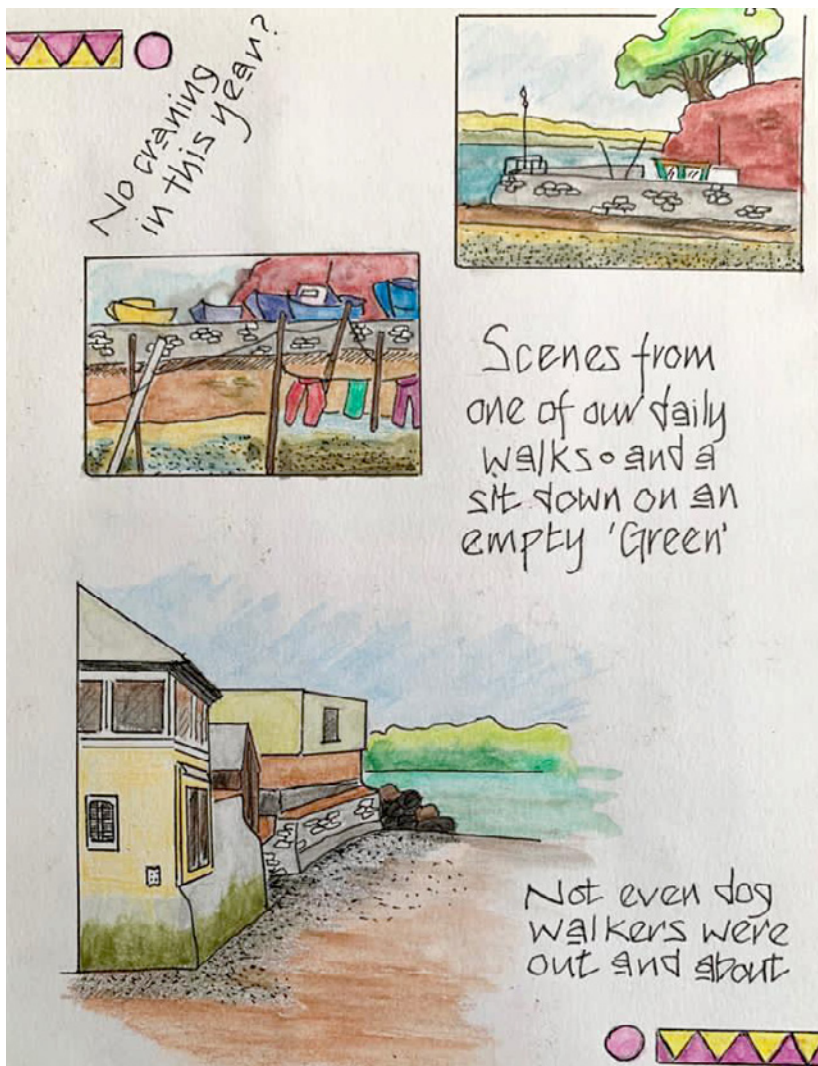


# THE LYPMPSTONE HERALD



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## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Lympstone Parish Council are hosting the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) at 7pm and LPC meeting at 7.30pm on 12th April 2021.

The APM has received reports from: Lympstone Flood Resilience Group, Gulliford Burial Ground, Heathfield Allotments, Lympstone History Society and the Telephone box book swap – thank you for submitting the annual reports from your group with the challenges and successes over the past year to the Parish.

Please note, that anyone can attend a virtual meeting emailing the Clerk with an email address and an invite to the next meeting will be sent directly to you.

**Play Area Volunteers** – A massive thank you to the volunteers in the Parish who have stepped forward to offer their support with the ongoing refurbishment of the play areas in Candy's Field. A successful Zoom meeting was held in March between LPC, EDDC and volunteers from the Parish to discuss the funding available from EDDC and allocated to Lympstone for these specific areas.

EDDC Engagement and Funding Officer, Jamie Buckley presented the most up to date information and funding available to Lympstone:

a) Section 106 play - £3,609.10. Specifically, for play area equipment e.g. swing, slide, roundabout.

b) Section 106 sport - £3,798.18. Specifically, for sports. There is a specific process to follow whereby you gather in ideas for sports projects from the local community, LPC can also put forward any ideas. Depending on what comes back and what is affordable, eligible and possible it can be added to the play area project e.g. climbing wall, ground level trampoline trim trail.

c) Section 106 Open Space - £7,263.84. This can be spent on allotments, amenity open space, sport, parks, children's play or youth play. LPC need to discuss the categories and allocate the money. It needs to be recorded in the minutes during a formal PC meeting. Eg 'children's play' and put towards the play area.

d) Youth play at Candy's Field - £27,376.09. Equipment for the 'youth' of the parish (aged 11/12 – 16/17year olds), in conjunction with what the youth want.

