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THE LYMPSTONE HERALD



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Village website: www.lympstone.org | webmaster@lympstone.org

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The PC hope you are all keeping well and staying alert during the slow lifting of lockdown this month. Let us hope we can remain lifting the lockdown and get back to seeing everyone again soon. The PC continue to thank all individual and community initiatives being carried out daily to support and reach out to all our Parishioners.

Parish Council meetings remain cancelled until further notice and in line with Government advice. Please continue to visit Lympstone website at www.lympstone.org for updated and regular information regarding the available support in the village during lockdown and the Parish Council. Perhaps if the lifting of lockdown is successful, we may be able to host a safe PC meeting in July. Therefore, please continue to be mindful of social distancing at this time. The PC have received reports of irresponsible groups 'hanging out' around the Parish and this is still not allowed by the Government or the Law. You can be reported to the Police for not following the appropriate Government guidelines.

The PC want to remind all that EDDC are continuing with planning applications, so visit either Lympstone or EDDC websites to see current applications submitted in the Parish. Please submit your responses regarding the planning

application directly to EDDC. The PC also continues to add notices and information so please keep visiting Lympstone website if you have the access.

The PC are pleased to report that repair work has begun at Gulliford Burial Ground and is due to be completed by early Autumn. The burial ground remains closed to the public until repairs are completed. A massive thank you to all the volunteers who have put in countless hours to get this work started and progress.

The public toilets refurbishment has also begun which is great news but they will also remain closed for the duration of this building work.

The PC are looking into a refurbishment of the playpark in Candy's Field and have asked the Primary school for children's ideas as part of a public consultation. If your child remains at home perhaps you would like to join in with your own ideas? Please visit Lympstone website for the PowerPoint to help plan your ideas for the playpark and send any completed plans to myself, the Clerk.

Finally, another gentle reminder to PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG. It is a disgusting mess that needs to be cleared up to prevent other people and

children stepping or playing in it, and, indirectly ingesting the faeces. There is enough to worry about in this current pandemic and everyone should do their bit to prevent any more unnecessary stress.

Please continue to email myself, the Clerk and any of our Parish Councillors as usual with any queries and we shall endeavor to respond with the appropriate help or signpost you in the right direction.

Please visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus for daily updated information regarding Covid-19. The PC have asked that you continue to follow Government regulations; stay alert, keep yourself safe and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Clerk to the Council: Lucy Tyrrell c/o Minnows, Longmeadow Road, Lympstone EX8 5LF Tel: 07890717081

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PARISH CHURCH

Church opening. We are not expecting to allow public services in church until the middle of July, at the earliest, and then these will only allow a limited number to attend, adhering to Government social distancing requirements. Arrangements currently under discussion include live streaming of services, or at the very least a video service, as now available week by week via our Mission Community Website. Plans are now underway for anticipated opening of the church for private prayer only. A date consistent with national guidance is still to be determined but it is anticipated that subject to control measures being in place the church may be open on a Wednesday from 11am to 1pm with Jeff and Demelza staffing the church.

Video services. There are many opportunities to join in worship online, fromourownmissioncommunitywebsite, www.exmouthcoastalchurches.org. uk/podcasts), or through the diocesan website from 6pm on Sunday (www.exeter.anglican.org/resources/coronavirus-guidance/sunday-services-to-watch-online/) or the Church of England website (with messages of hope from many UK church leaders, as well as both Archbishops and the Pope), from 9am (www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online).

Food Larder - the collection box is in the Village Central Stores. Current need is for nappies - large size please.

New Rector Revd Steve Jones will be licensed as our new Team Rector on the evening of Wednesday 17th June. This service, led by the Bishop of Crediton and the Archdeacon of Exeter, will be via Zoom Video Conferencing. The Rectory will be vacated by the present tenants on Monday 1st June, and it is planned that Steve and Denise will move in on Friday 19th June.

Brian Mather

RE-OPENING LYMPSTONE CHURCH

As the Herald goes to press, we are still awaiting news from the Government about the timescale for re-opening church buildings. The final decision, however, rests with our own bishop, Bishop Robert, who in a recent communication said that, 'for the time being, it will continue to be unlawful for members of the public to enter our church buildings either for private prayer or for public worship... It goes without saying that this has come as tremendous disappointment and frustration for many, including me.' Our hopes of a quick reopening of the church have therefore been put on hold.

