

Vaccination centre

HE MURRAY HALL

Vacination Centre

Welcome

LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL was delighted to support the NHS during the peak of the covid pandemic and play its part in the national Covid-19 vaccination programme. The Town Council allowed the Murray Hall on Borders Lane to be commissioned by the NHS as a vaccination centre in March this year. Town Council staff cleared the hall quickly and the site was prepared for readiness by West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (WECCG), and the service is being provided by Hertfordshire Community Trust (HCT).

The centre opened its doors to the public on 4 March 2021, and is currently operational 7 days a week from 08:00-15:30. The site is the second large scale NHS vaccination centre in West Essex and is due to be operational until at least the end of the year.

With only limited car parking on the site (which has been reserved for disabled parking only and Youth Centre staff) New City College, Epping Forest, along

with Epping Forest District Council, allocated an area on their land opposite for staff and the public visiting the vaccination centre and the Youth Centre to use.

The majority of volunteers, consisting of 10 traffic management marshals and 6 in-house volunteers to check people in and manage patient flow are local residents.

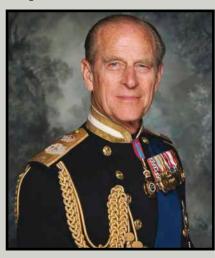
This programme has been a great example of local organisations and residents coming together to make a difference and support the NHS in its vaccination programme, in order that we can all hopefully see an end to this devastating pandemic, and get our lives back to some form of normality.

Photo L-R Murray Hall Project Team: Paul Hoy, Services Manager; Debbie Taylor, Services Officer; Chris Reneman, Vaccination Centre Duty Manager; Town Mayor, Cllr Stella Murphy; Judy Graham, Hall & Bookings Officer; Phil Morton, Parks & Amenities Warden; Tim Horton, Cemetery Attendant and Town Clerk, Mark Squire

HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

IT WAS with great sadness that we learnt on 9 April 2021 of the death of HRH the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, at the age of 99 years. Sadly, the nation had hoped to have celebrated his 100th birthday on 10 June, this year.

He will be fondly remembered and highly regarded for his extraordinary service to the UK and the Commonwealth; from his service during the second world war to the 'strength and stay' he provided to Her Majesty the Queen throughout their 73-year marriage. Having been married to HM the Queen Elizabeth since 1947, Prince Philip had been the longest serving and greatest consort the world has seen.



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Contact numbers

COUNCIL SERVICES

Loughton Town Council 020 8508 4200 City of London Corp (Epping Forest) 020 8532 1010 01992 564000 **Epping Forest District Council** 01992 564608 Waste Management Hotline Essex County Council (ECC) 03457 430 430 Adult Social Care 0345 603 7630 Child Social Care 0345 603 7627 Debden Library 0333 0132654 Education & Schools 0345 603 2200 Loughton Library 0333 0132677

Registrar: Births, ceremonies & deaths 0345 603 7632 Essex Parking Partnership (enquiries) 01206 282316

ADVICE, HELP & INFORMATION

Action for Family Carers 0300 770 80 90 Affordable Counselling Epping Forest 01992 573402 Citizens Advice 0808 278 7855 Citizens Advice Consumer Service 03454 04 05 06 **Epping Forest College** 020 8508 8311 Jobcentre Plus (Loughton) 0345 604 3719 NSPCC helpline (freephone) 0808 800 5000 RSPCA cruelty line 0300 1234 999 Samaritans 116 123 01206 764114 SSAFA (Loughton Epping & Harlow) 0345 603 7626 Trading Standards ECC (business) 0300 303 0165 Victim Support (Essex)

COMMUNITY

Age UK Essex 01245 346106 Age UK Advice 0800 678 1174 Care & Repair Service 01992 564086

www.loughtonchurches.org.uk Churches Together **Epping Forest ReUse** 01992 578222 ignite (Youth Activities) 020 8508 3643 07532 053194 Loughton Arts Centre 020 8508 6114 Loughton Voluntary Care Assoc. Restore Community Centre 020 8508 9883 Royal British Legion (Loughton Branch) 020 8508 5044 Royal Voluntary Service 0845 608 0122 Supporting Carers in Essex 0300 770 80 90 Voluntary Action Epping Forest 01992 910701 Volunteering Enquiries 01992 284761

HEALTH & HOSPITALS

ADAS (Alcohol & Drugs Service) 01279 641347 Alzheimer's Society (Epping Forest) 01279 427522 Breathe Easy Harlow & Epping Forest 01992 573387 British Red Cross 020 8508 2162 Forest Medical Centre 020 8535 6888 The Holly Private Hospital 020 8505 3311 King George 020 8983 8000 Loughton Health Centre 020 8502 5000 NHS Direct 111 Princess Alexandra 01279 444455 Rectory Lane Health Centre 020 8272 4600 020 8551 1100 Spire Roding (Private) St Margaret's 01279 444455 Whipps Cross 020 8539 5522

LOCAL AMENITY REFUSE POINTS

Essex County Council www.essex.gov.uk/recyclingcentres Chiqwell IG7 5AA Luxborough Lane Waltham Abbey EN9 1JU Brooker Road

POLICE & FIRE (dial 999 for emergencies)

Essex Police (non-emergency) Action Fraud 0300 123 2040 Anti-terrorist hotline 0800 789321

PUBLIC UTILITIES

UK Power Networks emergency 0800 111 999 National Gas Emergency Service 0800 714 614 Thames Water 24 hour leakline

105

SPORT

David Lloyd Chigwell 0345 129 6783 Debden Sports Club 020 8508 9392 Loughton Athletic Club 07958 903842 Loughton Bowling Club 020 8508 3546 Loughton Cricket Club 020 8502 2064 Loughton Football Club 020 8508 4757 Loughton Leisure Centre (& pool) 020 3225 5460 Loughton Rugby Football Club 07939 468222 South Loughton Cricket Club 07941 347812

TRAVEL & TOURISM

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NEXT OPEN EVENTS OCTOBER 2021









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EASING OF COVID RESTRICTIONS - Let's hope recent developments continue. As more and more local residents have completed their first and second Covid jabs, there is generally a more optimistic outlook amongst us all (at the time of writing)!

Loughton Town Council was pleased to support the NHS in March this year, by handing over the Murray Hall in its entirety for use as a Covid vaccination centre. which has proved a great success for all concerned. Having had my first jab at the Murray Hall some time ago, I can vouch for the efficiency and coordination there and the helpfulness of all the volunteers. I must thank my colleagues for clearing the hall in record time to make the venue compatible for NHS use. Also, to our regular hirers who were willing to give up their normal bookings to support the cause. We hope to welcome them all back again in due course when normality resumes.

Covid affected the tenure of the Town Council and

the Local Council elections scheduled for May 2020 were not permitted to take place. Councillors were asked to extend their term of office and good work for a further year, making it an unprecedented five year term. The deferred elections took place a year later on 6 May 2021. The new Council will now only be in place for a three year term but will revert to a normal four year period thereafter. A number of Councillors have now left the Town Council and we thank them for their commitment and service to the community during this time. In the next autumn edition, we hope to provide you with an introduction to the new members and structure of the new Town Council.

The Town Council children's playgrounds are ever popular,

even more so during the various 'Covid lockdowns'. Their value to the community cannot be underestimated. We are currently looking at plans and costings to completely renew the Roding Valley Recreation Ground play area. We will provide further updates later in the year.

Lastly, many congratulations to my colleague Pippa Bryce for passing her CiLCA qualification, the authoritative local government accreditation for officers within Local Government. No mean achievement during this difficult Covid environment.

As ever, let's hope the next edition is Covid free.

Best wishes

Mark Squire Town Clerk

Citizenship **Award 2021**

THE WINNER of the 2021 citizenship award, Mr Pesh Kapasiawala was announced by the Town Mayor, Cllr Stella Murphy, on 10 March 2021, at the Annual Town Meeting held virtually via the Zoom digital platform.

Cllr Murphy said "Pesh was nominated for the award for his dedication and tireless work and involvement in local Loughton charities including: The Loughton



Men's Institute, The Loughton Memory Café, and the Yes Partnership. He has been a Governor of Roding Valley High School and a past president of the Loughton, Buckhurst Hill and Chigwell Rotary Club.

Most recently Pesh established 3Food4U which was initially set up by bringing together a number of chefs who supplied ready cooked meals to vulnerable members of the community and keyworkers, something that was very much appreciated at the beginning of the Covid pandemic. This has now grown and 3Food4U has become an extremely valuable and much needed service providing free food and clothes to Loughton residents who are disadvantaged as a result of the Covid pandemic."

Our congratulations go to Pesh, who will receive a cheque for £250 for his chosen charity 3Food4U. A presentation of the Silver engraved Rose Bowl and scroll will be arranged when we are able to hold our first "in person" Council Meeting.



Loughton Town Council

Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor to be appointed on 18 May 2021

Town Clerk: Mark Squire

Committee membership

Following the recent council elections, full details of the town councillors and committee membership are available on the town council noticeboards around the town and its website www.loughton-tc.gov.uk

Full details will appear in the next edition (autumn) of Think Loughton

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Contacting us

For editorial contributions and diary entries, please call 020 8508 4200. For advertising enquiries, please call 01245 790244 / 07942 800865.