Jamie explained that to access S106 money it was paramount that the community was initially asked what facilities or equipment they would like the money prioritised for. Therefore, over the next few weeks the specific youth ages will be asked for their input in a public consultation and suggest

what they would like to see in Candy's field. Please get involved - keep a look out for more information publicised on the PC notice boards, website and community groups spreading the word.

Although EDDC have this money available it was agreed during the meeting that many more funds would be necessary to complete the play areas in their entirety. Therefore, if anyone in the Parish has knowledge of, or has contacts with businesses, companies and charities who are willing to support community fundraising projects then please let myself, the Clerk know so this can help get the project moving forward. Physical fundraising events will be discussed and decided upon once restrictions allow.

**Future PC Meetings** - From the 7th May, in line with Government advice, PC meetings will revert to physical meetings depending on the roadmap and how restrictions ease – subject to change. However, Councils, National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and other bodies are currently lobbying the Government to seek a high court declaration to extend this date for remote meetings to continue (a decision from the court order will be announced w/b 19/4/21).

Lympstone PC continue to ask you all

to remain vigilant, stay safe and follow Government advice so we can all be back together again soon.

*Clerk to the Council:*

*Lucy Tyrrell c/o Minnows, Longmeadow Road, Lympstone EX8 5LF*

*Tel: 07890717081*

*Email: [lympstonepc@gmail.com](mailto:lympstonepc@gmail.com)*

## **DOGS ON LEADS**

It would be very helpful if everyone would remind summer visitors, those down in their second homes, friends and neighbours to keep their dogs on leads in the village centre, including the tarmac areas of the harbour and the station. There have been a couple of incidents of dogs that are not on leads biting passers-by. Given that we anticipate a busy post-lockdown summer, better safe than sorry.

*Anonymous*

## **FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH**

Our two winners of the £25 monthly lottery prizes for March are Simon and Shirley Friend, and Alisdair and Jane Sword.

*Clive Wilson*

## PARISH CHURCH

The church reopened for services on Palm Sunday and we just managed to find enough socially distanced spaces for the 56 in attendance. On Easter Day we were able to sing together after the service for the first time in a year by spreading out in front of the church in beautiful sunshine. Services will continue at 8 and 9:30am every Sunday.

### The AGM

takes place following the 9:30 service on 25th April. All villagers are welcome to attend the first part and elect one warden. Then the AGM continues with only signed up members able to vote on all other officers and decisions. To be a member you need to have worshipped for six months at the church (which could be tricky this year!) and have

joined the electoral role.

### Alpha Course

The course began on Tuesday 6th April for 10 weeks running from 7.30 to 9pm. An opportunity to ask the big questions of life. Who am I? What is life all about? Is there really a God & what does He think about me?

Find out more from church office 01395 263 681

Tick Tock will restart soon.

Should you wish to go onto direct emailing from church please send an email to [Lympstonechurchweekly@gmail.com](mailto:Lympstonechurchweekly@gmail.com)

*Brian Mather*



## LOUISE GOULT

I would like to thank everyone for the wonderful support and help following the recent sudden death of my wife Louise.

I would particularly like to thank the NHS 111 service, the 4 paramedics and the Devon air ambulance crew of doctor and 2 further paramedics

Things happened so quickly that I can't recall all their names with the exception of Josh who was the first responder, he arrived whilst I was still on the phone with 111 !

I am unable to thank them enough for their care, both professionally but also personal help for me at a very difficult time.

Because of current restrictions Louise's cremation has to be a private affair by invitation only.

No flowers by request and any donations to Devon Air Ambulance.


We will leave the village about 1215 on 12/4/21.

I will thank all our friends personally as we meet around the village but until then a heartfelt thanks to you all.

Ps I'm rather hoping to have a delayed wake in the summer.

