

LOOE COMMUNITY NEWS

December 2022 - January 2023



132nd Edition - Online
Published by **Looe Development Trust**
for Looe and surrounding parishes



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NEWS FROM THE EAST LOOE TOWN TRUST



A BUSY year began with the Grade II Guildhall Clocktower clad in scaffolding, and with restoration of the stonework and clockfaces well under way; now it ends with the Guildhall Rose Garden festooned with Christmas Lights. (The big switch-on is set for 2nd December and we're delighted to be part of the Looe Christmas lights team, extending our display to the seafront, and powering up the East Looe lights from the Guildhall.) The Clocktower now looks great, with the flaking pointing and stonework fixed, and crowned by a refurbished wind vane – though at a considerable hit to the Trust reserves.

In the spring, we were disappointed to learn that we had been unsuccessful in our bid for Lottery Heritage funding to restore the Grade II listed Old Lifeboat Station and Watchtower. We had put together a project that had been strongly supported in town, and are now pursuing alternative funding. We will be going out to seek expressions of interest from anyone with serious ideas about how they could put the restored building to use. A formal invitation through agents is likely, but in the meantime Community News readers have this advance notice – please contact Jane Day (phone: 01503 263709 or email: info@eastlooetowntrust.co.uk).

Summer saw happy times, as we enjoyed the post-Covid freedoms, and our late Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We were delighted to work with Looe Lions to celebrate it by lighting the Wooldown beacon, and joining the nationwide event. Perfect weather, music, barbecues and family picnics were enjoyed by several thousand people through the day, which began in the afternoon with child-focussed events. Our staff enjoyed working with the many Looe Lions volunteers, without whom the event could not have been planned and taken place. Thanks also to the Wooldown neighbouring residents for their forbearance of any disruption. It was a memorable day.

Too soon, in the autumn, our Vice Chairman was honoured to support our Mayor, Cllr. Mrs Hannaford, at the War Memorial for the Royal Proclamation of King Charles III.



Paddy Saunders Kernow Ecology, and Jon Weatherhead of Country Conservation. Autumn maintenance of the Wooldown bee glades.

As we enter the Christmas season, it is a good time to give a public "Thank you" to our dedicated staff, Jane, Antony, Billy, Rosie and Sim, for their work and adaptability through the year. Thanks too to the volunteer Museum Team, led by Petra Stephenson. Looe Museum has had another brilliant and innovative season and has now closed for the winter. But in the New Year they will begin their winter curatorial work programme. Please contact Jane in the office if you would like to find out about how you could join in this very important work for Looe's cultural heritage.

A happy Christmas and prosperous New Year to one and all.

Brian Galipeau
Vice Chairman ELTT



LOOE COMMUNITY POP IN TEA ROOM



The Community pop in Tea Room is in the Rose Garden and is run by volunteers.

We are open from Monday to Saturday 10am to 12noon.

Why not pop along and have a chat and a cup of tea?

All welcome. We hope to see you soon.

The Tea Room ladies wish everyone
a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

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WEST LOOE PLAYGROUP



PLACES AVAILABLE FOR 2, 3, & 4 YEAR OLDS



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 Lunch Club: Monday -Thursday 12.00pm - 12.30pm
 30 Hours Funded places available

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

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WEST LOOE TOWN TRUST



After yet another turbulent year globally and nationally, West Looe Town Trust continues to deliver help and funding to the community of Looe. Due to cost of living and energy price increases this year, which have hit everyone hard, Trustees took the bold decision to reduce rents in all its 11 residential properties to help tenants through the financial crisis.

Charitable Grants to local clubs, organisations and individuals continues to be a mainstay of the Trust's activities, within the scope of its charitable scheme; at the time of writing nearly £25,000 has been granted, with a further £11,000 currently pledged. Additionally, the Trust provides grants of £500 per year to eligible students in further and higher education, with 55 students receiving grants this year, representing a further £27,500 in grant funding. Details of criteria for all WLTT Grant funding and how to apply can be found on the WLTT website:

<https://www.westlooeowntrust.co.uk/grants.php>.

WLTT also owns West Looe Downs, which it manages and maintains as an amenity space for enjoyment and recreation by the people of Looe.

The Trust also operates several car parking areas in West Looe together with a range of commercial properties. Besides providing valuable facilities, the rental income from these sites contributes to funds available for charitable giving. If you are interested in joining the waiting list for parking, or are seeking commercial property to lease, please contact WLTT office.

Looking ahead, 2023 will see the 150th Anniversary of the formation of West Looe Town Trust.

Currently, the Trustees are in the early stages of planning the development of its industrial land and properties at Polean, with the prospect of addition modern industrial units available to support Local Businesses. Exciting times!

In the meantime, Best Wishes for the Festive Season from all at WLTT.



Nick Pope
Trustee, West Looe Town Trust

FESTIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

Thursday 24th
to Sunday 27th
Saturday 26th

Sunday 27th
Tuesday 29th

Christmas Craft Fair: Looe Arts and Crafts Society
11am-4pm Toc H Hall, The Millpool, West Looe

Christmas Market and All Age Activities,
10.30am to 2.30pm, St. Martin's Hall

Advent Taize Service, 6pm, St. Nicholas, West Looe

Keltique at the Portbyhan Hotel, 8pm

December

Friday 2nd



Keltique at Liskeard Methodist Church
for the Memory Café, 2.15pm

**Looe Christmas Lantern Parade and Christmas Lights
Switch-on**

Lantern processions accompanied by St Pinnock Band leave
from the Globe Inn at 6pm & Looe Library at 6.20pm.

The processions will join at the bridge and continue to the
Quayside Centre in West Looe, where there will be a service
and carols led by Revd. Ben Morgan-Lundie followed by the
Lights Switch-on and then Christmas music played by DJ
Mike Allsopp.

Saturday 3rd

Craft Fayre Quayside Centre, 10am-3pm

Sunday 4th

Looe Valley Singers 3pm Polperro Chapel

Craft Fayre Quayside Centre, 10am-3pm

Looe Valley Singers 11.30am and 12.30pm, traditional
Christmas carolling at Cotehele House

Monday 5th

Keltique at the Portbyhan Hotel 8pm

Wednesday 7th

Pelynt MV Choir: Carols for RNLI, 7.30pm St. Martin's Hall

Friday 9th

Sheila's School of Dancing presents: "Hits of the Noughties"
7pm, Tencreek Holiday Park.

Tickets £5.50 adults £4.00 children. Licensed bar & food.

In aid of Cancer Research.

Saturday 10th

Craft Fayre Quayside Centre 10am-3pm

Looe Old Cornwall Society Christmas Social

2.30pm St Martin's Church Hall

Sheila's School of Dancing presents: "Hits of the Noughties"
7pm, Tencreek Holiday Park.

Tickets £5.50 adults £4.00 children. Licensed bar & food.

In aid of Cancer Research.

Sunday 11th

Christmas Candlelight Concert St Marnarch's Church,
Lanreath, 7.30pm. Tickets £7 in advance, £10 on the door.

Looe Valley Singers Mount Edgcombe Christmas Fayre
2-3pm

Christingle Service, 4pm, St. Martin's Church, Looe

Monday 12th
to Saturday 18th

Christmas Tree Festival, St. Wenna, Morval
Christmas Tree Festival, St. Cuby, Duloe

Monday 12th

Looe Lions Santa Tour 2022*

Tuesday 13th

Keltique at the Portbyhan Hotel 8pm

Wednesday 14th

Looe Lions Santa Tour 2022*

Looe Lions Santa Tour 2022*

Mayor's Charity: Christmas Festive Quiz

Hannafore Point Hotel 7pm

Book your table now through Looe Town Council

Thursday 15th

Looe Lions Santa Tour 2022*

Friday 16th

Looe Lions Santa Tour 2022*

Keltique annual Christmas singalong

7pm Quayside Centre, West Looe

Saturday 17th

Craft Fayre Quayside Centre 10am-3pm

Sunday 18th

Sing Rock Quayside Centre 7pm

Carol Service, 4pm, St. Wenna, Morval

Carol Service, 6pm, St. Cuby, Duloe

Keltique at the Smugglers Inn, Seaton

Polperro Fishermen's Choir 2.30pm

Quayside Centre, West Looe



Tuesday 20th

"Elevate Christmas"

7pm Music at the Quayside Centre, West Looe

Wednesday 21st

Polperro Fishermen's Choir Christmas at St Keyne

St Keyne's Church 7.30pm

Thursday 22nd

Carols with Pelynt MV Choir,

7pm, St. Martin's, Looe

Friday 23rd

Keltique at the Portbyhan Hotel 6pm

Polperro Fishermen's Choir Christmas Concert

7.30pm Polperro Methodist Church

in aid of the Save the Polperro Methodist Church Appeal

CHRISTMAS EVE

Crib Service, 11am, St. Cuby, Duloe

9 Lessons & Carols, 6pm, All Saints, Herodsfoot

Midnight Holy Communion,

11.30pm, St. Nicholas, West Looe

Looe Valley Singers Kilminorth Cottages,

Fundraiser for RNLI from 6pm



CHRISTMAS DAY

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Mass at Sclerder Abbey 9am

Holy Communion, 9.30am, St. Cuby, Duloe

Family Service, 11am, St Wenna, Morval

Holy Communion, 11am, St. Martin's, Looe

Thursday 29th **Keltique** at the Portbyhan Hotel 8pm

NEW YEAR'S EVE **Children's Fireworks** 6pm Seafront
NYE Fireworks midnight Seafront



JANUARY 2023
New Year's Day

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Mass at Sclerder Abbey 9am

Saturday 14th

Looe Old Cornwall Society: talk by Robert Evans on Pentewan Railway and the Tea Treat train. 2.30pm St Martin's Hall. Visitors welcome, admission £2, members free.