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Town Council Meetings

All meetings take place at Loughton Library & Town Hall, Traps Hill, Loughton, IG10 1HD at 7:45pm unless otherwise indicated.

2021

Jun 7 Planning & Licensing

Planning & Licensing

Environment & Heritage 23

30 Resources & General Services

Jul 5 Planning & Licensing

> 13 Council

19 Planning & Licensing

Aug 2 Planning & Licensing

Planning & Licensing

For dates of subsequent meetings, check the council's website.

News round-up

■ DEMAND RESPONSIVE TRANSPORT:

An extension to the trial of the demand responsive transport (DaRT87) service which replaced the Arriva 87 route, was agreed by Epping Forest District Council which it runs in partnership with EF Community Transport, for a year from 1 April 2021. Users must register for membership (£15 p/year).

DaRT87 is the only bus service entering Epping Forest Shopping Park and serves Epping and Debden tube stations, along with the rapid Covid test site at Theydon Bois. It is Covid-secure, but journeys must be booked in advance to help adhere to social distancing rules and the demand of service.

Fares are kept as low as possible. All concessionary passes are accepted within Essex County Council guidelines.



■ FLORAL TRIBUTE LAID: The Town Mayor, Cllr Stella Murphy and Town Clerk, Mark Squire, visited Epping Forest to lay a wreath on behalf of the Town Council following the tragic death of 19 year old Richard Okorogheye. A message of sympathy was also sent to Richard's family.



■ NEW ADULT COLLEGE COURSES:

Looking to retrain in a different career, or just return to studying and try out a new subject, there are many new adult courses available at New City College's Epping Forest campus in Borders Lane. Full-time, part-time, day and evening courses, or free distance learning qualifications that can be achieved entirely online, to fit your studies around other commitments. For more information visit:

www.ncclondon.ac.uk/adult-courses

■ PARKRUN & PLAY IN THE PARK: Junior Parkrun at RVRG started on 18 April, with the adult Parkrun hopefully resuming from 5 June, Government guidance permitting. It is also hoped that Play in the Park will go ahead during the summer school holidays. Keep an eye on our website: News & Events - Loughton Town Council (loughton-tc.gov. uk), for further details.

CiLCA success

WE ARE delighted to announce that Pippa Bryce our Assistant Clerk - Civic, successfully completed her Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) accreditation. This is a recognised qualification for Town/Parish Councils, testing a broad knowledge of all the aspects of a clerk's work - roles and responsibilities, the law, procedures, finance planning and community involvement.

Pippa began her course just before lockdown started, so didn't have the best of conditions to undertake her studies. However, the outcome was never in doubt among her colleagues, with the wide knowledge she had already acquired through her time working for Loughton Town Council and her dedication and ability. Pippa and her colleagues were delighted to learn of her deserved success in April 2021.







WITH THE current Covid pandemic in mind, it seemed most appropriate that Loughton's latest Blue Plaque should honour the entomologist, Arthur William Bacot, who lived at 19 York Hill.

Bacot, was born in North London on 28 April 1866. He left school at 16, having missed a considerable amount of time due to poor health in childhood, to work in the City of London. However, as a keen butterfly collector, between 1893 and 1909, he produced over fifty papers on lepidoptera (butterflies and moths).

Following an interest in the study of the form and structure of animals and plants (morphology) and genetic research, he developed breeding experiments of moths, resulting in a presentation to the London Hospital Medical School In 1908.

This culminated in Bacot at the age of 43, being invited by Professor Greenwood of the Advisory Committee for Plague Investigation, to study the breeding habits of the rat flea and how it passed

on the plague virus. The research was undertaken in his spare time for just a small fee plus expenses. Proving a success, this resulted in him joining the Litster Institute of Preventive Medicine as an entomologist.

During the First World War, in 1914, he went to Sierra Leone to study Yellow Fever. In 1917, together with Joseph Arkwright, he went to France to investigate the cause and prevention of trench fever, which was afflicting the British forces. Here he discovered the relationship of lice with both typhus and trench fever (a disease he suffered the effects of himself).

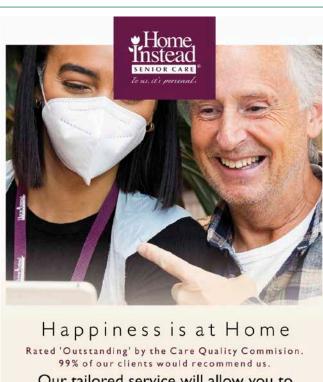
Following a request from the Egyptian government, to carry out a study into typhus, Bacot and Arkwright went to Cairo in 1922, where unfortunately they both caught the disease from lice. Arkwright survived following a long illness, but sadly Bacot died, aged 56.

Bacot was remembered by his friends Arkwright & Greenwood as 'a man who was greater than his work. Entomology was his hobby; the problems connected with the study of insects and ingenious methods for solving them were his pastime. The harnessing of entomology to the use and advance of human society was to him a great achievement - his ideal of human aim. He believed, any credit due should be given to him as a member of the staff of the Lister Institute rather than as an individual. Any scientific man tempted to measure his own services against their rewards in income or fame, may pause to think how little made this man happy.

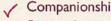
Loughton Town Council is grateful to the homeowners, Joanne & Michael Burns, who agreed to the installation of this plaque at their residence.

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St Clare Hospice, Wills Month

THIS JUNE, St Clare is holding its annual Wills Month. Writing your Will is one of the most important things you can do to ensure your family is cared for and it is never too soon to start thinking about it.

St Clare Corporate Fundraiser Charlotte Durham, said: "After the past year, we can all see more than ever, the importance of having a Will. We never know what is round the corner".

Throughout June 2021 you are able to make or amend your Will for a suggested donation to St Clare Hospice.

Six participating solicitors' firms have kindly volunteered their time, so supporters can make or amend their Will in return for a donation, helping to raise vital funds. The suggested minimum donations are: £150 for a Single Will; £200 for a Double Will; £85 for an amended Will.

A donation of £150 is enough to pay for ten counselling sessions for a bereaved family member, friend or loved one, delivered by a qualified counsellor. St Clare's bereavement support and counselling can be vital in supporting someone to face their grieving journey.

The participating solicitor in Loughton is Stapley & Co., 141A High Road, IG10 4LT 020 8502 1934. Please get in touch - be sure to mention 'St Clare's Wills Month' when you make your appointment. For enquiries contact St Clare Corporate Fundraiser, Charlotte Durham on 01279 773753 or charlotte. durham@stclarehospice. org.uk For more information: stclarehospice.org.uk/wills-month



Loughton Building Design Award

INTRODUCED BY the town council in 2012 this award recognises and rewards examples of good design and construction. Raising public awareness of the built environment within Loughton.

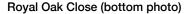
The Judges (Cllr Angold-Stephens, Chairman of the Planning Committee, Cllr Chris Pond, Chairman of the E&H Committee and Cllr Stella Murphy, Town Mayor) invite nominations for building works completed in the last 12 months that either:

- enhance the town;
- improve a dilapidated building;
- upgrade or enhance a conservation area; or are
- noteworthy in terms of design or innovation.

This year the judges chose two recent conversion developments: 2 Connaught Avenue and Royal Oak Close to receive awards. Commenting on each as follows:

2 Connaught Avenue (top photo)

The final design of this house that has been converted into flats is excellent. The materials used match in perfectly with the surrounding properties. Visually this was a house that immediately drew the eye to it when viewed from Old Station Road and as such was considered an iconic building in the town. The conversion has enabled it to maintain its looks as a house rather than the block of flats that are housed within. It fits perfectly with the houses in both Ollards Grove and Connaught Avenue that both side onto the site. The final result owes much to both the willingness of the developer to adapt and the council to maintain the street scene to the benefit of the town.



The quality of the work and materials used on this conversion of a much-loved Public House into flats with a number of houses to the rear is excellent. The developer has maintained the heritage frontage aspect on Forest Road whilst also providing much needed housing to the side and rear facing onto Smarts Lane.

There is good use of the space available and the flats in the main building do not detract from the look of the frontage.

The award presentation is usually held at the Annual Town Meeting. However, as this year's meeting in March was held remotely, owing to Covid restrictions, Kevin O'Connor, and David Kavanagh the architect, from Cranbrook, who developed 2 Connaught Avenue; and Richard Higgins of Higgins Homes and a representative from Melville Dunbar Associates who developed Royal Oak Close attended the meeting virtually to be recognised in respect of their achievements.





Epping Forest u3a re-launch

EPPING FOREST UNIVERSITY

of the Third Age (u3a) is looking for retired, semi-retired or soon to retire people; who want to develop new interests, keep their brain and body stimulated and make new friends. This local charity offers all kinds of activities: learning a foreign language, antiques, current affairs and history discussions, photography, card games, coffee and lunch groups,

snooker, wine tasting, ten-pin bowling, keep fit and yoga. Walking groups give you the chance to explore London and Essex on foot as well as coach outings, gallery/museum, cinema and theatre trips, social events and monthly meetings with speakers. You may even have a skill yourself to share with others.