When the time does come to reopen, however, the building will first be available only for private prayer, before any small, socially-distanced services can start taking place. As soon as we have a definite date for any sort of reopening, we will, of course, advertise it widely on social media, as well as on the noticeboard under the railway arch.

The Ministry Team and Churchwardens have already been planning for this, and, in the first instance, the church will open from 11am-1pm on Wednesdays for private prayer only. There will be strict hygiene requirements (like hand sanitising at the door), and a one-way system through the building, and as a precautionary measure, we will also advise that you bring your own Bible if you wish to use one. Of course, if you are suffering from any Coronavirus-like symptoms, we would ask you to remain at home until you are better.

Church services have, of course, continued throughout the pandemic. These have been held online (check out www.exmouthcoastalchurches. org.uk/podcasts if you're interested), or contact Demelza (272243) for a paper service sheet of suggested readings and prayers each week. Until restrictions are totally lifted, both these forms of worship will continue for the foreseeable future.

Finally, we are hoping that, subject to the appropriate precautions and risk assessments, the Produce Stall under the railway arch will be able to go ahead later this summer (watch the noticeboards for dates) — so, please, do cultivate plenty of extra fruit and vegetables in your garden or allotment and help us raise vital funds for the Church.

Given that the Church has received no income from regular collections since it closed its doors in March, if you would like to donate anything towards its upkeep, please do contact John Lupton (PCC Treasurer, 275014) for details of how to transfer money electronically, or simply drop him or Demelza a cheque (made out to 'Lympstone PCC'). If you are eligible to Gift Aid and would like to do so, the Church can claim it back from cash donations (if they come with your name and address attached!), but not from cheques, so please do bear this in mind. Thank you.

We look forward to welcoming you back to our beautiful place of worship very soon!

Demelza Henderson



GARDEN CLUB

It has been the warmest, sunniest and driest May on record and so we hope you have been able to enjoy time in the garden as well as working in it. Roses, irises and other perennials are looking particularly good. Now the talking point is watering. If your butts are running low, do think about using grey water. Despite everything being so dry, there is a danger in over-watering. If that happens, plants can flop deceiving you into thinking they need more. I find it useful to have a stick which I use to plunge down and test the compost or soil. Mulch is good for preventing evaporation but do water first.

It has been a good year for home-made compost - lots of tiny tomato plants are appearing amongst the vegetables! It is an opportunity to use up old compost to which you can add some fertiliser such as blood, fish and bone to give it a boost.

Many of you were growing vegetables and plants for sale at the coffee morning. After it was cancelled there was flurry of swapping, especially on Heathfield allotments. So we can expect a good harvest if the weather holds and even a glut of some produce.

Some people are selling plants in aid of good causes. Iris has been doing this for Lympstone Garden Club. The

plants were selling fast on the prime site of Gary and Caron's front wall in Longmeadow Road.

Gary has had the idea of people taking photos of their gardens and keeping notes on gardening in lockdown. We are living in extraordinary times and it would be good to add some interesting material to the club's archive.

Now we can gather locally in groups of up to six people, friends could also enjoy your garden, front or back if you have a side entrance. People could bring their own refreshments and mugs/glasses. Oh, and go to the loo at home beforehand!

As there is usually no Herald in August, please look at the notice board under the railway arch and also on the village website.

Jill Wilson



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Wash your hands of coronavirus scams!

Friends Against Scams aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams.

Be aware of people offering or selling:

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- Overpriced or fake goods to protect yourself from coronavirus such as anti-bacterial products.
- Shopping or medication collection services
- Home cleaning services.

Protect vourself and others:

- Don't be rushed into making a decision. If it sounds too good to be true it probably is.
- Only purchase goods from legitimate retailers and take a moment to think before parting with money or personal information.
- Don't assume everyone is genuine. It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- If someone claims to represent a charity, ask them for ID. Be suspicious of requests for money up front. If someone attempts to pressurise you into accepting a service they are unlikely to be genuine. Check with family and friends before accepting offers of help if you are unsure.

Be a good friend, help to protect your family, friends and neighbours from scams.

> Read it. Share it. Prevent it.

#Coronavirus #ScamAware



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LYMPSTONE VILLAGE HALL

Because of the Covid-19 epidemic, the Village Hall has been closed since 25 April, in line with Government requirements. There may be limited use by the school during June but the Hall will otherwise remain closed this month. Under the Government's recently published plans the Hall may reopen from 4 July as part of the next stage of 'relaxations'. But that is yet to be confirmed and will be subject to compliance with relevant public health requirements or quidance.

