

LOOE COMMUNITY NEWS

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for Looe and surrounding parishes

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Thanks to Ross Marven for this month's cover photo



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NEWS FROM THE EAST LOOE TOWN TRUST

We were pleased to take part in the Societies Day event held on 27th February to make known the activities of the many different organisations in Looe. It was striking that a number of people were not aware of our role and the services we provide for the town and its visitors. So, for those not in the know, this gives a flavour of what we do and why.

Taking the “why” first, in the 1890s (yes, that long ago) the former East Looe Town Council and former West Looe Town Council decided to put all their property into trust so that the successor body, a unified Looe Town Council, could not take over these assets. As a result the East Looe Town Trust, a registered charity, owns open areas like the beach, seafront and the Wooldown; as well as buildings, including the Old Guildhall and Gaol, housing the Museum, the “new” (1878) Guildhall and a number of other old properties.

The “what” is essentially the maintenance of all these areas and buildings for the benefit of the community now and in the future. We have three members of staff, one in the office and two keeping the public areas looking attractive and the buildings in a proper state of repair. All of this can be expensive and we receive no grant from Cornwall Council or Looe Town Council for these purposes. Our income derives mainly from leases and the seafront car park which, accompanied by constant downward pressure on costs, enable us (just) to balance the books. Where funds are available we make modest local charitable donations.

We are often surprised by some of the issues that we have to deal with like waste removal and bathing water quality but it all serves to keep us on our toes! We strive to work cooperatively with the town’s other bodies and the benefits of that are seen in developments like the Looe Bathing Water Quality Partnership.

We try to keep the public informed in articles like this, on our website (eastlooeatowntrust.co.uk) and through social media. We welcome interest and enquiries and, within our limited resources will try to respond as best we can.

NEIL BIRCHWOOD-HARPER

Along with many others we were very saddened by the news of Neil’s death. His wife, Barbara, was our Museum Curator for 14 years before she stood down in 2015. As in everything else they did, this was very much a joint effort alongside our splendid team of museum volunteers. Neil contributed enormously to the legacy that, as a result, we and future generations can enjoy. We are grateful to this fine gentleman and will miss him greatly.

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07770403655
boultonbob@aol.com.

My name is Bob Boulton. By trade I am a Master Thatcher and a member of Devon and Cornwall Master Thatchers' Association. Dodgy knees and a dislike of winter on rooves for more years than I care to mention has brought me to retrain as Chimney Sweep with NACS (National Association of Chimney Sweeps), which I would be more than happy to help you with.

Along with chimney sweeping I am constructing bespoke pagodas, wendy houses, garden offices, tree houses etc. (thatched or unthatched).

I have also been repairing sash windows in listed properties for a number of years.

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I can be contacted on 07770403655 or by email: boultonbob@aol.com.

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KELTIQUE

Keltique are just finalising their programme of performances and events in the Looe area during 2016 and we're working hard on a brand new repertoire of memorable music, including works by Stephen Sondheim and Simon & Garfunkel and classics made famous by Ella Fitzgerald, the Andrews Sisters, the Edwin Hawkins Singers and Liza Minnelli.

We start by performing at the Looe Harbour Commissioners Grand Concert on Thursday 31 March at Looe Community Academy – this is a very special occasion fundraising for Looe's annual Christmas and New Year festivities so we hope to raise lots of money! There will be lots of other great performers and an amazing raffle with some fantastic prizes including 12 months parking in Looe Harbour Commissioners car parks; a family (2 adults, 2 children) weekend ticket to Looe Music Festival 2016: dinner, bed and breakfast at the Hannaford Point Hotel; a day out at the Adrenaline Quarry and much more!

Then, in early April, we're off on tour to Ilminster with our pals Rame Male Voice Choir, where we'll be meeting up with our old MD Jonathan Delbridge and his new group of singers, the Ilminster Belles. It should be a great weekend and we're really looking forward to singing Les Misérables with the Belles at the Minster on Friday 8 April at 7.30 pm.

Back in Cornwall, we're travelling down to Falmouth on Sunday 24 April to sing with Nankersley Male Choir, a return invitation following their concert here in Looe a couple of years ago.

On Sunday 1 May Keltique will be taking part in the Festival of the Sea in Looe – earlier than usual this year – not sure of the timings exactly but this will be a fun-filled day adopting an educational focus on Looe's relationship with the sea: safety at sea, sustainable Cornish seafood, reducing pollution etc.

Then we'll be performing at St Stephen's Church in Saltash on Friday 20 May, starting at 7.30 pm – full details for this and all other events involving Keltique are available on our website or our Facebook page.

And to anyone who would like to join Keltique – we always extend a warm welcome to women of all ages and capabilities who enjoy singing and having fun, so come and see us any Monday evening at the Looe Community Academy at 7.30 pm, you might just discover a voice you didn't think you had!

LOOE SAILING CLUB

During the winter a lot of work has been carried out to improve the clubhouse, with redecoration of the lounge and bar area and most recently a complete upgrade of the foyer and stairwell.

After the winter break the new sailing season commenced on Saturday 12th March. Despite the cold weather boats were prepared for the big day.

If the numbers who turned up for the registration evening at the end of February were anything to go by numbers in all fleets should be very good. Once again, Club racing will consist of four fleets - Mirrors, Redwings, Lasers and Enterprise.

In early August, the Club will be hosting the Scorpion National Championships when a fleet of about 60 dinghies are expected to compete for honours. Following that the Redwing fleet will be travelling to the Isles of Scilly for their championships.



Photo by Neil Richardson

LOOE MARINE CONSERVATION GROUP

It's been a busy start to the year! At a well-attended evening promoting the Cornwall Good Seafood Guide, we celebrated the daily catch landed in Looe. Jackie and Angie from Pengelly's supplied the fish and showed us how to prepare it. Dom Sadler (Old Sail Loft) and Julian Clemens (Simply Fish) served a fantastic seafood dish and we were particularly grateful for a generous donation received from Pengelly's to assist our volunteer activities.