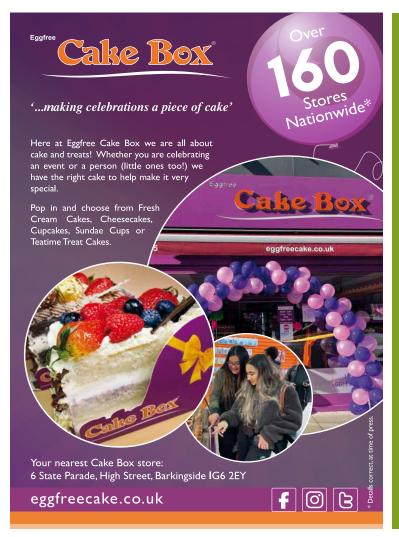
During Covid 19 restrictions, the charity kept members involved through monthly newsletters and regular Zoom presentations by professional speakers/entertainers, alongside on-line learning and social opportunities. As the government road map unfurls, Epping Forest u3a plans to re-launch most of its previous face to face activities, starting with an open morning in July. Visit: www.u3asites.org.uk/epping or phone 07775 861717 for more info.



Financial assistance

COMMITTED TO supporting the vital work of local groups and charities, the town council this year made grants totalling £30,600. The successful applicants were announced at the Annual Town Meeting held by Zoom on 10 March.

The recipients included Affordable Counselling Epping Forest (ACEF) £400; Alfie James Productions £200; Epping Forest Reuse £200; Grow (Restore Comm.) £4,000; Noah's Ark Play Group (Restore Comm.) £2,500; Oakwood Hill Community Centre (Restore Comm.) £3,000; Oakwood Hill Youth Club (Restore Comm.) £2,000; Willingale Community Garden (Restore Comm.) £2,000; Loughton Voluntary Care Association £450; Rotary Club of Loughton - 3Food4u £2,500; Samaritans - Redbridge £600; St Michael & All Angels Church, Loughton £2,000; Tinder Sticks CIC £750; Voluntary Action Epping Forest £1,500; and Citizens Advice - EF District received a grant of £8,500 towards its running costs.





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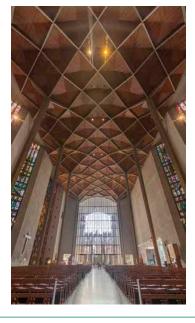
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Dates for the diary

- June /July Lifewalks and Cycling
 For Health available to book on line at
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 to https://eppingforestdc.bookinglive.
 com/ to book your place and to
 find the latest calendar of walks and
 rides. Or call 01992 564226 to book.
 For more info, contact: Community
 Engagement Officer Karen Murray.
 Email kmurray@eppingforestdc.gov.uk
 Call 01992 564222 / 07789372196
- Epping Forest Inclusion Project a variety of sports and leisure activities for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Some sessions adapted to suit Zoom calls, guidance permitting others taking place all over the district. Priority for face-to-face sessions for those with an ECC Shortbreaks passport number. See https://eppingforestdc.bookinglive.com/ for dates and times. Prices vary. More info: contact Olivia Worsfold oworsfold@eppingforestdc.gov.uk
- Saturdays 8:45–10am Street
 Tennis have fun and play games.
 Perfect for developing skills such
 as hand co-ordination, balance and
 reactions. Roding Valley Recreation
 Ground, IG10 3BS £3 per session /
 First session free.
- Saturdays 10:15 11:15am
 Street Athletics Work with coaches
 to improve your speed, balance
 and agility while playing new games
 each week. Roding Valley Recreation
 Ground, IG10 3BS £3 per session.
- Open until 4 Sept The Boys: Holocaust Survivors in the Epping Forest District Exhibition telling the story of holocaust survivors sent to Holmehurst Hostel in Loughton and the staff that supported them. Epping Forest District Museum, EN9 1EL. Free. See further events below at EFDM in association with The Boys.
- 8 Jun 10.30am Virtual Tour of Coventry Cathedral led by Alexandra Epps This year Coventry is UK City of Culture. We will explore the rebuilding of the Cathedral as a symbol of peace and reconciliation. The Arts Society, Woodford Green (Bancroft's). Lecture delivered by 'Zoom'. All new members welcome. Enquiries: Mary Affleck 07767 662762 marycaffleck@gmail.com

- 17 Jun 7–8pm 'We Came from Hell to Paradise' The Lake District Holocaust Project by Trevor Avery, story of a group of young Holocaust survivors who began their recovery in Windermere in the Lake District. Some of these young boys later relocated to the Loughton Hostel. Zoom webinar £5. To book: call 01992 564 226, 10am-4pm Mon-Fri, or online at https://eppingforestdc.bookinglive.com/
- 24 Jun 7.45pm Essex Handicrafts Association Woodlands Branch, contact 020 8508 7657 (see p13). Subject to be confirmed.
- 8 Jul 7–8pm Edith & Gerson Frydman - Their Journey Before, During and After the Holocaust, by Robin Frydman Schall, whose parents were both Holocaust Survivors. Robin's Mother fled Nazi Germany in 1939, relocating to London via the Kindertransport at age 14. Robin's father survived several concentration and slave labour camps including Auschwitz, before living in the Loughton Hostel in 1946. Zoom webinar £5 To book: call 01992 564 226, 10am-4pm Mon-Fri, or online at https://eppingforestdc. bookinglive.com/









Loughton Town Council

Loughton Library & Town Hall Traps Hill Loughton IG10 1HD

Tel **020 8508 4200** Fax **020 8508 4400** contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk

Town Clerk Mark Squire

Annual Report 2021

he past 12 months have presented many challenges for all Town and Parish Councils due to the Coronavirus outbreak and lockdown back in March 2020.

Loughton Town Council is very fortunate to have a dedicated team of Councillors and staff working together to fulfil our obligations to the town and community, but of course, the pandemic meant we had to look at new ways of conducting our business, which has been very challenging for all.

Firstly under normal circumstances, the first meeting of the Local Government Year, is the Annual Meeting of the Council, Mayor Making, this takes place in May each year; but, with restrictions in force regarding public gatherings, the Government introduced legislation which meant I remained as Town Mayor for a second year and what a different year it has been.

All our annual events and engagements, which I so enjoy, were cancelled but Loughton residents have still shown great community spirit and have worked together.

When Covid restrictions allowed, I was able to make some socially distanced doorstep visits to residents celebrating a 100th birthday, and a diamond wedding anniversary. I was also invited to Woodland Grove Care Home to cut the ribbon and officially open a new garden area created by the residents during lockdown.

On Remembrance Sunday, on behalf of the Town Council, I placed a wreath at the War Memorial on Kings Green, where the wonderful poppy arches stood, we were overwhelmed by the amount of poppies that our residents knitted and crocheted, during their time spent at home. The displays were enjoyed by all.

In December I attended the lighting of the Menorah on Standard Green, which was recorded live and enabled residents to watch the event from the comfort of their armchairs – the wonders of technology.

Loughton learnt to adapt.

Committee meetings in the past 12 months have taken place virtually. This has been a new experience for most but has enabled us to continue with the decision-making process and to ensure that we continue to work for the good of the town. The business of the Council has continued to function efficiently and professionally, I have been extremely proud of the way our Councillors and staff have conducted themselves, despite some difficult times.

I was extremely pleased to secure another generous donation of £10,000 from the Joseph and Lilian Sully Foundation Trust which enabled me to distribute equally to both the Epping Forest Foodbank and 3Food4U charities who, throughout the last year, have worked tirelessly assisting Loughton residents in need.

Finally, I would like to offer my sincere condolences to everyone that has lost a loved one or friend. This year has been devastating for families especially with the additional restrictions on how we say our goodbyes to those lost through natural causes, accident, or illness, including Covid related deaths. My thoughts are with you all.

Cllr Stella Murphy

Town Mayor

Planning & Licensing

CIIr Jill Angold-Stephens

ver the last year we needed to consider planning applications in a new way as after our next meeting following the Annual Town Meeting, we could no longer meet in person due to Covid-19 restrictions. It was decided that all applications would be considered under what is called 'delegated authority'. Each Planning meeting was cancelled but the applications were sent by email to each committee member to consider and produce a report with recommendations that were returned to the Planning Clerk, Debra Paris, for her to collate the responses and produce comments which were then published in the same way as the usual minutes of the meeting. This resulted in considerable extra work for the Planning Clerk both in preparing the emails for distribution to members and collating the results all whilst working from home. Despite this it has all gone smoothly and we have actually processed some 32 more applications than last year. Clearly, the residents of Loughton have discovered that they need more space to work from home and to home school! Because there have been no 'in person' meetings we have not had members of the public for or against applications addressing us; but we have taken into account all written objections received in advance of the published date of the meeting.

One of the ongoing concerns has been consideration of the protection of Epping Forest both from air pollution caused by traffic and soil erosion caused by all of us enjoying the outdoors in the Forest. The Corporation of London has designated the Forest as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) in an effort to protect it. This has impacted on our decision making for all applications that include the potential for more people to be living in the area and likely to exacerbate the problem. This has caused the number of

applications for which we have raised an objection to rise to over 140.