Thursday 19th

Looe Community Players present **Babes in the Wood** 7.30pm Millpool Centre

Friday 20th

Looe Community Players present **Babes in the Wood** 7.30pm Millpool Centre

Mayor's Charity: Bingo Night

Portbyhan Hotel – details to follow

Saturday 21st

Looe Community Players present **Babes in the Wood** 2.30pm and 7.30pm Millpool Centre

Please note: All dates and timings have been given to us by the group concerned. Please check relevant social media pages or check with individual organisations for update information.

*For more information about Looe Lions Santa Tour 2022, please see page 16.



THE POLBATHIC PLAYERS
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Written by Helen Gard

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ticket sales

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with NODA Ltd

LOOE HARBOUR COMMISSION



Dave Simpson locks up for the final time!

Looe Harbour Commissioners, friends and colleagues said a fond farewell to Dave Simpson, who retired on Friday 30th September 2022 after 21 years of service.

A presentation was made to Dave at his 'leaving do' and kind words were said by Dave Bond, Chairman of Looe Harbour Commissioners:

"Dave Simpson has been an extremely popular member of the staff maintenance team for twenty-one years, a true asset to the Harbour. Dave will be greatly missed on his retirement and all the members of the Board and his fellow staff wish him all the best for the future".

LOOE

OLD CORNWALL SOCIETY



Looe Old Cornwall Society is holding its members' Christmas Social on Saturday 10th December at 2.30pm at St Martin's Hall.

Then in January we start the New Year with a talk from Robert Evans on Pentewan Railway and the Tea Treat trains. The speaker was involved in the restoration of the St. Austell to Pentewan line and has a wealth of information about it. His talk is at 2.30pm on Saturday 14th January at St Martins Hall. Visitors welcome, admission £2, members free.

LOOE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



Thanks to the Harbour Commission, East Looe Town Trust and Looe Development Trust, lights are being installed around the harbour, the sea-front and streets.

Although the lights have been displayed each year, due to the pandemic fears there have not been any festive public events for over two years at which people could rendezvous to meet friends, relatives and neighbours.

It was noted this last week, as the lights were beginning to be installed, that there was 'a buzz' in the town streets and quaysides with people looking at and pointing to the lights, with smiles and a convivial attitude that suggests that the residents and visitors are looking forward to the forthcoming festive season.

So, whatever you have considered for your involvement this year, it's time to be part of a Christmas not seen for far too long. Join in if you can.

We wish you all the very best of success and thank you for your involvement.

A very Merry Christmas to one and all.

Dave Holford

THE BENEFICES OF LOOE & MORVAL with DULOE & HERODSFOOT

How are your Christmas preparations going? Mine started in August, and it felt strange to be planning things for December in the middle of a heat wave!

Each of us will have our own idea of Christmas – its rituals, emotions and meaning. This year, the focus of Christmas in the parishes is the idea of 'Immanuel – God with us'. In our Christmas services – Christingle, Crib and Carol – we will be thinking about what that means for us individually and as a community.

As much as we all enjoy the festivities and events, at the heart of Christmas is the question 'What does it mean that God is with us?' We want to offer everyone the opportunity to pause and think about that and its implications.





So look out for details of all the services coming up, and find the time to consider that question for yourself.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Revd. Ben Morgan Lundie

THE BENEFICES OF LOOE & MORVAL with DULOE & HERODSFOOT SERVICES

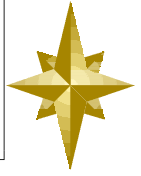
Priest-in-Charge: Revd. Ben Morgan Lundie
(vicar@looeparishes.co.uk) 01503 261184
Hon. Assistant: Revd. Clive Gilbert

MONTHLY SERVICES				
	St. Martin's Looe	St. Cuby Duloe	St. Wenna Morval	All Saints Herodsfoot
	11am	9.30am	11am	9.30am
				
1st Sunday	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Family Service	-
2nd Sunday	Worship at Riverside URC	Family Service	Holy Communion	-
3rd Sunday	Worship at St. Nicholas West Looe	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	-
4th Sunday	Café Church (Hall)	-	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
5th Sunday	Holy Communion rotating between all churches, 10.30am – see websites and notice boards			
Mid-week	Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, West Looe, 10am on 2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays			
Contacts	D. Croker 01503 264414	P. Geach 01503 263980	M. Willmott 01503 240218	I. Gordon 01579 320670
For other events, please see websites and notice boards.				





**CHRISTMAS EVENTS IN THE BENEFICES
OF LOOE & MORVAL
AND DULOE & HERODSFOOT**



Sat 26th Nov

CHRISTMAS MARKET & ALL AGE ACTIVITIES

10.30-2.30 St. Martin's Hall

Sun 27th Nov

ADVENT TAIZE SERVICE 6 p.m. St. Nicholas

Wed 7th Dec

PELYNT M.V. CHOIR CAROLS FOR R.N.L.I.

7.30 p.m. St. Martin's Hall

Sun 11th Dec

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

4 p.m. St. Martin's, Looe



Week of 12th Dec **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVALS**

St. Wenna, Morval & St. Cuby, Duloe

Sun 18th Dec

CAROL SERVICES

4 p.m. St. Wenna, Morval

6 p.m. St. Cuby, Duloe



Tues 20th Dec

"ELEVATE CHRISTMAS"

7 p.m. Music at Quayside Centre, W. Looe

Thurs 22nd Dec

CAROLS WITH PELYNT M.V. CHOIR

7 pm, St. Martin's, Looe

CHRISTMAS EVE

CRIB SERVICE

11 a.m. St. Cuby, Duloe

9 LESSONS & CAROLS

6 p.m. All Saints, Herodsfoot

MIDNIGHT HOLY COMMUNION

11.30 p.m. St. Nicholas, W. Looe



**CHRISTMAS
DAY**

HOLY COMMUNION 9.30 a.m. St.Cuby, Duloe

FAMILY SERVICE 11 a.m. St. Wenna, Morval

HOLY COMMUNION 11 a.m. St. Martin's, Looe

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL AT ST WENNA, MORVAL

12th to 18th December 2022

We are hoping you would like to be involved in this year's Christmas Tree Festival. The theme can be something to demonstrate your personal, business or group activities. Ideally, we would like everyone to use a real Christmas tree (up to 5ft in height) and these can be provided very locally by Aurea Wilks at Churchtown (01503 240363) or Andrew Chudleigh who grows them near the top of Church Lane (07896 615326).

- You are invited to erect and decorate your tree on Friday 9th or Saturday 10th December, or after midday on Sunday 11th. Please bring family and friends to the informal dedication service at 4pm on the Sunday, which will include Christmas carols, followed by hot mulled apple juice and mince pies.
- Spaces for trees will be prepared but please bring your own stand.
- Please use LED lights using batteries.
- We would be grateful if you would sign the stewarding rota to indicate when you think you (or members of your group) will be in church to serve drinks and mince pies during the Festival. The Church will open from 10am to 4pm Monday 12th December to Saturday 17th December. The time will be divided into two-hour stewarding periods and refreshments will be provided by the church.
- Anyone wishing to run a craft stall is welcome to do so on Saturday 17th only (ring Maggie Wilmott 01503 240218). Please pass the message on to people who might be interested.
- There will be a Communion Service at 11am on Sunday 18th and the Carol Service at 4pm will be the final service that forms part of the Festival.
- Trees can be removed after the Carol Service or left in place until shortly after Christmas, but we ask that organisations take responsibility for removing and disposing of their own trees.
- There will also be a tree for personal prayers and dedications at the front of the church.

If you are interested, please contact:

Val Olver 01503 262808 email valolver@gmail.com

or Maggie Wilmott 01503 240218 email maggiemwilmott@gmail.com





LOOE LIONS



Christmas Hampers

We no longer have the enforced isolation endured at Christmas 2020 and 2021, but there will still be people this Christmas who feel isolated or under pressure at a time when most of us are enjoying ourselves.

Again this Christmas the Lions Club of Looe will distribute Christmas hampers to help spread some cheer to those in need in Looe and the surrounding area. Last year over 170 local households received a hamper.

To nominate recipients of Looe Lions Christmas hampers or Secret Santa gifts (managed by the Boundless Trust), please complete the nomination form here: <https://www.boundlesstrust.co.uk/christmas-hamper> by Saturday 10th December.

If you would like to contribute financially, you can donate to the Looe Lions' Christmas hamper appeal here: <https://localgiving.org/appeal/loolionschristmas22/>

To volunteer to wrap, pack or deliver the hampers and gifts, please contact Sally Thornley on 07512 577710.

