opportunities for the town, its security and its prosperity, having been to two briefings in the last couple of weeks about the Outer Harbour Project and The Looe Valley (Cycle) Trails. Being both a Harbour Commissioner and a Trustee with Looe Development Trust I have seen the tremendous work of both these organisations in bringing forward these plans. The Outer Harbour project is being led by Tina Hicks and Colin Crabb, who are keeping things on track and achievable. As you will have seen, the surveys of the harbour area have been carried out over the last months. A group of the town's organisations met and the initial findings were set out, but more information will be produced over the next weeks and months and a full report and public consultation with be held later in the year. I cannot praise Tina and Colin enough for their diligence in all things relating to the project. With the help of Cornwall Council, WSP and many others I look forward to what comes next.

The work on the Cycle Trails from Cremyll to Looe, Looe to Liskeard and Looe to Bodmin (and reverse) was presented to a smaller group but again this brought into sharp focus the possibilities of a very important economic development for South East Cornwall. The initial credit should go to Dr Sue Brownlow and her hard work on this idea and Justin Spreckley the Chairman of LDT. Ms A Fields is leading on this project and presented how much hard work had gone on to move this forward. With the able support of local Councillors and Community Networks Managers this is an exciting project. I know that having contacted our local MP Sheryll Murray she is in support of both projects.

During a debate at Cornwall Council earlier in the year I was able to get the members to support an amendment to a proposal on the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry report calling for the Bridge Committee to write to the Government Minister to see if Government would put funds into the costs of the upkeep of the Bridge and Ferries. When you see the Scottish Government supporting the Highland Ferries with over 200 million, taking tolls off the Forth and Skye bridges, and the bridges into Wales becoming free, a little support for us would be very helpful.

As always I have been out doing my litter picks and clean ups in my area and if anyone wishes to come along I have a spare picker. The recent river and town clean up organised by Guy Cooper was a great success with 90+ crab lines taken from the river and many bags of rubbish from the town. On the Council side, I have cleared the gutters on the West Looe Store and Vets buildings and cleared the surrounding area. There is a need to do more work at the side of the vets building and I would appreciate some willing hands to help with this.

Since the end of full lockdown, there has been a spike in homelessness in the area, increases in the need of social care and financial hardship. Yet this has not increased the amount of use of the town's Hardship Funds run by the Rusty Bucket (Paul Penhaligan). If you hear of anyone in need let us know or put them in touch with Paul or myself and will do whatever we can to help.

Councillor Armand Toms

CONTACT CORNWALL COUNCIL

General Enquiries (and all services)	0300 1234 100
Children, Schools and Families	0300 1234 101
Libraries	0300 1234 111
Benefits	0300 1234 121
Adult Care and Support	0300 1234 131
Refuse and Recycling	0300 1234 141
Planning	0300 1234 151
Housing	0300 1234 161
Council Tax and Business Rates	0300 1234 171
Registration Service	0300 1234 181
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

Calls to 03 numbers cost no more than a national rate call to an 01 or 02 number and must count towards any inclusive minutes in the same way as 01 and 02 calls.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Our Looe community spirit is something we can all be proud of and we are grateful to everyone who has worked together to help our town, especially this year.

There is still a need for volunteers to help in all kinds of ways including delivering library books and answering the Covid helpline to arrange support to those self-isolating and shielding. If you are able to volunteer, even if for a small amount of time, we would love to hear from you.

We would also like to know your thoughts on ways volunteers could help in the future. Please complete the form at the bottom of the Looe Town Council homepage: www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk With your help, we can continue to work together to keep everyone in Looe safe, well and happy.



LIBRARY - CLICK AND COLLECT

The Community Hub team at the Library has been busy this year keeping services running and we have had some lovely feedback from customers who have found the library more important than ever this year.

Library members can reserve books online using the 'click and collect' service. This means you can browse and reserve books online. When they arrive, we will call you to arrange a collection time as the library is still closed to customers. You can return items using the post box outside the Library and Community Hub building in The Millpool car park.