There have been only 4 amended applications submitted, and where we object and can see a way forward if plans are amended, we usually suggest this for consideration by EFDC and the applicant. There have been 19 applications for which Notices of Appeal have been submitted. We are able to add further comments to some of these but depending on how they are considered some are passed back to us for information only.

We have received 10 applications for Licences and we have tried so far as possible to be consistent in the hours for which licences should be granted. Sadly, EFDC sometimes ignore this and grants the hours for which the applicant has asked. We have only had 2 applications for Street Trading Licences this year, one we objected to and subsequently it was found to be for a pitch that was on the defunct Loughton Golf Club site, so the applicant did not have legal permission to trade there! We also considered two consultation papers: one a Licensing Policy Consultation (EFDC) and the other the Government White Paper on The Future of Planning.

With all applications we continue to do our best to balance the concerns of both applicants and those who would be affected were permission to be granted.

Despite the current restrictions the Town Mayor, the Chairman of The Environment & Heritage Committee and I have still considered three applications for the Building Design Award. It was such a difficult choice this year that we finally decided to present two awards, both to conversions of iconic Loughton buildings into flats – 2 Connaught Avenue and Royal Oak Court. They have both maintained the street scene and do not look like blocks of flats. Congratulations are offered to both architects and developers.

This being the last report from this committee before the LTC elections in May I should like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has worked so conscientiously over the past year despite the difficulties involved. My particular thanks go to Debra Paris as Planning Clerk who has been fantastic in all that she has managed to do for us and to Kevin Latchford my vice-chairman whose support has been invaluable as always.





Recreation

CIIr David Wixley

t is inevitable that this report is dominated by the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic which led to the cancellation of last year's Local Elections resulting in the Committee serving for an additional year.

Uncertainty as to whether or not we could hold our initial meeting in person eventually led to its cancellation. Our remaining four meetings have been virtual Zoom meetings which have worked well with only a few problems.

The enforced closure of the Murray and Kingsley halls and the cancellation of football pitch hire has resulted in a loss of income offset, to some degree, by not having to fund cancelled events such as 'Countdown to Christmas' and the 'Jessel Green Family Fun Day'. In addition the use by the NHS, of the Murray Hall as a vaccination centre, is a welcome source of income.

However, the overall consequences for our finances means we have had to significantly reduce our earmarked reserves set aside for ambitious plans to refurbish the Roding Valley Recreation Ground (RVRG) football changing rooms and car park. We are currently looking at ways to proceed with a reduced scheme that would include installing gates at the car park entrance which would be locked overnight.

Despite budget constraints it is intended to focus resources on replacing the existing RVRG playground with a new one to be located away from the risk of flooding.

The frequency and severity of flooding on the RVRG seems to have increased in recent years. At the time of writing this report notification has been received from the District Council that they intend to start work on their

long-awaited flood alleviation scheme. This will include riverbank restoration, tree planting, and repairs and relocation of some stretches of the riverside footpath.

I am pleased to report that we have again been successful in receiving awards from the Essex Playing Fields Association with a Gold award for the RVRG and Silver for Traps Hill playground.

In my last annual report I advised that the freehold of the Loughton Cricket Club ground had been transferred to the Town Council. This year I'm delighted to report that the cricket ground has been awarded "Fields in Trust" status thus giving it protection against the risk of development. There is a full report on this on the front page of the Spring 2021 edition of "Think Loughton".

I will finish my report with a number of "thank yous".

During the lockdown periods the RVRG received a substantial increase in visitors. Sadly, this also resulted in a corresponding litter problem. The Committee are grateful to Cllr Murray for his daily litter picking walks with occasional help from Cllr Brookes.

I would also like to thank LTC Officers who have had to cope with changing Government directives regarding the shutting and re-opening of playgrounds and tennis courts as the Government has sought to deal with the pandemic.

Finally I thank my fellow members of the Committee and Officers, past and present, who have contributed to the running of the Committee during the last five years,

Resources & General Services

CIIr Judy Jennings

he Resources and General Services Committee is responsible for the Town Council's finances and ensures that the Town Council acts openly, transparently and ethically. It also oversees the day-to-day financial transactions necessary for the smooth running of the Council and is responsible for other items such as staff salaries, insurance and bill payments.

Each year we undertake internal audits and review our banking and investments. I am pleased to report that the External Auditors rated the Council's finances as 'good'.

We review all the Council's subscriptions annually to outside bodies and ensure we have the correct levels of insurance for the coming year. We also review the Council's policies, including this year, its Equal Opportunities policy and Data Protection policy.

We agree a budget, set the precept and produce a quarterly "Think Loughton", magazine.

An Annual Town meeting is arranged, and we grant financial assistance applications and citizenship awards.

This year has been a particularly challenging time for the Town Council as a result of the impact of Covid-19 on our income.

In order to maintain a low precept, we reduced expenditure on certain projects and postponed others. Savings have also been made from not hiring personnel. A new Financial Assistant and a Caretaker's role have been postponed.

There will be no increase in the Councillors' Parish Allowance. Careful organisation and planning has meant Council officers have been able to work from home on a rota basis successfully during the pandemic.

Due to the pandemic, there has been a fall in income from sports pitch hire, hall lettings and other sources, but this has been offset by the Council agreeing that the Murray Hall be used by the NHS as a Covid-19 vaccination centre for at least the next six months.

It is with great regret that we have had to also cancel many community events this year, but we are looking forward to an improved situation after the summer.

Awarding grants to local groups and organisations is one of our most important functions and we have set aside £27,000 with 10% held back for emergency applications. We work closely with local voluntary organisations and we provide grants for projects that provide a positive benefit to local residents. In 2021/22 we will support fourteen local groups, including Epping Forest Re-Use, Loughton Voluntary Care, 3Food4U and Oakwood Hill Community Centre, among others.

The Town Council continues to support Epping Forest Citizens' Advice with a significant grant of £8,500.

Elections are a big expenditure, and this year were held on 6 May having been postponed from last year due to Covid-19. These are paid for from the Council's earmarked funds set aside for that specific purpose.

This year the tax base is £12,534.10 and the precept has been set at £782,675.00. This will mean a Band D property is set at £62.44, an increase of £2.97. I am pleased to note that this is considerably less than Waltham Abbey at £111.49 and Epping Town at £98.76. This low increase has been achieved by prudent financial management supported by a transfer of funds from General Reserves.

Finally, I must mention the very generous donation by the Joseph Sully Foundation that has benefitted two very important charities working in Loughton, The Food Bank and 3Food4U.

My very grateful thanks go to our Town Clerk, Mark Squire who has coped superbly well in this difficult year, to Assistant Town Clerks Brent Smith and Pippa Bryce and our team of hard-working officers.

I would particularly like to thank my Deputy, Cllr Jill Angold-Stephens, for all her support and experience of financial matters and her work checking current accounts and payments, and Cllr Jayna Jogia for carrying out internal financial checks.

Finally, to all the members of the Resources Committee I would like to say a big thank you for their careful and conscientious scrutiny of the Town Council's finances and for their commitment and dedication to the welfare of the residents of Loughton.

Environment & Heritage

Cllr Chris Pond

uring this year of Covid restrictions, the activities of the Council overseen by the Committee have been severely limited. All community events had to be cancelled, and Remembrance Day was completely different, with no parade or massed gathering at the Memorial, replaced by a socially spaced wreath laying, and poppy arches near the Memorial. Our homage to the war dead was different, but no less sincere. A most impressive display of knitted poppies, organised by the Town Clerk and staff, formed a cascade down the tree at the Library and Town Hall; but because of opening restrictions, not as many people saw it as intended.

One activity not restricted was the installation of plaques (though of course, we couldn't have unveiling ceremonies). That to Rudyard Kipling and Stanley Baldwin was installed in the summer, to coincide with the publication of a book about their stay here in 1877; those to Barbara Harmer (first female supersonic airline pilot) and Peter Abrahams (South African freedom writer and journalist) were installed. We thought the epidemic of 2020-21 could be marked appropriately by plaques to the Loughton epidemiologists of previous years; notably Arthur Bacot (who died 100 years ago studying

typhus and entomology, and Sir Leonard Hill (Trench fever and influenza) and his son, Sir Austin Bradford Hill (who jointly discovered the link between smoking and cancer). The father and son are to be marked by a specially designed double plaque.

In order to guide the vastly increased number of visitors to the Forest, we have decided to install direction markers to and from Forest, shops, and station in some of the alleyways and streets near the forest edge.

We received reports on the District's "mitigation" measures to reduce damage caused by toxic emissions to the Forest and will be considering our position on the Major Modifications to the Local Plan to be consulted on during 2021; we may have again to seek professional representation if there is a further public enquiry. The Committee has discussed and heard developments in the EFDC idea of imposing a charged-for zone through the Forest to facilitate the building of 1000 new houses in Loughton, and 1500 in Epping, near the SAC, which is a national and international designation. We have taken the view that diversion of the building would be a safer and more certain way of avoiding damage to the SAC, and one more in keeping with the Holohan judgement with which EFDC must comply. We have transmitted our views to the Inspector and await the next chapter in this sad story.

