# LOOE COMMUNITY NEWS April - May 2021



Can YOU help to bring the Ollie Naismith II to Looe?





122nd Edition - Online

**Published by Looe Development Trust** for Looe and surrounding parishes







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### NEW FROM THE **EAST LOOF TOWN TRUST**



### WOOLDOWN WORKS

Regular Wooldown users have noticed the steps up from the South Coast Path to Lower Windmill Field have been replaced. Antony and Bill have made a good job of widening and levelling the steps. There are more water run-offs now which should help break the water flow during heavy rain, and make a longer lasting job.

### **WOOLDOWN BEE GLADES**



Five years after the first appearance of Conservation's Country remote controlled flail mower, they brought it back to clear the Mount Ararat and Coast Path bee glades. On the first occasion the flail mower had to deal with bracken and bramble up to six feet high, and opened up long-lost sea views from the Island to Rame. This time the job was to keep strong regrowth down and push back the encroaching old man's beard from the margins of the glade. The bee glade conservation scheme is designed to encourage the natural regrowth of vetches and wild flowers that provide nectar for bees and butterflies.

Our target species is the rare long horned mining bee. It lays its eggs in cliff-side burrows and is holding on precariously in the clay and shillet cliffs

above Second Beach, which is subject to frequent cliff falls. ELTT is pleased to working with Paddy Saunders of Kernow Ecology who provides consultancy and hands-on strimming effort on the glades, along with our maintenance team.

#### SEAFRONT

CORMAC is working on safety work on the blocks to fill uneven surfaces. They will be making sure, where they can, that walkers can pass by the works, and access from the Second Beach steps will be maintained at all times to avoid people being cut off by tide. Signed routes for dog walkers across the sand below the blocks have been made when required.

The February storms brought sand and spray which raised the level of the beach against the sea wall almost to the top. There were deep drifts of sand across the

seafront running out into Church End. While the tractor worked hard clearing the beach sand back, the team had to work even harder with shovels and barrow to clear the seafront. ELTT is grateful to Looe In Bloom who are already working to restore the seafront flower and plant beds.

### Pictures can be found here:

https://www.facebook.com/795941230586296/posts/1723264571187286/

Looking ahead to the new bathing season, we will be putting up our new beach safety and information signage, which we hope will help us maintain our historically strong beach safety record. Meanwhile Spring is here, and we are pleased to see the Looe Sailing Club boats arriving back on the seafront, and the return of the Looe Sea Swimming Club which is going from strength to strength.

### **TRUSTEES**

Following our recent vacancies publicity, we welcome three new Trustees to our Board. Sam Gill is in business in town and is a member of prominent Looe family with an active interest in the town's heritage. Sara Hawkins lives in West Looe, and is a former officer in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, and an Occupational Health advisor. Petra Stephenson lives in West Looe, is a musician, teacher, and is active in several local organisations, not least as the leader of the Looe Museum management team.

All Trustees are unpaid volunteers and we are grateful for their support.

### Brian Galipeau Chairman



Old Bridge Surgery would like to say "THANK YOU" for all your ongoing support. **78% of ALL** adults in our community have now had their first COVID vaccination.

Finally, remember 'Hands, Face, Space & Fresh Air', to keep yourself and others safe.



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### WEST LOOF PLAYGROUP



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www.westlooeplaygroup.co.uk email: admin@westlooeplaygroup.co.uk

### Sheila's School of Dancing Over 50's gentle dance-a-cise every Tuesday and Thursday at the Millpool Centre

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> 07866771429 sheiladancing@btinternet.com

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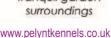
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### LOOE RNLI NEWS AND EVENTS



### Can you help to bring the Ollie Naismith II to Looe?

A D class inshore lifeboat has served Looe since 1992, but next year, our current D Class Ollie Naismith will have reached the end of its operational life and needs to be replaced. To make this happen the RNLI is launching The Looe Lifeboat Appeal – Ollie Naismith II.



Looe lifeboat station is joining up with the Naismith and Webber families to launch the charity's appeal to raise the £78,000 needed to build the lifeboat, deliver it to station, together with all the relevant kit, and provide the necessary ongoing crew training.

People wishing to support the appeal can donate and/or fundraise in a number of ways:

- Visit our justgiving page at https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/looe-lifeboat-appeal
- Visit our donate page at http://www.looelifeboats.co.uk/donate.html
- Make a direct donation to the appeal by contacting our fundraising team at looe\_rnli@rnli.org.uk who can provide on-line banking details or a postal address for your donation

· Scan the QR Code:



 If you want to hold a fundraising event or activity you can setup your own justgiving page by visiting:

https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/Looe-Lifeboat-Appeal and clicking on the "Start Fundraising" button

#### **Events**

Launching the Looe Lifeboat Appeal during a pandemic means that many traditional fundraising activities are on hold. The appeal team are planning fundraising events, including concerts in the boathouse, beach activities and open days, details of these will be released when circumstances allow.

### Keeping safe

Throughout the pandemic, our crew at Looe have been ready to answer the pager and rescue those in difficulty. As lockdown restrictions relax, many of you will want to go out to enjoy our coastline, beaches and water based activities.