Overdue fines continue to be suspended but we do ask you to please either return or renew the items you have borrowed so we know where they are.

All other library services are suspended at the moment, but we look forward to welcoming customers back through the doors as soon as it is safe to do so.

In the meantime, please keep up to date with us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/looelibrary



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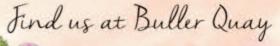
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NEW ERA FOR LOOE

Looe is at the dawn of an exciting new era, with all partners determined to work together to revitalise the local economy and protect the environment whilst maintaining the town's special character.

Members of the Looe Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group are currently putting the finishing touches to the draft Plan ahead of it being submitted to Cornwall Council for process compliance within the next few weeks. There will then be a six-week period of public consultation, and a formal examination by an independent expert, before a local referendum is held next year in which local residents are invited to vote on the plan. You can find out more about the NDP at http://www.futurelooe.town/index.php

One of the key objectives of the draft Neighbourhood Plan is to set robust planning policies to ensure that any future flood defence scheme balances a set of key objectives – reducing the frequency of flooding, protecting existing industries such as fishing and tourism, creating new economic opportunities and respecting the marine and coastal environment.

These policies will set the context for the Looe Flood Defence and Economic Regeneration scheme currently being developed by Cornwall Council in partnership with Looe Harbour Commissioners, Looe Town Council, Looe Development Trust, West Looe Town Trust, East Looe Town Trust, the Environment Agency, the RNLI and Network Rail.

The aim of the proposed flood defence scheme is to safeguard the entire town centre, fishing fleet and harbour from increasingly frequent flooding, support the regeneration of the town and the wider South East Cornwall economy, and help deliver new and improved rail, road, ferry, cycling and walking links at the same time as maintaining the overall environmental integrity of designated sites and water bodies.

Specific measures include:

- A tidal barrier which will be closed when a flood warning is issued.
- A breakwater which will prevent overtopping of the flood gates during tidal surges, provide a shelter for vessels when the flood gates are closed and protect Hannafore Road.
- An extension to the Banjo pier, creating a low water landing stage providing all day easy access to the harbour.
- A cut-off wall below East Looe beach to prevent tidal flooding bypassing the tidal barrier.
- A new walkway from Pennyland in the town to Hannafore to provide access to the coast path and protected access off the main road.

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You can find out more on the Cornwall Council website:

https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/countryside/estuaries-rivers-and-wetlands/flood-risk/flood-risk-management-projects/looe-flood-defence-scheme/
Use this link: bit.ly/2GzwJvs (The one above is too long to work here, but can be typed into your browser)

However, while the draft NDP supports the principle of developing a flood defence scheme for Looe, it is not promoting any specific scheme. Its aim is to develop clear planning policies which will protect the town from flooding and enable appropriate future development, whilst safeguarding the ecology and distinctiveness of the harbour area and the wider town. It will also ensure that no development occurs on the landward side of any possible scheme that would make it impossible to carry out flood defence work.

This is a very exciting time for Looe, with a number of major projects coming forward. The whole town needs to pull together to make the most of these opportunities.

Looe Flood Defence Scheme Partnership

LooeFloodDefence@cornwall.gov.uk

CHRISTMAS

We shall all celebrate Christmas – with social distancing and not partying with Aunty Covid and Uncle Virus. They are not invited.

We are lucky to live in Looe, where, every Christmas there have been (and will be again in the future) so many community events, tree festivals, services and church events, carol concerts, musical and dance shows, choir concerts, switch-on ceremonies, Santa's arrival and Grotto, fetes, markets and fayres, pantomimes. Sadly, due to the current Covid situation, many of these events will not take place this Christmas. Looe will have its colourful Christmas lights but no switch-on ceremony. Events where the public can gather will be few and far between. Discussions are still taking place to see what can be done safely.

Yet Christmas can still be celebrated

- Keep your eyes and ears open for news about what is taking place (with appropriate restrictions).
- Join in with the Looe Christmas appearance its 'magic' increases every year with more and more businesses adding lights to their windows and residents putting up house and garden lights to add to the overall vista, a veritable tableau.
- We have learned this year how to adapt to our home surroundings, so whatever else may be happening make Christmas memories, dig out the old games, tell Christmas stories, sing carols, have fun!