Upcoming events:

With Spring finally here, we're looking forward to exploring on our Easter Rockpool Ramble. Join us at Hannafore Beach on Friday 8 April at 12.45 to discover what's lurking in the rockpools. All equipment provided - just turn up suitably dressed (preferably with a small donation in your pocket!) and our expert volunteers can introduce you to the weird and wonderful creatures that live on the seashore.

For our next talk "Do Seahorses live in Looe Bay?" guest Speaker, Mark Parry from the National Marine Aquarium will be giving an overview on the Community Seagrass Initiative. The seagrass beds in Looe Bay are part of this pioneering research project in which everyone from school children, sailors, canoeists, divers, kayakers and even internet users can get involved. Revised date tbc.

And last but not least we're really looking forward to the Looe Festival of the Sea on Sunday May 1st. Fishing trips, escorted boat trips to see the seals, crabbing competitions, a beach clean, rockpool ramble, chef demos, these are just some of the activities planned by the many marine organisations participating alongside all the other town organisations putting on a show of music, dance and visual displays. It's not too early to get involved. You can start by entering the Cornwall Good Seafood Guide Cornwall's Junior and Master Seafood Chef competition - just launched for Looe Festival of the Sea.

**For all Looe Marine Conservation Group events, go to:
www.looemarineconservation.org or follow us on Facebook.**

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THE OLD GUILDHALL MUSEUM AND GAOL, East Looe

All the volunteers were saddened by the recent death of Neil Birchwood-Harper who was the archivist at the museum and, with his wife Barbara, the curator, had developed the museum to what it is today. Although they resigned due to ill health last year, they laid the foundations for the recent Full Accreditation of the Museum by the Arts Council and enabled us to receive a grant for database software to allow us to catalogue our collection on the computer which was bought for Barbara and Neil by the ELTT and passed directly to the Museum.

The Museum is now being managed by a small committee of volunteers together with external support from a professional museum mentor, a representative of the ELTT and Mark Camp from the TIC. The volunteers are keen to keep up the good work of Barbara and Neil and opened for the season on 21st of March, opening each day between 11am and 4pm through to the end of October. This requires a good supply of volunteers and we are keen to attract more in order to undertake

the programme of work that accreditation entails and to develop the computerised catalogue of objects in the museum. We are particularly interested to hear from people with computing, digital photography and social media skills in order to progress this work. Training and support will be given to those who would like to learn new skills in conservation and museum related activities.

However, we also need new volunteers to help to welcome the many visitors during the season. The work is very rewarding meeting, greeting and conversing with the wide cross section of visitors, many from abroad and many who have family connections in the area. This is an opportunity to develop your own knowledge of the town and locality.

In the coming months the Museum will be participating in the Festival of The Sea on the 1st May and in the West Looe May Fayre on the 7th May. We look forward to meeting you all.

For those interested in family history the Museum will be participating in the Family History Day in Liskeard Public Hall on Saturday 21st May 10.00am to 3.00pm, organised by the South East Cornwall Museum Forum. Nine Museums with exciting research material, together with representatives of many active family history groups will be present to help you trace your ancestors and your heritage in Cornwall and beyond. Entrance to this event is free of charge.

Looe Museum has a new display based on 'Holidays by the Sea'. We are still seeking any items that you may have and are willing to loan to the museum in order to enhance this display. Please bring them along to the museum.

2016 is the 150th anniversary of the lifeboats in Looe and the Museum will be loaning some of its objects to the RNLI for the exhibition that will they will be launching during the year. The Museum will also be placing special emphasis on the Lifeboats in Looe to complement the RNLI display.

Some 566 years after it first opened, the Old Guildhall had a grand opening on the 21st March.

And finally, Looe Museum has recently received a request for information about the Dickens Class vessels that were built by Curtis and Pape during WWII. There were 10 of these Generals Service Vessels built for the War Department and the gentleman making the request has recently purchased Number 7, which was named Gummidge completed in March 1945. If anyone has any information about these vessels, please let the museum know so the information can be forwarded to the gentleman. Thank you.

David Fuller, The Old Guildhall Museum and Gaol, East Looe



LOOE BOAT OWNERS ASSOCIATION Forthcoming Events



Boat & General Jumble

This year the general/boat jumble will be held on Saturday 17th April on West Looe Quay shelter. The event opens 10.00am and closes 2.00pm. There will be up to 10 tables available on a first come first served basis, although priority is given to LBOA members. Tables cost £8.00 each. Further details from Ann Watson tel 01503.262265, email lolwatson.lw@gmail.com

LBOA Looe Raft Race Fundraiser for Looe RNLI

The Looe raft race is being held again this year and all income received goes towards Looe Lifeboats. Last year almost £3,000 was raised and we will try to match or beat this sum this year. Due to tide conditions the event will start earlier at 11.30am setting off from East Looe Beach, up the river to the bridge then returning to the Lifeboat Station. The children's course being shorter, starting from Little beach and then following the same course after the adults have passed to ensure the children's safety.

Prize-giving will take place as soon as possible after the event. This year's classes will be: Speedsters, Adult Fun, Junior Fun, Adult Fancy Dress and LBOA award for most spectacular raft. The sponsorship shield will be awarded after the event when donated funds have been counted.

Last year was probably the best supported event since the raft race was resurrected some six years ago. The generosity of people was quite humbling. Further details and entries contact: Dave Peat on 01579 321485, mobile 07747 488488 or Vicky Peat on 07747 488489, email. Vicky@skiphiredpd.com

This is one of two events Looe Boat Owners organise for Looe RNLI, the second being the 'Just a Minute' fun quiz at the Millpool on Saturday 8th October.