- Our RNLI Lifeguards will start their patrols at Tregonhawke over the Easter holidays and daily from 1<sup>st</sup> May until 26<sup>th</sup> September.
- Lifeguard cover starts at Seaton on 15<sup>th</sup> May.
- There will be weekend patrols on Tregantle beach from 1st May, then daily from 10th July.
- Daily patrols at Freathy will start on 24<sup>th</sup> July.

Please remember to Respect the Water, check the tide times, wear appropriate buoyancy aids and take a method of calling for help.

#### **Shouts**

Between 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021 our crews launched to 8 shouts. More information at www.looelifeboats.co.uk/recentshouts

### **Souvenir Shop**

Our volunteers are planning to reopen the souvenir shop beside the boathouse on the 12th April as lockdown restrictions allow. The shop has a wide range of products, many new for 2021 and there will be a sale of Christmas cards.

### LOOE COMMUNITY MEALS PROJECT



Sara Barron (second from the left above) has recently been appointed to coordinate the Looe Community Meals initiative following my successful grant application for £14,000 to the DEFRA food resilience fund.

We are delighted to welcome Sara to the team. With Sara on board we can now expand the service and build on the success of the 'meals on wheels' delivery service provided by local restaurant The Golden Guinea. Current providers include: The Old Sail Loft Restaurant, The Golden Guinea, The Sticky Spoon (Rivercroft Hotel), Coddy Shack, Co-op fair share and The Lookout on the Quay, who are also providing 'Pay it forward' tokens for a takeaway coffee. Other local businesses and suppliers have been very generous and collaborated including the Cornish Tea Company, Sara's Pasties and Quayside Fresh.

Sara's role is to bring more providers on board, whether takeaway, restaurant or café; coordinate volunteer delivery drivers and identify people in need. We currently need more volunteer drivers, especially on Sundays, for approximately 30 minutes commitment. To date 21 individuals and families are supported with food twice a week.

Sara said, "The recipients have either limited cooking facilities to produce a hot, nutritious healthy meal or have limited income, due to redundancy because of Covid 19 or being at the end of seasonal employment; or they find cooking difficult because of disability or infirmity. We guarantee confidentiality and treat people with the dignity they deserve. We are here to help."

The scheme currently provides tray bakes such as cottage pie, lasagne, vegetarian options or a roast twice a week and even a fish supper takeaway.

This is a flavour of what the recipients think:

"We are so excited to be having a takeaway which we would never normally have and to choose what we want! Wow thank you so much."

"It is so kind what you are doing (providing meals). I know that those two days I do not have to worry how I am going to cook something."

Potential recipients can self-refer, a relative or friend can request assistance or other agencies can make referrals such as local councillors, Rusty Bucket, schools or the surgery. To make a referral or for more information contact **Sara on 07766 020524** or looecommunitymeals@gmail.com

Although meals are free, recipients can make a voluntary donation to enable the project to become sustainable in the future so that more people in need of freshly prepared, wholesome food can be supported. Looe Development Trust administers the financial accountability of the project and it has the support of Looe Town Council.

Some areas of Looe are in the worst 20% in the UK for child poverty, and Looe and Polperro are heavily dependent on the tourism sector – the sector most affected by the pandemic. Some businesses have faced total lockdown twice, laying off staff or putting them on short time. There is also a high proportion of self-employed people in Looe who have suffered a loss of trade from the tourism sector supply chain. Some people in Looe and Polperro, even in a good year, face hardship with a seasonal economy and low paid service industry jobs so this service will make a real difference.

'Looe Community Meals' complements other schemes like the Lighthouse Community Centre https://www.facebook.com/lighthousecommunitycentre and Looe Town Council Hardship Fund, regularly delivers to Looe and surrounding villages on Fridays and has willingly taken on board families and individuals identified through Looe Town Council and Rusty Bucket Hardship Funds.

The Looe Hardship Fund can provide essential white goods like a fridge or microwave; will contribute to essential utility bills like phone, electricity and rent; can provide items for school like uniforms; and occasionally food if an individual or family are not able to access the food bank. If you need to talk through your needs, you can call **Rusty Bucket on 07896 515334**. Alternatively you can text this number and someone will call you back within 24 hours or please email:

support@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

The Looe Community Meals Project will really make a difference. I would like to thank Sara, the steering group, local providers and volunteer deliverers. The whole team have pulled together to help; what an amazing community we have in Looe and Polperro, it just shows what we can do it we all work together.

Cllr Edwina Hannaford
Cornwall Councillor - Looe West, Lansallos and Lanteglos

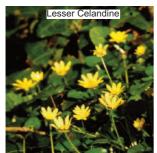
### LOOE ISLAND UPDATE

Over the last year some of you may have noticed unusual activity around Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Looe Island (aka St George's Island) Nature Reserve. We hear that speculation over on the mainland has been rife – with talk of us finding long lost treasure to building a casino!



In fact the truth is that Cornwall Wildlife Trust were awarded a fantastic Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) EU-funded grant to repair, improve and create new island amenities. This includes more space for wildlife interpretation, new landing facilities and the refurbishment of a holiday cottage let. Eventually we'll also have space to tell the story of the island's heritage, focussing on the amazing Atkins Sisters, who left the

island to Cornwall Wildlife Trust back in 2004. The grant also funds a brilliant green energy project so that we play our part in reducing Cornwall's carbon footprint. There is still a way to go until everything is complete, so like last year we will try to keep the island open for organised public trips, but there may be some disruptions. Despite the challenges of working on the island and the situation with Covid-19, we are excited that progress is being made.



