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NEW FROM THE EAST LOOE TOWN TRUST



No furlough for ELTT staff, who are all busy with their winter work programme. But sadly the Old Guildhall Museum and Gaol was thrown into lockdown 2, bringing an end to their highly successful Covid-secure private group Museum tours. During their few weeks of operation virtually every one of the pre-booked tours had been filled. Can we hope that Covid-secure visits will not be needed when they reopen in the spring? Either way, the Museum team will be ready — and hopefully the next edition of Community News could give details of their exciting new Raddy Collection photographic exhibition.

The Trust is delighted to have been invited to join the Co-op Community Fund appeal, whereby Co-op card holders are able to nominate a local charity to receive a percentage of every purchase they make in the Co-op food stores. The ELTT appeal is to extend the brilliant harbour lights along the East Looe Seafront ready for the 2021 Christmas season. It will brighten up the Winter evenings along the seafront and we hope local Co-op members will consider nominating the lights appeal.

Meanwhile the Trust will be working hard alongside the other town organisations to support this year's Christmas lights displays. For the second year, the Guildhall Rose Garden will be under an attractive canopy of lights, and we hope that at various times local choirs and performers will be able to put on Covid-secure events to raise the Christmas spirits in the town centre and entertain everyone shopping locally. The lights are already up on the Museum.

Work will continue to focus on the Guildhall Clocktower in early January when the work to repair and refurbish the weather vane above the cupola will take place. Contractors will be using a mobile high access platform which will mean a road closure at times. The Trust is sorry for the inconvenience caused but believes that the time of year will minimise inconvenience.

ELTT wishes everyone a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Brian Galipeau Chairman





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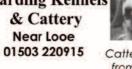
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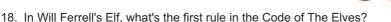


CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Astronauts broadcast which Christmas song from space in 1965? 1.

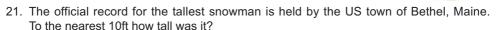


- 2. Doing which Christmas activity sends roughly 14,700 American to A and E every year?
- 3. Misteltoe literally translates from Anglo Saxon as what on a stick?
- 4. Which country has donated a Christmas tree to the people of Scotland every year since 1949?
- What Christmas decoration was originally made from strands of silver? 5.
- 6. Who played Scrooge in 'The Muppet Christmas Carol'?
- 7. According to the folklore of Austria what horned figure punishes naughty children at Christmastime?
- In which modern-day country was Saint Nicholas born?
- 9. Donald Trump makes a cameo appearance in which Christmas film?
- 10. In Christmas Carol the 12 days of Christmas, what gift is offered on the seventh day?
- 11. Name the Youtube personality who won consecutive UK Christmas number 1s in 2018 and 2019.
- 12. Which Christmas beverage is also known as 'Milk Punch'?
- 13. In the movie It's A Wonderful Life, what happened every time a bell rang?
- 14. What's the name of the main villain in The Nightmare Before Christmas?
- 15. In which children's classic is it 'always winter but never Christmas'?
- 16. Which royal first delivered the Royal Christmas Message?
- 17. What does Noel mean in Latin?



19. Who proposes to whom in the 2008 Gavin and Stacey Christmas special?

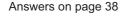




- 22. In Catalonia, the Caga Tio, a cheery festive log, is fed treats until it does what?
- 23. Swedes traditionally celebrate Christmas Eve by watching which famous cartoon?
- 24. Which pop song has won the Christmas Singles Chart Number One twice?

25. And finally, in 2020 Prime Minister Boris Johnson described Christmas as the season to be jolly and...?





ON BEHALF OF ALL THE TEAM AT THE OLD GUILDHALL MUSEUM AND GAOL: WE WISH ALL OF YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND MUCH BETTER 2021!! NADELIK LOWEN

Cornish Christmas Traditions – not to be seen in 2020!

Guise dancing

Guising, mumming, masking – whatever you call it – was popular across Britain for centuries. Cornwall's own flavour of guise-dancing featured players touring villages in masks and animal skins, led by a feisty 'Lord of Misrule.' The Cornish version includes 'mock formal' ragged suits and a song called 'Turkey Rhubarb', still sung today if you head to the right pub on the right day.

Christmas and New Year Swim

While others in the country gorge and sleep, we are diving into the freezing Atlantic Ocean. Here in Looe our New Year Day's Swim usually raises much needed funds for the RNLI – please remember to donate online this year as those funds are still just as important and we will miss the Swim and the fun we all have.

Stargazy pie

For Christmas dinner this year why not brave this unique festive dish? Fish heads poking out of a pie filled with eggs and potatoes. The 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. The story of Bawcock was popularised by Antonia Barber's children's book The Mousehole Cat, which featured the stargazy pie. In 2007 contestant Mark Hix won the BBC's Great British Menu with a variant of the dish.

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 20 and is topped with an apple. A candle in the middle welcomes in the God of Light.

Carols

St Erth-born Bodmin MP Davies Gilbert revived the carol. He was a cousin of Thomas Bond (and receiver of most of Bonds estate when he died). 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. In a separate book, he features the first written mention of the St Piran flag. Thanks to Mr Gilbert, carols found their feet again – and even the British Museum wrote to thank him for preserving them.