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1st Sunday	11 am Cafe Church (Hall)	8 am Communion (BCP) 9.30 Communion	11 am Communion
2nd Sunday	11 am Communion (Church)	9.30 Morning Prayer	11 am Family Service
3rd Sunday	11 am Sunday Live (Hall)	9.30 Communion 6 pm Evening Worship	11 am Communion
4th Sunday	11 am Communion (Church)	9.30 Sunday Live	11 am Morning Prayer

EASTER SERVICES

GOOD FRIDAY (March 25th) 10 a.m. St. Nicholas,
12 noon Walk of Witness (starting from Cornerstone shop, West Looe),
2 p.m. Last Hour devotions, St. Wenna, Morval.

EASTER SUNDAY (March 27th) 7 a.m. SONrise service, Banjo Pier
Holy Communion: 8 a.m. St. Nicholas, 9.30 a.m. St. Martin's, 11 a.m. St. Wenna

SPECIAL EVENT: ANTIQUES VALUATION DAY (Professional Valuers)
Saturday 16th April, 10am – 4pm, St. Martin's Church.

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter on a sunny March morning, I am aware that we have had one of the most unusual winters in living memory. Flowers have bloomed early, birds have begun nesting early and the lawn is in need of mowing already! Easter too is early this year. Easter is a major festival in the Christian calendar (which extends well beyond the Sunday when most of us eat too much chocolate!) and many would argue it is the most important of all the dates that Christians celebrate. Why? Because God's love for His creation is demonstrated by Jesus' death and resurrection at Easter. Death, the Bible says, the great enemy of us all, was overcome by Jesus' resurrection and anyone can share in his resurrection - all you need do is put your trust in Jesus and follow him. It's that simple.

Happy Easter, Revd Philip Sharp

RIVERSIDE UNITED CHURCH, Quay Road, West Looe

(A Warm Welcome Awaits)

Sunday Worship 11.00am each week. All ages welcome. Do come and join us.

Coffee Mornings 10.00am – 12.00 noon Most Mondays and Tuesdays. All welcome. (The church is also available for personal prayer during these times.)

More Information

We hold a wide range of regular and occasional events. To find out more, call in when we are open. Alternatively phone Rev Andrew Hill (01503 262044) or email andrew@aandbhill.plus.com.

Celebrations

This year Riverside celebrates its 50th anniversary! In September 1966 three congregations (2 Methodist and one Congregational) united to form one church – one of the earliest Local Ecumenical Projects (LEPs) in the country. We shall hold our special anniversary services in September, but the year of celebrations has already begun.

Special guest

Simeon Wood will be performing in concert at 7.30pm Friday April 29th. He enjoys performing on a wide variety of platforms all over the world. He plays over 20 instruments and entertains audiences in theatres, Churches, art centres, festivals and as a solo cabaret act onboard the finest cruise ships in the world including QE2 and Cunard. If you enjoy good music, this is a concert not to miss. Tickets available from Riverside.

“Simeon is an instrumentalist of dazzling versatility. Sometimes inspirational and vibrant, sometimes lyrical and haunting, his music is always enthralling, inventive and delightful.”

Then in May (28th – 30th) we hold our Celebrations Flower Festival when the church will be beautifully decorated and open for all to come and admire. A team of arrangers have already met to plan the themes for the various displays. It promises to be a wonderful occasion. Entry will be free (but donations welcome) so do plan to come along. Look out for posters and invitations nearer the time.

Best Wishes
Rev Andrew

LOOE ROWING CLUB

First real regatta of season over, 3 Rivers Race, and our rowers excelled themselves. This is a challenging course of around 5/6 miles, covering the Tamar, Tavy and Lynher rivers. It is designed to be a row of 'stamina' – all good practice for the Scillies St. Agnes to St. Mary's first race! Men's A came 2nd with a time of 46 mins. 49 seconds, Ladies A 7th in 59 mins. 3 seconds. Men's B came 33rd and Ladies B 35th. There were 70 crews taking part. The weather was challenging - crews and coxes all got a bit wet in places. However, all enjoyed it!

Next stop = World Pilot Gig Championships early May in Scillies. Our Men's A came 3rd last year and are determined to better this. Would be good to beat Falmouth, and it will not be for the want of trying hard. Anyone up early at the weekend will see our crews out practising, and now the evenings are lighter they will be out on the river or in the bay some early evenings too. Been a pretty poor winter for rowing, weather not so good! We are fortunate enough to have three fibreglass training gigs to fall back on whilst our three 'Dave Currah' wooden gigs make the journey to the Scillies. With over 120 boats going, the schedule for shipping to the Scillies starts in early March. Crews are coming from wide afield, Holland, and this year the Bermuda Pilot Gig Club are coming as well! Help for Heroes have built their own pilot gig and intend to row that across to St. Mary's to take part again in the World Championships.

Pilot Gig rowing is getting very popular! There is now a club on the Thames in LONDON.

**To advertise in this
space contact:
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or telephone
01503 263816**

LOOE LIFEBOATS



Joyce Foreman, who lives next to the Looe Lifeboat Station, presented cheques to Marilyn Berry, Secretary of Looe Lifeboats on Sunday 6 March 2106. Joyce was celebrating her 90th birthday with family and decided to make a donation of £180 to the Looe Lifeboats instead of receiving presents. This included money donated from the family.

The family reunion, which was attended by over 50 family members coming from all corners of the country, resulted in a celebration party. Joyce, who pointed out that she shares her birth year with the Queen, moved to Looe in 2002, following many years living in London and working in the accounts department for the Daily Mirror. Joyce is pictured donating the cheques to Marilyn Berry, accompanied by her daughter Jackie.



CELEBRATING LOOE'S FIRST LIFEBOAT STATION

This year marks 150 years since Looe Lifeboats was established in 1866. To celebrate this anniversary there will be a range of events throughout the year, starting with the official opening by Sheryl Murray MP on 1st May and ending with a gala dinner on 8th October. There will be a range of displays, including story-boards and crew kit through the ages in the crew room and boathouse.