As I type, signs of Spring are spreading over the island. The wonderful yellows of primroses and lesser celandines are brightening up the hidden corners and the sparkling white flowers of wild garlic (Ramsons) have just started to put on their show.





Brilliant bumblebees and butterflies have buzzed and flitted their way onto our annual species lists. The cormorants, which have been nesting since January, are busy feeding their begging chicks and the black-backed gulls and herring gulls have started nesting all



around the coast. We've seen wonderful waders such as bar-tailed godwit and whimbrel resting up on our shores before continuing their migrations to their more northerly nesting grounds, as well as the white flashes on the rumps of another migrant bird, the wheatear.

All photos by Claire Lewis

But it's the return of the bird song which delights us most. From blackbirds to wrens and goldcrests to chiffchaffs there clearly is lots of Springtime activity amongst the trees and shrubs! Then there's the blossom. Some fruit trees and thorns are proudly showing their delightful displays of soft white and pink flowers while others, such as the apples have tight flowers ready to burst out soon.

As many of you will know, each year the island tends to open for organised public trips around Easter time and there's a good chance that by the time you read this we are finally into the 2021 season. To visit the island and land on its shores you need to come across on an authorised boat. This means that as part of keeping the island special, ad hoc private access by whatever means is not permitted. When you arrive here on a boat trip from East Looe you are greeted by the residential wardens and they'll lead you up onto the island so that you can follow the fascinating self-guided trail. If you've visited before you'll understand the trail allows you to enjoy amazing views, the opportunity to steep yourself in nature and to learn more about the history of the island and island life as it is today. For now though, you can find lots of useful information about the island and how to plan your visit on the Looe Island pages of the Cornwall Wildlife Trust website:

https://www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/explore/visit-looe-island

And finally, a massive thank you to all the water users who have respected the 'No landing' sign and to the drone users who have kept to the 'No Fly' policy over trust land. You have helped us in the management of the nature reserve, and this is very much appreciated. By giving space to our wildlife and by minimising disturbance you are helping to keep Looe Island special... not just special for wildlife, but special for everyone to enjoy, now and for decades to come.

### Claire Lewis Looe Island, Warden's Assistant



Winter view from top of island back along the coast



### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**



Cornwall Wildlife Trust are looking for two (a couple or two good friends) volunteer Looe Island Wardens for the period Monday 17th May 2021 to Friday 17th September 2021. Further information can be found at:

https://www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/volunteering-opportunities/volunteer-looe-island-warden

Closing date for applications: Wednesday 14th April 2021

# Looe Flood Defence and Regeneration Scheme



The last few weeks have been extremely busy as we have been working with partners and stakeholders to carry out tests and surveys and developing the design based on feedback received.

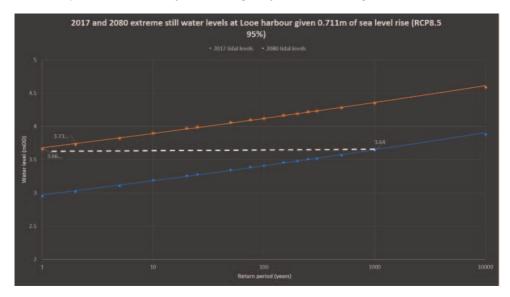
We are carrying out additional research to gather evidence on the dates and extent of historical flooding over the past 20 years and of the problems currently caused by flooding in the town.



We want to hear from local residents and businesses about their experiences so we can use the details to strengthen our case for Government funding. Please email any information including dates and photographs if possible to:

LooeFloodDefence@cornwall.gov.uk

While Looe currently experiences significant flooding at least six to eight times a year, we know that the frequency and severity of the floods will increase as a result of climate change. The current research suggests that the current 1 in 1,000 flooding will be experienced annually, on average, by 2080 if nothing is done.



We are currently developing a number of wave models so we can look in detail at the impact of different wave conditions on different breakwater layouts. We are also studying the effects on water quality and on levels of sediment and impacts on the protected species. This includes assessing potential locations for the flood gates which could be positioned either upstream or downstream of the RNLI building. We are also looking at the different types of flood gates which are available for this type of scheme.

One of our key aims is to enhance the overall environmental integrity of designed sites and water bodies. We need to ensure that we manage the impact of the scheme on the environment and it will be necessary to support the scheme with an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

As well as working on the detail of the design, we also need to build a strong economic case if we are to secure Government and other sources of funding for the scheme. This means setting out how our scheme will support the economic regeneration of Looe and the wider economy of South East Cornwall. We are currently working with partners to carry out an economic study which is looking at a number of areas to support regeneration.



There has been a very positive response to our new Let's Talk site: https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/looe-flood-defence with lots of people using it to make comments about the scheme or to ask questions, so please check it out if you have not yet visited the site.

The site also includes a FAQ section which includes responses to some of the questions we have been asked. We are adding to this section all the time.