Look out for Santa as he travels around Looe and surrounding areas in the run up to Christmas. If you're lucky you may see him and his helpers (all times approximate) in December:



- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Monday 12th | from 6.15pm at Pelynt travelling on to Lanreath. |
| Tuesday 13th | from 5.15pm at Goonwartha Rd, Portbyhan Rd,
5.40pm West Rd, North Rd, 6pm Hannafore,
6.40pm East Looe Bridge and around town. |
| Wednesday 14th | from 5.15pm at West Looe Hill, 5.30pm West Looe Square,
6.10pm Duloe School, Manor Park. |
| Thursday 15th | from 5.15pm at Kimlers Way, Limmicks Rd, 5.45pm Sunrising,
6.30pm Polperro - Carey Park, Brent Fields. |
| Friday 16th | from 5.15pm at Bodrigan Rd, Pendennis Hill,
5.35pm Restormel Rd, St George's Rd,
5.45pm Bay View Rd, Medway,
6.30pm Widegates - Morview Rd, A387 through the village. |

Please see the Looe Lions Facebook page for updates.

RAMBLE & RHYME

Join us for the first Moor to Sea seasonal poetry walks!

Let the history, environment and people of the valley inspire you.

These walks will be a chance to gather together and learn more about our valley. We will read some poetry and spend time reflecting and writing our own poetry, so bring a notepad or you can make notes on your phone!

There will an opportunity to share words we've written inspired by the walk at a poetry sharing 19:30-21:00 on the 17th December in Looe, at the Haven, above Simply Fish.



Looe Poetry Walk, this is a free event
3rd December 2022, 9:30-11:30

Meet at the entrance to Kilminorth Woods
Please wear appropriate footwear and clothing

For more info email Caleb at
celebrate.moor2osea@gmail.com

Sign up at Eventbrite

Please make use of the Liskeard to Looe branch line: individual travel costs can be reimbursed / subsidised up to a value of £5 for those claiming Universal Credit, working as a Nurse or Carer or Members of the Armed Forces.



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Heritage Fund



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Devon & Cornwall
RAIL PARTNERSHIP



LIKEARD & LOOE

The project is being assisted by the Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership thanks to a grant from the Community Rail Development Fund, a joint initiative of the Department for Transport and the Community Rail Network.

MOOR TO SEA PROJECT

'Moor to Sea' is an exciting new project run by Looe Development Trust through a partnership of organisations that have fully funded it to enable heritage and environmental volunteering throughout the Looe Valley.

We live in times where home and the landscape around us have never been so important; nor has the story of industrial history made us reflect more on where we are going. That's why 'Moor to Sea' is important, as it offers the opportunity for fully-funded projects which include researching and recording the oral history of the area. This is a project for everyone to discover and record 'social' history: memories, stories, folklore, how we used to work and play.

We hope to be able to recruit volunteers through the successful team who manage the project to learn to do interviews and store the results. This will create an important long term legacy for the project that can be repeated at intervals and record the story of the Valley as we progress through the years. Volunteering is also a great opportunity to learn new skills and meet new friends. Covid and the cost of living has made things difficult for many, but Moor to Sea does have a small budget to help with meal and travel costs, particularly if you are on a tight income.

We are intending that a project like this will contribute to a travelling exhibition in 2023 which will feature (amongst other things) the role of the railway and canal in shaping the fortunes of Looe, Liskeard and the villages in between. We are looking for exhibits, stories, performances and your own creations to be part of this exhibition so if you have a talent, a skill or something of interest that helps tell the story of the Valley we would love to hear from you!

One of the first things that the project has achieved has been a couple of guided walks from Moorswater to Coombe. The history and beauty of the Valley is hidden behind the Moorswater industrial estate but this link: bit.ly/3A6WBr2, will take you on a journey that discovers the past, including the area's pivotal role in shaping the first industrial revolution, the role of the branch line, sites of interest, businesses and the flora and fauna of the area.

We would love to know what you think about these walks and the information that the site gives you about them. The idea is to add information to these walks, and further trails. It's a stones throw from Moorswater out to Bodmin Moor and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty; so we want to involve people in designing some new signposting and information points for the area. Leaflets will be coming soon to tell people more; including one which we hope to design with and for children. We are also planning some guided walks and creative events that people can take part in: more of that to come in a future article.

Stephen Horscroft: stevehorscroft@outlook.com

LOOE IN BLOOM

It is nearing the end of the season for the Looe in Bloom Volunteers and many of you would have seen us taking down the boxes and baskets.

On behalf of Looe in Bloom Volunteers I would like to thank West Looe Town Trust, Looe Town Council and Looe Harbour Commissioner's for their continued funding and assistance. Also, many thanks must go to local businesses and residents who have also supported us over the past year. The monies raised from the displays they order go towards the planting, weeding, watering and removal. Some 500 window boxes, baskets and displays have been attended to over the year. So, without this help and donations we would not be able to continue to keep Looe looking beautiful for the locals and visitors alike.

Also, our appreciation and thanks go to Tony Brown and his staff at the nursery for the making up all the displays, and to Barbican Motors and other garages for looking after our vehicles and keeping them on the road. Finally, but by no means least, our waterers, who have had such a long, busy, scorching summer keeping all the flowers watered.

Of course, the baskets don't just appear; the boxes, baskets etc. are planted up and are then nurtured by Brown's Nursery until it is time to deliver and then put them up. Delivering 500 pieces from the Nursery to Looe is no mean feat! Then the Pink Ladies deliver the right box/basket to the right premises AND then we have to employ someone (Simon Fisher) to go up and down the ladder, putting them in place. That's when the waterers come into play, starting as soon as the flowers are up, until the end of September; depending on the weather, three or more times a week..

Next the Pink Ladies have to clear the winter plants from the boats and other beds (11 boats, Sea Front, Doctors' Surgery, Brownie bed (by the bridge), Taxi beds (by the telephone box East Looe), Memorial Garden, Mr Holland's Garden (opposite St Nicholas church), various places in West Looe, petrol station and Hannafore (seven beds). Having cleared, we then have to plant for the summer! As you can imagine, it requires quite a lot of planning and good will from the Ladies and the general public, for inconveniences caused by our actions.

Then, in October, we do the reverse, taking everything down, except where people have winter flowers. All the containers are emptied, the remains taken to where they can be re-used (as compost or just replanted). This involves many trips to and from the nursery with empty containers and to collect the winter plants for the boats and other beds, which are then planted.

Add to this, general weeding and tending of beds and you can see we are kept pretty busy.

We also appreciate the help from people behind the scenes who give up their time to assist us.

I hope this has given you an idea of the scale of Looe in Bloom and the work that goes into the final displays that everyone can enjoy.

Once again, we thank you and hope we can count on your continued support in 2023.

If you would like to donate/sponsor or help, contact Diane, Penny or Dawn for more information or see our Facebook page.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

Dawn McAuliffe
Secretary
Looe in Bloom Volunteer Group



LOOE COMMUNITY PLAYERS

At last our pantomime can go ahead!

Babes in the Wood will be performed at the Millpool Centre on Thursday January 19th, Friday 20th and Saturday Jan 21st at 7.30pm and Saturday matinee at 2.30pm.

Tickets cost £6 or £3 for children under 12 and are available from the Tourist Information and Millpool Centre.



OLD GUILDHALL MUSEUM AND GAOL



Nadelik Lowen!
Traditions from the Past

From all of us at the Old Guildhall Museum and Gaol



Gin: Cornish mahogany gin is made by mixing two parts gin to one part black treacle, warmed and melted. Traditionally given as a gift from traders to customers from the 'lower classes', the lure of alcoholic treacle would surely entice most people into shops this Christmas.

Montol, Penzance: Culminating on the Winter Solstice (December 21st), Montol is Penzance's annual festival, bringing together some unique midwinter traditions. Practices marking the death and rebirth of the sun were once found all over Cornwall, but today they can mostly be found in Penzance. The streets burst to life with fire performers, musicians, even an appearance from Penglaz, the famous skull-faced 'Obby' Oss. Then there is Guise dancing, raucous masked celebrations led by the mischievous Lord of Misrule. Another tradition, dating back to the 19th century, is the performance of uproarious 'Mummers' plays' about St George and the Turkish Knight.

Stargazy Pie: For Christmas dinner this year – why not brave this unique festive dish? Fish heads poking out a pie filled with eggs and potatoes. Sounds delicious, doesn't it? This dish is said to be traditionally eaten during the festival of Tom Bawcock's Eve to celebrate his heroic catch during a very stormy winter. According to the modern festival, which is combined with the Mousehole village illuminations, the entire catch was baked into a huge stargazy pie, encompassing seven types of fish and saving the village from starvation.

Cornish Bush: Like other Cornish traditions, the Cornish Bush has its roots in Pagan celebrations for the winter solstice. The three-dimensional wreath represents new life and is made by weaving holly, mistletoe and ivy around a circle of withy. The ring is traditionally hung indoors on December 20th and is topped with an apple. A candle in the middle welcomes in the God of Light.

Carols: Penzance-born Bodmin MP Davies Gilbert gave history one giant Christmas gift: he revived the carol. Carols had fallen out of favour ever since Puritans banned Christmas in the 1640s. But Gilbert took matters into his own hands and urged those with good memories to send him all the carols they could remember for him to preserve. In 1822, he assembled them in 'Some ancient Christmas Carols', including the first publication of The First Nowell.

