



# Think Loughton



News from Loughton Town Council

Summer 2022 No 97

## Jessel Green Family Fun Day returns



**WE ARE** delighted to invite residents to join us on Sunday 26 June for the return of this popular family fun day, on Jessel Green. Following recent global events that have affected all our lives over the last couple of years, we are sure that this will provide a most welcome diversion.

Our usual partners will be joining us to bring this not-for-profit community event back to you, including amongst others, Restore Community Church, Red Balloon Foundation

and Epping Forest Community Church and the Cottage Loaf Pub.

This year will be a Platinum Jubilee themed event, the arena area will host a varied programme of musical and dance entertainment throughout the afternoon, and there will be a Children's fancy dress "Best Crown" competition judged by the Town Mayor.

The usual free entertainment and low-cost activities will be provided from 12 noon until 4pm.

Along with food, drink, and craft stalls, we will have the children's favourites: inflatables, bouncy castles, Mr Happy, kite making, Punch & Judy, and free soft play for the Under 5's. There will also be live music and dance plus much more ...!

Individual activities start from 50p a go with all day wristbands available from £5.

Please put the date in your diary and join us on the green for a fun-filled day to remember and enjoy – something we can all embrace.

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# Contact numbers

## COUNCIL SERVICES

Loughton Town Council	020 8508 4200
City of London Corp (Epping Forest)	020 8532 1010
Epping Forest District Council	01992 564000
Waste Management Hotline	01992 564608
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
SSAFA (Loughton Epping & Harlow)	01206 764114
Trading Standards ECC (business)	0345 603 7626
Victim Support (Essex)	0300 303 0165

## COMMUNITY

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

Churches Together	www.loughtonchurches.org.uk
Epping Forest ReUse	01992 578222
ignite (Youth Activities)	020 8508 3643
Loughton Arts Centre	07532 053194
Loughton Voluntary Care Assoc.	020 8508 6114
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
Spire Roding (Private)	020 8551 1100
St Margaret's	01279 444455
Whipps Cross	020 8539 5522

## LOCAL AMENITY REFUSE POINTS

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

## POLICE & FIRE (dial 999 for emergencies)

Essex Police (non-emergency)	101
Action Fraud	0300 123 2040
Anti-terrorist hotline	0800 789321

## PUBLIC UTILITIES

UK Power Networks emergency	105
National Gas Emergency Service	0800 111 999
Thames Water 24 hour leakline	0800 714 614

## 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

Arriva (traveline)	0344 800 4411
First Essex Customer Services	0345 602 0121
Gatwick Airport: Your service centre	01293 555713
Heathrow Airport	0844 335 1801
London Travel Information	
(TfL & London Overground)	0343 222 1234
Luton Airport	01582 405100
National Express	0871 781 8181
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
Southend Airport	01702 538 500
Stansted Airport	0844 335 1803
Tourist Info Centre (Waltham Abbey)	01992 660336
Traveline (public transport information)	0871 200 22 33

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# Clerk's Remarks



**THE QUEENS** Platinum Jubilee Celebrations are very much the theme for the summer of 2022. Loughton Town Council's (LTC) initial community event was the ceremonial lighting of the Jubilee Beacon at the top of Hillyfields, which recently took place over the extended Bank Holiday weekend. We are really looking forward to two further major events. The Fun Day at Jessel Green on Sunday 26 June is back after enforced gap

due to the covid pandemic. As well as the usual family attractions, there will be a make a crown 'fit for a king or queen' competition for the younger ones. Infant and junior categories will be judged by the Town Mayor with prizes for first place. Keep an eye out on our website for further details to follow.

The inaugural Loughton Day, an event for local community groups and residents alike, will now be staged on Saturday 17 September at the Loughton Cricket ground adjacent to Traps Hill. The event will have a distinctive Jubilee feel to the occasion. We already have a wide range of stalls and attractions planned. If you are a community group and interested in participating, please call the office or contact by email – [contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk](mailto:contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk) soonest. There has been a strong demand for community groups stalls. We will be reaching a cut-off point very soon and it will then be a case of 'first come, first served.' Make a diary note too for the Horticultural Show at Murray Hall, along Borders Lane on Saturday

3 September where the prizes will include a jubilee-based category.

The Annual Report in the middle section of this summer edition, aptly illustrates the diversity and breadth of the work of your Town Council. The plans for relocating and building a new children's playground on the Roding Valley Recreation Ground are progressing and new Christmas lights displays will be in place for the main shopping areas for the festive period in December. Regular bulletins will appear on the Town Council website and Facebook pages. Loughton Wombles is proving a success, with regular group sweeps across the Town. New members are always welcome.

An area of LTC work that may go unnoticed, is the preservation and maintenance of a large number of trees, that LTC has responsibility for, with regular surveys and reports undertaken by arboricultural specialists. Whilst 'Storm Eunice' in the Spring caused some havoc in Loughton, we escaped fairly lightly. The

exceptions were the falling of some exceptionally large branches in the Town Council Cemetery and two completely uprooted 'established trees' in the Memorial Rose Garden along Roding Road. However, this provided an opportunity to replant a new 'Maple Acer Campestris' tree as part of the 'Queens Green Canopy' planting programme. The official 'Jubilee' planting was conducted by the outgoing, Town Mayor, Councillor Rose Brookes. We look forward to seeing this tree flourish for generations to come.

Lastly, I would like to thank Cllr Brookes on behalf of LTC for her hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication to Loughton, during another difficult year, where the usual number of official Town Council events and public gatherings were somewhat curtailed due to the ongoing covid situation.

Enjoy the Jubilee summer and celebrations.