We are finalising our second newsletter which we are hoping to publish in the next two weeks. It will be available on our Let's Talk site or you can sign up by mailing us at LooeFloodDefence@cornwall.gov.uk.



### THE OLD GUILDHALL MUSEUM AND GAOL

Reopening May 17th 2021

Free entry for the first week for everyone.

All are very welcome and spread the news please. We need lots of visitors!



We are really looking forward to the reopening of the Museum, depending on Government regulations at the time, and to introducing our visitors to our two new exhibits:



Looe Island Augmented Reality model, telling the story of a visiting monk in 1160 and the stories of the chapels and the life of the Benedictine monks.

### Our Immersive Smuggling cabinet,

where you have to make your mind up as to whether smuggling was right or wrong, as well as seeing the Timeline of the Island and the rising tide levels.



For details of our booking system and the latest guidelines regarding how many people can visit at a time see our Facebook page Looe Museum and our website www looemuseum co.uk

### LOOE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

LEGION

**Three Centenaries**. The year 2021 marks three centenaries close to the heart of the Looe Branch of the Royal British Legion.

On 14th May 1921, the **Looe War Memorial** was unveiled. The ceremony was attended by the Lord-Lieutenant of Cornwall, members of the clergy and the people of Looe, many of whom had served or had lost loved ones during in the First World War. The Memorial originally listed 35 men who had lost their lives due to the war. At the end of the Second World War, a further 39 names were added to the Memorial, and in 2010 the name of Lance Corporal Paul Upton was also added. Paul had been killed the previous year whilst serving in Afghanistan with the British Army. The Looe War Memorial was made a Grade II Listed Building in 2017 because of its historical significance.

We take this opportunity to thank, especially in these difficult times, our members for maintaining the Memorial's grass and 'Looe in Bloom' for their hard work on the flower beds. Unfortunately, the Memorial is starting to show its age with the stonework and lettering requiring professional cleaning, and the railings are showing some serious signs of corrosion. Our branch is hoping, with the help of Looe Town Council and other organisations, to facilitate the refurbishment of the monument and railings in the near future.

On 15<sup>th</sup> May 1921 the **British Legion** (which became the Royal British Legion in 1971) officially came into being. The **Looe Branch of the British Legion** was formed seven weeks later, on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1921. We are one of the Legion's first branches and hopefully, Covid regulations permitting, we will be able to mark our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in some way. We will give further details in the next edition of the Looe Community News.

We Will Remember Them. We are always interested to hear stories about your family's military, or wartime, experiences. We also are happy to receive updates or corrections on the information we've produced about Looe's wartime casualties. It was particularly pleasing to receive an email from a Mrs Butler in Australia, after her son visited Looe and saw his grandfather's details displayed at the Looe War Memorial. Mrs Butler's father was Lieutenant Robin Hugh Meliss Hancock D.S.C. who died in 1940 when the submarine HMS Salmon disappeared with all hands (the wreck of the Salmon was not located until 2008). Quoting from Mrs Butler's email:

'My Dad, as you know, was lost at sea in July 1940, so I never met him. I was born on 6 February 1941. By an extraordinary coincidence this was the anniversary of the date he received his D.S.C. from King George VI at Buckingham Palace. I was christened Robin in his memory. We lived on East Cliff, sharing a house with my Campbell grandparents. It was a wonderful place to spend the first four years of my life. Rosemary (not Rose), my mother, remarried at the end of the War and we left Looe then, although Granny Hancock lived in West Looe for several years afterwards. I have happy memories of many holidays and visits over the years,

particularly of being at the War Memorial in 1990 for the Remembrance Service with my mother and my husband 50 years after Robin's death. One occasion from early on that has always stuck in my mind was VJ Day itself with all the rejoicing. My grandfather Campbell took me on a boat trip which had been organised around Looe Island in a little launch with pennants flying. Afterwards Martins Dairy produced free ice cream cones for the children - my first ice cream ever, as it was something which just hadn't been available throughout the war and was Very Special!'

There is a bench in St Martin's Church in memory of Lieutenant Robin Hugh Meliss Hancock and HMS Salmon. The bench end piece was carved by the celebrated church wood carver Violet Pinwell and depicts a submarine on the surface of the sea, with fish below and gulls above, and a sunburst behind. The design was based on suggestions by Lieutenant Hancock's widow and donated by her second husband 'Bud' Graham-Bonnalie.

It is not known for what period Mrs Butler's grandparents, the Campbells, lived in Looe, but 'grandfather' Roy Neil Boyd Campbell had a distinguished military career. He was commissioned in the British Army in 1903 and then the Indian Army in 1905. He received three 'Mentions in Dispatches' between 1917 and 1920, and received an OBE in 1919. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) whilst serving with 3/23 Sikh Infantry Regiment which were part of a force suppressing an uprising in Iraq. His award's entry in the London Gazette reads:

'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on Nov 11<sup>th</sup> 1920 during an attack on Falbah, when his men were becoming disheartened owing to the shortage of ammunition. They were in an unfavourable position, and being heavily counter attacked at very close quarters. Regardless of danger Major Campbell sprang out from cover and, shouting the Sikh's war cry, led a successful bayonet charge with the most beneficial results. The success of this operation was mainly due to his fine example.'