**Petra Stephenson
Volunteer Manager**



MAKING CONNECTIONS AT LOOE WELLBEING HUB

Would you like some help finding the answer to questions like 'What social groups or activities could I join in Looe?', 'How can I get online?' or 'Who can help me with my money problems?'

The team at the Looe Wellbeing Hub can provide you with information and advice about these sorts of things and much more, as well as providing a great opportunity to meet and chat with others and play some games.

We have some great organisations joining us in December to talk to us about what they do:

Thursday 1st December: Community Energy Plus & Proud to Care

Thursday 15th December: Moor to Sea Project, Looe Valley

(Please note there is no Looe Wellbeing Hub on 29th December.)

Pop in to find out more, enjoy a free cuppa, have a good old chat and even play some board games if you'd like to.

The Looe Wellbeing Hub is free to attend and takes place in the upstairs room at Looe Library (opposite Millpool Car Park, next to the Millpool Centre), which is accessible via a lift.

Starting in January 2023, the Looe Wellbeing Hub will be on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at Looe Library from 10am -12noon.

To find out more contact Laura Chapman at LauraC@volunteercornwall.org.uk or 07974 706376.

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If you would rather speak to
someone, please contact
Looe Town Council
on 01503 262255

Grow your own
vegetables, fruit and
herbs whilst enjoying
views across the
beautiful Cornish
countryside

Everybody will be looking ahead to the Christmas and New Year festivities but November has a special place in the Legion's year, so please forgive us for looking back at the events leading up Remembrance Sunday 2022.

Poppy Appeal: The Looe Branch launched its 2022/23 Poppy Appeal on Friday 28th October in the Rose Garden of the East Looe Guildhall. For once, the weather was kind to us and we were ably assisted by our members, especially our Chairman, Louis Portman, who was dressed in our branch's unique Poppy Man outfit. We would like to thank our members for giving their time and effort, and the public for their generous donations which raised £882.26 on the first day of our Poppy Appeal.

An interesting anecdote from the event was that the Head of Administration for the Parachute Regimental Association was passing, spotted one of our members sporting his Parachute Regiment beret and had her photograph taken with him and the Poppy Man. Four days later the following photograph and text appeared in the November edition of the Parachute Regimental Association's newsletter: 'Well done to all those members who are involved in the Poppy collections this year for the Royal British Legion. Below is our very own Julia Weymouth who bumped into Paul Allen and their very cleverly disguised Chairman, Louis Portman, in Looe, Cornwall, last week while she was on half term with her family.'



Looe RBL AGM: Our branch held its Annual General meeting on Monday 7th November. There were no changes to our committee members, with David Bryan remaining as President, Louis Portman as Chairman and George Somerville as Vice-Chairman. The Looe branch holds its normal monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month on the ground floor of the Looe Social Club. Meetings start at 19.30pm and, even if you are not a member, please come along and see what we are about.

Armistice Day 2022: The Looe Royal British Legion Armistice Day Service was held at the Looe War Memorial on Friday 11th November, and marked the 104th anniversary of the end of 1st World War. The short service started at 10.40am, with a two minutes silence at 11am (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month) followed by a bugler playing the Last Post. The weather was quite windy but the service was very well attended by our members and the public.

Looe Festival of Remembrance: On Saturday 12th November, the St Pinnock Brass Band held a community 'Festival of Remembrance' in the Riverside Church. The band has well-established links with the town and were delighted to provide this night of entertainment and reflection on the armistice weekend. The evening featured traditional and new music, soloists and full band arrangements; it was an excellent night of music. There was a period of reflection when our Chairman read the Looe roll of honour, remembering the 75 names on the Looe War Memorial of those that lost their lives whilst serving our country in two world wars and more recently in Afghanistan.

Remembrance Sunday 2022: On Sunday 13th November Looe Town Council joined with the Royal British Legion for the Remembrance Sunday service at the Looe War Memorial. The event began with a procession of Councillors and wreath layers from the Guildhall to the War Memorial. After the wreath laying and prayers, there was a two minute silence at 11am. A wreath was laid for the Monte Cassino Society on behalf of our member Judith Coote who unfortunately couldn't be present. Judith, with two other daughters of Monte Cassino veterans, founded the Society to remember and record the experiences of those from allied nations that took part in the Italian Campaign in World War II. Judith's father, the late Gerald Soady of Looe, served at Monte Cassino. We should also mention Laurence Skentlebery who died at Monte Cassino, aged 23, and is remembered on the Looe War Memorial. It cost the Allies over 55,000 casualties in four battles before the Germans were forced to retire from Monte Cassino which then allowed our forces to advance on to Rome.

Help and Support: The money collected for the Poppy Appeal, and from numerous other fundraising activities throughout the year, goes to providing help and support to serving and ex-Service men and women and their dependants. The funds are administrated centrally and, as well as health and mental issues, there are many other ways that the Legion can help. A recent initiative is the Legion's Cost of Living Grants Programme. It is designed to assist people who need help in a quick and easy way with everyday essentials such as kitchen appliances, clothes, and **energy costs**. It is open to anyone who is eligible for the Legion's help and is struggling to pay for items and services they need. Applications can be made online at www.lightningreach.org and the aim is to assess applications within five days of submission. Another source of help is the **Veterans' Gateway** which a first point of contact for veterans and their families to find the help they need. The team of advisors are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 0808 802 1212. Connected to a network of Armed Forces organisations, they will make sure that

you are quickly referred to those best placed to provide support, including the Royalty British Legion.

A Happy Christmas and Good New Year from Looe Royal British Legion

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



CHRISTMAS MARKETS

AT THE

QUAYSIDE CENTRE

WEST LOOE

10AM TO 3PM

ON

SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER

SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER

SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER

SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER





LOOE AND DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB



Join us for our Christmas demonstration on 6th December, 2pm at Pelynt Village Hall. The demonstrator is Heather Werkmeister; our visitors fee is £5. There will be a raffle so you might be taking home a piece of Christmas floral art. We have a packed programme for 2023 for members and visitors to enjoy.



The Looe and District Flower Club is affiliated with the National Association of Flower Arranging Societies – NAFAS.

Find us on Facebook or contact Kathy Iles 07747896050 if you have any questions.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF LOOE CLLR EDWINDA HANNAFORD



Dear resident

I'm pleased to give you an update on the work of the Town Council and issues within the town. Now that the main tourism season is over, we look to the winter months and what the current numerous challenges are likely to be.

Affordable Housing Crisis

Looking back to early summer as the dire warnings of price hikes to come in the autumn were being aired, many self-catering establishments were reporting slow bookings for May and June. The Queen's Jubilee may have played a part, but people's confidence was waning as they were uncertain what the future would bring. Fuel cost hikes didn't help and neither did the fact that the market is becoming saturated with holiday lets, especially AirBnBs. A recent study showed that in 2016 there were about 1100 AirBnBs advertising on the site across Cornwall; that figure has risen to 11,000 in 2022 and there are other platforms not included in the study. This has led to the crisis in the private rented market that has seen tenants, through no fault of their own, being evicted from their home so the owners could sell or convert to letting to maximise their income.

To try and combat this, tourist associations across Cornwall and Visit Cornwall are championing a compulsory registration scheme to try and weed out those who may be running under the radar. For a small fee they would have to demonstrate they had a trade waste collection certificate and not putting out waste for domestic collection, a Fire Safety Certificate, that if they had a domestic mortgage and didn't live in the property, they were allowed to let as a business, were registered as a food business if B&B (already the law) were paying tax and had the right insurance. The hope is that this regulation might just push some providers back into the private rented market and safeguard guests' safety and allow a level playing field for bona fide businesses.

I am supportive of this approach and have met with South East Cornwall Tourism Association who are also lobbying Government to make primary legislation to allow this to go ahead. We are in the early stages of a delivery plan for more social housing working with Cornwall Council and the Rame Peninsula Trust who have a fantastic record of delivering social housing on the Rame and Cawsand. The advantages of working with this Trust is they have access to funding not available to Councils and the entity of a Community Benefit Society can ensure the homes are not subject to right to buy and can set their own letting policies that can favour locals and key workers in the town. It's not a quick process but we have to do something.

Visitor Information

Looe Town Council continues to offer a face-to-face visitor information service in the Library and Community Hub, guiding visitors and locals to places of interest and public transport information, and issuing leaflets on a range of topics including: shop till you drop, historic pubs, historic East and West Looe, where to stay, dog friendly walks and cottages, walks around the area, places of interest and the SW Coast Path. These leaflets hold such a wealth of information that I've found them useful as a local.

The Council are in the final negotiations to take over the redundant telephone box at the entrance to the harbour car park from Looe Harbour Commissioners to create a pop-up Visitor Information point in East Looe, This will complement the Information Trailer that proved very successful, especially during lockdown outside the library. The Visit Looe website is doing a good job attracting people to choose Looe as their first-choice holiday destination. This investment is subject to a full review next year.