*Ian Goult*

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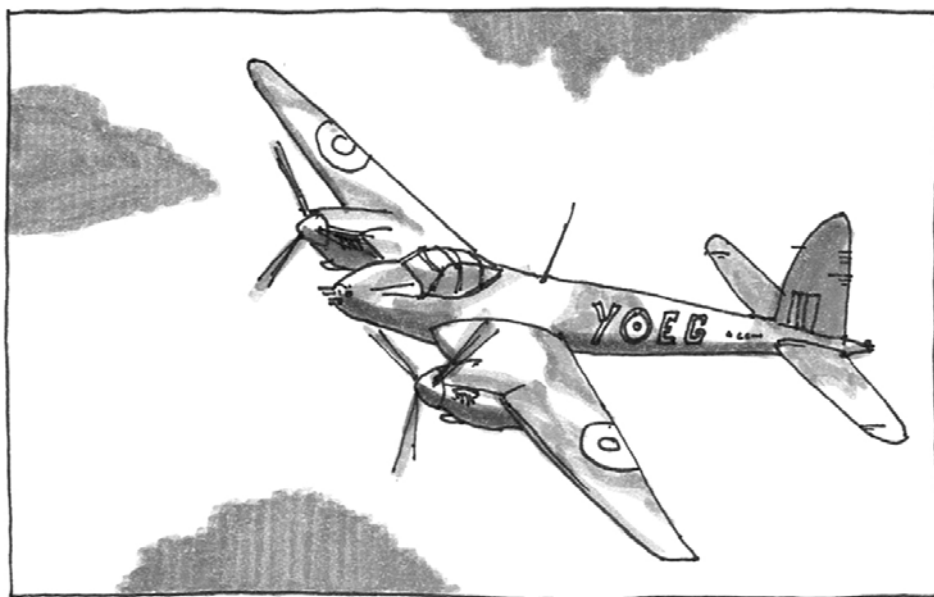
## THE HERALD HISTORY SPOT - 263 RAF SQUADRON BASED AT EXETER

produced by Lympstone History Society

The historical record of the aerial defense of South West England during World War 2 has mostly been well researched, documented and published. However, memories of those daunting times do fade as does the role played by one RAF Fighter Squadron based at Exeter from December 1940 to February 1941 in defense of the city and the wider South West. This piece is an extract from a longer record of the exploits of 263 Squadron and a memory of the pilots who were lost. The full record resides in the Lympstone History Society archive.

The 263 Squadron was first based in Grangemouth during the Battle of Britain, there defending the naval bases

at Rosyth, Glasgow and Edinburgh. While in Scotland, it operated one flight of Hurricane fighters and another of Westland Whirlwinds which were manufactured in Yeovil, Somerset. When it came to Exeter the Squadron relinquished the Hurricanes (1940) and flew down its then secret flight of Whirlwinds which became operational late in that year and remained until the end of February 1941 when its aircraft were based at St Eval. During its time in Exeter, the Squadron destroyed two enemy aircraft and lost five of its pilots, two over Dartmoor and one over Ebford. The squadron operated its Whirlwinds on offensive operations against the German Luftwaffe from a number



## MADRE

of bases in the South West during the next three years, until in December 1943 it relinquished its last remaining Whirlwinds to reequip with the Typhoon Fighter. It was to relocate to bases in Northern Europe in order to support the Allied armies as they fought to achieve peace in Europe in 1945.”

The record in the archive would benefit from further reminiscences of that time (contact Lymptone History Society - [Lymptonehistorysociety@gmail.com](mailto:Lymptonehistorysociety@gmail.com))

*Jenny Moon*

We are very pleased to announce that we will now be delivering to Lymptone every Tuesday morning.

Madre is a local artisan bakery specialising in slow, natural fermentation sourdough breads, made using traditional methods and just a few simple ingredients; flour, water and sea salt. All our sourdoughs are hand made over two days, baked on stone, and use organic flour from independent local mills. Our head baker learnt his craft in South West France so we also offer delicious pastries; croissants and pain au chocolat prepared over 3 days with the finest Normandy butter. You can find us at Topsham market on Saturday mornings or order with the contact details below to get freshly baked goods straight to your door as part of our Lymptone delivery round on Tuesday mornings. Orders in by 6pm on a Saturday to make the round please.

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*call/text/whatsapp: (0)7794 516981*

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# open studio

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by Four Lympstone Artists

Claire Belcher John Welton Louise Banks Mai Welton



**1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 (Bank Holiday Weekend)**

**1 Clays Cottages, The Strand, Lympstone, EX8 5JR**

more info: [incharnations@gmail.com](mailto:incharnations@gmail.com)



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## NEW ART COLLABORATIONS AND OPEN STUDIO EVENT

On the Early May Bank Holiday Weekend, Claire Belcher, John Welton, Louise Banks and Mai Welton will be hosting an Open Studio event at 1 Clays Cottages.

This comes about via a joint connection to land, sea and a love of Lympstone. With a focus on nature and the environment John and Claire work with wood, whilst Louise's recent work has much focused on the water and our connections with it, and Mai with the many estuary birds seen on our mudflats.