As soon as available further information will be posted on the village hall website (www.lympstonevillagehall.co.uk).

Clive Wilson [secretary, LVH CIO]

TENNIS CLUB

Many of you will have noticed that the courts have now reopened but play is strictly restricted to members under the guidance of the club's Covid policy. To safeguard all players and the wider community the club is continuing to follow the Lawn Tennis Authority's advice which means there are no current club organised activities including club sessions, coaching and matches. However our coaches, Ollie and Tom, are available for private one to one coaching. Full details are available on the club website www.lympstonetc. co.uk.

Liz Griffiths, LTC Club Secretary

LYMPSTONE FURRY DANCE

For over a century or more, one of the highlights of the Lympstone village year, has been the holding of the annual Furry Dance on the first weekend in August. With a fancy dress competition, a Dog Show, children's entertainers and a Pannier Market, it is always an enjoyable and memorable event, culminating with the dance through the village, accompanied by the marvellous South West Comms Band.

Whilst the situation with the pandemic is improving, sadly it is not going to be possible for the various components of

this busy day to be organised and put in place in time for the event to run this year. It is also felt that a large gathering may expose the village to further risk of infection.

For this reason, we are regrettably cancelling this year's Furry Dance, which has only happened twice before - during the Second World War and due to heavy rain in 1982.

We will now look forward to having an even bigger celebration for Lympstone in August 2021.

Adrian Walters, on behalf of the Furry Dance Committee

IN THE PAST

The Lympstone Furry Dance has a long and colourful history although details of its early history are sketchy.

It is thought to date back to the early part of the last century, or even earlier, when local fishermen traded their catch for furs in Nova Scotia. The dance appears to have been part of the celebration of their return.

on local fishermen traded cotia. The dance appears pration of their return.

Slightly more is known about the origins of the dance step for the Lympstone

dance. This was developed by Bill Chapman, the local band master, in 1933. Thereafter, the dance was organised by the local village band once a year to help raise funds for the band.

Suspended during the Second World War, the Furry Dance started again in 1946. Each year the band marched at the front of the parade and the dancers in fancy dress followed Tom Kerslake and his top hat and tails: the whole procession

by Tom Kerslake and his top hat and tails; the whole procession weaving in and out of houses, pubs and clubs.

The band continued to organise the dance until 1999 when a group of villagers took over the responsibility and formed a committee called the "Friends of the Furry Dance".

Tom Kerslake carried on leading the dance until the 1950s, then his son followed his footsteps until 1965 when he handed over the mantle to 20 year old Graham Wills. Graham has continued leading the dance to this day - only missing one year due to injury.

Local Lympstone New Season Lamb, Hogget and Pork

Our flock of sheep graze on the fields around Lympstone. Our lambs are born in the spring and are grass fed throughout their lives. We are currently taking orders for our new season lamb which were born in January 2020 and hogget from last years lambs.

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TODAY

The annual tradition continues and on the first Saturday of August each year a host of colourful characters dance through the village spreading laughter all the way.

Gathering at the Globe Inn, the Lympstone South West Telecoms Band starts up the music and Graham Wills and new dance partner Margaret Cleverton kick up their heels and lead the dance. Hundreds of enthusiastic dancers, many in fancy dress, follow and wend their way through the village past the Swan Inn, Redwing Inn and the Saddlers Arms, cheered along by crowds lining the road.



Earlier in the day a whole host of activities takes place in Candy's Field by the Village Hall - a car boot sale, pannier market, dog show and lots of the other activities for the children. Plus a colourful and entertaining fancy dress competition for young and old.



In the evening, while the dance flows, other street entertainers and musicians keep the crowds amused. Food and refreshments are also available.

Finally the day is rounded off with a spectacular firework display lighting up the village.

LYMPSTONE CORONA RESPONSE ACTION (LYCRA)

An update on the Village Volunteers

The LYCRA volunteer Group was set up in mid-March in response to the Coronavirus outbreak and lockdown. Its initial aim was to provide a volunteer support for every household in the Parish and within a week we had established named volunteers who leafleted all their households with contact details and the aims of the Group. We also managed to obtain a grant of £450 from Devon County Council through our Councillor Richard Scott to support any volunteer initiatives during the lockdown.