Looe Library and Community Hub

Talking about the library, it moves from strength to strength; footfall and book lending has gone through the roof! We are so blessed to have such a dynamic and committed team of officers. As well as our regular storytelling, Lego club and Knit and Natter, the Hub team have been organising a series of events:

- First Antiques Valuation Event 'Fake or Fortune' in October was a success with a second event planned for January;
- Our first lantern workshop was fully booked and a roaring success, with another one to come at the end of November;
- The Hub is a Secret Santa Drop-off point (more details about this below);
- Looe Community Cupboard – November is winter warmers month;
- The Wellbeing Hub taking place fortnightly on Thursdays has been a huge success. It's very well attended; people seem to be leaving very informed and grateful. I think it is successful because the public can speak to different representatives at the same time – a real working together vibe. We don't do any of the advising of course – but it was our idea to offer these services the space to come together under one 'umbrella' so we can pat ourselves on the back for that part!

Councillors' Surgery

It's important that residents have access to Councillors to ask questions and raise issues. We are relaunching the Councillor Drop-In Sessions – changing it to the first Saturday of the month 10-11am in the Library and Community Hub starting in December.

Accessibility Audit

Looe Town Council are working closely with Access Cornwall, a charity, to undertake an audit of how accessible Looe is for visitors and locals alike and suggest simple interventions to make improvements. These changes are just options to consider. They will also undertake some education and training to help organisations and businesses be more aware of the difficulties people with mobility or hidden disabilities have when access the shops, and the service they require. Finally they are producing an online resource, with a few hard copies, that highlights all the accessible areas of the town so visitors can plan ahead. First reports show that Looe is actually one of the most accessible towns in Cornwall, but improvements can always be made.

Mayor's Charity

I have been planning, with the help of Council Officers, a series of fundraising events to raise funds for a home-grown charity based in Looe, Boundless Trust. The Trust runs a young people's drop-in centre above Simply Fish on the quay, and organises events and experiences for young people. It has recently taken over as the accountable body for a number of social initiatives started by Looe Town Council. These include;

Looe Community Meals, which delivers hot meals for people in need in Looe twice a week.

Looe Community Fund, which helps people with financial problems. We can help towards a utility bill, food parcel or towards a deposit or white goods.

Secret Santa, started by the Town Council in lockdown to spread a little cheer and help make someone's Christmas again this year.

High energy and food bills mean that some households may find celebrating Christmas particularly difficult this year. The Secret Santa scheme provides a gift of a book, toy or game to children up to 11 years of age in Looe and the surrounding areas. Last year over 100 local children received a gift.

To nominate recipients of Secret Santa gifts or a Looe Lions Christmas hamper, please complete the nomination form below by Saturday 10th December:

<https://www.boundlesstrust.co.uk/christmas-hamper>.

If you would like to contribute to Secret Santa, you can donate new and unused children's games, toys or books by leaving them with the wonderful staff at Looe Library in the Millpool by Saturday 10th December. If you would prefer to donate financially to our community projects, you can do so here: bit.ly/SecretSantaLooe.

Alternatively, you can donate to the Looe Lions' Christmas hamper appeal here: <https://localgiving.org/charity/lions-club-of-looe/>.

If you would like to volunteer to wrap, pack or deliver the gifts and hampers, please contact Sally Thornley on 07512 577710.

Mayor's fundraising events

Christmas Festive Quiz Wednesday 14th December, Hannafore Point Hotel
Book your table now through Looe Town Council

Bingo Night Friday 20th January Portbyhan Hotel
More details soon

Mayor's Masked Ball 17th March Hannafore Point Hotel
Save the date – more details in New Year

We are also providing some mulled wine/cider and mince pies on the night of the lantern procession on 2nd December to raise money for this very worthwhile charity.

Toilet Charging

Looe Town Council owns and manages five sets of toilets in the town, which represents a significant part of our entire precept (budget), currently 25% i.e. £107k. To try and minimise the effects of this cost on local taxpayers we introduced charging on the Millpool toilets only in May. So that locals don't have to pay we also introduced a residents' card for only £5 (cost recovery) available from the Looe Library Community Hub. With the pass you can use the toilets for free. We will review the success in 2023 but first reports show the cost of recouping the investment will be achieved in a little over two years. Income then can be used to offset running costs and maintenance.

Trees at Millpool Car Park

It was very disappointing that neither myself or Looe Town Council were informed about the lopping of Cherry trees on the car park. We have been reassured that they were at the end of their useful life and causing damage to the path and an apology was issued on the poor communication.

Moving forward, Cllrs Smith and Barker met with myself and Cornwall Council Officers to discuss the felling of the trees on the Millpool and to plan locations for replacement trees. In attendance was Sarah Sims the Liskeard/Looe Community Link Officer, the tree officer for SE Cornwall, Forestry team (risk management), the Highways coordinator on environmental issues and services coordinator. The pathway is also due to be reinstated as it is quite distorted and a possible trip hazard. It's now with the Highways design team to come up with a scheme and delivery plan.

Several trees are initially planned to replace the felled cherries in different locations to allow for the path to be reinstated this planting season. Trees include a field

maple, oaks, ginkgo, Spanish Oak, Cockspur Hawthorn, Rockhamptom Red and Sweet Gum. This is a phased replanting of the whole of the car park to replace lost or declining/dead trees. Ground investigations need to be undertaken to ensure the roots have room and the soil is suitable. We want to get the ground conditions right so the replacement trees can thrive. The planting season runs up to March so we have a little time to get this right. We are meeting again in two weeks so Looe Town Council's feedback can be incorporated into the planting scheme.

Seasons Greetings

As always, there is a lot going on right now and there will be particular challenges for some in our community over the festive period with rising costs of living, etc. I hope that Looe residents will continue to come together and support each other throughout the coming months so that everyone can enjoy the Christmas season. On behalf of Looe Town Council, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our residents and visitors a very

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Cllr Edwina Hannaford, Mayor of Looe



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.



LOOE TOWN COUNCIL LANTERN MAKING WORKSHOP



Looe Town Council ran the first of two Christmas Lantern Workshops on Saturday 5th November at the Millpool Centre. Due to its success and high demand, a second Lantern Workshop is kindly being hosted by Tencreek Holiday Park, in Castaway's, on Saturday 26th November 10am - 2pm, where up to 50 people are expected to attend. Looe Town Council will provide a free packed lunch to children attending the workshop. Looe Town Council would like to invite all those who attended the Lantern Workshops to join the Lantern Procession taking place on Friday 2nd December, starting from Millpool Car Park opposite Looe Library and Community Hub and outside the Globe Inn. Do not forget to enter your lantern in the best designed Lantern Competition and a prize will be presented after the light switch on.



CHRISTMAS LANTERN MAKING WORKSHOP



BOOK NOW - All materials provided plus **FREE** packed lunch for the children
Saturday 26th November 10.00am - 2.00pm Tencreek Holiday Park, Polperro Road, Looe
Places are limited, book now to avoid disappointment
Call 01503 262255 or email enquiries@looe-town-council.gov.uk



**SAVE THE DATE:
LOOE CHRISTMAS LANTERN PARADE
AND LIGHTS SWITCH ON
FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER**



Christmas Lights in Looe
Light Switch - On & Lantern Parade

**Friday 2nd December
at 5:45pm**

Lantern Parade accompanied by St Pinnock Band
From The Globe & Looe Library to
West Looe Quay followed by Light Switch-On & Carols
With Rev Ben plus Mike Allsopp broadcasting
Christmas Tunes at the Quayside Centre
Enquiries@looeTownCouncil.gov.uk
Tel 01503 262255

There will be two processions. The first from The Globe Inn which will leave at 6pm, stop at the Rivermead Care Home and sing a carol. The parade goers will proceed with the band playing up over the bridge and around the corner towards the Quayside.

The second procession will leave Looe Library at 6.20pm, weather permitting, and (subject to the number of people the procession) will walk under the bridge and join the Globe Inn parade goers, just after they come out of the under-bridge tunnel walkway. The processions will join up and walk down to the Quayside Centre, where Rev Ben Morgan-Lundie, residents and guests will be waiting. We would like to thank Sally Harmer, for offering a few voices to help sing the carols and to Mike Allsopp for volunteering to play Christmas tunes after the lights switch on and a service led by Rev. Ben Morgan-Lundie.

The best winning lantern design will be announced immediately after the service and the winner will be presented their prize.



VISIT LOOE



Visit Looe Advertising Partner Tregoad Holiday Park enlists help from a local farming family to work on an innovative plan to offset its carbon footprint.

Tregoad Holiday Park near Looe recently triumphed at Cornwall Tourism Awards after being named 'Holiday Park of the Year' and achieving a silver accolade within the 'Ethical, Responsible & Sustainable Tourism' category. This year's significant investment at Tregoad Holiday Park by owner Waterside Holiday Group, forming part of a multi-million-pound phased redevelopment plan, has resulted in the park celebrating various milestones, including being awarded a five-star quality rating by Visit England.

Matt Way, General Manager at Tregoad Holiday Park, commented: "Our team has worked exceptionally hard to get the Park to where it is today, focusing on delivering a five-star holiday experience to guests while also honouring our commitment to improving sustainability throughout all operations. We are going through a programme of development, which means emissions, and as we welcome more customers there is the likelihood of our carbon footprint growing. Our concern is about the impact of this. "Climate Vision has helped make net zero accessible, rather than being a massive hill to climb. Since being introduced to the family-run Higher Kestle Farm, located near Mevagissey on Cornwall's south coast, we have enlisted their help in an innovative plan to offset our site's carbon footprint. We agreed to part-fund this great project to plant and measure the impact of herbal ley on holding water and reducing flooding. For us, this is a learning curve and just the beginning."