John is well known in the village for his woodturning work, creating an array of bowls, plates, lamps in a range of styles from traditional through to modernist abstract pieces. He works with all wood-based materials including burl and mottled woods, capturing the beauty and nature of wood at its best. Since Louise moved to the village, she has built a deep connection with the Lympstone landscape and water and uses watercolour to capture the feel and energy of the shoreline and boats. Many will be familiar with seeing her work, not least because her work entitled "Ways to Leave Land" was featured in the Sunday Times Watercolour Competition in late 2020. She has recently had some of her work elected for the Royal Society of British Artists show at the Mall Galleries

in London. Mai is particularly known for her intricate wire bird sculptures, for which she receives a considerable number of commissions. She not only creates uncanny representations of our shore birds, but weaves in colour and texture to create captivating pieces. Claire is a newcomer to the Lympstone art and craft scene (despite being resident here for over a decade). Over the past year she has been working with pyrography, hand burning images on wood as frameable pictures and more recently working together with John to create unique decorative wood turned pieces. Like Mai her work often features birds.

If you are interested to come and see what this collaborative have been up to then please come along to the Open Studio that runs 1st-3rd of May of 1 Clays Cottages, The Strand, Lympstone, EX8 5JR.

Please bring a mask, alcohol hand gel will be provided before entry and only 2 people will be allowed inside at a time. If weather permits some of the artists may provide demonstrations of their practice outside, for you to enjoy.

*Claire Belcher*

*Contact- [incharnations@gmail.com](mailto:incharnations@gmail.com)*

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## HEADING 'INTO THE DRY'....

As the need for decisions to be confirmed and deadlines to be met rain down hard and fast on us, those heady, carefree days of cleaning 7000 bricks seem just a distant memory!

You may have read in the December '20 Herald of the necessity to rebuild our home , at the top of Wotton Lane, and a little about the way we are approaching it. Since then, so many of you have kindly shown an interest or passed a comment on the process we thought we'd share an update.

With foundations in place, the walls raced up at a pace using a type of hollow block made from recycled pallets. These are partially filled with insulation then connected with concrete to provide high levels of strength and thermal mass. Much of the old house had been built nearly 3' below ground level which made it very damp so we've raised it all to the level of the 1990's section. As the hedges and planting re-grow, it will sit back down into its smaller footprint. In the coldest week of the year, the oak frame for the upper floor next went into place and the sun shone brightly between the majestic beams. But it was chilly without a roof so the carpenters set to work with rafters and woodfibre insulation into position, the windows followed, the stone chimney climbs higher and now the slates are

going on. Meanwhile the bricks which we carefully salvaged, sorted, cleaned and stacked started going back into the build both forming a plinth and as walls - back onto familiar ground for them all. We're using the 1910 - 1960 bricks externally and made an exposed wall inside from the 18th Century ones.

Recent weeks have seen us add to our practical repertoire by scorching larch in readiness for cladding some of the walls. When my brother, Daniel, died in 2019 we inherited a little pocket of woodland near Sidmouth and the larch for our home is from that wood. It has been felled and milled locally and we then scorch, brush and oil the planks. We hope this process will: help it blend gradually with the colour of the soil around us, preserve the timber a bit and demonstrate its beautiful grain, but it makes brick-cleaning look easy!

We continue to be grateful to the team of builders doing the huge bulk of the work; the experts advising us; our understanding neighbours and lots of local people for their encouragement and interest. Mum (Mary Truell) visits regularly, avidly absorbs the details and takes great pleasure seeing our home take shape again. There's a long way yet to go...soon you'll see us sanding old floorboards and cottage doors... so give us a wave when you're walking past!

*Sophie and Andrew Minter*

## HOSPISCARE MEN'S WALK 2021

We walked in memory of our good friend Alan Dixon who sadly lost his battle with CJD last year. We used the walk to remember Alan's many exploits, the great times we had together, and the laughs we shared. He had a heart of gold, and would help anyone in need. Hospiscare were there for him when he needed them the most, so this is to thank all of the amazing people at Hospiscare as well as remembering Alan.

As loyal Chiefs supporters, Malcolm and I did a socially distanced walk from Lymington to Exeter Chiefs, finishing at Dart's Farm via Topsham as our own Men's Walk 2021 to help raise money for Hospiscare.

If you live in Exeter, Mid or East Devon, Hospiscare is your local adult hospice charity. Should you or a loved one need care for any type of terminal illness, their professional team of doctors and nurses are here to help. Their services are provided irrespective of race, religion, age, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, diagnosis or place of national origin.

If you would like to donate please use the link below.  
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tony-gratton>

*Tony Gratton*



## LYMPSTONE WI HAS CLOSED

At a meeting of the Lymptstone WI Committee together with a WI National Adviser on Friday 26th March 2021, the results of the member's survey were discussed and the following unanimous conclusions were reached.