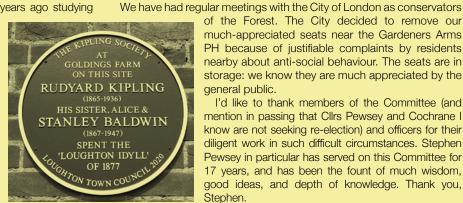
We are planning to create extra cremated remains plots in the Town Cemetery by reusing graves designated in the past - back to 1877 as 'public', as is permitted by law. This may put off for a time the need to create a new cemetery off Debden Lane (a project first mooted by our predecessors as far back as 1940).

Despite site meetings, we have had no success in getting EFDC to require the moving of industrial waste bins that block the pavement in the Drive.

> of the Forest. The City decided to remove our much-appreciated seats near the Gardeners Arms PH because of justifiable complaints by residents nearby about anti-social behaviour. The seats are in storage: we know they are much appreciated by the

Stephen.

I'd like to thank members of the Committee (and mention in passing that Cllrs Pewsey and Cochrane I know are not seeking re-election) and officers for their diligent work in such difficult circumstances. Stephen Pewsey in particular has served on this Committee for 17 years, and has been the fount of much wisdom, good ideas, and depth of knowledge. Thank you,



Attendance at meetings during the municipal year 2020/21

		Diamaina		Environment	Resources
Committee/ Councillor	Council 7 meetings	Planning & Licensing 26 meetings	Recreation 4 meetings	& Heritage 4 meetings	& General Services 6 meetings
P Abraham	5	25*		1	
J Angold- Stephens	7	26*		1	6*
P Beales	6			4*	1
R Brookes	7		3*		1
T Cochrane	7	25*		3*	
B Cohen	7		4*	2	1
M Dalton	6				6*
C Davies	5	19*	1	4*	
T Downing	7	26*			
J Jennings	6		1	1	6*
J Jogia	6		4*		6*
K Latchford	6	23*		1	
J Mahoney	5				6*
S Murphy	7	26*		1	
S Murray	7		4*	2	6*
A Omer	3		1*		4*
T Owen	5			4*	
S Pewsey	6		1	1**	1
C C Pond	7			4*	1
C P Pond	7			4*	1
M Stubbings	7		4*	1	1
D Wixley	7		4*	4	6

^{*} a member of that committee

All meetings held electronically, except for Planning Meetings, where members comments were submitted under powers of delegated authority.

Financial Report

£	2019/20	2020/21**
Band D precept figure per household	57.15	59.47
Income		
Precept	719,000	756,445
Interest	5,047	104
Operating income	187,143	102,489
Total receipts	911,190	859,038
Running Costs		
Resources & General Services	152,640	162,263
Environment & Heritage	184,820	176,814
Recreation	508,461	481,626
Planning & Licensing	39,553	33,299
Total payments	885,474	854,002
Summary		
Balance c/forward	671,737	697,453
Add receipts	911,190	859,038
Less payments	-885,474	854,002
Balance c/forward	697,453	702,489
Total net assets represented by:		
General fund	333,251	338,378
Earmarked reserves	364,202	364,111
Overall balances	697,453	702,489

Members' Allowances 2020/21

The Parish Basic Allowance for 2020/21 was £120 pa					
Councillor	Parish Basic Allowance	Travel & Subsistence	Total		
	£	£	£		
P Abraham	120.00		120.00		
R Brookes	120.00		120.00		
T Cochrane	120.00		120.00		
B Cohen	120.00		120.00		
M Dalton	120.00		120.00		
C Davies	120.00		120.00		
T Downing	120.00		120.00		
K Latchford	120.00		120.00		
J Mahoney	120.00		120.00		
S Murphy	120.00		120.00		
A Omer	120.00		120.00		
T Owen	120.00		120.00		
C C Pond	120.00		120.00		
C P Pond	120.00		120.00		
M Stubbings	120.00		120.00		
D Wixley	120.00		120.00		

Cllrs J Angold-Stephens, P Beales, J Jennings, S Pewsey and S Murray have renounced their right to claim the allowance.

Councillors list, by ward, during the year 2020/21

Alderton Ward
Cllr Philip Abraham
Cllr Adam Omer
Cllr Michael Stubbings

Broadway Ward Cllr Jayna Jogia Cllr John Mahoney Cllr Stella Murphy

Fairmead Ward Cllr Carol Davies Cllr Kevin Latchford Cllr Tom Owen

Forest Ward Cllr Jill Angold-Stephens Cllr Tessa Cochrane **Cllr Trevor Downing**

Roding Ward

Cllr Rose Brookes Cllr Mark Dalton Cllr Stephen Murray

Cllr David Wixley

St John's Ward

Cllr Stephen Pewsey Cllr Caroline Pond Cllr Chris Pond

St Mary's Ward

Cllr Philip Beales Cllr Barbara Cohen **Cllr Judy Jennings**

Contact details for the councillors may be viewed at www.loughton-tc.gov.uk

^{**} Cllr Pewsey unable to join E&H meeting on 29/09/2020 as he could not establish internet connection.

^{**}Unapproved & unaudited. For a detailed copy of the accounts please contact the council.

■ 11 July 2–5pm (weather and covid restrictions permitting) Tea and Tales - Live enjoy tea/coffee and home-made cake sitting in the churchyard, listening to stories and riddles told by Stephen Fellowes, Sheila Green and Andrea Moles, The Church of the Holy Innocents, High Beach. Contact Jane Begley 07272 111387 / 020 7421 3854 or jane. begley@irwinmitchell.com

- 13 Jul 8pm The Art of Durer. The man and his world talk by Shirley Smith. The Durer exhibition at the National Gallery has been postponed until 20 November 2021. The Arts Society, Woodford Green (Bancroft's). Lecture delivered by 'Zoom'. All new members welcome. Enquiries: Mary Affleck 07767 662762 marycaffleck@
- 22 Jul 7.45pm Essex Handicrafts Association Woodlands Branch, contact 020 8508 7657 (see p13). Subject to be confirmed. 26 August 2021 no meeting



■ 27 Aug 10.30am 5 minutes, 5 objects, 5 years A talk by Anne Haworth. This is a detailed study of 5 objects from the many thousands in our museums and galleries. The Arts Society, Woodford Green (Bancroft's). Lecture delivered by 'Zoom'. All new members welcome. Enquiries: Mary Affleck 07767 662762 marycaffleck@ gmail.com

Disclaimer: Loughton Town Council takes no responsibility for events organised by external organisations/individuals that are listed above. Please always check details and availability with the relevant organiser.

Christian Aid virtual collection

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK this year ran from 10-16 May, but with the pandemic in mind, it was decided against church volunteers standing outside the tube station, or in Loughton High Street with bright red collection buckets, or red envelopes for donations dropping on doormats.

Instead a Just Giving Page was created to make donating easier: www. justgiving.com/fundraising/loughtonchristian-aid-group-2021

Simply go to Just Giving and search for 'Loughton Christian Aid Week 2021'. The page also keeps everybody up to date with fundraising activities and enables the collection to continue, so if you haven't donated vet, there is still time.

A great example of collaboration between the different Christian churches, the group has been running in Loughton for decades. Last year, Christian Aid in Loughton raised over £5,000, and this year it is hoped to top that. Christian Aid is working with villages in Kenya, this year, to help them survive the effects of climate change and become sustainable. Having endured drought for two years running, it is just going to get worse as the climate warms up, with villagers having to walk miles just to collect water. With the G7 Summit in Cornwall this month and the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow in November, climate change is high on the agenda.



Keith Aldred in Pre-Covid days: armed with his red bucket and eager to go collecting.

Photo ©

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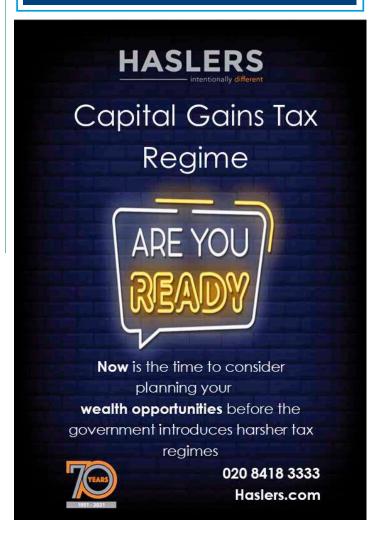






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■ Teens Unite's new digital support has been tackling isolation for young people fighting cancer during the COVID-19 pandemic

- Increasing its support activities from 2-3 events a month, to 4 per week
- 100% of participants surveyed said they felt more connected as a result
- Charity fundraising hit hard due to COVID-19 restrictions

The stark reality of life over the past year has caused society to experience the isolation and anxiety a cancer patient faces at any time, not just during a pandemic.

Every day in the UK, seven teenagers hear the words 'you have cancer'. For them, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought heightened levels of loneliness, seclusion, and fear due to shielding and treatment being put on hold.

Teens Unite brings together young people who genuinely understand what it's like to face the illness in their teenage years. Created to support young people, providing opportunities to learn new skills, make friends and continue living their years as a young adult in the best possible way. Creating a community where cancer is not the thing that makes them feel different, but the thing that unites them.