Tregoad Holiday Park creates 170 tonnes of carbon emissions a year, but is trying to tackle the issue by putting £2,500 towards sowing two fields – around five acres – of herbal ley at Higher Kestle Farm in St Ewe. Social enterprise Climate Vision in Truro devised the project, which forms part of the park's net zero planning pathway. The Tregoad team have been working

closely with local farm manager Richard Lobb where they are trialling the innovative solution. In collaboration it would help Cornwall achieve its target, as Legislation requires businesses across the county to cut emissions by 78% by 2035.

<https://www.watersideholidaygroup.co.uk/our-holiday-parks/cornwall/tregoad/>



**Visit Looe Advertising Member
Tencreek Holiday Park
lit up the sky on Saturday 5th November**



Tencreek Holiday Park, part of Dolphin Holidays, is the number one choice for great value touring, camping and caravan holidays near Looe and Polperro. Tencreek has been a great support to Visit Looe in sharing their IT knowledge and expertise. This helped during the development of the new user-friendly booking system, launched this month on the Visit Looe tourist destination site, with the aim of encouraging visitors to the site to remain on it longer and book their holiday. It has a strong online presence to help promote your business profile, providing a gateway to everything in and around Looe and surrounding areas in Cornwall as a top choice, year-round destination to stay. Visit Looe provides visitors with an easy-to-use search tool with links across the site content with lots to see, do, discover, and experience, attracting a higher volume of visitors to generate a greater spend and profitability for our local businesses.

The new facility will encourage people visiting the site, to scroll through and view all the accommodation providers throughout Looe. It will also enable visitors to put in their specific requirements when they look for their ideal holiday accommodation and filter by location, price, categories, amenities, and preview property locations on a local area map. All they need to do is click on their choice of venue and immediately be transferred directly through to the specific holiday venue website, which will automatically display their booking agency. This will save the visitor a great deal of time and trouble in having to scroll through other websites to find the venue of their choice. The Visit Looe online booking facility will provide a one-stop-shop for visitor information, allowing potential customers to plan and book every element of their visit. The new system will enable visitors to book their next holiday or short stay directly with the holiday venues booking agency displayed on their own website. Thank you again, Tencreek.

Looe communities, holiday makers and day visitors, watched on as Tencreek Holiday Park lit up the sky, with their annual Fireworks Display during November. It was a great evening out and treat for families to enjoy a special bonfire night whilst they savoured the delicious hog roast whilst watching the fabulous fireworks display.





Visit Looe Team up With Original Cottages to run a highly successful competition



Cornish Horizons, with over 30 years' experience, is part of the Original Cottages family here in Cornwall. They have over 870 hand-picked, quality self-catering holiday cottages, more than 70 of which are in or around Looe in some of the most stunning locations.

During the summer, Visit Looe teamed up with Original Cottages to run an online competition offering visitors to Looe the chance to win an amazing luxury holiday for up to 8 people at their 4* Gold property, Lindos in Looe, worth over £800. Cath Coad, Brand Activation Manager at Original Cottages in Looe, welcomed the lucky family and presented the keys to the competition winner Mary and her family who was thrilled with the prize and to treat her family to a luxury weekend at Lindos.

Mary said, "The Lindos property was gorgeous, a real haven in all weathers, it was easy to find the property, with plenty of parking close to the house, which was in a quiet location. The house was perfect for me with very few steps to climb, as I suffer badly with arthritis. The house was very clean and provided every comfort for which you could wish. It was fabulous to watch my Granddaughter Lillian in her element choosing her favourite room. The views were stunning and when we arrived later than we had planned, it was dark and the house was lit up with lanterns, which made it so welcoming.

With the house being high up we could watch the seagulls, as well as the smaller birds, fly up to the feeder situated on the pretty veranda, we enjoyed befriending a little robin who visited us. Thank you for a wonderful prize, you made four people extremely happy and contented to stay in a fabulous home."



You can click on to the website and read all about the winning family or go to Cornish Horizons Facebook page. For more information, visit www.cornishhorizons.co.uk or call 01841 533331.

Based on the success of the competition, Visit Looe will be offering businesses regular online competitions. Visit Looe will be holding a photography competition to celebrate Illumination Street Week. There will be a prize for the best image of

lights/illuminations posted on Visit Looe. The competition will start on the Monday 28th November and close with last posts on Sunday 18th December; entrants will also need to like and follow us. The competition will be judged by photographer Tony Cobley, an Associateship level of the British Institute of Professional Photography and Director of the Commercial Photographers Network UK.

So, click on our site www.visitlooe.co.uk or watch out for @visitlooe and check out our special competitions.



**Visit Looe Advertising Co-Partner
Portbyhan Hotel
continues to serve meals
for those in need within Looe Community**



We recently welcomed on board Portbyhan Hotel as an advertising Partner with Visit Looe. We were amazed by their invaluable voluntary work carried out during such uncertain times where we are seeing spiralling energy and utility bills. Nevertheless, the Portbyhan continues to provide nutritious meals to those in need within Looe community.

Over the last 18 months they have helped provide over 5,460 meals to individuals and families. This has provided a meal but also a friendly face, a conversation, support when things have been difficult, access to other help and the knowledge that someone does care. A big thank you to Portbyhan and its team in helping support those most in need in our community. We thank you for your generosity in helping and we are proud to work with you.

We are delighted to see Portbyhan have created and launched their selection of Festive menus, at a competitive price tailored for everyone to enjoy during the Christmas period.

The Portbyhan Hotel
invite you to enjoy their Festive Party Menu
Thursday 1st – Thursday 22nd December
Lunch 2 courses £16, 3 courses £21
Dinner 2 courses £20 3 courses £25
Menus and booking at www.portbyhan.com/christmas



LOOE TOWN COUNCIL CONTACTS



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Cornwall Councillors:
Edwina Hannaford
Armand Toms

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

First Floor
Looe Library and Community Hub
The Millpool
West Looe
PL13 2AF
01503 262255
enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk
www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk



Looe Town Council
KONSEL TRE LOGH

Article 4(2) Direction for Looe

If you are proposing to carry out alterations to a residential property in Looe's Conservation Area this will affect you.

Looe was designated a Conservation Area in 1973 because of its history and special character. The town's heritage is an irreplaceable resource which is in everyone's interest to preserve and enhance.

By improving our surroundings, we can enjoy a better living environment and economic benefits.

An **Article 4 Direction** applies within the shaded zone of the map overleaf and states that a planning application will be required for the following types of building alterations which might otherwise qualify as permitted development:

- the erection, alteration or removal of a chimney on a house, or on a building within the curtilage of a house

and any of the following developments which would front a highway, waterway or open space:

- the enlargement, improvement or other alteration of a house, including alteration to or replacement of windows and doors
- the alteration of a house roof, including re-roofing
- the erection or construction of a porch outside any external door of a house
- the erection or demolition of a gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure within the curtilage of a house
- the painting or rendering of walls and other minor works.

The requirement to seek planning permission in the above cases gives local authority officers an opportunity to provide guidance to property owners on forms of development that are appropriate for the Conservation Area.

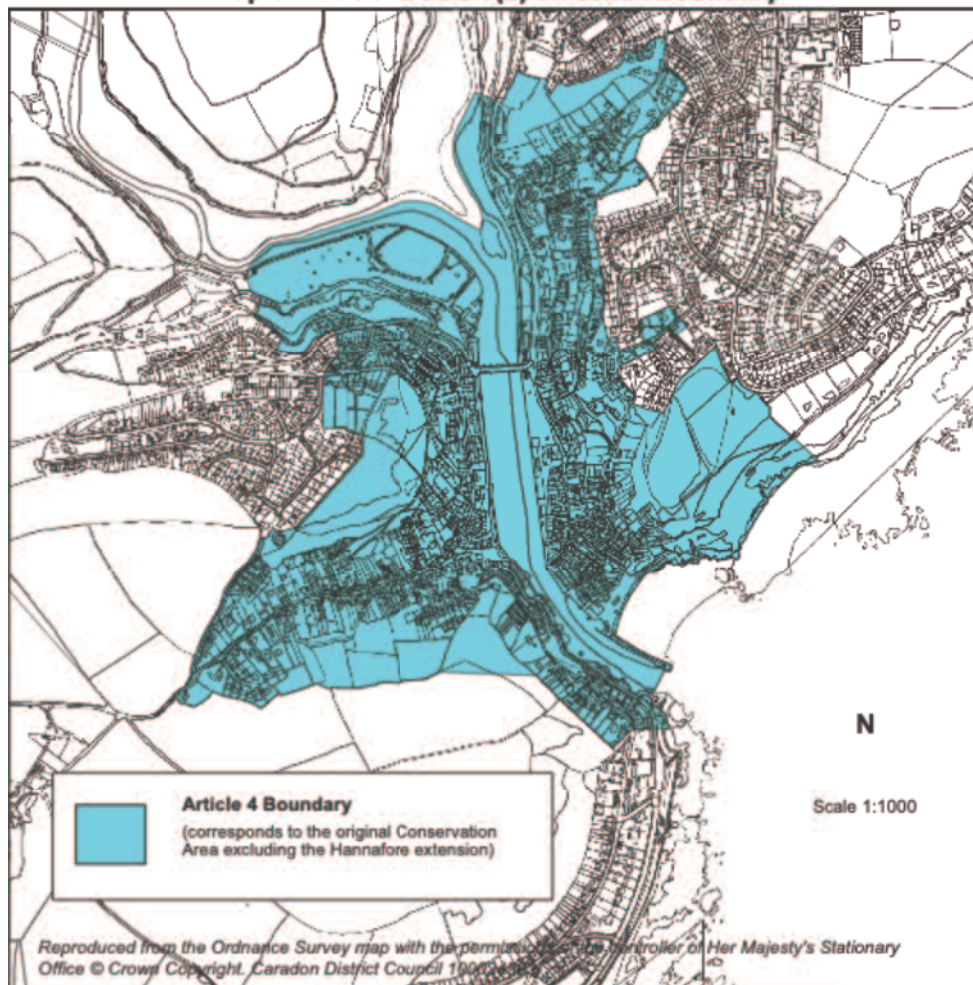
Planning applications for alterations that would not preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Conservation Area such as; replacing traditional window frames with aluminium or uPVC, altering the proportion of traditional windows to a modern layout or replacing traditional wooden doors with synthetic replica doors will normally be recommended for refusal.