Local groups and organisations are invited to hold events to help in Looe RNLI fundraising efforts. If anyone can help in this regard please contact us via our website www.looelifeboats.co.uk, where details of 2016 fundraising events can be found. (You can also follow us on Facebook). Events include a special afternoon tea with the descendants of crews of the lifeboats. If you have any knowledge of descendants please contact us via the website or by phoning the Chair of the organising team Tony White on 01503 263199.



LOOE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

Dear Residents

The Tourist Information Centre has been an integral part of the Town Council since, I am told, the 1950s. In all that time the Council has supported the promotion of the town and provided information for visitors. Over a number of years the cost to the Council and ratepayers of providing these services has increased to an unacceptable level. The Council decided 18 months ago that the TIC should make efforts to reduce the deficit and to close the TIC if significant progress had not been made by March 2017. Time is marching on and reduction of deficit has not happened; therefore, I must tell you that this facility is in real danger of closing.

The TIC has been refurbished and stocked with items for sale, whilst still providing the traditional information services and you can book tickets for Eden or the National Express. This note to the town's residents and businesses is to say that whilst this service is provided to support the town it needs to be used and engaged with. If there is no significant change in the finances of the centre then the Town Council will need to meet and discuss its future in the next six months.

Regards

Cllr Armand Toms, Mayor of Looe

LOOE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



IT'S TIME FOR LOOE RESIDENTS TO HAVE THEIR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF THE TOWN

The community team leading Looe's Neighbourhood Plan have kicked off a springtime of involvement and engagement events this week. The team hope to visit many local events in March, April and May, attend a wide range of community group meetings, and hold 'drop-in' sessions where residents can find out more and say how they think Looe should be planned over the next 15 years. Detailed questionnaires will be sent to every household in the town, with special versions for businesses and young people. New website, twitter and facebook pages are available and press and local radio items, and letters to service/infrastructure bodies, minority groups, GP surgeries will be going out.

Edwina Hannaford leads the team and the aim is to get local people and groups involved as deeply as possible in the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the town to guide future development. The essential thing about Neighbourhood Plans is that that local people make them – it's not the usual approach of asking for general comments and then writing a standard plan around them. Of course we want to know how people feel about the town, but most of all we want to hear about people's ideas as to how we can tackle the challenges that the town faces and make sure that it can be protected and improved for now and future generations. There are some brilliant ideas out there that could make a great contribution and that we can work up into really useful policies and proposals for the future. There is also the chance for people to get involved in developing their ideas and helping to bring them into reality. We have a strong community team forming up, but still need more people with fresh ideas and energy to help carry us forward. The spring engagement period will also be a recruitment drive to get more involved; we particularly need more businesses and younger people.

Without such a plan, all the important planning decisions made by Cornwall Council would be based only on the National Planning Guidance and the county-wide local plan, which means that important local factors could be ignored. We want maximum local involvement so that our Neighbourhood Plan truly reflects local views. More details are available from www.futurelooe.town which includes online links to the three questionnaires. The Neighbourhood Plan can also be followed on Twitter (@futurelooe) and comments/discussions can be found on Facebook at 'Future Looe – Neighbourhood Plan'.

WEST LOOE MAY FAYRE

West Looe May Fayre organisers are holding a quiz night with table magic by Chris Coolmagic Edwards on Friday 1st April in the Portbyhan Hotel from 7pm. The hotel have also kindly offered to provide each 'quizzier' with a hot Cornish Pasty included in the entry fee of £8 per team. Teams of up to 6 people are invited. There will be picture quizzes, general knowledge and some brain teasers. As it's also April Fools Night make sure you have your wits about you as there may be a few surprises! There will also be a raffle. For more details contact: Edwina Hannaford 07717203725 / edwinahannaford@btconnect.com

The May Fayre is on 7th May in and around West Looe Square with stalls, entertainment from local groups and performers, May Pole Dancing with Sheila's School of Dancing, processional and back by popular demand a gurning competition.

CONTACT CORNWALL COUNCIL

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AMENITIES MANAGER REPORT

Dog Fouling – ‘Looe Against Poo’

“Cornwall Council has a Dog Fouling Order to ensure all areas of Cornwall have the same levels of enforcement for dog fouling. Failing to clean up after your dog has fouled will result in a fixed penalty being issued - which is for £80 (reduced to £50 if paid within 10 days) or prosecution where, if found guilty, you would face a maximum fine of £1000” – Cornwall Council website.

Looe Town Council now has an Authorised Officer who is able to issue Fixed Penalties on behalf of Cornwall Council and will be actively patrolling around the town. Please remember that it is not an excuse in law that you were not aware of the fact that your dog had fouled - you can be held responsible even if you did not see the incident, or if witnessed whilst the dog is straying or on an extended lead.

Refurbishment of Public Conveniences

The refurbishment work has now been completed on the Seafront toilets and work continues on Hannaford. We hope to have these completed in time for Easter. Works are then scheduled for the Millpool toilets.

Mariners and Fishermen’s Memorial Garden

Work has started on the Memorial Garden to create more planting space and additional seating areas. The Looe in Bloom ladies have kindly agreed to include the new beds in their planting schedule and so over the next few months we should see a much needed improvement in the garden.

Please help to keep the area clean and tidy by disposing of litter in the nearby bins rather than in the garden or flower beds.

Council Information Notice Board – Barratt Homes, St Martins

We will shortly be erecting an information notice board on the Barratt Homes estate. This will provide local information and news similar to those situated elsewhere around the town.

Queen’s 90th Birthday Celebrations

Plans are underway for an evening celebration of the Queen’s 90th birthday on Thursday 21st April at the Wooldown between 6pm – 9.30pm. Weather permitting, we hope to have the Beacon lit, courtesy of East Looe Town Trust at 7.30pm. St Pinnocks Band, Looe Community Academy Band and members of the Ukulele club will be playing throughout the evening and there will be hot food and a licensed bar. We will publish further info and updates on the Council’s Facebook page, through the Tourist Information Centre and on our noticeboards.