Montol

Montol is the celebration of Cornish midwinter traditions and customs associated with Old Christmas. Fire performers, 'obby 'osses, guise beasts and musicians will be seen in the daytime, joined by Christmas carol singers, choirs, dancers and a plethora of stall-holders.

Looe

In recent years Looe has celebrated with the lantern procession, Father Christmas arriving with his reindeer by boat, the Christmas market and Carol Singing. This year is very different, but we still have the Looe Town Council Secret Santa, and as a community we will quietly celebrate together and wish for a much better 2021.

The Museum managed to open in October for nearly 4 weeks, and I would like to thank Tony Greenbank, Mandy Ferguson, Penny McHugh, Jon Friend, Paul Stephenson, Karin Masson and Simon Cohen for their help with volunteering and trialling the COVID system and for being such a help to our visitors. We filled 95% of our timed slots and are ready to open for the next season!

Are you interested in volunteering for the Museum? You don't have to do a duty as you could be one of our outreach volunteers. We are looking for help with photography in the Museum and someone to manage our Social Media for us. Young people looking for work experience or Duke of Edinburgh volunteering are very welcome, as well as anyone who would prefer to work at home. If you are interested please contact 01503 263709.

Petra Stephenson Volunteer Museum Manager

www.looemuseum.co.uk

Christmas may be a little different this year, but Carole Day has shared some of her poems to help us reflect on previous years' festivites.

CHRISTMAS PAST

Carols from the church still ringing in our ears
Friends and family chatting with their brandy and their beers
Happy noisy children playing games with one another
Toys a plenty for the little girls and also for their brothers
Chestnuts on the shovel, the smell of cigars in the air
Replete from lunch, some nodding off without a care
Lots of smiley faces and hearts filled with love and cheer
I wish this lovely feeling would last all through the year.



Carole Day



THE RUSTY BUCKET'S HAVEN YOUTH PROJECT



Since its inception in 2010, The Rusty Bucket (known locally as The RB) has identified and supported many marginalised and vulnerable adults within the community.

We are now progressing into Looe's youth scene with plans to improve the wellbeing of our young people through the proposed Haven Youth Project. The Haven is an exciting initiative for the town's youth and their families. The vision is to establish a dedicated space for young people in the centre of the town providing opportunities for leisure, learning and laughter all set within a safe and friendly environment.

How?

Most of our set up and running costs will be funded in-house. However, the RB has already enjoyed the financial support of Co-op Community Fund 2020/21, Cornwall Community Foundation, Devon and Cornwall Police 'Proceeds of Crime Fund', Looe Lions, Looe Town Council, Seedbed International and West Looe Town Trust. We are hopeful of further third-party support as the project matures and proves its worth, so to speak.

Why and Where?

A weekly youth club had previously operated out of the Millpool Centre, but always in the back of everybody's mind was to grasp the opportunity of a dedicated and permanent youth space, should that opportunity arise. The first floor above Simply Fish, opposite Quayside Fresh, will be our new home courtesy of the Harbour Commissioners who have agreed to lease out the premises. Earlier this year, the Harbour Commission's Chief Executive, Tina Hicks, confirmed their support for the Haven Youth Project, "We were very impressed with the commitment of Barney Barron (RB Youth Leader) and Paul Penhaligan (Rusty Bucket Chair) – The Harbour Commissioners are 100% behind their vision for Looe youth and believe it could grow into a genuine town asset."

The relocation is also the supported by Looe Development Trust's Chair, Justin Spreckley "We have very much enjoyed creating and hosting the Looe Youth Project, but welcome this new future and all the advantages of a dedicated youth premises, we wish the youth and Rusty Bucket every continued success."

What?

During the past few months the first floor has been transformed into three separate zones, namely, Leisure, Learning and Hospitality.

Leisure – new 65" Smart TV with Blue Ray player, High-end table football, comfortable seating with coffee tables and WC.

Learning -5x 24" 'all-in-one' desk top computers with 1TB Hard drive plus 2x 48" monitors for group presentations etc.

Hospitality – small kitchen providing snacks plus hot and cold drinks.



Who?

Barney and Sara Barron, our project managers, have enjoyed many successful and rewarding years in youth provision and since moving to Looe a couple of years ago have immersed themselves in the community. Barney is a Looe Academy school governor responsible for Safeguarding and both are Trustees of Looe Live. Their experience and infectious enthusiasm to serve our young people and their families will, we are sure, result in a positive start and long-term success for the youth project.

Other opportunities to serve the wider community, via the Haven, are also being explored and will be developed through the, soon to be established, the CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) "Boundless Trust". Further information on this second exciting initiative will follow in due course.

Can I volunteer?

Of course, we would love you join us on this exciting journey. To find out more please contact either Barney or Sara (see below).

When?

Covid -19 continues to impact on all our lives, so It is a case of 'watch this space' and if you are able, please follow us on Facebook.

Contacts?