The Council will not normally approve the loss or replacement of important or traditional features with modern ones and is unlikely to allow the use of inappropriate substitute materials such as aluminium or plastic. Where modern materials have replaced traditional ones in the past, it is expected that the correct original materials and details will be restored when circumstances allow or when further replacement is needed.

If you are proposing to carry out alterations or other building works in the Conservation Area, we advise you to always consult Cornwall Council's planning team (telephone 0300 1234 151).

Please note that there is no longer an exemption from fees for planning applications required only by virtue of an Article 4 Direction. See overleaf for map of Article 4 Direction boundary and information regarding Listed Buildings...

Map of Looe's Article 4(2) Direction boundary



Additional requirement if a Listed Building:

Looe has many nationally important buildings that are listed for their special architectural and historic interest. Irrespective of the Article 4 Direction, **Listed Building Consent** is required for **all works of demolition of a listed building, or for its alteration (both inside or out) or extension, which is likely to affect its character as a building of special architectural or historical interest.**

Please keep this fact sheet for future reference

Information provided by **Looe Town Council**,
First Floor, Looe Library and Community Hub, The Millpool, West Looe, PL13 2AF.
Tel: 01503 262255 enquiries@looe-town-council.gov.uk
www.looe-town-council.gov.uk/town-council/planning-information

Hello from Looe Library & Community Hub



Halloween Horrors

Children had lots of fun with pumpkins and skeletons at our creative craft sessions!



Fundraising for

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

We raised £71 at our coffee morning, which was organised by our team member, Sharon. Thank you to everyone who came and gave their support.

Festive Fun

During the Christmas holidays, we will be running two special Christmas Craft Sessions on Thursday 22nd December. Throughout December, Stories & Songs at 10:30am on Thursday mornings, will have a festive feel. Pop in and see us or look on our Facebook page during December for more information.

Regular Library Groups

Come down and join the library - you don't need any ID. We run regular groups: Knit & Natter 2-4pm on Tuesdays, Stories & Songs 10:30-11am on Thursdays* and Lego Club 11-12pm on Saturdays. All our groups are free and you can just turn up and join in.

(*Please note, from 9th Jan 2023 Stories & Songs will take place 10:30-11am on Mondays.)



The Community Cupboard is located next to the Hub.



The Wellbeing Hub

Fortnightly on Thursdays from 10am - 12noon, come to the Hub for a free cuppa and a chat with other residents as well as organisations who may be able to offer you help in a wide range of ways. We also have board games available. Come along, relax and make new friends.

Meet Your Councillors Sessions: The Mayor of Looe, Cllr Edwina Hannaford invites residents to meet Looe Town Councillors at a Drop-In Session on the first Saturday of each month from 10am-11am at Looe Library & Community Hub. This is an opportunity to ask Councillors questions, find out about the work of Looe Town Council and raise any issues.

Looe Library & Community Hub Opening Hours: Monday 9:30am-1pm, Tuesday 9:30am-5pm, Wednesday - closed, Thursday 9:30am-5pm, Friday 9:30am-1pm & Saturday 10am-2pm.



Please come along to the Hub and say hello, we would love to meet you.

Catherine, Sharon & Tania

The Community Hub Team

Follow our Library & Community Hub Facebook Page for regular updates



LOOE FLOOD DEFENCE AND REGENERATION SCHEME

Update on our engagement events

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to last month's engagement events at the West Looe Centre. The aim of the three events was to enable people to hear about the story so far and to give an update on progress and options considered, as well as to provide an opportunity to input into finishes and materials. It was a very busy three days for the project team, with hundreds of people taking the opportunity to ask questions and comment on the current proposals.



You can view the information presented at the events on the Let's Talk site: <https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/looe-flood-defence>, where you can also watch a short animation of the tidal barrier. As well as providing information about the options, including the preferred option, we also wanted to seek people's views on the materials and finishes which could be used in the scheme.

We will be doing a lot more work on this element of the scheme in the coming months, including working with local artists, but below are some of the themes which were presented to people at the exhibition.



We have also been talking to local businesses to obtain information on how they have been affected by the flooding and seeking their views on the proposals. This information will be vital in helping us to demonstrate the economic benefits of the project and support our case for investment in flood defence and regeneration in Looe. If you have not been contacted by a member of the project team and would like to share your views please contact us at LooeFloodDefence@wsp.com.

The team will now be analysing all the feedback and using the results to shape the next phase of the scheme.

Looe is already one of the most frequently flooded coastal town in the UK. Over the next 100 years, sea levels are predicted to rise by more than 1 metre as a result of climate change, threatening even more parts of the town. These include the Health Centre, the Police and Fire stations, main food stores and cafes and the Fish Market, as well as major transport links such as the A387 and the railway station.

Doing nothing is not an option and we want to ensure that the final Flood Defence and Regeneration Scheme meets the needs of all parts of the local community.



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present

'Babes in the Wood'



19th - 21st January 2023

7.00pm & 2.30pm matinee Saturday

Tickets Child £3 Adult £6.

Available at Millpool Centre: Box Office 01503 265947

manager@millpoolcentre.org



LOOE SHEDDERS

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



Our story so far

Founded in 2020 and, despite Covid, we already have 39 members. We are currently a Community Interest Company (CIC) but plan to transition to charitable status in the not-too-distant future.

Earlier this year we reached an agreement with the Parochial Church Council to lease the field next to St. Martin's Church Hall with a view to building our shed there.

Local architect Andrew Thomas is helping us design a shed and get planning permission and building regulations approval for it. With Andrew's help we've devised a way of building it in stages – starting small and expanding as our membership grows. The initial phase will cost around £10,000, an amount that we hope we can raise fairly quickly so that construction work can start before too long. You can help us by visiting: <http://www.looeshedders.co.uk/looesheadappeal> to find out more.

Experience and skills

Part of the Looe Shedders' ethos is to tap into the wealth of experience and skills that its members have accumulated in their lifetimes. This will lead to us learning new skills from each other.

Community work

Right now, we're focusing on community work that we can undertake before we've built our shed. So far, we've started to revamp the garden around St. Martin's Church Hall, helped the Haven Youth Club finish off their clubhouse and set up their IT systems. We also hope to start up a Looe Repair Café in the New Year.

Events

At present we meet at 10am on the second Saturday morning of every month at St Martins' Church Hall for an informal progress report interspersed with other activities, refreshments and chat. We're skipping the meeting in December so the next one will be on 14th January 2023.

More information at www.looeshedders.co.uk.

Come and join us!



KELTIQUE NEWS

Our Christmas concert season is in full swing and what a pleasure it is after the lockdown of 2020 and a much-reduced programme in 2021.

The Portbyhan Hotel in West Looe invited us to sing for their guests and members of the public during November and these will continue on 29th November as well as on 5th, 12th, 23rd and 29th December. All concerts start at 8pm except that of 23rd December which starts at 6pm. They last for about an hour.

We will be singing in the Liskeard Methodist Church Hall for the Memory Café on 2nd December from 2.15pm; on the West Looe Quayside on 16th December for our annual Christmas singalong starting at 7pm; and finally in the Smugglers Inn, Seaton on Sunday 18th December at 6pm.

We look forward to seeing you at any of the above events and we thank you in advance for your support.

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 263237.



POLPERRO FISHERMEN'S CHOIR

Polperro Fishermen's Choir are back and busy! As Christmas approaches, we are busy recording songs for a new seasonal CD and are rehearsing for our popular festive concerts.

At 2.30pm on Sunday 18th December, we'll be singing a variety of Christmas songs at West Looe Quayside Centre, against a backdrop of Looe's festive decorations and lights reflected in the river. It's a great way to get into the Christmas spirit and it's all free. We'll also be singing at various other concerts, and in local care homes, and then finish the season in the usual way with our traditional free Christmas concert in Polperro Methodist Chapel. The Christmas lights in Polperro will have been switched on earlier in the month so the village will be looking lovely.