Activities have included a mix of interactive online video sessions, such as Yoga, art, quizzes, dance classes, make-up tutorials, baking, bingo and gaming to name a few.

Prior to the pandemic, 80% of young people reported experiencing anxiety and depression as a result of cancer treatment, and 87% reported losing contact with friends.

The weeks and months ahead will continue to be testing but even more so for those young people fighting cancer. They will STILL be going through cancer treatment and will STILL face all those hurdles, as well as coping with the concerns coronavirus has brought with it.

With 2,555 new cases of cancer in teenagers and young adults in the UK each year, and 48% of those diagnosed living in the South East of England, the support provided by Teens Unite is a lifeline for so many isolated young people.

Currently helping more than 1000 young people fighting cancer. To ensure they continue to receive the vital social and emotional support they need, please donate: www.teensunite.org/donate/

Covid testing success

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE students across New City College rose to the challenge, volunteering to help with on-site Covid testing of thousands of learners.

When colleges reopened after lockdown in March, in line with Government requirements, NCC undertook an incredible 10,000 Covid student tests - with only six positive results across all eight campuses.

At the Epping Forest campus, large areas were transformed into safe and efficient testing centres, a huge logistical operation coordinated between staff and a very mature attitude from students.

Level 3 Health & Social Care students used skills learnt from their courses, a great opportunity to gain experience in a health and care role, making sure everything was sanitised, helping anyone having difficulty with instructions and making nervous students feel more comfortable.

A college spokesperson said: "These students were absolutely fantastic, going above and beyond and with a smile on their faces. They will be valuable future employees in the health and care sector. They really are a credit to themselves and the college."





TALENTED Jade-Dior Lam-Henry, 16, first year Art & Design student at New City College's Epping Forest campus, won a competition to design a facemask which the college launched to raise money for charity.

Since returning to campus, wearing of facemasks has been compulsory, in corridors and classrooms. The college Enrichment team decided to involve students in creating a cool accessory they would be happy to wear!

Deputy Principal Phil Hall said: "We wanted to turn the issue of students wearing facemasks into something positive at the campus. There were some fantastic designs from many students and it was

difficult to choose a favourite, but Jade-Dior's mask, with its wonderful Let Equality Bloom colours and decora

colours and decoration, was declared the winner."

All students were invited to enter the competition with tutors and Enrichment staff judging the entries.

Jade's design has now been professionally manufactured, and is on sale at the college for £2 with all profits going to charity.

Above photo: Jade, centre, and her group all receiving a free sample of the professionally-made mask, with Deputy Principal Phil Hall, art tutors and Enrichment team staff at the college.

LADs longevity

LOUGHTON RESIDENT, Babs Oakley, 91 this month, celebrates her 70th (Platinum) anniversary of joining Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society (LADS) in 1951. Even more impressively, the pandemic resurrected her performing career, thanks to Zoom technology.

Babs joined LADS looking to make friends following her family's move to Loughton, she recalled, "The togetherness of doing a play is such a unifying thing. It's making a contribution towards a greater whole which is just so satisfying. It's lovely, and that feeling's never gone away.'

Her first lead came in 1956, as Beatrice in Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing'. After acting in countless productions over the following decades, she turned to directing, taking charge of about 50 productions. Later working as prompt, helping newer, less experienced members with their lines; and pre-Covid, she prepared her famous picnic lunches, for members building the

production sets at Lopping Hall.

Living alone, after initial optimism, Babs found lockdown isolating and lonely, equating it, in a small way, to her evacuation experience during WWII. However, the new phenomenon of Zoom gave her a new lease of acting life and helped alleviate those feelings.

Using Zoom allowed Babs to act from her sitting room chair, and perform a monologue in LADS' October audio

production, "Alone Together". In March she read a piece in "A Walk on the Wild Side", LADS contribution to the Epping Forest Festival of Culture, 2021. Here she was joined by another Loughton resident who also thought his performing days were over -Roger, a youngster by comparison, only 85, he joined LADS in 1956. Both productions were recorded and produced remotely and made available

for free on YouTube.

LADS Chair, Jean Cooper, commented "I have always been in awe of Babs, so skilled in her craft and extremely generous in her time and support for everyone who comes along to 'tread the boards'. Despite failing health, she remains an active member. Thinking her acting days were over, it has been a great privilege for all of us to help Babs perform again.'

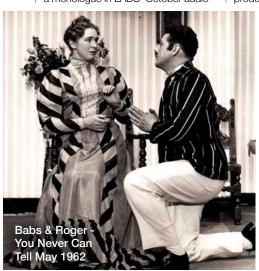
As lockdown eases LADS hopes to celebrate Babs' special anniversary; and to keep using Zoom and YouTube enabling older members, like Babs and Roger, to keep performing.

Citizens Advice new freephone local number

FROM 1 MARCH Epping Forest District Citizens Advice introduced a new free local Adviceline number - 0808 278 7855, to replace the existing local number - 0300 330 2107.

The existing number will continue to work, giving callers the option to continue with their call or to ring back on the new freephone number. Over time, it is hoped to fully transition to using the freephone number. Adviceline National Number: 0800 144 8848.











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Regular activities

Amendments to: debra.paris@loughton-tc.gov.uk

ALLOTMENTS

Loughton Potato Ground, Baldwins Hill. www.loughtonpotatoground.com Roding Road Allotment & Leisure Gardens Association, Roding Road. www.rodingroadallotments.co.uk/ Willingale Road Allotments, Loughton Town Council 020 8508 4200 **ANIMAL TRAINING**

Epping Green Dog Agility Club Epping Cricket Club, Epping Thurs Evenings 6.30-8.30pm. Jodie Lucas 07804630394 Forest Dog Training School Club, Debden Park Community Centre. Tues, 6.30-7.30pm. 020 8508 3468 / fdts1@aol.com **ARTS & CRAFTS**

Creative Art Classes LifeWorks Centre. Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. £12. Tues & Thurs. 07944 589998 www.ruthdronsfield.co.uk

Created Crafts, 2nd Thurs, 7.45pm Pam 020 8508 7657

Essex Handicrafts Association, Woodlands Branch, The Studio, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. 4th Thurs, 7.45pm. Karen Myles, branch secretary, 020 8508 4581 Loughton Arts Centre, 187B High Rd (by Lopping Hall). Mon-Sat 10am-4pm. Local artists & photographers work. 07532 053194 http://www.loughtonarts.org/ The Arts Bar, Lopping Hall. 2nd Fri from 7pm. For creative people to meet, view the latest exhibition at Loughton Arts Centre & meet the artist (as above). Thursday Art Group, Loughton Baptist Church, 92 High Rd. Thurs, 1.30pm £3 (incl tea & biscuits) 020 8502 1379 / theormes5@hotmail.co.uk

Woodford & District Floral Arrangement Group, Churchill Room, Wanstead Library, Spratt Hall Rd, E11. 3rd Mons, 6.45 for 7.30pm. Visitors £4 http://nafas. org.uk/nafas-areas/ COUNSELLING

Affordable Counselling Epping Forest Waltham Abbey 9.30am - 12.30 midday Tues/Thurs. Epping 3.15pm-6.15pm Thurs. 01992 573402 affordablecounsellingef@gmail.com Samaritans. Free, confidential emotional support for the distressed & despairing available 24/7. 020 8553 9900 / 116 123 / jo@samaritans.org / txt 07725 909090 Spark Counselling and Mentoring for young people. Loughton Youth Centre, Borders Lane, Loughton 020 8508 6743 Spark@worthunlimited.co.uk Free service - donations accepted

EDUCATION

Music Lessons, Loughton Music Academy, High Rd. 020 8502 2992 www.loughtonmusicacademy.co.uk WEA (Workers' Educational Association) Loughton & Epping Branch. Mrs Pat Dale 020 8281 1536 / http://wea-essex.org. uk/branches/loughton-and-epping/ **FAMILIES**

Butterfly Club Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. Mons (term time) 1.30-3pm £1 child (pre-school) with parents/carers administrator@ loughtonmethodist.org.uk 020 8502

3071 Toddler Church, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. (0-5 plus fellowship). Tues (term time), 10am. 020 8502 3071 administrator@ loughtonmethodist.org.uk

Loughton Foodbank Weds, 10am-12 noon, St Mary's Church, 201 High Rd & Sats, 10.30am-12 noon, St. John's on the Broadway, 66 The Broadway, IG10 3ST, 07402 032313 https://eppingforest. foodbank.org.uk

GENERAL INTEREST

Bell ringing, St John the Baptist Church, Church Lane. Tues, 8-9pm (in tower). No experience necessary. Yvonne Finch 07748 970754

Book Groups Loughton Library, Traps Hill 4th Mons, 1.30pm 0333 0132677 Calligraphy for beginners (adults) 07956 544262

Deafblind Club Loughton Library, Traps Hill 1st Tues, 2-4pm 0333 0132677 Epping Forest Conservation Volunteers, The Warren, Epping New Rd most Suns. Kevin Mason 8529 9273 efcv2@yahoo. co.uk www.efcv.co.uk

Epping Forest Countrycare, EFDC's Countryside team. Volunteering projects in district's nature reserves. Thurs 10am-4pm 01992 788203 www. eppingforestdc.gov.uk/index.php/outand-about/countrycare

Epping Forest & District Stamp Club, Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill, 2nd Tues (most months) 8pm. 01992

Essex Wildlife Trust – Roding Valley Meadows. Volunteer work parties undertaking practical reserve management, Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 10am-3pm. Contact: roding@essexwt. org.uk/020 8500 3094

Film Loughton. Film screenings locally. www.filmloughton.com

Forest Creative Writers, Jazz Archive, Loughton Library, Traps Hill, Thurs (term time) 12.45-2.45 pm. Midge Venables 020 8504 1261

Forest Musical Theatre Company, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. Tues & Weds (rehearsals). email rachel@ forestmusical.co.uk or visit www. forestmusical.co.uk

Friends of Light & Healing, Kingsley Hall, Kingsley Rd. An evening of clairvoyance. Alternate Thurs, 7.30 for 8pm. 07743 376468

Games Morning Loughton Library, Traps Hill. Play board games & cards. Weds, 10am-12pm led by Loughton Voluntary Care 0333 0132677

HEARS - Herts & Essex Architectural Research Society, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. £2.50 non-members. 4th Fri, 8pm. David Stevenson 020 8508 2512 . www.hears.vpweb.co.uk See Dates for the diary.