Website: https://www.therustybucket.co.uk/youth.htm

Email: thehaven@therustybucket.co.uk

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/The-Haven-107531567517969

Phone: please call or text:

Barney 07867501436 or Sara 07766020524 (day to day management) or Paul Penhaligan 07896515334 (general background on the Haven and Rusty Bucket)

SANTA TO TOUR LOOE

We have heard that Santa will be touring Looe in his sleigh in the week commencing 14th December.

Santa will be confirming the approximate timings the week before his tour in order that everyone can wave from their doorstep and maintain social distancing.



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LOOE MARINE CONSERVATION GROUP

2021 EVENTS PROGRAMME

Looking forward with optimism to 2021, LMCG is currently planning an exciting and vibrant events programme with a schedule of rockpool rambles and beach cleans based around the tides. This will be supplemented with a range of talks (possibly online) and other outside events. A skeleton programme will be available in January on our website https://looemarineconservation.org/ and Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/LooeMCG

UK'S FIRST CRAB LINE RECYCLING SCHEME

Despite the restrictions of 2020, regular Zoom meetings amongst volunteers enabled LMCG to focus on other initiatives. In particular, extensive media coverage was given to Looe for our launch of the UK's first crab line recycling scheme, tackling one of Looe's hottest topics – the issue of discarded crabbing lines. Prototype collecting stations along the quayside were shown to be popular and provide a safe and environmentally conscious method of disposal. Looe town retailers also made an encouraging move toward promoting more environmentally friendly wooden alternatives to plastic crabbing kits by selling them at the same price. Several local businesses have now stepped forward to sponsor production of more wooden crab line recycling stations for 2021, but if you're interested in sponsoring a station please email looevmca@gmail.com. Watch this space!



A NEW YEAR - A NEW OPPORTUNITY - WE NEED YOU!!

We are looking to recruit volunteers for some key roles. Since it started back in 2008, LMCG has grown! Given the breadth and range of our involvement in wildlife monitoring projects, running an events programme, conducting citizen science, promoting campaigns, providing input at local strategic meetings, as well as maintaining an online presence, we have recently reviewed our structure and identified several key volunteering roles. We would love to hear from anyone who can offer good organisational and/or communication skills, and is looking for a volunteering opportunity, perhaps in retirement, to further their career or to find a new interest and meet friends. The roles do not require any knowledge of science or wildlife – simply enthusiasm! So if you are willing to dedicate some of your time to a worthy cause, we'd love to hear from you. Please send an email to looevmca@gmail.com.

LOOE'S 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

As we all know, Christmas is very different this year but Looe deserves fun and sparkles! Looe Town Council, Looe Harbour Commissioners, East Looe Town Trust, Looe Lions, The Cornish Times and Looe Radio are all working together to create an online celebration for the town, so please get involved. There will be videos, quizzes, fun activities and more on Looe Town Council's Facebook page from the 12th plus the daily competitions below. Send any competition entries to enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk by the deadline and the winners will be featured in the Cornish Times and on Looe Radio. We can't wait to see your entries! Judging will be through Facebook likes so be sure to share.



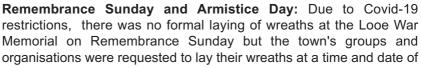
DATE	COMPETITION	EADLINE FOR SUBMISSION	1C
12	Best Looe festive outfit	6	
13	Best drawing of Santa	7	
14	Best picture of Looe Christmas past	8	
15	Most imaginative 'Elf on a Shelf' (including	businesses) 9	
16	Best photo of pets ready for Christmas	10	
17	Most imaginative eco-wrapped Christmas	present 14	
18	Best cracker joke 😊	10	
19	Your favourite Secret Santa present	14	
20	Best indoor or outdoor Christmas lights	14	
21	Most imaginative homemade Christmas wr	eath 15	
22	Best decorated homemade Christmas cake	e 16	
23	Christmas Tree	17	



Plants. Coffee. Naturally

LOOE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

LEGION



their own choosing. We thank all those that laid their wreaths which have now been displayed on the memorial railings as per previous years. As a mark of respect to our fallen, the Looe Branch of the RBL marked the two minutes silence at eleven o'clock, on both Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day, by dipping our standards and lowering the memorial's flags to half-mast. On both days the two minutes silence was followed by the last post, beautifully played by a member of the Salvation Army, and the Exhortation given by our Chairman, Mr Louis Portman. On Remembrance Sunday we were honoured to be joined by the Cornwall Chairman of the Royal British Legion, Andy Eke, and his wife.

We would like to thank our members who cut the war memorial's grass and to Looe in Bloom for keeping the flower beds in such good condition. Prior to Armistice Sunday, the branch placed named wooden crosses at our war memorial, one for each of the 75 names on our memorial.

The Unknown Warrior: This year's Armistice Day was the centenary of the final laying to rest of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey, on the 11th November, 1920. By the end of the First World War, the British had lost 745,000 men – 12% of those who enlisted. Many of the dead soldiers could not be identified and so were buried in graves marked 'A Soldier of the Great War'; many bodies were never found at all. Most families could not afford to go on pilgrimages to Belgium and France, so it became increasingly clear that there needed to be focus for national grief, here in the UK. The Reverend David Railton suggested that the body of an unknown British soldier should be brought home and laid to rest in Westminster Abbey with full military honours. David Railton had served in France as an army chaplain and it was his Union flag, used in France as an alter cloth or shroud, that would eventually cover the coffin of the Unknown Warrior.