Next year, Polperro Chapel will have been our home for exactly 100 years, when the singing fishermen of Polperro formed the choir. There are now few fishermen or people born and bred in Polperro in the choir, but our love of the sea, our memories of the days of old, and our connection to the Chapel where we have rehearsed since 1923, remain as strong as ever. We are busy planning a special year which will include various celebratory concerts in Polperro during the summer, and a special 100th anniversary concert in Looe Lifeboat Station on Tuesday 12th September next year. Note the date in your new diary!

New members are always made very welcome. The new year is always a good time to join so, if you would like to try us out, come along to a practice at 7.30pm on a Wednesday evening in Polperro Methodist Chapel, or contact the choir via the form on the website. We enjoy a wide variety of music and all members have the option of joining the Wreckers and singing for fun (and beer!) after the Wednesday rehearsal.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT
A FREE EVENT WITH
POLPERRO FISHERMEN'S CHOIR
FRIDAY 23 DECEMBER 7.30 PM
POLPERRO METHODIST CHAPEL

COLLECTION IN AID OF THE 'SAVE POLPERRO CHAPEL' APPEAL
PHOTO: KEVIN ARMES WWW.POLPERROFISHERMENSCHOIR.CO.UK



ENJOY A COFFEE AND A CHAT ABOUT BECOMING A FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEER



Citizens Advice Cornwall will be hosting a coffee morning at Cornubia Hall, Par, on 12th January from 10am to 12pm for anyone interested in joining their fundraising team as a volunteer.

Like many charities, Citizens Advice Cornwall relies heavily on volunteers to carry out its work. As the cost of living and energy crisis deepens, the demand for the charity's services across the county is increasing.

The charity is looking for groups or individuals that would be interested in helping raise the £1.5 million it takes to fund the service each year. Fundraising Ambassadors are needed for a variety of roles including organising and attending fundraising events, talking to groups and organisations, and organising collection tins. Opportunities are also available for volunteer advisors and administrators.

Community Fundraising Manager, Tamsin Chapman-Gunner, said: "As a charity our entire service relies heavily on our amazing volunteers and fundraising is no different. Fundraising is important to any charity and there are lots of opportunities for people to be able to help. "Whether you just want to organise a coffee morning with your friends or join us at one of our larger events, no experience is necessary – just a passion for the charity – as full training will be given."

Last year, Citizens Advice Cornwall helped more than 9,000 people with almost 40,000 issues write-off debt worth a total of over £1 million and gain income worth more than £8.1 million.

Citizens Advice Cornwall provides free, independent and confidential advice on a wide range of subjects for everyone in the community, including benefits, debt, housing, relationship issues, employment and redundancy, consumer, legal issues and more.

To find out more about fundraising, email: tamsin@citizensadvicecornwall.org.uk

To apply to become a volunteer email: recruitment@citizensadvicecornwall.org.uk



LOOE SAILING CLUB

The sailing season went out with a whimper at the end of October with the final race being blown out with the wind far too strong to allow the dinghies onto the water. This ended a year that that saw more cancellations, with either no wind or too much, than any year in living memory.

Fortunately, the weekend chosen for the staging of the South West Enterprise Area Championship provided some good racing with five races taking place over two days. Competitors travelled from as far as the North Midlands to take part.

Congratulations go to Nigel and Andy Bird from the Midlands on taking top spot with David Jackman and Daisy Jaycock from Looe in second place and Jeremy and Becca Stephens from Penzance in third.

Since then, one Saturday evening the club lounge was made to resemble Munich rather than Looe with the staging of an Oktoberfest evening – with those participating attired in something resembling traditional costume! Our thanks to Rear Commodore Jack Pope for organising the evening.

The end of October brought the Last Race Supper in the clubhouse followed by the presentation of the end of season trophies by former Commodore Sue Dunn making a welcome return to the club. Many thanks go to Carol and Gill Kinver for producing an excellent buffet, enjoyed by all.

The next event for club members will be the annual Dinner and Dance being held at the Hannafore Point Hotel.





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Lifeboats

LOOE RNLI LIFEBOAT STATION



Lifeboats

Christmas Carol Concert: Pelynt Male Choir with their MD John Trethewey and accompanist Gabrielle Lewis are hosting our annual carol concert at St. Martins Community Hall on Wednesday 7th December at 7.30pm. Also featured will be the Pelynt Ladies Christmas Choir directed by Dennis Julian. Festive refreshments will be served during the interval. Tickets are £7 per person and can be purchased in advance from our shop on the seafront, or at the door on the night. All proceeds from the evening are for RNLI Looe Lifeboat Station.

Looe RNLI
 With your support, we save lives at sea

JOIN US FOR CAROLS WITH
Pelynt Male Choir
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Wednesday 7th December 2022
 St Martin's Community Hall, Looe
 At 7.30 pm (Doors open at 7 pm)
 Tickets £7 including festive refreshments
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 or by Phone 01503 262265 or on the door
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Visit our website
www.loolifeboats.co.uk/donate

The RNLI is the only not-for-profit charity in the world that saves lives at sea.
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Shouts: Our crew at Looe have been ready to answer the pager and rescue those in difficulty. Between 12th September 2022 and 6th November 2022 our volunteer crews responding to three shouts. More information on these shouts can be found at www.loolifeboats.co.uk/recentshouts.

Souvenir Shop: Subject to volunteer availability, and the weather, our souvenir shop is open daily between 11am and 4pm until Wednesday 21st December 2022 and will reopen on 2nd January 2023. Our shop has a wide range of products, including Christmas cards, gifts and 2023 calendars.

Albatross Boathouse: As the 2022 season draws to an end, our boathouse is now closed to the public and Stormy Stan is having a well-earned rest for the winter months. After the previous two years of lockdowns it has been fantastic to reopen our boathouse to the public this year, and our wonderful team of volunteer boathouse guides hope everyone enjoyed looking at the charity's inshore lifeboats and launch tractors, finding out about the RNLI, the Looe volunteer crew, our shouts and how to keep safe on the water. They have enjoyed meeting new people, answering all of your questions, and are proud to be part of the amazing team of volunteers here at RNLI Looe Lifeboat Station. Our volunteer guides may open the boathouse for a few hours on winter weekends if the weather is good and they all look forward to welcoming you all again from Easter next year when our boathouse reopens daily to the public.

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

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

Keeping safe on the coast

RNLI lifeguard cover on the Whitsand bay beaches has now finished for this year, so it is more important than ever to Respect the Water, check the tide times, wear appropriate buoyancy aids and take a method of calling for help. If you need help or see someone in difficulties call 999 and ask for the Coastguard.

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

Float to live

All our RNLI volunteers are asking you to make the right call. If you see someone struggling in the water, fight your instinct to jump in and help. Stay on land, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard at the coast, or Fire & Rescue when inland. Tell the person in danger to float on their back and throw them something that floats, which they can use for buoyancy. Find out more at <https://respectthewater.com/>.



Find the RNLI at www.facebook.com/LooeRNLI and www.facebook.com/rnli.



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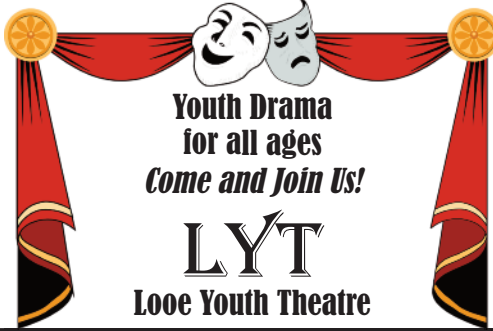
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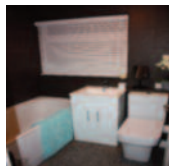
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Home visits available

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Desktop Publishing: Kerry Newman

Advertising costs: *Special rates apply for online only version.*

Usual commercial annual rates (for six editions):
1/8 page £54, 1/4 page £90, 1/2 page £162,
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.

LOOE COMMUNITY NEWS NEEDS YOU

We are in urgent need of help!

Community News is put together for the community by volunteers on behalf of Looe Development Trust and Looe Community Forum. We are about to lose Kerry, who has improved the quality of the publication beyond recognition. At the moment we publish online only, but in the new year may begin to publish a hard copy again.

To replace her we need someone with good IT skills and preferably desk-top publishing skills or a willingness to learn.

Time commitment is around 15-20 hours every two months – usually towards the end of January, March, May, July, September and November, though there is always some flexibility.

It's fun, rewarding and you get to find out what is going on in the community! So, if you have some spare time and are looking for something to do and think you would like to get involved, please contact:

Elaine Warne: ewarne18@btinternet.com 01503 263816



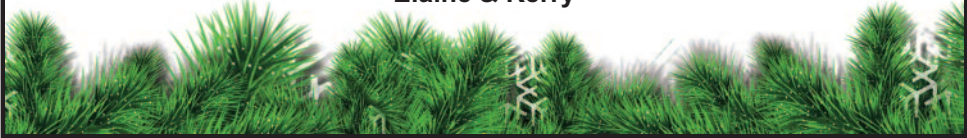
THANK YOU

A big “Thank you” to everyone who has contributed to Looe Community News over the past year. If there any businesses out there who would like to advertise with us, then please get in touch – details are on the previous page. If we can secure enough advertising to cover our costs, then we may be able to consider producing a printed version.

We wish you all:

**A very Merry Christmas and
a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year**

Elaine & Kerry



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