Although turning 55 in 1939, Lieutenant Colonel Campbell served in WW2, unfortunately we don't know in what capacity.

The 'Legion' and COVID-19. Due to 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.

**Stay Safe**. There's light at the end of the Covid-19 tunnel but don't take any risks. In the words of the old adage – better safe than sorry.

David Welch - Looe RBL Tel: 01503 265573 Email: looe.rbl@rbllooe.com

### LOOF TOWN COUNCIL





Looe Town Council is now in the election period so cannot communicate as actively as we would like before the 8<sup>th</sup> of May but the officer team are still in place and are there to help if you have any issues. The town's annual meeting and Mayor making will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May and residents are able to ask questions, so if there is anything you would like to ask just email enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk or write in to the library. We now have to hold these meetings face to face, so to ensure we are able to meet safely and that members of the public can 'attend' we will be live streaming the meeting on our Facebook page so please watch out for updates.

Looe Town Council wants to wish all our businesses an amazing trading season and hope that they all have a successful re-opening. We have created some posters for shop windows which have the new Visit Looe logo as part of the design so please remember to 'shop local – shop Looe'.



The Council's brand-new state of the art website for Visit Looe goes live as a 'soft launch' on the 12<sup>th</sup> April. All businesses can advertise for free so please take a look at www.visitlooe.co.uk on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Our Street Information Officers are already in place in Fore Street and will be employed until at least the end of June so please let us know if you think this service is beneficial for the town.

All of our toilets will be open from the 1<sup>st</sup> April (apart from the Guildhall gents which has building work continuing). However there will still be no nappy changing facilities as yet to allow for social distancing.

We post regular updates on road closures, Looe harbour defences, Looe/Liskeard valley cycle trails, updates on legislation and government advice and anything else of interest to the town on the new Looe Town Council website – if you register for updates these are sent once a week into your inbox so please register and keep up to date www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk (plus it has the tide times at the bottom!)



Looe Neighbourhood Development Plan is now in consultation and Cornwall Council is keen to hear from you. The plan can be found on www.futurelooe.town.

Cornwall Council has asked us to pass on this message: 'Cornwall Council has now received the Draft Looe

Neighbourhood Development Plan and Strategic Environmental Assessment. Following successful legal compliance checks, consultation on these documents is currently live for a 10 week period until 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021.'

All associated documents are available for public viewing on the online planning register under the application number PA21/00007/NDP. Comments can be submitted here or through emailing neighbourhoodplanning@cornwall.gov.uk. Following on from this, the plan will undergo an examination and eventually go to referendum where residents will be able to vote for or against the adoption of this plan. Adoption would mean that the plan would carry full weight in Cornwall Council's decision making process.'

## Mel Colton-Dyer Commercial Strategy Director and Town Clerk Looe Town Council - Konsel Tre Logh

### **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.

### LOOF LIBRARY

### Looe Library



Did you know that you can request to borrow any book on the Cornwall Libraries website and collect it from your local library in Looe! Joining the library also gives you access to music, films, eBooks, eAudiobooks, online magazines, and much more!

#### How to join

Becoming a member is FREE, for those working or studying in Cornwall and Devon. All you need is a library number and you're good to go!

Simply head on over to the Libraries page on the Cornwall Council website and click 'join'!

#### How to Find Us

Looe Library is located in the Millpool carpark, in West Looe. We are currently open for Click and Collect only, with the following opening times for pre-

arranged collections:

Tuesdays -> 9:30am - 5pm
Thursday -> 9:30am - 1:30pm
Fridays -> 9:30am - 1:30pm
If you have any queries, please
call us on 01503 262390 and
we'll be happy to help!

#### Using the Library

As a Cornwall Libraries member, you can borrow up to 18 items from our collection of books, CDs, DVDs and computer games.

For further information,
visit the Cornwall
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/leisure-andculture/libraries/

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### UPDATES: STATION ROAD AND BARRATTS



### Dear Resident,

Having been asked several times of late about the two above and posted replies on Social Media I know that several residents still are not up to date with the situation in both areas. An update is below.

#### **BARRATTS**

Recently I met with a member of the Barratts management team and the Head of Planning from Cornwall Council over issues on the site. The list below is of the issues picked up on and their response to them.

Good Morning Councillor Toms,

The following was David's response to Louise:

- Additional landscaping has occurred and an audit against the planning approved landscaping will be carried out (both hard and soft).
- Daily litter picks are occurring and it was outlined that residents are not using refuse bins appropriately (over filling / placing next to bins) causing therefore a general litter issue. We are monitoring this as relevant and where practical assisting with rubbish collection.
- 3. Regular plot purchaser liaison is occurring and we are in positive dialogue with customers.
- 4. The gritting the group H&S operations director has confirmed we are not permitted to grit footpaths or roads due to vicarious responsibility and our public liability insurance. This is a standard position across the group.
- 5. The lamp post failure is being rectified.

Kind Regards.

#### Helen

I have also been working on getting a bus stop at the entrance to the estate; although a joint bid for funding with the Town Council failed, I have been working with Cormac on this matter. They are working up a scheme to deliver a bus stop for this area and the local design team will have the design and costing soon.