Central Stores managed to quickly set up a process to provide essential items for all our residents who had to



self-isolate. They took orders over the phone and delivered them the following morning, setting up accounts for those who did not have a debit nor credit card. With a few tweaks to their opening hours (including having to reduce the Post Office hours) they have been fantastic in providing a service to the Village. They have also set up a collection for Exmouth Food Bank. Simon Friend was already delivering newspapers and prescriptions round the Parish and began to include groceries. However as this operation began to grow considerably, Simon Pryor and his son took over the grocery part of the operation. Nigel Spokes very kindly has provided a Thrifty van for them to use during the lockdown.

A number of volunteers are providing additional shopping services and meal deliveries. Of note is Vicki Drinkwater and her team of Stacy Onoyiweta and Jenny Clark who are preparing and delivering a two -course, free Sunday Lunch to over 50 vulnerable parishioners every month.

Lympstone Folk Group are also doing twice-monthly Zoom shows where anyone can join in to contribute or listen. By the time the Herald is published, the Schools and Pre-school will have welcomed back some of their pupils and we look forward to this being extended in the near future.



Some of our pubs and the café are also starting to provide takeaway meals and drinks. Please check their notice boards outside their establishments for the latest updates

If anyone else is providing voluntary support during the lockdown, or needs some financial support to do so, please get in touch with the Community Hub at malcandlinda@aol.com so we can help support and advertise what you are doing.

Many thanks

Linda Lyon - Community Hub Champion Jeff Russell – Lycra Co-ordinator





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LYMPSTONE CROSSWORD

I'm afraid we have a month off from the popular crossword this month to give the masterminds behind the clues a little break. If anyone wants to join the team of crossword setters then please get in touch. There's no pressure for them to be as complicated and clever as our current team manage to produce.

Correct answers from last month from: Frances & Laurence Pearce, Colin & Martina Morris, Gail McKenzie, The Burtons, Alice Henderson, David & Jane Lees, Liz & Simon Griffiths, Margaret Turgoose and Dave Mountain,

The winning entry for the £25 Redwing Voucher is Gail McKenzie. We hope the crossword will be back next month.

POLLUTION OF WOTTON BROOK

Please don't pour paint residue into the brook. This flows all the way through the village and eventually outflows into the estuary.

The photo below was taken from a property near the Saddlers Arms and so was probably paint waste from one of the houses backing onto the brook at either Olga Terrace or Bakers Cottages.



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Ode to those who use the Nail.

Beware good folk of Lympstone, we face a sharp new foe, From Sowden End to Strawberry Hill, wherever you might go, A tiny pointed reaper is loose about the village, But he's no clever Smuggler or Highwayman at pillage.

From dawn till dusk he taps away & plies his honest trade, A roof up here, a fence 'long there, you can see what has been made, But come 5 o'clock it's off for tea & never mind the load, So it's tiny pointed reapers all across the road.

With the building sites vacated, the reapers lie in wait,
An innocent passer by, to idly deflate,
A 'pop', a 'wheeze', a wobbling back tyre & a frenzied, cursing wail!
And sure enough, as you inspect, it is a bleeding nail!

To once deflate is bad, & twice must be a curse, But thrice is from the devil & certainly is worse, I rode a thousand miles from home to far away, But returning home to Lympstone, a nail got in the way!

So to all who use the nail, those tiny pointed reapers, Please hammer in securely or take them home as keepers, For all the village seeks, is a simple holy grail, The roads & lanes of Lympstone without the dreaded nail!

by a thrice deflated Lympstone motorcyclist!

Lympstone Folk (on line)

8.30pm every 2nd and 4th Wednesday until the end of the lockdown

To take part or just watch email lfex8@btinternet.com for details

download of 'Zoom Meetings' App required zoom



LYMPSTONE HISTORY SOCIETY

Like most other groups in the village, we have been unable to hold our planned events since March, and we are now on our summer break. Our next talk is not scheduled until Thursday 17th September, when we are hoping to hear about The Dissolution of the Monasteries in the West Country from James Clark.

Meanwhile, we are continuing to work on our VE Day exhibition, which had to be postponed from 8th May due to lockdown – hopefully it will now be able to take place on the weekend of 15th August, which coincides with the 75th anniversary of VJ Day.



With the gradual easing of lockdown, some of us are now able to see family (albeit in the garden) instead of via social media. During WWII, when so many families were separated, soldiers sent letters home, but only saw their families if they were lucky enough to have a period of leave. It was following the victory in Europe that many returned home, although the war did not end until the surrender of Japan in the August of 1945.