Hornby Railway Collectors Association, St John's Church Scout Hall, Church Lane. 2nd Thurs, 5-10pm alternate months. David Southgate 020 8508

Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society, Lopping Hall, High Rd. Martin Howarth 020 8508 8644 www.lads.org.uk See Dates for the diary.

Loughton Astronomical Society, Scout Hall, Theydon Bois. LAS Astrokyds (6-14 yrs). Thurs 8-10pm. Brian Morton 01992 815804 www.las-astro.org.uk

Loughton Bowling Club Bridge Section, Eleven Acre Rise. Thurs pm. 020 8502 0237

Loughton Bridge Club, Grange Farm -Mon & Weds 7.20 pm lindajenkins34@ hotmail.com www.bridgewebs.com Loughton Camera Club, Lopping Hall, High Rd. Weds, 8-10pm. 07873 534 604 www.loughtoncameraclub.org.uk/ Loughton_Camera_Club/Welcome.html Loughton Chess Club, Loughton Bowling Club, Eleven Acre Rise. Weds, 7.30pm. 020 8508 8407 http://www. loughtonchess.co.uk/

Loughton & District Historical Society, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. £2.50 non-mems. 2nd Thurs, 8pm www.loughtonhistoricalsociety.org Loughton & Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society, All Saints Hse, Romford Rd, Chigwell Row, IG7 4QD. Alt. Fri 7.45pm 020 8502 1645 www.lefars.org.uk Yarns & Tales Loughton Library, Traps Hill for a knit, chat & tea 2nd Sats 2-4pm

0333 0132677

HEALTH

ADAS (W Essex Alcohol & Drugs Service - by appt) Rectory Lane Health Centre 01279 641347 / admin@adasuk.org.uk www.adasuk.org

Breathe Easy (British Lung Foundation), Tony Carr 01992 573387

Lifewalks EFDC walking for health scheme various locations Mon, Tues, Thurs 10am & Sat, Sun 10.30am. Karen Murray 01992 564222 / kmurray@eppingforestdc.gov.uk Loughton Memory Café (Alzheimer's Society), Church Hall, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. 1st & 3rd Mons, 10am-12pm 01279 427522 www. alzheimers.org.uk

Memory Café Rotary Club of Loughton Buckhurst Hill & Chigwell, Loughton Club, 8 Station Rd 2nd Fri 10am-12pm Fran 07984 100379

Open Door Friendship Group for adults with mental ill health. Fridays 3.30/5.30pm St Michael and All Ángels Church Hall, Roding Rd, IG10 3EJ opendoorfriendship@gmail.com + Weds 2pm Yoga sessions at the Methodist Church, High Rd, IG10 1RB £5 members (£10 non-mems)

ProActive (W Essex Prostate Cancer men's self-help group) St Margaret's Hospital, The Plain Epping CM16 6TN. Fri monthly 10.30am-2.30pm. Anthony Dollimore 07973 345094

www.proactive.me.uk

LEISURE ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN / YOUNG PEOPLE 2324 (Chigwell) Squadron, Air Training

Corps, Buckhurst Hill. Mons & Thurs evenings (13-17 yrs). 020 8505 3353 www.2324squadron.org.uk 7th Epping Forest Scout Group, St Edmund's Church, Traps Hill. Tues: Scouts boys/girls (10½-14½ yrs) 7.30-9pm. Thurs: Beavers boys/girls (6-8 yrs) 5-6pm & Cubs boys/girls (8-10½) 6.30-7.30pm. Keith Davis 07553 376181 16th Epping Forest Scout Group Trinity Church Hall, Mannock Drive. Friday's during term time. Beavers (6-8 yrs) 5-6.15pm, Cubs (8-10 yrs) 6.15-7.45pm & Scouts (10-14 yrs) 7.45-9.30pm. Linda Brede 020 8508 4867/lulu.brede@gmail.com 30th Loughton Scout Group, St John's Church, Church Lane. Beavers (6-8 yrs),

info@30thloughton.co.uk 41st Epping Forest Scout Group, Lopping Hall, 189 High Rd. Mons 5.45-9pm Thurs & Fri, 6-9pm Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorers girls/boys (6-18) 020 8923 2378 / agsl41@gmail.com

Cubs (8-10 yrs) &, Scouts (10-14 yrs) Paul Snowdon GSL 020 8508 4336 /

Baby & Toddler 20-min session. Loughton Library, Traps Hill. Mons 10am Tues 10.30am; Thurs 2.20pm. 1st Sats (Daddy Cool) rhyme time 11am. 0333 0132677

Baby & Toddler Group St Edmund's Parish Hall, Traps Hill. Thurs 9.30-11.30am (term time) stedmundsplaygroup@gmail.com Cha Cha School of Dancing Ballroom and Latin dance class 5 yrs +, Tues & Thurs 5-9pm Murray Hall, 106 Borders Lane, Emma 07970 489949

Girlguiding in Loughton Rainbows Brownies & Guides (girls aged 5 -17yrs). Leadership opportunities available for girls & women over 14yrs. More information and to register https://www.girlguiding. org.uk/information-for-parents/

Tots Time (0-4) Mons 9.30-11am. Forge (Y7-13) Weds 3.30-5.30pm. Shine! Toddler church (2-5) Thurs 9.45-10.45am. After Hours (Y9+) Fri 8-10pm pool & table tennis & console games etc. Shooting stars (Y1-6) St Michael's Church field, Roding Rd, Weds 4pm

Little Angels Baby & Toddler group, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. Mons 10-11.30am (term-time) 020 8418 7944 Little Oak's Child & Family Wellbeing Servce, 020 8508 0932, please see our Facebook page for programme details Loughton Youth Centre 106 Borders Lane IG10 3SB. ECC Youth Services in partnership 07557 168088 / Iouisa. stirling@essex.gov.uk

Accurro: young people with learning difficulties Tues 6-9pm. Action for Family Carers: Young Carers Weds 6-9pm (term time) free activities charles.miles@affc. org.uk

Spark Youth Club - Mon/Thurs 3.30-5.30pm term time Age 11-16, 020 8508 6743 Spark@worthunlimited.co.uk Loughton Youth Project, The Space, Loughton Library, Traps Hill. 24-hour online community radio station. Free afterschool / evening café weekdays. Nick Robinson www.lypradio.com/ Noah's Ark Toddler Group (under 5s) Oakwood Hill Community Hall, IG10 3NB 10-11.30am Tues and Thurs (term time) + Trinity Church, Mannock Drive, IG10

2JD. 10-11.30am Mon and Wed (term time). £1.50 per family. 020 8508 9883 Rainbows, Brownies, Cubs & Scouts Groups, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. 020 8418 7944

Red Balloon Family, Epping Drama Club 7-16yrs Tues 5:45-7:45pm @ The Box, Epping, CM16 5DN 020 3086 8186 www.rbf.org.uk

Red Balloon Family, UpStage Theatre Company 7-14yrs Mon 5-7pm; 14yrs+ Mon 7-10pm @ Lopping Hall, Loughton, IG10 4LF 020 3086 8186 www.rbf.org.uk Reindeer Explorer Scouts, St Edmund's Church, Traps Hill. Girls/boys (131/2-18 yrs). Fri. Dave Martin 07889 189261 MUSIC

60's music appreciation social group Loughton Club, 8 Station Rd. Last Tues 2-4.30pm 020 8508 8365 / 07761 792691

Loughton Folk Club, 8 Station Rd. Live acoustic music. Thurs, 8pm. Jim 07762 146623 / loughtonfolkclub@googlemail.

Loughton Ladies Choir Meets every Thurs 2.15-3.45pm St John's Church Hall, Church Lane IG10 1PD. New Members welcome – sopranos/altos Peter Jones – 07769 973405

Loughton Operatic Society, Lopping Hall, High Rd, 020 8505 2033. loughtonoperaticsociety@hotmail.com www.loughtonoperatic.org.uk Rehearsals Tues & Thurs

National Jazz Archive, Loughton Library, Traps Hill Mon-Weds, Fri, 10am-1pm 020 8502 4701 www.nationaljazzarchive.