As there were no nominations for officers, there is no option but to close Lymptstone WI. We have arranged to put it into a holding role for 3 years allowing a restart if sufficient volunteers come forward in the future. To keep the bulk of remaining funds within the village, we have made donations to local deserving causes, these are Lymptstone and Exmouth Hospice Care, The Lymptstone Hub and Lymptstone Village Hall. These have been considered very carefully to most benefit the village as a whole within the strict rules of the WI. Remaining funds are held by the Federation of WI for 3 years in case others are able to re-form the Lymptstone Institute.

This is with great reluctance, as along with many others, I have been a member for 54 years, but sadly there is no way of continuing without volunteers to take on committee work. It is particularly sad for the village as Lymptstone WI has been serving the community for over 100 years. Unfortunately the modern needs of running a charitable organisation are too demanding for many members on a voluntary basis.

SO GOODBYE LYMPTSTONE WI.

Thank you to all who have served the cause over so many years.

*Jo Cotton. (Former) Lymptstone WI President on behalf of The Committee.*

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### **Woodwork Beginner - Can You Help?**

I'm building a workworking shop in the garage and am looking for any tools etc that someone may be willing to sell. I'm starting from scratch so anything would be appreciated!

Thanks, John

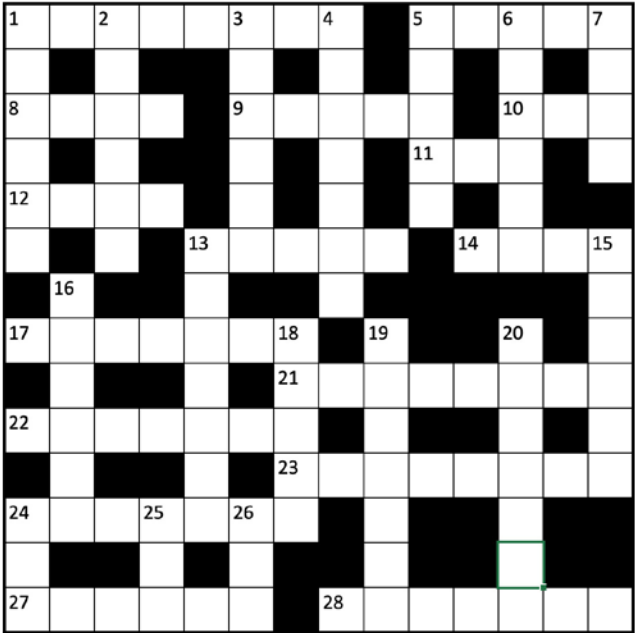
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# THE LYPSTONE CROSSWORD



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Solutions to last months crossword.

Correct answers from: Margaret Turgoose, Clare Smith, Dave & Teresa Field, Dave Mountain, Frances Pearce, John Brewer, Alice Henderson, Harri & Roger Pearson and David Lees. This month's winners are Dave & Teresa Field.

Send in your answers this month for another chance to win a £25 voucher for The Redwing.

**Please note crossword entries should be sent to the new address on the cover as the old email address is rarely monitored.**

## ACROSS

1. Frenetic lithe cat. Acrobatic (8)
5. Quiet itch? Toss! (5)
8. Nail a change of course (4)
9. After fried rice, head of state sobs! (5)
10. Line back loses a point, getting absolutely nothing! (3)
11. Sounds like knot. But inverted, and abundant (3)
12. Little credit ahead of two points for the team (4)
13. From what I heard, the top players gave up (5)
14. Employs reckless Southern Sue (4)
17. Secretly prefer eeyore to judge (7)
21. Fendered? Useless protector (8)
22. I signal problem whilst cruising (7)
23. Traps the sound of Northern drums (8)
24. China's sign suddenly revealed to delegates (7)
27. Adding oxygen to acid test - in a single attempt - won the prize. (6)
28. Git held out for joy (7)

## DOWN

1. Charge, you crazy kat cat! (6)
2. Whether on ice or on field, dancing hokey cokey is not okey (6)
3. Little thanks leading one hundred wild elk? Deal with it! (6)
4. Pain in the neck extraterrestrial is a noisy insect (7)
5. Sends to the poles (5)
6. Sent in error. After lawn, after table (6)
7. Four Henrys or eight Louis (4)
13. Winding winter sport (7)
15. Whether enulfed by gush or tsunami - they will keep your legs cool! (6)
16. Damsel in distress awards (6)
18. Ragged sedge? It gives us boundaries. (5)
19. Is deffo misbehaving! He is in front of the ball! (7)
20. Loving organ I'd play (7)
24. Skill exhibited by deranged rat! (3)
25. Hidden limpet - little devil (3)
26. Any changes? No! (3)