Early in November 1920, the body of an unknown British soldier was selected at random from the battlefields of France and Belgium. The body was shipped back to Britain in an oak casket with the inscription: 'A British warrior who fell in the Great War 1914-1918 for King and Country.' It was initially to have read 'A British soldier' but it was changed to cover the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force. As the body left France, Marshal Foche, the Supreme Allied Commander, saluted 'Le Tommy Anonyme'.

On Wednesday 11th November, the casket was carried on a gun-carriage to the new Cenotaph, in Whitehall, where the King laid a wreath on the flag-draped casket. At eleven o'clock there was a two minute silence, which was observed throughout the country and even express trains came to a standstill. The gun-carriage bearing the Unknown Warrior then moved down Whitehall towards Westminster Abbey.

The King, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York, followed on foot. Inside the Abbey were bereaved mothers and wives who had applied for tickets from all parts of the United Kingdom. Priority was given to those who had lost more than one member of their family – some lost a husband and all their sons. A 12-year-old boy was given a ticket after he wrote a letter saying: 'The man in the coffin might be my daddy.' The sound of women sobbing could be heard above the voices of the choir.



The Unknown Warrior was finally laid to rest in a newly dug grave, in the floor of the Abbey, amongst 17 monarchs. On that day alone, over 40,000 people walked past the grave, and the Cenotaph was 12 foot deep in flowers. The Unknown Warrior had brought comfort for many who felt they could believe the body buried in the Abbey was their husband, son or brother. On November 18th, the grave was filled in, using earth from the battlefields of France and Belgium, and covered by atemporary stone. In 1921 a permanent slab of black Belgian marble was installed.

For the Fallen: The fourth stanza from the poem 'For the Fallen' is the Exhortation used by the Royal British Legion to remember our fallen:

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

The poem was written in Cornwall by Laurence Binyon, in September 1914, a few weeks after the outbreak of the First World War. During these weeks the British Expeditionary Force had suffered heavy casualties following its first encounter with the Imperial German Army at the Battle of Mons on 23rd August, its rearguard action during the retreat from Mons in late August and the Battle of Le Cateau on 26th August. Binyon composed the poem whilst sitting on the cliff-top looking out to sea from the dramatic scenery of the north Cornish coastline. A plaque marks the location at Pentire Point, north of Polzeath. However, there is also a small plaque on the East Cliff north of Portreath, further south on the same north Cornwall coast, which also claims to be the place where the poem was written.

David Welch - Looe RBL Tel: 01503 265573

email: looe.rbl@rbllooe.com

LOOF SAILING CLUB

The dinghies have now been removed from the sea front and put away for the winter following the Club's autumn mini-series of races. Of the eight scheduled races six were possible, with two being cancelled due to weather conditions. Everyone was delighted to get on the water for at least a few weeks and grateful thanks go to all the volunteers both on and off the water for making it possible.

Series winners were

Mirrors: Hannah and Alex Staff

Redwings: Colin Crabb and Alex Richardson

Laser: Chris Iles

Enterprise: Darren Roach and Natalie Johnston

Plans are underway for next year's hosting of the National Firefly Sailing Championships which are scheduled to take place in Looe next August, Covid 19 permitting. Also the Club's Redwing fleet are hoping to be able to travel to the Isles of Scilly to take part in their rearranged Championship Week due to take place at the end of August.

Members hope that it won't be too long before the Clubhouse can be reopened to give them the opportunity to celebrate the lives of several members and friends lost during the year, including one former Commodore and two Honorary Members.

Wishing all members and friends of the Club a very Happy Christmas and hopefully a return to normal activities in 2021.

Paul Sedgbeer, LSC www.looesailingclub.co.uk



MAYOR'S REPORT





We leave the second national lockdown in Tier 1 which is a testament to the fortitude and attitude of residents in Cornwall. Looe, although surrounded by rising rates of Covid 19 in South East Cornwall, is still one of the few communities with 0-2 infection rates. Our businesses are able to trade once more and I would like to ask residents to support our local businesses and 'shop local – shop Looe'. Although businesses are allowed to reopen across Cornwall, any visitors have been told they must adhere to the tier rules that apply to where they live. As an integral member of Cornwall Council's environmental team, working to limit Covid outbreaks, I can assure you that we must not forget to continue to follow all public health guidelines to ensure we do not see a spike in case numbers going forwards.

Looe Town Council was amazed and thrilled to receive two letters from the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Colonel Edward Bolitho, in October. The first was to congratulate our volunteers and co-ordinators and the second to congratulate the Council on the support and organisation of the group. As always I want to thank our incredible volunteers and I would also like to thank the Councillors and officers at the Town Council who have worked tirelessly on behalf of the Town – I am honoured to work with such dedicated people.