### STATION ROAD

You will all have seen the works going on at Station Road (in the area of Shutta Ball) where two vehicles had accidents and damaged the fence. The Council are developing a scheme to stop vehicles going over the bank, in conjunction with Network Rail who have agreed to help fund this project. The recent works have located the bedrock to which any wall will be attached with rock anchors. It is hoped that when the design is complete it will allow works to start. Many are concerned

about the red barriers in this area and I have asked if they can be removed a new fence put up. This is not possible as the pavement is falling away on the bottom area and the foundations are not strong enough to hold fencing. I also asked to cover these with a poster but that was not allowed as red denotes danger and keep clear. Hope this brings you up to date.

## Regards Councillor Armand Toms Looe East and St Martins



### THE HAVEN YOUTH CENTRE

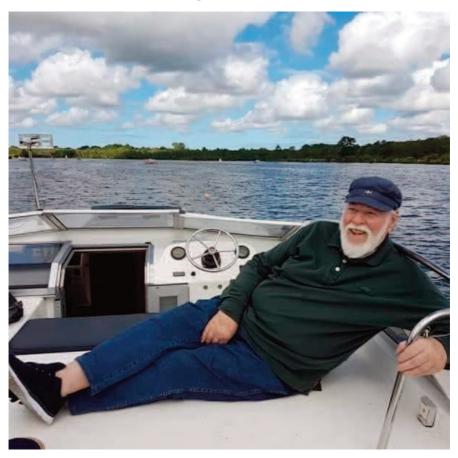
Following a town-wide consultation on behalf of Looe Churches Together and Looe Town Council, Spring 2020 was going to see the opening of 'The Haven' a dedicated youth facility right in the centre of Looe. Then we had the first lockdown! However, work has continued behind the scenes and we are hopeful that during Spring 2021 we will finally be open and ready to serve the young people of Looe.

The Haven is situated above Simply Fish in Buller Quay. It has come out of a partnership with Rusty Bucket, a well-established charity in Looe, and a new charity, Boundless Trust. Pulling together resources and expertise, these two charities aim to work together to provide real investment in the young people of our town.

This has been a tough year for everyone, but young people in particular have paid a high price to protect the older and more vulnerable members of our community. With cancelled exams, restrictions on their social life and constant interruptions to their education it is unsurprising that the pandemic has had a particular impact on the mental health and wellbeing of young people. Initially we will be looking to provide open access youth clubs but we hope to offer further opportunities and facilities as we identify the need and recruit more volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering or supporting this exciting initiative in some other way please contact Barney Barron at barney@boundlesstrust.co.uk or for an informal conversation phone: 07867 502436.

### DAVE SKENTELBERY



Among recent losses to the town is Dave Skentelbery who will be known to many people in Looe and Polperro where he was born and raised.

Dave. or Big Dave as he was commonly known, lived a full and varied life – the RAF, boxing, a somewhat nomadic time as a publican, taxi driver and Trustee of East Looe Town Trust.

He was passionate about jazz and had an encylopaedic knowledge of New Orleans and its music. He organised many a jazz tour and festival both here and abroad and gave a helping hand to the organisers of the first Looe Music Festival.

As a sociable man he loved a pint and a yarn over a good meal. In more recent years he became Chief Larssonist – leading debates on world affairs, sport, local issues and some complete nonsense (!) at Larssons Coffee House and Creperie.

A proud Cornishman and one of a kind; he will be sadly missed.



### LOOE MARINE CONSERVATION GROUP



With the lifting of lockdown and the prospect of many visitors returning to Looe, Looe Marine Conservation Group is delighted to report significant progress on the Crab Line Recycling Scheme. We will be ready for the crabbing season ahead!



Six Crab Line Recycling Stations will be deployed in Looe along the quayside. LMCG has formed a taskforce of volunteers who will empty the bins on a regular basis. The materials will go off to be recycled into new exciting products such as the Paddle for Plastic kayaks which, in turn, can be used to reach inaccessible coves to collect debris and marine litter.

The vision of recycling crabbing materials is based on the ambition to reduce marine pollution, and prevent the fouling of boat propellers and wildlife entanglement. Such negative by-products of what many view as a fun and seemingly harmless activity have caused significant debate in Looe for a number of years. LMCG has been working alongside Looe Harbour Commission and Odyssey Innovation on this pioneering project. Some of the town's businesses have lent support by sponsoring production of the Crab Line Recycling Stations. Thanks go to Pengelly's, Looe Sea Angling Club, The Guildhall Market, The Ship Inn and the Banjo Beach Shop.

Realising the benefits of Looe's example, Newquay and Brixham have now approached LMCG and wish to follow in our footsteps by placing Crab Line Recycling Stations in their respective harbours. They have placed orders with us using our prototypes as we intend to maintain the production and supply of these Crab Line Recycling Stations in Looe. This way, Looe will achieve recognition as the original inspiration for the Crab Line Recycling Scheme – the first of its kind in the UK.