Laura Kellaway, Amenities Manager



QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Looe Town Council would like to present all the children, up to and including 16 years of age on or before 31st August 2016, living within the boundaries of Looe with a Queen's 90th Birthday Commemorative coin.

To help us to include all the children we are asking parents/ guardians to come into the Town Council Office or the Tourist Information Centre to register their child/children.

Registration forms can also be downloaded from our website www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk and returned signed to the Town Council Office, The Guildhall, Fore Street, East Looe, PL13 1AA

We would be grateful if all parents/guardians could do this by 31st March 2016.

Thank you.

Mrs Anne Frith
Clerk to Looe Town Council

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL SEAGULL CONTROL 2016

The Council will again be carrying out de-fertilisation of seagull eggs.

All properties registered with the Council, either in person or by telephone between Friday 1st April 2016 and Friday 29th April 2016 will be visited during May.

THIS SERVICE APPLIES TO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES ONLY
No charge will be made but:

PLEASE REGISTER ONLY IF GULLS ARE NESTING ON YOUR ROOF

Telephone 01503 262255 giving name, address and telephone number
9.00am to 3.00pm Monday to Friday

LOOE'S WALK-IN CENTRE

It's been a horrible winter for getting out and enjoying the countryside, unless you're one of those people who love to walk in constant rain and up to their knees in mud. I'm not that keen on having to scrape ice from the car windscreen every morning either, but at least you can wrap up warm and go for a walk on a frosty day, knowing that the sun will come out to add a little warmth. So, I'm looking forward to a dry spring, even if it will be one without the usual displays of daffodils, which because of the mild winter have already flowered and faded. I don't need to tell you that we live in a wonderful part of the world and that we have a great network of footpaths, unequalled, I believe anywhere. But do we make the most of them?

I am sure most people reading this will have walked from Looe to Polperro, some might have gone east towards Seaton or up the West Looe valley, these tend to be the most commonly used routes in the area. But there are many others to be discovered, especially once you get away from the coast. With sturdy footwear and a good map, the countryside around us is just waiting to be discovered. If you are not sure about things or want some guidance, why not pop into the Tourist Information Centre?

We have all the latest Ordnance Survey maps including localised waterproof maps that have been enlarged to make them clear to even somebody with eyesight as poor as mine. They cost £3.99 and slip into your pocket or your handbag so you need never get lost again. We have walking books, including my Rambles from the Railway, nine walks that can be started from stations on the Looe Valley line. These are designed to get you out onto paths you might not be familiar with, show you parts of the east and west Looe valleys that you didn't know about, and hopefully tell you a little bit about what you see. If you don't fancy walking on your own and would rather join a group, we can put you in touch with the Ramblers or other local groups that would be only too happy to introduce you to the great outdoors.

Tell your friends, tell your guests, let's get people out there. The Tourist Information Centre is here to help, but we also need make money to keep going. So support us by coming in and buying a map or buying a book, and that way we will still be here to show you where on the map you should be walking. And don't forget we put on the South East Cornwall Walking Festival each year. This year it will be over the week starting the 10th September. We love meeting locals, we love meeting visitors, but most of all we love having people walking with us so please tell everybody it's on.

Enjoy your walking
Mark Camp, Looe Tourist Information Centre



Plans for this year's Festival of the Sea are rapidly taking shape with many local groups and organisations working together to put on a day to remember. The keen eyed amongst you will have noticed our mistake in the last edition when we said May 1st was a Saturday, apologies, it's a Sunday!

So what is planned?

RNLI open day with a rescue demonstration hopefully including a helicopter. Sherryl Murray will be on hand to launch the season of events to mark 150 years since the Looe Lifeboat station first opened.

Loads of stalls along the quayside and out on the seafront, mainly with a marine conservation theme, sustainable fishing, and environmental issues. All those little things that we should all be thinking about if we want to look after the seas and oceans around our wonderful coastline.

Live music at various venues including the Quayside Centre and the Riverside Church. Local choirs and St Pinnock Band are amongst those attending.

Story-telling in Looe Museum

Fishing trips (weather permitting) and a mackerel BBQ

We are hoping there will be some **food stalls**, but this is still to be confirmed. The Cornwall Wildlife Trust are launching a competition to find the best meal cooked using sustainable fish.

An exhibition of photographs with a sea theme.

Art made from recycled materials collected during beach cleans, including a mermaid or two.

Guided walks around the town.

So that's what's planned. As you know, plans don't always come to fruition so please keep an eye out for updates. And if you want to get involved, please get in touch. We would love to see the shops and businesses around the town get 'fishy' for the weekend, even if it's just putting something in their window or a special fish dish on the menu. Most importantly, we want people to enjoy the day and support all the hard work being done by volunteers.

Mark Camp
Looe Tourist Information Centre

Looe Town Council
The Guildhall, Fore Street,
Looe PL13 1AA
01503 262255
info@looe-town-council.gov.uk

Deputy Mayor Martin Gregory
18 Goonwartha Road,
West Looe PL13 2PJ
01503 265769
martin.gregory.ltc@gmail.com

Councillor David Bryan
3 Restormel Road, Barbican,
East Looe PL13 1EJ
Tel: 01503 264130
dbryan.ltc@outlook.com

Councillor Paul Crossley
The Golden Guinea Restaurant, Fore
Street, East Looe PL13 1AD
Tel: 01503 262780

Councillor Mrs Elke Graham-Jones
Howlek, Barbican Farm Lane,
Looe PL13 1PG
Tel: 07804 452193

Councillor Roy Hendy
Beach View, Higher Chapel Street,
East Looe PL13 1AU
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West Looe PL13 2DP
Tel: 01503 265206
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Councillor Trevor Stacey
Watership Down, Tregoad Lane, St
Martin, Looe PL13 1PB
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Mayor Armand Toms
36 Trenant Road, Barbican,
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Councillor Miss Katherine Bishop
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West Looe PL13 2EJ
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Councillor Trevor Crane
2 The Arches, Hannaford,
West Looe PL13 2DE
Tel: 01503 264535

Councillor Jimmy Dingle (West Looe)
St Ann's Marine Drive, Hannaford,
West Looe PL13 2DH
Tel: 01503 263292

Councillor Mrs Edwina Hannaford
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Councillor Mrs Michala Powell
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mpowell.ltc@gmail.com

Councillor Michael Soady
2 Goonwartha Road,
West Looe PL13 2PJ
Tel: 01503 262011

Councillor David Welch (West Looe)
4 Sunnycroft, North Road, West Looe
PL13 2EL
Tel: 01503 265573
david.r.welch.ltc@btinternet.com

County Councillors:

Cornwall Councillor for East Looe and St Martin's – Cllr Armand Toms

Cornwall Councillor for West Looe, Lanteglos and Lansallos – Cllr Edwina Hannaford

Cinema by the Sea

Saturday 2 April - The Comedy of Errors from The Globe Theatre, London.