In Lympstone a 'Victory Dinner' was

held at the Village Hall on Friday 7th June 1946, to remember those who had been lost and to thank all those who had served.

On the menu was a starter of Thick Oxtail Soup; for the main Cold Meat, Potato Salad and Green Salad; and for the pudding a choice between Strawberry Trifle, Charlotte Russe, Fruit Jelly, Petit Vol-au-vant Crustacee, and Cheese and Biscuits, followed by Coffee.

Mary Turner

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A message from HM Lord-Lieutenant of Devon

These are immensely difficult times, but across Devon it has been heartening to see how our communities and organisations have risen to the challenges we have all faced as a result of Covid-19. These challenges are likely to be with us for some time ahead, but I am certain we will get through them with the spirit and sense of teamwork the County has so superbly displayed.

As part of the process of recognition of the national effort Her Majesty has directed that the Queen's Birthday Honours, normally released in June, be delayed until the autumn to capture and recognise those making exceptional efforts in support of our communities in the face of the challenges of recent months.

I know that many in Devon have made a very significant individual contribution and may fall into the category of deserving national recognition. But that will not happen unless others are willing to make the time and the effort to write a nomination, and I would urge you to consider doing so where you think it is appropriate.

The Cabinet Office have created a simplified nomination procedure. The online application form and guidance can be found on their website at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-honours-nomination-form

I would also urge you to read the Lieutenancy guidance on what a good nomination should contain at:

https://www.lordlieutenantofdevon.org.uk/helping-you/nominating-someone-for-an-honour/
In particular, capturing clearly and succinctly the evidence and impact of the exceptional
nature of a person's contribution will be key to success. There is likely to be a very high level
of strong candidates nationally, and any Devon candidates will have to be particularly
deserving and to stand out if they are to succeed. It is important, because of the risk of
disappointment, that candidates are not aware of the fact that they are being put forward. If
more detailed advice is needed then please contact the Lieutenancy Office: email
lieuten@devon.gov.uk or ring 01392 383042, and we can arrange for you to speak to
someone to assist.

I know there will be many others in our communities who have made astonishing efforts as individuals or as part of organisations, but whose contribution is perhaps not quite at national honours level. I hope perhaps we will get a chance to recognise them and indeed those who are put forward for national recognition but are not successful, at County level in some way. We are always keen to hear of them in case there is any way that we can acknowledge or thank them for their extraordinary commitment to the County and its people which we hope that they will continue to give in the months ahead.

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LYMPSTONE COMMUNITY HUB

VE Day 75th Anniversary

8 - 10 May 2020

Despite the coronavirus outbreak, Lympstone villagers managed to find ways of celebrating this event while still observing social distancing.



Bunting and flags appeared outside houses and Dave Tyrell brought out his Green Goddess

A two minute silence was observed at 11am and the National toast was offered at 3pm.

In Malt Field, neighbours came together in the street (with social distancing) to mark the silence at 11am and then brought out tea, cakes and biscuits to celebrate.

At 3pm they reconvened and responded to the National Toast which was offered by Ramona & Peggy Creighton.



The Government is hoping that many of the events we had planned for the VE May weekend can be moved to the weekend of 15 – 16 August which is the 75th Anniversary of VJ Day (Victory in Japan).

We will keep you updated through the Lympstone website and the July Lympstone Herald. See https://www.lympstone.org/lympstone-herald

Many thanks, Jenny Clark, Keith Hill, Linda Lyon, Mary Turner Hub event organisers

SMALL ADS

GARDEN JOBS

Jenny is still digging for Oxfam. £10/ hour, all to Oxfam. Tel: 01395 708850 Jenny Moon

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Situated on the edge of the village, The Old Dairy B&B has three spacious, well-appointed rooms, (including a ground floor room). Located on the same site, Byre Cottage is a beautiful well-equipped holiday cottage with a double and twin room. Plenty of secure, private parking for all our guests.

Contact Den & Jules:

L: 01395 275679 M: 07959 5540562 e: info@theolddairylympstone.co.uk or Visit: www.theolddairylympstone.co.uk

CURTAINS, BLINDS & SOFT FURNISHINGS

Made to order.

Tel: Sarah on 07711005670 Email: MadeDevon@yahoo.com

GCSE & A LEVEL SCIENCE TUITION

by an experienced, current, science teacher. All science subjects to GCSE and also A level Biology taught.

Tel: Mark Moffatt on 07730 877889

NEW HOME WANTED!