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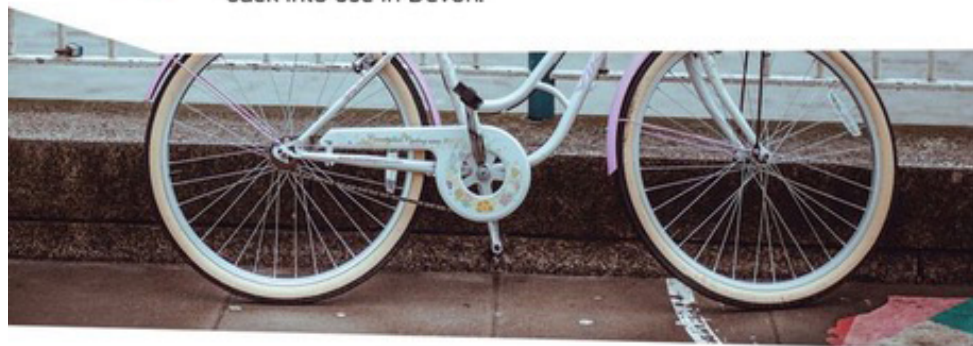
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- Lympstone • Sidmouth

Email [info@rideoncycling.org](mailto:info@rideoncycling.org) for details.

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Lympstone Drop Off Point - 8 Grange Close, Lympstone, EX8 5LD.

Ring Steve Morgan on 01395-276020.

[www.rideoncycling.org](http://www.rideoncycling.org)

registered charity: 1174055

## LYMPSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

The children have now broken up for their Easter break following a winter term interrupted by COVID.

The children spent the first eight weeks of term at home. Using the chromebooks provided by the PTA, plus some that we borrowed, we were able to ensure that every child had access to a computer at home. We ran a comprehensive programme both for the keyworker children who were in school and for those at home, with a mixture of live lessons and online exercises. We worked hard to ensure that we kept up the number of whole school community events including assemblies, a PE impact day, farm trips for Oak, Willow and Sycamore classes, and a wow week history walk and talk about Lymstone.

We were delighted to have the children back in school from two weeks after half term. The children have learnt well online and we are now back into the usual school routine.

Though we haven't been able to run any trips due in the winter term due to ongoing COVID restrictions, subject to COVID rule relaxations we are looking forward in the summer term to hopefully running forest activities for year 2 at Escot; a three day residential

for the year 6 leavers on Dartmoor; sailing lessons for year 5; and a week of intensive swimming and life-saving skills for year 6.

We are looking forward to a Summer Term full of exciting activities and learning. As we approach Easter, we would like to thank all of our parents and those in the community who have supported us during this very difficult time and wish you all a Happy Easter.

*Emily Mellor and The Governors*

### madre

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## LYMPSTONE HISTORY SOCIETY

We hope you are enjoying our free Zoom talks for our members, which we hope to sustain while we are unable to gather together in person. You may have also noticed our regular History Spot in the Herald, sharing some of our interesting and unique local history. We are very grateful to those of you who are writing some of these interesting articles for us.

With the loss of the Methodist Hall (at least for the next year or more) and the sad closure of several local groups, some of you may be looking for something new to get involved with, and we hope you may consider helping us. Our AGM is coming up in May, and we have a few vacancies on our committee. If you would be interested in working with us to preserve and disseminate local history, then please get in touch by emailing [lympstonehistorysociety@gmail.com](mailto:lympstonehistorysociety@gmail.com)

*Mary Turner*

*Secretary, Lymptone History Society*

## THE OLD DAIRY

As we look forward to restrictions easing with the return of hospitality just on the horizon Den & I are very much looking forward to getting back to our core business and welcoming guests to our holiday cottage & B&B. We would like to say a huge "Thank You" to everyone in this lovely village community who has

supported our 'Pop Up' Bakery and The Old Dairy Dining Club this past year.  
*Den & Jules*

## LYMPSTONE CRICKET CLUB

Call for players and umpires.

The Cricket Club is always looking for new players. Our season starts on the 22nd April and run all the way through until September. We play 20 over friendly games against mainly local villages during the week starting at 6 and normally finishing by 8.30. If anyone is interested please contact me Gary Abrahams on [gra203@ex.ac.uk](mailto:gra203@ex.ac.uk) and we would be delighted to add you to the group. If there are any retired players out there that would fancy umpiring that would also be greatly appreciated.