Doors open 6.30pm. Screening starts 7pm prompt. Adults £7.50; Members, Students and under 18s: £5. Bar & snacks.

Take a pair of estranged twin brothers and a pair of estranged twin servants, keep them in ignorance of each other and throw them into a city with a reputation for sorcery, and you have all the ingredients for theatrical chaos. A hectic tale of violent cross-purposes, furious slapstick and social nightmare. 147mins

Wednesday 20 April - The Lady in the Van (12A)

Doors open 7pm. Film starts 7.30pm prompt. Adults £5.50; Members, Students and under 18s: £3. With Maggie Smith, Alex Jennings, Jim Broadbent, Frances de la Tour and Dominic Cooper.

Alan Bennett's funny, poignant and life-affirming big screen adaptation of his commercial and critical West End hit. 104 minutes.

Wednesday 18 May - The Martian (12A)

Doors open 7pm. Film starts 7.30pm prompt. Adults £5.50; Members, Students and under 18s: £3. With Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain and Kristen Wiig.

During a manned mission to Mars, astronaut Mark Watney (Matt Damon) is presumed dead after a fierce storm and left behind by his crew. But Watney is alive and finds himself alone on the hostile planet. With only meagre supplies, he must draw upon his ingenuity and spirit to survive and find a way to signal to Earth that he is alive. Millions of miles away, a team works tirelessly to bring "the Martian" home. 141 minutes

Saturday 4 June - SPECTRE (12A)

Doors open 7pm. Film starts 7.30pm prompt. Adults £5.50; Members, Students and under 18s: £3. With Daniel Craig, Christoph Waltz and Lea Seydoux.

A cryptic message from the past sends James Bond on a rogue mission to Mexico City and eventually Rome, where he meets Lucia, the beautiful widow of an infamous criminal. Bond infiltrates a secret meeting and uncovers the existence of the sinister organisation known as SPECTRE. As Bond ventures towards the heart of SPECTRE, he learns of a chilling connection between himself and the enemy he seeks. 145 minutes. With Licensed bar & snacks.

All films and screenings at: The Community Hall, Looe Children's Centre, Trewint Crescent, Barbican, LOOE PL13 1ET. Tickets: On the night at the door, Online via our website or from Looe TIC, The Guild Hall, Fore St, East Looe.

More information: Phone: 0845 868 1021 (24 hour info line) Web: cinemabythesea.org.uk, Twitter: @looefilms, Facebook: /looefilms Email: looefilms@gmail.com

Advertising space is now available in our popular and widely distributed film brochure - contact us for details of special rates for local businesses.



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www.eastlooe towntrust.co.uk.**

LOOE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Events and Meetings: On Saturday 27th February the Looe Branch of the RBL attended the Societies Day held in the Millpool Centre. A number of people showed interest in joining and 14 membership forms were handed out. The branch still needs new members so come along to one of our meetings to see what we do. There will be no pressure to join and please note that full membership of the RBL is open to everybody, not just servicemen or ex-servicemen. Meetings are on the first Monday of every month in the Looe Social Club, starting sharp at 7.30 pm.

Our annual Looe RBL dinner at the Rivercroft Hotel, Looe is on Friday 1st April. It is an informal dinner, with all welcome. There are a limited number of places available and if you would like to attend please telephone Mr Louis Portman on 01503 598432.

The branch will be in attendance, complete with Poppy Man, at the West Looe May Fayre on Saturday 7th May and also for Armed Forces Day in the Rose Garden on Saturday 25th June. We are still considering how we will mark the centenary of the start of the Battle of the Somme on the 1st July 2016.

Looe's World War Two Casualties: In the previous issue of Community News we asked for details on the WWII casualties listed on Looe's War Memorial. To date we have gratefully received details of three plus a promise of details of a fourth.

Kevin Richardson provided photographs and a copy of the flying log for his uncle, Arthur (Billy) Richardson, who was a navigator on a Lancaster Bomber shot down in 1943 on a bombing raid against Germany. The aircraft crashed near the Dutch town of Wognum and the crew were buried in the town's Protestant Churchyard. The people of Wognum have raised a monument in memory of the bomber's crew.

Records for two of his family were provided by Peter Trethake, whose father, Petty Officer Wilfred Trethake, joined the Royal Navy in 1927. In 1941, less than eight hours after the attack on Pearl Harbour, without declaration of war, the Japanese attacked Hong Kong, where he was then serving. The garrison held out for over two weeks before surrendering, but sadly PO Trethake was killed during a bombing raid and is buried in Sai Wan War Cemetery, Hong Kong, with over 1500 other defenders.

West Looe's Jack Bassett was Peter Trethake's uncle and served as stoker on the aircraft carrier HMS Glorious. On 8th June 1940 the Glorious was helping to evacuate British troops from Norway when she and her two destroyer escorts were spotted and attacked by much larger German battleships (Scharnhorst and Gneisenau). The action lasted three hours and the three British ships were sunk. The Scharnhorst was seriously damaged by a torpedo from one of the destroyers. 45 British men survived, with over 1500, including Jack Bassett, lost at sea with no known grave.