Lympstone couple looking to move within village. Chain-free, we could offer a private sale. Ideally looking for:

- 3+ bedrooms
- Parking
- Garden

E: Jamiecooke707@hotmail

T: 07595 314873

MINIMUM 1 BED HOUSE WANTED

Single Person looking to buy a property close to centre of Lympstone. Some outdoor space preferred but not essential if good storage and close to the beach.

Ability to park close by useful if further out of the centre.

Please contact Emma by:

T: on 07974715445 or

Email: e.bushell@ymail.com

PROPERTY & HOUSE MAINTENANCE TREVOR HARRIS

Please contact Trevor on:

L: 01395 223916 or M: 07969 231333

e: trevor.harris1@sky.com

LYMPSTONE VILLAGE JAMS

Homemade award-winning local jams, marmalades and chutneys always available from 2 Brookfield Cottages, The Strand. Made to order from locally-sourced fruit and/or vegetables, with no added colours, flavourings, preservatives, etc, these could almost count towards your 5-a-day!

COLYTON 11+ THIS SEPTEMBER?

Places still available for mock 11+ CEM tests on 5th July, 29th August and 5th September at Lympstone Village Hall. For more details contact Jane on 07730877889 or

janepmoffatt@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES FOR 2020 - HELD AT 2019 PRICES!!

Advertisers who book 6 issues will effectively get one advert free, and those who book 11 issues (i.e. a 12-month period) will get 2 adverts free.

ADVERT TYPE	MONTH	HALF YEAR (6 issues)	YEAR (11 issues)
Full Page	£100	£500	£900
Half Page	£50	£250	£450
Quarter Page	£25	£125	£225
Boxed Advert	£15	£75	£135
SMALL ADS (min. charge £5)			
Example: 5 lines of less	£5	£25	£45
Example: 7 lines or less	£7	£35	£63
Example: 10 lines	£10	£50	£90

Copies of the Lympstone Herald are delivered free to every household in Lympstone (approx 1100) every month with further copies being sold through the village shops. Please send your enquiries to Steve Morgan: sjmorgan222@gmail.com

DISCLAIMER This news letter is compiled from emails sent to the editors by numerous people and very little of the information is checked before publishing which is done in good faith. *Rob and Claire Hilton, Editors*





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Lympstone Pre-school have a new rear garden

In Spring of this year Tesco (Exmouth Store's 'Bags of Help' Campaign) chose us as one of their three recipients of Community Funds where customers vote for a local project using blue tokens. In April the Pre-school received £1166 from the Tesco Fund which paid for the area behind the Pre-school to be properly landscaped with paving and gravel, shed and planting zone. This was done over the half term holiday at the end of May. Originally this grassed area was a mud bath for most of the year and was unusable by the children.





A number of small wooden planters from the outdoor area were moved here so the children can now access them in all weathers. Additional compost and some plants were provided by Lympstone Garden Club and its members and the children can now enjoy growing (and eating) a range of salads, vegetables, herbs and flowers. In the current hot and sunny weather our new area has proved to be a hit with the children and we look forward to showing it off to all our parents and carers once the lockdown is over.

We are very grateful to Tesco and out local community for helping to support our Pre-school as we are dependant on fund raising each year to keep the pre-school running.

TWO METRES

Before lockdown, every Monday morning Graham Banks would take his flute round to John Welton's, whose concertina would join the flute in folk tunes from 9.30 to 10.30. With lockdown this had to stop, so they started playing in the open, always keeping two metres apart. After a few sessions outside the Swan, Bruce Ellis volunteered to join on guitar, so the Two Metres became the Six Feet.

Then Claire Belcher joined in on penny whistle. Then Alice Henderson joined on violin. Finally Warwick Downes trundled his double bass down from Burgmann's Hill and the sessions really took off.

People come to their front doors to listen: some in pushchairs, some in wheelchairs. One delivery driver stopped to say, 'I come through every Saturday and hearing you lot makes my day.'



It's a sort of busking without a collection pot, but if you have heard it and enjoyed it, Graham would be very grateful for a donation to the Sam Banks Memorial Fund. This charity supports low income students in Bangladesh and due to the lockdown, a major fund raising music event in London planned for May (to mark what would have been Sam's 30th birthday), had to be cancelled.

The Sam Banks Memorial Fund

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The musicians would like to thank those who have provided roadside spaces to enable these outside performances and for both the forbearance and support of villagers.

Louise Banks