Merry Christmas to all – it will soon be here!

Dave Holford – Looe Community Forum



LOOE RNLI NEWS AND EVENTS



There were 22 shouts between 14th January and 28th September. More information at www.looelifeboats.co.uk/recentshouts

Events: Unfortunately, due to Coronavirus we have had to cancel our entire events calendar for 2020. We just cannot risk the health of our volunteers until we can be sure they will be safe, but we do hope to be back in spring 2021 with a new programme of events.

Please Support Looe RNLI: With Looe RNLI fundraising on hold for 12 months, our income is falling, yet our brave volunteer crews are still on call 24/7. Help us weather the Covid 19 storm. We can only do the things we do because of people like you. To donate any amount, please go to www.looelifeboats.co.uk/donate

Silent auction for photo printed canvases of Looe: Well-known local photographer Berty has donated four artistically inspired canvases to raise funds for Looe RNLI and one or more could soon be on your wall. Whether for a Christmas present, a permanent memory of your holidays here, or you just like the pleasing balance of colours and local perspective, you only have a few days to secure your photograph/s and also support Looe RNLI. Check out www.looelifeboats.co.uk/photos and get your bid in before 8pm 14th October.







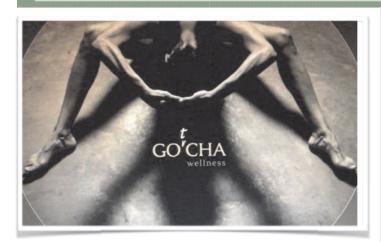


Website: With loads of time on his hands, our Webmaster has refreshed our website with a whole new look and included a new shout video set to music specially written for the RNLI. Please visit www.looelifeboats.co.uk and check it out.

Stop Press: We are hoping to open the Looe RNLI shop for the half term, starting on the 24th October and then hopefully for weekends only until Christmas. Why not drop in for your early Christmas gifts?

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- Wednesday at 8pm
- Thursday at 11am



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Millpool Centre Timetable



Please call event provider to check availability

Mon	8.30am - 9.25am	Pilates with Kerry - 07588 220 007
	9.30am - 10.25am	Pilates with Kerry - kmkpilates.co.uk
	6 pm - 7pm	Yoga (Georgie Kay:) 07909 227 789
	7.30pm - 9pm	Looe Karate Club (1st floor) 01503 264767
Tues	10am - 12pm	IT Computer club (please call for one 2 one appointment - 01503 265947
	11am - 12pm	Gocha Wellness (Mat based exercise class) - 07539 178 840
	2pm - 3.30pm	Gentle Exercise Class with Looe Breathers - 01503 265947
	6.30pm - 7.15pm	Power Hooping: Bond Fitness 07779 059 868
	7pm - 8.30pm	Pure Stretch : Bond Fitness 07779 059 868
Weds	10am & 11.30am	Hartbeeps: Musical play sessions for pre school children: 07786 544 849
	4pm - 8.30pm	Sheila's School of Dance (Children's dance classes) 07866 771 429
	7pm - 8pm	Contemporary dance for Adults (Gocha Wellness) 07539 178 840
	8pm - 9pm	Integral Flow mat based exercise class (Gocha)
Thurs	10.30am - 11.30am	Sheila's School of Dance Adult Dancercise - 07866 771 429
	11am - 12pm	Mat based exercise class (Gocha 07539 178 840)
	4pm - 9.30pm	Ballet & Tap classes Child & Adult with DWJ 1st floor
	7pm - 9pm	Ukulele Club (Ground Floor)
Fri	8.30am & 9.30am	Pilates with Kerry - contact - 07588 220 007
	4.30pm - 7.30pm	Looe Youth Theatre - 07920 282 818 (Fiona)
	6.15pm - 7.15pm	Multi-Fit Exercise Class (Hooping, Body Conditioning, Pure Stretch)
		Bond Fitness with Denise Bond 07779 059 868
	7.30pm - 9pm	Looe Karate club 01503 264767 (Dave)
S	at & Sun Cen	tre Available For Private Hire - 01503 265947
Th	e Millood Centre Wes	t Looe. PL13 2AF: manager@millpoolcentre.org