If you have any information on Looe's wartime casualties then please pass it on to Looe RBL via: David Welch, 4 Sunnycroft, North Road, Looe, PL13 2EL (Tel: 01503 265573) or it can be left for Cllr Welch at the Looe Town Council office (please leave your contact details). Alternatively, bring your information to one of our meetings.

The Jubilee Inn: Future Events 2016

Weddings Receptions: our lovely 16th Century inn is a charming setting to celebrate such a special day. Early planning is highly recommended!

General Knowledge Fun Quizzes Every Tuesday until June 2016: 8.30pm onwards. Teams of one to eight £2.00 pp entry. All proceeds to local charities and organisations. Top two teams get a round of drinks on the house.

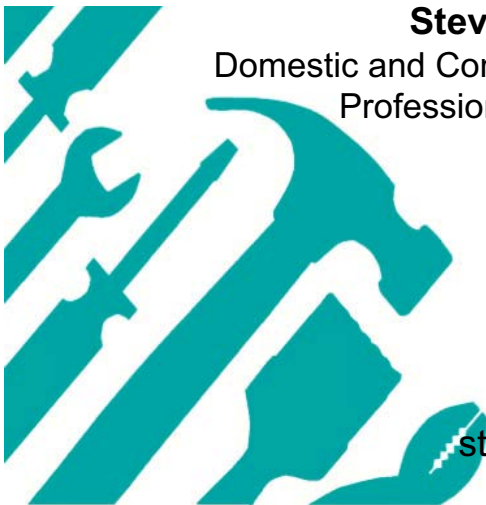
27th March 2016 Easter Sunday: Roast Menu Served all day from midday to 9pm. It's the spring, so treat yourself, friends and family to a smashing meal out. Bookings strongly recommended; one of the most popular days!

Easter Monday 28th March: Coffee morning in aid of the Lifeboats. Come and enjoy some cake and coffee for a great cause between 10am and 12pm. Includes Easter egg hunt for children, come rain or shine, starting at 11am. Also raffle and Bric a Brac stalls. Hope to see you there.

St George's Day Saturday 23rd April 2016: Celebrate and be patriotic, enjoying some classic British dishes on our St George's Day Specials board. Full main menu also available so it's an abundance of choice!

Plus Royal British Legion Fish & Chip Lunch midday onward - contact Mary Talbot on 01503 220730 to book.

Please see www.jubilee-inn.co.uk, or email jubileeinnpelynt@hotmail.com for further information. The Jubilee Inn Jubilee Hill Pelynt PL13 2JZ 01503 220312



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LOOE BOWLING CLUB

2016 heralds the start of an exciting new era for Looe Bowling Club. Members have had a busy winter preparing the club and grounds for the new season and are all looking forward to the signing of the new 30 year lease with Cornwall Council. The Club is committed to the running of both the Bowling and Putting Greens.

After a very successful year, with the Men's team gaining promotion to Division 1 in Group 2 of the Cornwall Bowling League, members are getting prepared and looking forward to the start of the new season. In 2016 we will be continuing with our usual programme of events including Men's Bowling Leagues, Ladies Bowling Leagues and Mixed Friendly Matches.

There is also a very good social side to the Club. When the season ended in October we decided to continue through the winter and hold a social event once a month, which was very successful and will be part of our programme for the future. As well as our regular events new ones are planned for the coming year. Wives, husbands and partners are welcome to these events. New for this season is our Friday Evening Club Night when anyone can come along and have a game of bowls or just join in the fun.

We intend to introduce a new sport called CROLF, this is a cross between Golf and Croquet and can be played by anyone, no skill needed. This is a popular sport in Devon where there are leagues but it will be a first for Cornwall.

The club is situated at Hannaford and we believe that the green has the best view, from a bowling green in Cornwall, because we look out to sea right opposite Looe Island (St. Georges Island). This wonderful view makes the game even more enjoyable however you play. We are always on the lookout for new players, experienced, inexperienced and complete beginners, both young and old and anyone in between. Why not come along to our Opening Day, our Open Day (see below) or a Friday Club Night. Or contact me to arrange another time.

Programme 2016

Opening Day	- Saturday 2nd April	2.30
Open Day	- Saturday 8th May	12.00 - 5.00
Friday Club Nights	- Starting Friday 8th April	7.00

Opening Times

Bowling Green - Members - Open Every Day

Public Bowling - Two Rinks open every day 10.00 am until 7.00 pm

(Except when needed by the club for matches - please see notice at the club.)

Putting Green and Crolf - Open every day 10.00 am until 7.00 pm

John Hickman, Secretary Looe Bowling Club
Tel. 01503 263953 or e-mail john@jwhickman.wanadoo.co.uk

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Liskeard to Looe The Looe Valley Line

MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS	Liskeard	‡Ⓢ d	0605	0714	0833	0959	1111	1216	1321	1425	1541	1641	1806	1918
	Coombe Junction Halt	d	.	.	0842	.	.	.	.	1434	.	.	.	.
	St Keyne Wishing Well Halt	d	0617x	0726x	0848x	1011x	1124x	1228x	1333x	1441x	1553x	1653x	1819x	1931x
	Causeland	d	0621x	0730x	0852x	1014x	1127x	1232x	1337x	1445x	1557x	1657x	1823x	1933x
	Sandplace	d	0624x	0733x	0856x	1018x	1131x	1235x	1340x	1448x	1600x	1700x	1826x	1938x
	Looe	a	0636	0745	0904	1029	1142	1247	1352	1456	1612	1712	1837	1949

SATURDAYS	Liskeard	‡Ⓢ d	0601	0713	0835	0958	1108	1212	1324	1428	1543	1656	1801	1928
	Coombe Junction Halt	d	.	.	0844	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	St Keyne Wishing Well Halt	d	0613x	0725x	0850x	1013x	.	1224x	1337x	.	1555x	1709x	1813x	1941x
	Causeland	d	0617x	0729x	0854x	1017x	.	1228x	1340x	.	1559x	1712x	1817x	1943x
	Sandplace	d	0620x	0732x	0858x	1020x	.	1231x	1344x	.	1602x	1716x	1820x	1948x
	Looe	a	0632	0744	0906	1029	1136	1243	1355	1456	1614	1727	1832	1959