*Gary Abrahams*

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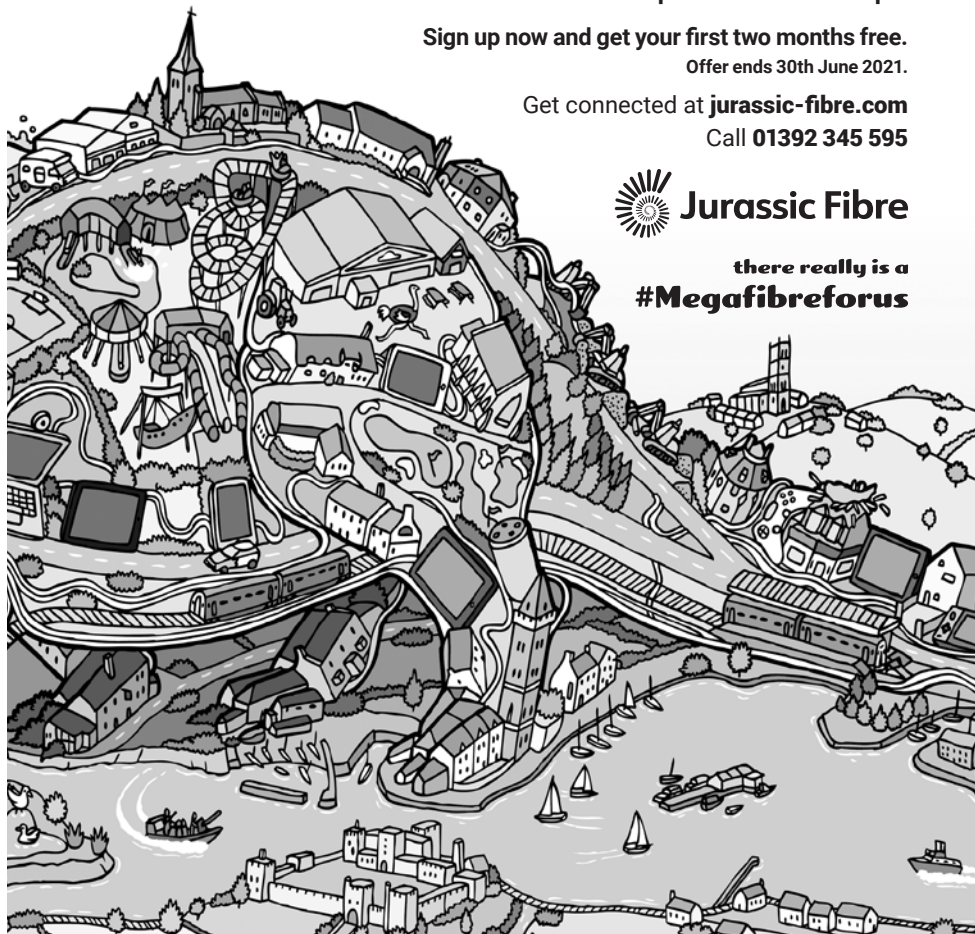
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## LYMPSTONE SAILING CLUB

a great club for sailors and water lovers alike.

By the time this comes to print, the sailing season should be underway at Lymptone, with craning in of cruisers on 12 April, clearing the harbour hardstanding for the dinghies to arrive.

The sailing club has worked hard to develop this year's on-the-water programme so that it appeals to a broader range of interests - in particular building up the range of activities for juniors and families, and for SUPs and kayakers.

COVID rules permitting, for families there will be four Sunday afternoons through the summer where the club will be organising activities for children such as treasure hunts and SUP racing. There will be picnics on Dawlish Warren, and this year the club is organising an overnight camping trip to the Turf Locks. All members can book the club sailing boats for these events or just for casual sailing.

For paddlers there is an active WhatsApp group where ad hoc trips get organised through the season when wind and tide invite. This year the club has arranged an SUP try-out day with Exe Watersports, and will also be running a number of SUP improver sessions.

The club will be running the usual amount of dinghy racing this year, with some coaching sessions for people looking to improve their skills, plus some match racing for those who have been excited by the America's Cup over the winter. The cruisers and motorboating sections have a full range of cruises in company, including to the Dart, to Torbay and closer-to-home, as well as a number of fishing trips.

Finally, this year the club will be running a "Get on the water" club open day on Saturday 19 June, where anyone in the village will be able to try out sailing or paddling on the river.