I never cease to be amazed at the warmth and generosity of our community. Looe's 'Secret Santa' appeal has raised funds to ensure our children receive a present this year. For details on how to donate or nominate a child to receive a present please go to our website www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk. Many of our neighbours and friends are finding it difficult at this time and Looe's Hardship Fund has provided essential support for those in need. If you, or a neighbour, are struggling please email, ring or text – the service is completely confidential. Looe Lions will not be able to organise their usual parties to feed and entertain the elderly and lonely as they normally do. However they hope to increase the number of Christmas hampers distributed to those in need in the Looe and surrounding area. If you would like to donate please visit https://looelions.co.uk/hampers/.

We know that Christmas will not be the same as usual but there is such warmth and joy in our town we will make it our own unique Looe Christmas. Working with the Harbour Commissioners and Looe Lions Santa will be travelling the streets of Looe this year together with his helpers and his route will be published on our new website. We have also created an online lantern making workshop (willow and paper is free from the Council offices – email to order), and 'Looe's 12 days of Christmas' online event. I would like to encourage every resident to take part – there will be daily Facebook competitions, quizzes and videos plus judging of the best decorated business and home.

Finally I want to wish you a safe and happy Christmas. We do not know what the future holds but I hope that 2021 will be a better year for us all.

Stay safe and stay strong - Nadelik Lowen.

Cllr Martin Gregory Mayor of Looe

SCOTLAND MAY HAVE BECOME THE FIRST COUNTRY TO HAVE UNIVERSAL FREE PERIOD PRODUCTS BUT LOOE TOWN COUNCIL HAS BEATEN THEM TO IT!

Scotland has become the first country in the world to introduce free universal access to period products after a new law was passed in Holyrood, though the MSP behind the legislation has said it is just the first step in ending the "stigma of menstruation" in Scottish society.

However Scotland is actually not the first. Looe Town Council have been providing female sanitary and hygiene items for free since the first lockdown, keeping the Looe Community Cupboard on the Millpool stocked up with pads and tampons in an effort to alleviate period poverty. Looe Town Councillor and Deputy Mayor Cllr Edwina Hannaford who has taken a lead on the Community Cupboard project said, "Period poverty is a real problem for some women and has been brought into sharp focus with the hardship for some caused by the pandemic. Periods don't stop for pandemics and the work to improve access to essential tampons, pads and reusables has never been more important."



What is period poverty?

Period poverty is when those on low incomes can't afford, or access, suitable period products. With average periods lasting about five days, it can cost up to £8 a month

for tampons and pads, and some women struggle to afford the cost. Research has shown that about 10% of girls in the UK have been unable to afford period products; 15% have struggled to afford them; and 19% have changed to a less suitable product due to cost.

As well as period poverty, the bill in Scotland tackles period stigma. Researchers say this is particularly an issue for young girls. It found that 71% of 14-21 year olds felt embarrassed buying period products.

The Community Cupboard is located on the Millpool to the right of the Library Community Hub. It's stocked with donations of essential items by members of the public as well as being topped up by Looe Town Council. People can access items free of charge on a 'give and take' basis.

Edwina added, "We know times are hard for some people so Looe Town Council Is continuing to top up the Community Cupboard with essentials for families. We have just added women's sanitary items, nappies and wipes. We are still seeking essential Items on a give and take basis. The Looe Community Cupboard has been a wonderful success. People have been so generous."

To find out more about what items are available and what can be accepted, go to the Community Cupboard Facebook page or Looe Town Council website.

https://www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk/ https://www.facebook.com/looegiveandtake/ #looegiveandtake

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
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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 CONTACTS



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PL13 2AF

01503 262255

enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk

www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk



LOOE TOWN COUNCIL LAUNCHES NEW ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE



www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk

Looe Town Council are delighted to announce the launch of their new fully accessible website. Residents will be able to receive news and important updates directly into their inbox on signing up to the email newsletter. Our new website also allows residents to access services and report issues all from one place. Residents and community groups can upload their own photos to the community gallery and can send news and articles to enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk.



LOOE LIBRARY CLICK AND COLLECT AND CHRISTMAS CLOSING

The team at Looe Library are delighted to return to the click and collect service. The Library is still closed to customers but items can be reserved online and collected by appointment. Customers who do not have internet access can call the Library to make their reservations.

The Library will be closed from 5pm Tuesday 22nd December until Tuesday 5th January 2021.



LOOE TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE



Looe Town Council planning committee continue to be as busy as ever with new applications and have successfully submitted our comments to the government around the changes to the planning system and what implications it may have in our town. We are also trying to lobby support from our MP Sheryll Murray to raise our concerns and give clarity on the proposed changes. Myself and other Committee members have attended, via Zoom, a number of useful Cornwall Council planning conferences. It has been extremely useful to hear what issues other town and parish councils within Cornwall are experiencing and how Cornwall Council can assist.

Looe Neighbourhood Plan is progressing well and we are now engaging with stakeholders within the town such as Looe Harbour Commissioners, East Looe Town Trust, West Looe Town Trust, Looe Marine Conservation Group and Looe Development Trust to name but a few. Preparations are now taking place to prepare us for the referendum next year. As Co-Chair along with Cllr Hannaford I would like to give my thanks to Steve Besford Foster as project manager.