SUNDAYS FROM 27 MARCH	Liskeard	‡Ⓢ d	1010	1126	1250	1402	1523	1635	1744	2015	There are no Sunday services on this route until 27 March 2016			
	Coombe Junction Halt	d	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	St Keyne Wishing Well Halt	d	1022x	1139x	1303x	1415x	1536x	1648x	1757x	2028x				
	Causeland	d	1026x	1142x	1306x	1418x	1539x	1651x	1800x	2031x				
	Sandplace	d	1029x	1146x	1310x	1422x	1543x	1655x	1804x	2035x				
	Looe	a	1043	1155	1319	1431	1552	1704	1813	2044				

Looe to Liskeard The Looe Valley Line

MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS	Looe	d	0637	0746	0909	1030	1143	1248	1353	1459	1613	1715	1840	1952
	Sandplace	d	0642x	0751x	0914x	1035x	1148x	1253x	1358x	1504x	.	1720x	1845x	1957x
	Causeland	d	0646x	0755x	0918x	1039x	1152x	1257x	1402x	1508x	.	1724x	1849x	2001x
	St Keyne Wishing Well Halt	d	0649x	0758x	0921x	1042x	1156x	1300x	1406x	1511x	.	1727x	1852x	2004x
	Coombe Junction Halt	d	.	.	0929	.	.	.	.	1522	.	.	.	.
	Liskeard	‡Ⓢ a	0705	0814	0940	1058	1211	1318	1420	1531	1639	1743	1908	2022

SATURDAYS	Looe	d	0633	0747	0909	1032	1137	1244	1356	1456	1615	1728	1833	2000
	Sandplace	d	0638x	0752x	0914x	1037x	.	1249x	.	1501x	1620x	1733x	1838x	2005x
	Causeland	d	0642x	0756x	0918x	1041x	.	1253x	.	1505x	1624x	1737x	1842x	2009x
	St Keyne Wishing Well Halt	d	0645x	0759x	0921x	1045x	.	1256x	.	1508x	1628x	1741x	1845x	2013x
	Coombe Junction Halt	d	.	.	0929	1052	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Liskeard	‡Ⓢ a	0701	0815	0940	1103	1201	1312	1420	1525	1644	1758	1901	2028

SUNDAYS FROM 27 MARCH	Looe	d	1045	1158	1322	1434	1555	1707	1816	2050			
	Sandplace	d	1050x	1203x	1327x	1439x	1600x	1712x	1821x	2055x			
	Causeland	d	1054x	1207x	1331x	1443x	1604x	1716x	1825x	2059x			
	St Keyne Wishing Well Halt	d	1057x	1210x	1334x	1446x	1607x	1719x	1828x	2102x			
	Coombe Junction Halt	d	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Liskeard	‡Ⓢ a	1113	1226	1350	1502	1623	1735	1844	2118			

Notes and symbols

- ‡ This station cannot accommodate the full length of some trains. Please listen for announcements if you wish to alight here
- Ⓢ Minimum connection time where different from the standard 5 minutes
- x Request stop. Advise the Conductor if you wish to alight; signal to the Driver if you wish to board

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Timetable courtesy of Great Western Trains

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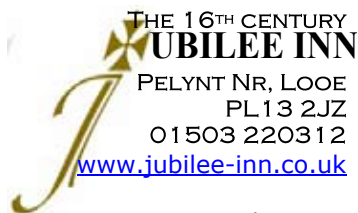
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Community News tries to be as accurate as possible in the information received from organisations. However, it is always advisable to contact the organiser(s) directly if confirmation and further details are required.

TWO GREAT EVENTS FROM LOOE YOUTH THEATRE COMING SOON!

ROBIN AND THE SHERWOOD HOODIES – will be performed by the youngest group in LOOE YOUTH THEATRE, the STARLETS! See the young people acting, singing and dancing along to a slightly unusual script.

However, the fun doesn't end there – we are presenting this as part of a DOUBLE BILL with our middle group, the INBETWEENERS, and they will be entertaining you to scenes from THE BOYFRIEND, SOUND OF MUSIC and HAIRSPRAY – an hour of MUSICAL MAGIC. So where does this take place? At the PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE, Looe Community Academy. We have four performances to choose from:

FRIDAY 22ND APRIL AT 7.00 pm

SATURDAY 23rd APRIL at 2 pm and 7 pm

SUNDAY 24TH APRIL at 2 pm

We can fit in only 35 people per performance so booking is advisable and can be done by ringing Val Cottrell on 01579 320547 or emailing v.cottrell@btinternet.com. Tickets are £6 and £5 concessions (seniors and children under 16).

Another theatrical treat is coming your way on May 13th and 14th – our senior group, the MASTERCLASS will be performing the play version of BLOOD BROTHERS. Many of you will have seen the musical version in London as it has been running for a considerable time now – our talented young people have been exploring different presentation techniques of what is essentially the same story and we know you will be impressed.

Same place as above and same ticket arrangements/price

FRIDAY 13TH MAY at 7 pm

SATURDAY 14TH MAY at 7 pm

Do come along and support our talented local youngsters!

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EASTER AT THE MONKEY SANCTUARY

Hang out with the monkeys Easter Sunday and Monday, 27th and 28th March, when there will be lots of fun things to do for all of the family.

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt between 12 noon and 3pm to find Murray the Monkey for the secret password and win a prize in our shop.

Kids will love the Children's Activity Room, craft workshops and playground. Visit the 'Bat Zone', take a gentle stroll around the beautiful Wildlife Gardens and check out the sea view or enjoy a delicious lunch at the Treetop Café.

For more information, visit: www.monkeysanctuary.org.



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