Roding Players Orchestra rehearsals, Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill. No audition. Mons, 7.30-9.30pm. Miles Harwood 020 8505 4329 www. rodingplayers.co.uk/

South West Essex Choir, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. Tues, 7.45-10pm. 01992 812606 www. southwestessexchoir.org.uk/

Stand & Deliver Acoustic Open Mic Club, Royal British Legion, 118 Church Hill. 2nd Tues 8pm. Roy Tyzack

roy.tyzack@btinternet.com Woodford Symphony Orchestra

welcomes new string players. Rehearsals Thurs, 7.45-9.45pm, Roding Valley High School, 020 8924 9370 www.wsorchestra.org.uk SOCIAL

The Buffaloes, Loughton Club, 8 Station Rd. A charitable brotherhood -members (18+). Tues & Thurs, 8.30pm. mldjaworsfold@yahoo.co.uk www.loughtonclub.blogspot.com 14

13 Café Hope St Mary's Church, 201 High Rd Mon-Fri 9.15am-2.45pm 020 8508 3643

Chit Chat Club, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd, 1st Thurs, 1-3pm. Social activities & games, refreshments, company. 020-8418 7944

Civil Service Retirement Fellowship, Loughton Library (Jazz Room), Traps Hill. 3rd Mon, 2pm. Mrs E Vale 020 8508 2459 Forest Probus Club, Gilwell Park, E4. 2nd Fri. Lunch & speaker. New members welcome. Chairman Brian Cook 0208 5320227

Friday Market, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. Fri, 10am-12 noon Loughton Probus Club, Gilwell Park, Chingford. 4th Tues (lunch). Secretary Derek Allen 020 8504 3074 www. probusloughton.org.uk/

Over 50s Club, Oakwood Hill Estate Hall. Daily programme of activities. 020 8637 4357

Rotary Club of Loughton, Buckhurst Hill & Chigwell The Blue Boar, Market Place, Abridge, RM4 1UA. Thurs 6.15pm www. loughtonrotary.org.uk

Royal British Legion Loughton Branch, 118 Church Hill. Mons & Thurs, 8pm (bingo); Tues & Thurs, 1-4pm line dancing; 2nd & 4th Weds quiz night; last Sun 1-4pm (jazz @ the RBL) 020 8508 5044 www.loughtonrblclub.co.uk

Tea Club - Senior Citizens, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. Alternate 3rd Sats 3-4.45pm. 020 8418 7944

Wesley Café, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd Mon-Thurs 10am-3.30pm; Fri to 3pm & Sat to 12.30pm 020 8502 3071 SPORT

All-ability Trampolining Club (disabled people to 19 yrs), Debden Park High School, Willingale Rd. Weds 6.45-7.45pm. Loughton Flyers Trampolining Club & EFDC. Fabrizio Ferrari 01992 564567 / fferrari@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Amici Badminton Club, Roding Valley High School Sports Hall, Alderton Hill. Mons, 8-10pm. Age 30+. Chris 07713 004996

Avenue Lawn Tennis Club, 18 The Avenue, Friendly family club. Membership: juniors 020 8502 3793 & adults 020 8502 1950

Clubbercise Murray Hall, 106 Borders Lane. Easy dance workout routines Weds 7.15-9.15pm Lisa 07877 010158 Colebrook Royals FC, Grange Farm Pavilion, Grange Farm Lane, Chigwell IG7 6DP. Sats & Suns 07951 820444 www. colebrookroyals.co.uk

Conaught Tennis, Squash and Bowls Club Beginners & Improvers Social Lawn Bowls. First 5 sessions free. Make friends, have fun and bowl! Every Tuesday 5pm to 7pm. Connaught Club, Chingford. Call Nicola on 020 8529 2341 EFDC Fitness (all abilities). All classes £5 - first session free. Loughton Bowls Club, Eleven Acre Rise.

Strength & Balance – Mon 10-11am Beginners Yoga – Tues 10-11am (dementia friendly, free of charge for carers) - Loughton Cricket Club, The Uplands

Pilates – Weds 9.30-10.30am

Keep Fit – Fri 10-11am
Enquiries: csreception@eppingforestdc.
gov.uk / 01992 564561
Epping Forest HF Walking Group regular
Sunday walks in the local area.
www.efhfg.org.uk
Epping Forest Sportability Club (EFSC)

Epping Forest Sportability Club (EFSC) Multi-sports club for young people with mild-moderate physical & learning difficulties. Oak View School, Whitehills Rd. Sats 10am-1pm (term time) efsc@ hotmail.co.uk www.efsportability.com Jumping Jens, St Michael's Church, Jubilee Hall, Roding Rd. £4. Tues & Thurs, 8-9pm. 07866 127522 Katy Little School of Dance, Loughton. Ballet, tap, jazz, examinations & shows. 4 yrs to adults 07712 106941 /

www.katvlittleschoolofdance.co.uk

Keep Fit with Caroline Loughton Methodist Church, Joseph Rank Room, 260 High Rd Tues & Thurs, 10.40-11.40am £5.07714 467784 Loughton Athletic Club, The Pavilion,

Loughton Athletic Club, The Pavilion, South View Rd (Roding Valley Rec Ground). Tues, 7pm. www.loughtonac. org.uk

Loughton Cricket Club The Uplands, Loughton, IG10 1NQ. Mid April through to September. Children (5yrs) to adults. For info: Contact Cliff Greenhill Chairman 020-8502-2064 cliff.greenhill@btinternet.com / www.loughtoncc.hitscricket.com

Loughton Fencing Club Weds, term-time, Debden Park High School, Willingale Rd. All abilities, equipment supplied free. Jnrs 7-8.30pm, snrs 7.30-9pm. First session free. info@loughtonfencingclub.co.uk Loughton Football Club, Avondale Close. 8-18 yrs + senior team. Suns (yth teams), Sats (snrs) & weekday evenings (training). Keith Campen 020 8508 4757 www.loughtonfc.com/contact-us Loughton Karate Club, Lopping Hall. All ages & all levels. Suns 5-6pm + weekday evenings. Stephen O' Brien 07758 341584. ALSO Women's Self-Defence Class – see website http://

loughtonkarateclub.co.uk/ Mountaineering Club, Victoria Tavern, Smarts Lane. Hill walkers & climbers welcome. Mons 8.30pm. www. loughtonmc.org

Lopping Hall community hall in Loughton IG10. Events and shows, rooms to let, dance and keep fit classes, Art Centre. For more info: loppinghallmanager@gmail.com / www.loppinghall.org.uk / 020 8508 1660

Loughton Rugby Club, Hornbeam Road, Buckhurst Hill, IG9 6JT. Training Wednesdays 7.30pm. Matches Saturdays. Contact: Michael Walker 07939 468222 Loughton Wado-Kai Karate Club, Roding Valley High School Drama Hut, Alderton Hill. All ages. Weds 7pm. 07971 672542 www.loughtonwadokai.co.uk Old Loughtonians Hockey Club All ages, beginners to elite welcome, www. oldloughtonians.co.uk 02085044010, OLHC@oldloughtonians.co.uk Pilates classes Epping Forest Community Church, Grosvenor Drive, IG10 2LG, Weds 8pm, Thurs 10am. £5 Suitable for all. www.ginafitnesspilates. co.uk

Roding Valley Angling Club. New members welcome. Darren 07818 392020 / roding.valley.angling.club@ gmail.com

Walk - West Essex Ramblers (sorry no dogs). Weekends, Wed & Thurs. 020 8554 1665 / 07434 902394 www. westessexramblers.org.uk

Wing Tjun Kung Fu Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill. All ages and abilities £8. Sundays (times vary betw 11.15am-3.15pm for each age group) 07977 132111 www.omni-martialarts. co.uk

TALKS

Arts Society Woodford Green, Bancroft's Preparatory School Hall, Whitehall Rd, Woodford Green. Member of NADFAS. 2nd Tues, 7.15 for 8pm. 020 8599 6281 English-Speaking Union, Murray Hall, 106 Borders Lane. 020 8505 9001 / 01992 812454. Group suspended until end of 2021. To be reconsidered then. Mothers' Union, St John's Church in Lady Chapel, Church Lane. 3rd Thurs, 10.30am for coffee & speaker. Ivy Southgate 020 8508 7530 National Trust, £3 non-members. Refreshments & NT info. 020 8508 9541

See Dates for the diary New Vistas, Loughton Club, 8 Station Rd. Guest speakers. 1st & 3rd Tues 1.45pm. Juliet Hipkin 01992 574552 St John's Wives' Group, St. John's Parish Hall, Church. Lane, Loughton, 1st & 3rd Mons 8pm (excluding August).

Anne Pratt 020 8508 3539



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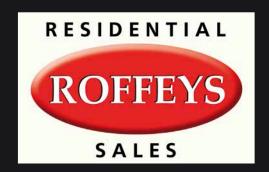












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