During these unprecedented times please can I take the opportunity to remind you that Looe Town Council Planning Committee meetings are held at least once a month. All meeting along with details of planning applications can be viewed on www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk You will also find a 'planning information' page with lots of useful information. If you would like to attend please contact Annette Keen on 01503 262255 or enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk so that you can be advised and given details of our scheduled Zoom meetings.

I would like to pass on my thanks to Cllr Rose as Vice Chair and to all planning members for their continued time and support not forgetting Annette Keen who I would like to thank for being so organised and efficient.

On that note I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and hope 2021 will be an uplifting year for us all.



MERRY CHRISTMAS



Chairman Cllr James Lundy

CAN YOU BLOG ABOUT LOOE?

Looe Town Council will be promoting its new website in 2021 to show off all of the reasons why Looe is the best place to be!

The Council is looking for blogs (short articles written in a casual style) on anything that you think would be interesting and helpful to our visitors (new and returning).

Your blog could be a Top 5 list of whatever you love about Looe, such as the best places to watch the sunset or your favourite winter walks or some words about Looe's history or how to spend the perfect day in Looe.

Whatever you love about Looe and the surrounding area, they'd love to share it. Please send your blogs and photos to enquiries@looetowncouncil.gov.uk.

To help you write the perfect blog, here are some quick guidelines:

- 1. **Think of a topic:** what would encourage visitors to Looe (especially in the spring, autumn and winter), how can you help visitors plan their time in Looe (and surrounding area) or make their trip even more special?
- 2. **Plan what you are going to write:** your blog should be less than 500 words so think about what you want to say and in what order.
- 3. **Remember your reader:** your blog should share the magic of Looe and be a casual, easy read. Put the reader first and think about what would interest them.
- 4. **Write your blog:** use a casual tone, like you are chatting with a friend. Keep it simple with short paragraphs, short sentences and simple words. Refer to your plan so the reader can follow your thoughts easily. You can include links to relevant websites.
- 5. **Take care with promotion:** your blog cannot promote a single business or product. Your blog must promote Looe using whatever topic you have chosen. It is okay to mention a selection of Looe businesses or products, for example a Top 5 list of your favourite things made in Looe or your Top 5 places to enjoy a coffee with a view. It's also okay for a business to write a blog but the topic should be broader than what they sell, for example why I love working in Looe.
- 6. **Photos:** please send us high resolution images along with your blog. If you are writing a top 5 list, please include an image for each item on your list. If your photos include people's faces, you are responsible for making sure you have permission for the photos to be used online and to promote Visit Looe.
- 7. **Credits:** let us know if you would like to be named as the author of the blog and credited with the photos that you send to us. Let us know how to present your name i.e. Mrs A Smith, A. Smith, Alice Smith, Alice, etc.

Looe Town Council can't promise that every blog they receive will be published. To make this more likely, follow the guidelines and pick a topic that visitors will love.

CELIA ARMES: MURAL

Celia Armes who lives on West Looe Hill, appeared on BBC Spotlight recently. During the first lockdown Celia was totally isolated in her house due to her physical difficulties. Despite limited sight she decided to transform the back wall of her backyard into a beautiful mural of what could have been the outlook from Lammana Chapel in its day. It took three months for Celia to complete the transformation.





CHRISTMAS POEM 2017#1

It's the most wonderful time of the year Children excited, where's Santa and his reindeer? Smiley faces,

Warm embraces
Carols and chatter
Drinks and laughter
Friends and family round the fireside
Mulled wine and mistletoe, it's Yuletide.



Carole Day

SCLERDER ABBEY: CHRISTMAS TIMES

In order to maintain social distancing this year, Sclerder Abbey will only be able to accommodate 30 people for each Mass and it will therefore be necessary to book in advance by contacting the Parish Priest, Fr Gilmour McDermott on 01579 344906 or emailing him on gilmour.mcdermott@prcdtr.org.uk or saltash@prcdtr.org.uk.

Details of the exact Christmas Mass times will shortly be published in the Parish Newsletter on www.liskeardcatholicchurch.org. Sunday Mass at Sclerder Abbey continues to be at 9am and at Liskeard 11am.

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LOOE HARBOUR COMMISSION



Looe Harbour Commissioners would like to wish everybody a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

The past year has seen difficult times for the whole country as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic. Like many businesses, Looe Harbour has experienced a significant decrease in its income this season, due to the various lockdowns and periods of uncertainty. As Commissioners, we supported the town during the first lockdown by offering a period of free parking to enable those that required it ease of access to the town's facilities. We can only hope, that after this latest lockdown, combined with emerging news about possible vaccines, that life will soon return to a more acceptable 'new' normal.

The Harbour staff have worked tirelessly over recent months to ensure that Harbour operations continued, albeit in a slightly different manner. The short summer season was challenging, but we believe that we were able to assist our tenants and Harbour operatives to offer a safe, enjoyable experience to those that visited us. More recently, our staff have been working to bring some festive spirit to the town, by erecting the Christmas lights and decorations around the Harbour. This has not been an easy task with the COVID restrictions in place. I am pleased to be able to confirm that the lights will be switched on for the enjoyment of the community, in early December.