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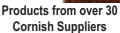
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SCLERDER ABBEY, LOOE

Due to the lockdown, Sclerder Abbey, like all churches throughout the land, was closed for three months – the first time since it was founded in 1846. However as soon as the Government announced that Places of Worship could re-open, Sclerder Abbey was once again able to celebrate the Mass on Sundays. Although numbers have to be controlled to assist with social distancing, the Mass is celebrated at Sclerder again at 9am every Sunday and at 11am at Liskeard.



For further information please see the Parish Newsletter on www.liskeardcatholicchurch.org

The re-opening Mass was celebrated on 20th July with social distancing in mind in the gardens and the sun matched the smiling faces.



Full COVID-19 measures in place.

NEW TO WEST LOOE

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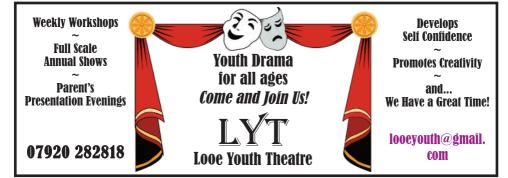
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Applications in writing to:

Mrs. D. Croker 49 St. George's Rd., Looe, PL13 1ED

Applications to be made in person.

Please quote poster reference no. (below)

The Trust will try to let applicants know by the end of November, but circumstances beyond our control may influence this.

Closing date 31st October 2020

ST. MARTIN'S SCHOOL TRUST

There are currently no services at St Martin's Church but a Communion service is held at 11am each Sunday at St Wenna, Morval.

SHRIMPY'S CIC

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the first 'Community Guardian' of Looe appointed by Planet Patrol – a national organisation building upon the movement of working towards a cleaner future, as well as the founder and creator of the up and coming Community Interest Company, Shrimpy's, Looe.

We would just like to announce that Shrimpy's CIC is now partnering with Planet Patrol (formerly known as Plastic Patrol). This is rather a big announcement for us. In our interests, aims and vision for Shrimpy's, we always have Looe at the forefront of our brand processes, so becoming a Community Guardian for our town enhances our ethos of 'preserve and protect' even more.

Shrimpy's is a sustainable fashion social enterprise in Looe, Cornwall that functionally provides, educates and connects the community in the form of a hand-illustrated children's merchandise brand. We aim to

- Produce quality children's clothing based on the fundamentals of Looe, using hand illustrative embroidery to encapsulate seaside intimacy.
- Connect consumers to the nature within Looe through a locally designed operational output focusing on the relationship between human and nature.
- Educate and export knowledge regarding sustainability and its positive effects on our environment. A percentage of proceeds will help to fund local projects that contribute to the awareness of marine biodiversity and conservation within the locality of Looe.
- Preserve and protect our marine environment and cultural distinctiveness.

The connection between human and nature is stronger than ever, so now is the time we need to give back and protect our natural surroundings preventing habitat and oceanic decline. As a Community Guardian for Looe I am an advocate for everything 'Planet Patrol' – this will involve me leading litter picking clean ups at Hannafore as well as workshops to educate children about the positive effects sustainability and coastline preservation can have.



Please follow our social media accounts for updates and event info.

Instagram: @shrimpys looe

Facebook: Shrimpy's, Looe (@shrimpyslooe)

If you have any questions or wish to know more about Shrimpy's, as well as my own personal views on sustainability and preservation, please email me at shrimpys.looe@gmail.com

Let's keep our town beautiful!

Alice Lundy



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full page £320. Subject to review. Single edition rates upon application. Voluntary organisations/charities: free

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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.



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https://www.muststeppodiatry.wixsite.com/podiatry

Podiatry, Riverside Court, Looe, PL13 2ES



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