LMCG volunteers will be emptying the Crab Line Recycling Stations, but more hands

make light work so if anyone wants to help, we are always looking for more volunteers. Please get in touch at looevmca@gmail.com if you have an hour to spare once a week.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Our next two events are online talks prior to our monthly meetings and we have a Rockpool Ramble in May. All events are free. For 2021, attendance at all events is only bookable in advance. Full event listings are shown on our Facebook page and all are bookable via Eventbrite. Check https://www.facebook.com/LooeMCG for last minute details as we progress out of lockdown.

Tuesday April 20th at 6pm

Talk: 'Basking Sharks: The Past, Present & Future' https://www.facebook.com/events/423227918799285/

Tuesday May 18th at 6pm

Talk: 'Marine biologists: Birds, boats, vans and sheep-rustling'

https://www.facebook.com/events/443371850138408/

Saturday May 29th 1.30pm-3pm

May Rockpool Ramble

https://www.facebook.com/events/210354674066880/



### LOOE OLD CORNWALL SOCIETY

All are welcome to join Looe Old Cornwall Society's Zoom meetings, held at 2.30pm on the second Saturday of the month.

Bodmin Jail has recently been undergoing a major renovation, and on 10<sup>th</sup> April Chris Wilkes will tell us about the history of this once most notorious of Cornish prisons and its more recent past as nightclub and then museum. For the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> May, we come closer to home, when Dave Bond will give us his recollections of shark fishing in Looe, an important source of income at a time when fishing was unprofitable.

For information how to access the meetings, please e-mail looeoldcornwall@hotmail.com

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### LOOE VALLEY TRAILS

Work is progressing on developing the Looe Valley Trails scheme which will create approximately 50 kms of trails in South East Cornwall for residents and visitors to walk, bicycle and horse ride.

The multi-use trails will link Looe, Liskeard, Bodmin and the Rame Peninsula, connecting into a number of existing and developing cycle hubs within these communities, as well as closing gaps in the National Cycle network.

Aimed at supporting more active lifestyles and encouraging more people to explore this beautiful part of Cornwall all year round, the trails will provide safe and attractive routes for walkers of all ages and abilities, including parents with buggies, people with disabilities, wheelchair users and horse riders, as well as cyclists, including e-bikes and people riding scooters.

Part of a wider scheme to regenerate South East Cornwall, the project will help to boost the local economy and also enhance and interpret the natural and historic environment.

The current proposals are based around three long distance routes in South East Cornwall.

- Looe to Liskeard: a combination of largely traffic free sections and a section along quiet country lanes. It will include two sections which provide a circular route of around 4 to 5 miles in length. This will be an accessible route to be used by everyone which will start and end at the new cycle hubs which are being developed by others at Looe and Liskeard.
- Looe to Cremyll: this will be a long distance mainly on-road route for more confident cyclists and road users, with a small number of off-road sections if possible. The Cremyll end of the route features a five mile loop providing an opportunity for cyclists that are growing in confidence to make use of a safe route without committing to a long distance.
- Looe to Bodmin: a combination of on- and off-road sections which include a number of existing tracks in the area, as well as linking with the National Cycle Network route to Bodmin town centre. The route will also link with Bodmin Parkway station.

The team are working with local steering groups to identify some shorter, family-friendly routes of 4-5 miles in closer proximity to Looe and Liskeard.

While draft proposals have been developed for the three multi-use trails, no decision has been made on the final routes. The project team want local communities to help shape this important scheme and are very clear that no plans will go ahead without the support of local people and businesses.

A new online community space for the Looe Valley Trails project has been created to give residents and businesses an opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas about the proposals. This is https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/looe-valley-trails.

There is also an email address - lvt@cornwall.gov.uk - for people to ask questions and make comments.

The Let's Talk site includes details of the three proposed routes, together with background information about the scheme and a Frequently Asked Questions section. People can also sign up to receive automatic updates about the project.

As part of the commitment to involving local communities, Design and Environment Panels are being established to provide direct input to the project. Details of the application process for the Design Panel are on the Let's Talk site.

With restrictions in place due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the project team has been unable to organise public exhibitions for the local community to view the draft proposals and give their views. They will be hosting face to face events as soon as this is permitted and the Let's Talk Looe site aims to bridge this gap in the meantime.



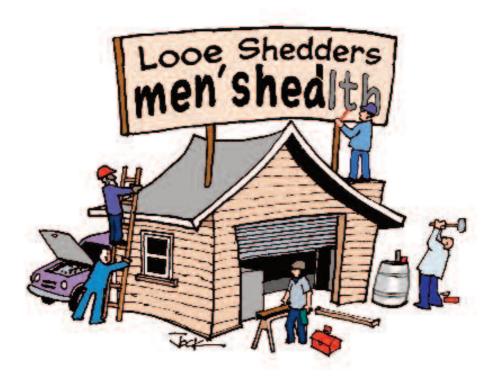
### **KELTIQUE NEWS AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

Our last communication was this time last year and you will not be surprised to read that not much has happened since 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, the first day of the first national lockdown. We managed a few rehearsals late summer and early autumn when restrictions allowed, first at Sterts and then at Riverside. Despite the restrictions in the number of singers allowed to take part, having to wear masks except when we were singing and having to be 2 metres apart, we enjoyed being together and making music together again. Our musical director has tried and continues to lift our spirits up by e-mailing us every week a selection of songs and videos – another way for us to remain connected. We took part in a virtual Christmas concert and our Christmas Carols are on our Facebook page.