Once again, parking on LHC carparks will be free on the three Saturdays during December leading up to Christmas, from 08.00hrs each Saturday until 08.00hrs on the following Sunday morning.

I would also like to reassure you, that despite the difficulties of recent weeks, work on the 'Flood Defence & Resilience project' has been ongoing and there is positive progression towards the ultimate goal of finding a resolution to the flooding problems here in Looe.

I will conclude by saying that I hope that 2021 will see our community get back on a level footing and continue to thrive in the way that it has in the past.

With best wishes for a good festive period, from all at LHC.

Dave Bond
Chairman
Looe Harbour Commissioners

LOOE COMMUNITY FORUM

The Looe Forum in conjunction with the Looe Development Trust, each year, produces a 'Diary' for the Festive period, where each organisation or group, choir, church, fayre, event, panto, stage performer, with outside and indoor attractions provides details of their Christmas celebrations. The details of these events would normally be circulated and distributed within the Community News.

Sadly, with the Covid situation affecting so many aspects this year, there is no diary, as all the usual and enjoyable annual Christmas events have had to be cancelled in the lead-up to the autumn and winter period. This is for everyone's safety, which is of paramount importance to the population.

Although it means that this Christmas will not contain the extensive religious and festive public elements as in previous years, we all hope that Christmas 2021 will make up for it with additional celebrations and events.

Looe will still have Christmas Lights this year and we are hoping even more residents illuminate their homes and gardens to join in with the colourful and magical appearance that the town is known for. Another big 'thank you' to the Harbour staff for their role in installing the Christmas Lights which now include:

Two Christmas Trees – very kindly donated by: West Looe Tree – Geoff Madevear East Looe Tree – Quayside Fresh

On behalf of each and every one of us who will enjoy their appearance – thank you to both donors.

May we send to you all our heartfelt wishes for as Merry and Happy a Christmas as can be so wished and a much happier New Year to come.

Looe Community Forum

CHRISTMAS POEM 2017#2

Mother's in the kitchen checking on the bird
Father's in his Christmas jumper looking quite absurd
Children opening presents, excitement in the air
Family and friends arriving, contentment everywhere
Carols and crackers
Mistletoe smackers
Sparkly tinsel and fairy lights
A room full of festive delights.





LOOE RNLI NEWS AND EVENTS



Fully Operational & Ready: Despite the second lockdown, Looe Lifeboats and its crews continue to operate on full readiness. This was clearly illustrated with a recent shout to a stricken fishing boat which was a taking on water.

On Wednesday November 4th following a distress call from a fishing boat in the Whitsand bay area, both Looe Lifeboats were launched carrying salvage pumps. In addition to Looe lifeboats two local fishing boats and the Plymouth Lifeboat attended the scene. A tow was established and the boat was brought safely back into Looe for repairs. There were no casualties. In all, eight volunteer crew took part in the shout, supported by three shore crew.

There were a total of six shouts between 28th September and 19th November. More information can be found at www.looelifeboats.co.uk/recentshouts

2021 Events: A full programme of events is being prepared for the coming season with the focus on fundraising, which has been depleted due to the Covid virus. The events list is our most ambitious to date and if anyone is willing to offer their active support we would be grateful. Details of the events will be available shortly on our website www.looelifeboats.co.uk and there will be an event calendar booklet in the shop.

Souvenir Shop: The Souvenir shop beside the boathouse hopefully plans to open again now that lockdown 2 has ended. The shop has a wide range of products, many Christmas orientated, so this is a great time to get those cards, calendars and presents that you need.

Please Support Looe RNLI: With Looe RNLI fundraising on hold for 12 months, our income is falling, yet our brave volunteer crews are still on call 24/7. Help us weather the effects of the Covid 19 storm. We can only do the things we do because of people like you.

To donate any amount, please go to www.looelifeboats.co.uk/donate



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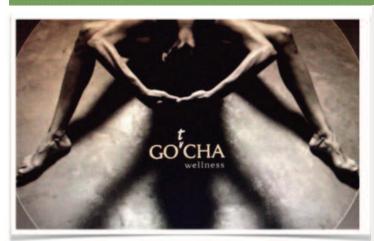
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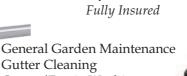