The Sailing Club still has in place its membership offer of no joining fees. If you are interested to join the club's programme this year please email [membership@lympstonesailingclub.co.uk](mailto:membership@lympstonesailingclub.co.uk)

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## LYMPSTONE COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

### COMMUNITY LUNCHES

The Hub will continue to support the monthly, hot 2-course Sunday Lunch, delivered to the homes of those in the Village who are living alone or are self-isolating, until at least the end of August. The next lunches will be delivered on :-

1pm Sunday 25 April - Sausage casserole with mash & veg and Sponge & custard

1pm Sunday 23 May - Chicken Pie & Cheesecake

If you would like a cooked meal delivered to you, please contact Linda Lyon on [malcandlinda@aol.com](mailto:malcandlinda@aol.com) or 07786 332529. You could be taking part in our 'virtual' lunch with other villagers. Anyone already receiving these meals does not need to contact Linda again. You are already on our list.

The meals are provided free of charge but donations are accepted if you so wish. Just hand a sealed envelope to the person delivering your meal with your name on the front.

We would like to give a particular mention to Lloyd Maunder Butchers in Exmouth who have been supplying us with the meat for our meals over the last 12 months at a greatly reduced cost.

### COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Hub will not be organising any activities until at least September this year. Anyone who has any forthcoming activity or project ideas should get in touch with Linda.

*Linda Lyon*

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### **GARDEN JOBS - Jenny Moon**

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

**HOLIDAY COTTAGE** Cosy cottage in centre of village. One double room and further room with bunks. Minimum 2 nights in low season and 4 nights in high season. Call Pete or Jan on 01395 488123

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L: 01395 223916 or M: 07969 231333

e: trevor.harris1@sky.com

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### **COLYTON 11+ THIS SEPTEMBER?**

Places still available for mock 11+ CEM tests on 4 July, 22 August, 5 and 11 September, at Lympstone Village Hall. For more details contact Jane. M: 07730 877889 or E: janepmoffatt@gmail.com

## HOUSE WANTED IN LYPMPSTONE



We are a local family (with children in the school) desperate to find our forever home in the village.

Can you help? Ideally, we are after an 'individual' detached house with 4+ bedrooms, a child / cat friendly garden & parking. We're potential cash buyers, happy to consider a project or land.

If you think you could help, we'd love to hear from you. Thank you!

**Please phone: 07949 314868.**

## ADVERTISING RATES FOR 2021 - HELD AT 2020 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
<b>SMALL ADS (min. charge £5)</b>			
Example: 5 lines or less	£5	£25	£45
Example: 7 lines or less	£7	£35	£63
Example: 10 lines	£10	£50	£90

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

A portrait of Roger Wilkinson, a middle-aged man with short, light-colored hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark grey suit jacket over a light blue and white vertically striped shirt and a dark purple tie with a small white elephant pattern. The background is a solid light grey.

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## LYMPSTONE GARDEN CLUB

This has to be one of the busiest months of the gardening year. Garden centres and nurseries are offering an enormous and tempting choice of plants. It is good to try something new if it suits your soil and aspect, but it is only too easy to choose one of any number of different plants which, when planted, look lonely and somewhat out of place dotted about. I expect many of us have done this at one time or another. Plants usually look more at home in groups of, say three, where they make a bigger impact more quickly. If buying a particularly expensive plant, do look for the AGM (Award of Garden Merit) sign on the label.

When space is at a premium, plants need to earn their keep by having a longish season of interest such as a repeat flowering clematis in a pot. Small gardens can look less confined by having light, airy plants with some height such as *Sanguisorba obtusa* which forms a clump of low foliage with arching stems carrying rosy pink bottle brush type flowers. Dark foliage and very bright colours tend to draw the eye in, but it really comes down to what you like.

Did you know that plants we see growing freely today, such as carnations, columbines, ox-eye daisies,

irises, peonies, have been around for at least 400 years? Several members of the garden club were invited to the studio of Liz and Hester Walshaw here in Lympstone to view the large 17th century 'verdure' tapestry they were conserving for the National Trust property Nunnington Hall in North Yorkshire. Verdure tapestries were a way of bringing the garden and landscape into country houses of the time. Four hundred years ago only the wealthy and privileged could travel to foreign parts or send botanists to collect plants on their behalf, and so extraordinary and new plants depicted in paintings and tapestries were able to be appreciated by others.

On first sight, one is immediately struck by the abundance of flowers and foliage in the tapestry, which inspired Liz and Hester to ask the garden club members if they would like to find out more about its botanical history. So began weeks of research by Pat Boaden, Sheila Parker, Terri Scott and Jill Wilson, the result of which was written up in a leaflet for Nunnington Hall, which Sue Mildenhall designed. The National Trust are delighted, and the gardener at Nunnington is developing a garden trail for visitors to the hall, based on the plants in the tapestry.

*Jill Wilson*



MEANWHILE IN LIMPSTONE...



Race day at Lymington:

Photo top and recycled cartoon bottom.