Like all choirs, we keep an eagle eye on the government guidance linked to the latest roadmap, but it is not yet clear when we will be able to resume our rehearsals. We are looking forward to singing again in public and we are hoping to sing in support of the RNLI at the Lifeboat Station East Looe on 27<sup>th</sup> June. Watch out for updates and information in future editions of this publication.

For more information about Keltique, including details of events, check out our website at www.keltique.org.uk, our Facebook page, or call Carole on 01503 262944.

### MEN'S SHEDS BUT FOR THE LADIES TOO!



### What are Men's Sheds?

Now before I get any complaints, a Men's Shed is not just for men, that's just what they were originally called. These days, they are for women as well, providing a place to:

- Make new friends
- Practice your skills and learn or even teach new skills
- Enjoy making and mending for yourself, friends & family, or for the needy
- Meet and chat with like minded people
- Give or receive advice on a range of topics
- Work in a fully functioning work shop/repair shop/craft group (admittedly a long-term goal)
- Become a safe haven if needed.

Think garden shed, but turbocharged and full of your new pals! It all depends on what the members (also known as Shedders) want it to be.

### **Member and Potential Member Meetings**

We have now scheduled both daytime and evening Zoom meetings until the lockdown ends and we can meet face to face. Anyone interested from Looe, Pelynt or surrounding villages may attend a Looe Shedders meeting.

Please join us at one of our fortnightly meetings which I have listed below.

### **Daytime meetings** – Fortnightly starting Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 2pm

https://us02web.zoom.us/i/83405936492?pwd=RW4wY0ZGVWJUdStXaHpudTRJRThZdz09

Meeting ID: 834 0593 6492

Passcode: 598868

### **Evening meetings** – Fortnightly starting Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89352429725?pwd = eW9LZ0hpK2U2b2tiazk4T0ZJK1QrUT09

Meeting ID: 893 5242 9725

Passcode: 915895

### Alternatively check out our events calendar at:

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=looeshedders%40gmail.com&ctz=Europe%2FLondon

### Join us on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/groups/looeshedders

### **Premises**

We have been offered some truly excellent premises located between Looe and Pelynt. More on this to follow.

### **Shed Management**

We now have a team of 5, including myself, who have volunteered to form our Management Team. All are working hard to get things up and running, but please remember there is no such thing as an instant, all singing, all dancing Shed.

### Regards Chris Roy Interim Chairman Looe Shedders



### LOOE SAILING CLUB

Hopefully we can now see some light at the end of the tunnel with the Covid restrictions being slowly lifted.

Our sailing members were delighted that the season was able to start from 3<sup>rd</sup> April having gained the necessary permissions and with safety precautions in place. It has been great to see some colour out in Looe Bay once again.

There will be the usual four fleets: Mirrors, Redwings, Lasers and Enterprises racing regularly on Saturday afternoons until the end of October, with evening racing on Thursdays from early May until the end of August.

Unfortunately it will still be some time before the Clubhouse can open, so the social activity will have to remain on hold for the time being.

Plans are underway for Looe to host the National Firefly Championships in August and also for the Enterprise fleet to visit Brixham for their Nationals and the Redwings to visit Scilly for their Championships rearranged from last year. All events very much subject to Covid restrictions.

### Paul Sedgbeer Secretary

### LOOE VALLEY SINGERS

A local choir has now achieved its 40<sup>th</sup> Zoom meeting, despite a few technical hitches along the way.

The Looe Valley Singers have shown their determination in continuing to meet online a year after the first Covid-19 lockdown, and the singers have passed on their thanks to Chair Jill Thomson for arranging the sessions and Christine Puckey for her musical accompaniment.

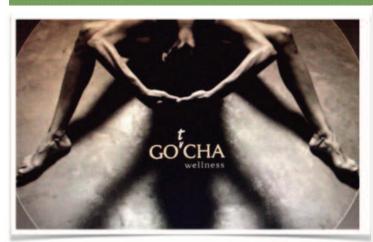
Musical Director Bronwen Tovey said: "It's amazing it's lasted this long but it's been very enjoyable still being able to sing together."

During their last session before the Easter break members sang a good mix of popular songs and hymns of their choice, while Mhairi Mackie took on a few solo verses of 'Nana was a Suffragette'.

Now looking forward to the gradual lifting of restrictions, the singers are already talking about outdoor meetings of six for a 'live' catch up and making plans to sing as a group of 30, all being well, from May 17th, as a new 'normality' returns.

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- Thursday at 11am



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ewarne18@btinternet.com 01503 263816



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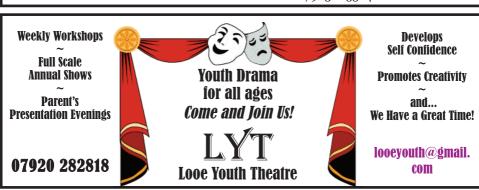
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Community News tries to be as accurate as possible in the information received from organisations. However, it is always advisable to contact the organiser(s) directly if confirmation and further details are required.

Community News is produced by volunteers and is for the community.

Do you have something you wish to share – a poem, a favourite walk or place, a bit of history?

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