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UNICORN



During the lockdown in this year, 2020, I searched more tales in Looe, for there are indeed plenty To keep you guessing, to make you believe, Interwoven with facts, new threads are oft weaved, Mixed with scenes, in this fiefdom in its salty sea air, Where one stands to steadfastly watch and 'stare' At the Island, that's just off the coast, in the bay, Where tales of its past could fill some of each day. With legends abounding from earlier times. Those times now long past, but remain, penned in rhymes. From prehistoric days until today, here and now, All guite truthful, that I, to you, vow, For you see, the Island is a magical place, Where its historical past now reveals a new case, The latest tale? Spotted upon the northern slope. A tale is told that fills one full of hope, No, not the white horse that was led by a 'local', Seen atop the cliffs, roaming, he never vocal Whilst alongside the horse – knowing revenue men Were out seeking smugglers landing goods once again. It would be hidden in roof tops, cellars, and holes Dug deep in the ground, by 'very large moles', All must avoid arrest and detention And other punishments we have no wish to mention, But our tale is one which at last can be told. We shall not remark if it's recent or old, The choice is for each of us to stand, watch and stare. Who knows, would you dare say that it isn't there? It was seen running downhill towards the tide, A beautiful creature that time could not hide. On its forehead an 'alicorn' that all should know, It was written about, centuries ago, In the Old Testament and mythology... Believe it or not, it's there for all to see... It sometimes was seen, its mane blown in the breeze Best seen on the north side...away from the trees... If you spot it do not ever treat it with scorn... That fleeting view on the Island, of the White Unicorn!

THE BENEFICE OF LOOE & MORVAL

St. Martin with St. Nicholas, Looe, are planning to hold a Communion Service on Christmas Day at St. Martin's at 11am. However as we have no guidelines from the Government as to what social distancing regulations may or may not be in place we can only assume that we will be following those that were in force prior to the latest lockdown and are planning accordingly.

This means that we will not be permitted to sing (Christmas without any carols...) and that those not in the same household or bubble will need to be 2m apart. This severely restricts the capacity of the building and we may therefore have to limit entry. Because the guidelines require a thorough cleaning of the pews between uses we can only hold the one service. There will be an earlier service at St Wenna, Morval, at 9.30am, however this building is even smaller than St. Martin's and consequently has a smaller capacity. I understand that this will be a disappointment to many in our community for whom this Christmas will be unlike another we have ever experienced. Obviously everything that I have written may need to be amended should the guidelines change...

Peace and blessings at this difficult time, Yours in Christ, Philip rev.sharp@btinternet.com

http://anglicanchurcheslooe.weebly.com http://morvalwidegates.weebly.com



CHRISTMAS IN LOOE

Wherever we are, we want to celebrate a family Christmas but ask Aunty Covid and Uncle Virus not to join in this year.

In Looe, each December would normally herald functions including religious services, Tree Festivals, choir concerts, carols, musical shows, pantomimes, outdoor events for the lights switch-on, Santa's arrival, a Santa Fun Run, Christmas markets and fayre, Fireworks on New Year's Eve and a Charity swim the morning after. Not this year though; sadly, due to Conoravirus, most public events have had to be cancelled due to the Covid restrictions applicable to gatherings.

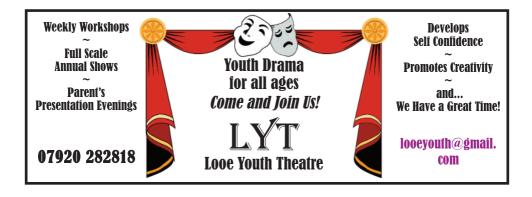
However, Looe intends to provide a suitably festive appearance on the Harbour Quaysides, the Bridge, the shopping streets, the Rose Garden and Museum, amongst other locations, provided by the Harbour Commissioners, the East Looe Town Trust and Looe Development Trust, with the Town Council and West Looe Town Trust providing annual donations towards the costs, and all for the benefit of the townsfolk and the businesses. Additions over the past few years have included the valley sides with residents illuminating their properties or gardens.

As I write, work is being conducted to install the lighting ready for the illumination which will involve flipping a few switches during the first weekend in December to operate throughout the month.

Each year, Looe residents and businesses are asked to join in with their lighting and become part of the Port's appearance, making the town look 'even more magical' to view, photograph, enjoy, and shop in the array of retail and refreshment outlets in the narrow, centuries old streets which add to the appeal of the town all year.

Be a part of this different year so that all can be reminded of the magic of Christmas and what it means to all age-groups. There may be ghosts of Christmas past, present and yet to come but here and now Looe wishes each and every person a Safe and Happy Christmas with Tiny Tim's words: "God Bless Us Everyone".

Dave Holford





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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.



Thank you!



Well, it's been a very strange year or even nine months. Lots of new words and phrases various plays on Covid, lockdown, furlough, shielding, the r rate, self-isolating, key workers to name but a few. And who would have known that Zoom/Skype and other media platforms would play such a huge part in our lives. Thank you to all our advertisers and contributors for continuing to support Looe Community News – we couldn't do it without you. We hope that we will be able to return to normality and publish a printed version as well in the not too distant future, perhaps as soon as March.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and hope that 2021 will be a much happier and more prosperous year for everyone.

Looe Community News Team

CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

- Jingle Bells
 Norway
 Krampus
- 10. Seven swans-a-swimming
- 13. An angel gets their wings 16. George V
- 19. Dave proposes to Nessa
- 22. Poos gifts or chocolate.25. Jolly careful

- 2. Christmas decorating
- Constmas decorating
 Tinsel
 Turkey
- 11. LadBaby
- Oogie boogie
 Birth
- 20. Germany23. Donald Duck

- 3. Dung
- 6. Michael Caine 9. Home Alone 2
- 12. Eggnog
- 15. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe18. Treat every day like Christmas
- 21. 120ft
 - Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen

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