**Mark Squire**  
Town Clerk

# Annual Town Meeting 2022

**IN MARCH**, the Town Mayor, Cllr Rose Brookes welcomed locals to the Annual Town Meeting at the Murray Hall. Loughton residents were given the opportunity to finally meet their Councillors, a number of new faces, following the postponed local elections in May last year.

An update was provided on the work of the Council over the past 12 challenging months, along with its plans for 2022/23.

The evening included the presentation of our Citizen of the Year award to Janet Thomas

for her charitable work with Loughton Voluntary Care for well over 30 years. Janet received the presentation of the Silver Rose Bowl which she will keep for a year, along with her own glass engraved award and scroll, and a cheque for £250 for her chosen charity Loughton Voluntary Care Association.

Janet and Loughton Voluntary Care have been invaluable in the community, during the ongoing covid pandemic and especially during the early lockdowns.

The Loughton Building Design winners were also announced, but sadly were unable to attend to receive their plaque. Finally, the recipients of the 2022/23 Financial Assistance Award Scheme were presented with their certificates.





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# Loughton Town Council

Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor to be appointed on 24 May 2022 Town Clerk: Mark Squire

## Councillors

### ALDERTON WARD

**Cllr Philip Abraham** 020 8502 2925  
1 Lancaster Drive  
Loughton IG10 3NQ  
philabraham2000@gmail.com

**Cllr Michael Stubbings** 07766 480522  
70 Greenfields  
Loughton IG10 3HF  
mick.stubbings@hotmail.com

**Cllr Katie Valentine** 07477 012213  
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cldr.valentine@gmail.com

### BROADWAY WARD

**Cllr Philip Beales** 020 8418 0459  
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p.e.beales@googlemail.com

**Cllr Kevin Rainbow** 07921 662715  
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**Cllr Les House** 020 8508 3369  
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Loughton IG10 3DQ  
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### FAIRMEAD WARD

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13 Colebrook Gardens  
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carolchristmas@yahoo.com

**Cllr Sebastian Fontenelle** 07941 365850  
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Traps Hill, Loughton, IG10 1HD  
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**Cllr Will Kauffman** 07799 148740  
28 The Greens Close  
Loughton IG10 1QE  
willkauffman@ymail.com

### FOREST WARD

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6 High View Close  
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stella.murphy6@icloud.com

**Cllr Trevor Downing** 020 8508 8877  
207 Smarts Lane  
Loughton IG10 4BW  
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**Cllr Jon Riley** 020 8508 6604  
15 Albion Park  
Loughton IG10 4RB  
jonriley135@outlook.com

### RODING WARD

**Cllr Stephen Murray** 020 8508 7548  
1 Avondale Court, Avondale Drive  
Loughton IG10 3BT  
stephen.w.murray@hotmail.com

**Cllr Rose Brookes** 020 8502 5981  
3 Lower Park Road  
Loughton IG10 4NB  
vietrose02@aol.com

**Cllr David Wixley** 020 8418 9284  
2 Copper Beech Court, Goldings Road  
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david.wixley198@btinternet.com

**Cllr Neil MacKinnon** 07872 324028  
39 Barncroft Close  
Loughton IG10 3EU  
cldr.neilmackinnon@gmail.com

### ST JOHN'S WARD

**Cllr Chris Pond** 020 8508 2361  
Forest Villa, 7 Staples Road  
Loughton IG10 1HP  
loughton\_ponds@hotmail.com

**Cllr Caroline Pond** 020 8508 2361  
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**Cllr Michael Owen** 07467 430145  
Forest Side  
Baldwins Hill  
Loughton IG10 1SD  
michael.x.owen@gmail.com

### ST MARY'S WARD

**Cllr Barbara Cohen** 020 8502 3242  
23 Church Lane  
Loughton, IG10 1PD  
bcohen61@hotmail.com

**Cllr Judy Jennings** 020 8508 1861  
94 York Hill  
Loughton IG10 1JA  
clrjennings@hotmail.co.uk

**Cllr Graham Wiskin** 020 8925 2003  
65 Traps Hill  
Loughton IG10 1TD  
cldr.graham.wiskin@gmail.com

## Committee membership

*Committee memberships were finalised at the Annual Council meeting on 24 May 2022, (after Think Loughton went to print). Full details of the new Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor and the committees are available on the town council noticeboards around the town and its website [www.loughton-tc.gov.uk](http://www.loughton-tc.gov.uk)*

*You can also email councillors directly from the website.*

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Further copies of *Think Loughton* are available from the Town Council and local libraries. A digital version of *Think Loughton* can be viewed on the council website where a PDF version can be downloaded. It is also available on tape - please call us to request a copy.

### 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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**We do not accept unattributed articles for publication.**

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## Town Council Meetings

Loughton Library & Town Hall, Traps Hill, Loughton, IG10 1HD at 7.30pm

2022

<b>Jun</b>	7	Recreation
	13	Planning & Licensing
	22	Environment & Heritage
	27	Planning & Licensing
<b>Jul</b>	5	Resources & General Services
	11	Planning & Licensing
	13	Council
	25	Planning & Licensing
<b>Aug</b>	8	Planning & Licensing
	30	Planning & Licensing

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

## News round-up

■ **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:** Continuing its commitment to supporting the vital work of local groups and charities, the Town Council have this year at the Annual Town Meeting on the 16 March 2022, awarded grants totalling £29,275.98 for the 2022/2023 scheme.

The recipients included: Alfie James Productions £200; Affordable Counselling £500; Basics Essex £1,000; Epping Forest ReUSE £484.98; Loughton Chigwell & District Synagogue £500; Loughton Voluntary Care Association £391; Restore Grow Community Garden £2,500; Restore Community Noah's Ark £3,000; Restore Community Oakwood Hill Community Centre £3,000; Restore Community Oakwood Hill Youth Club Project £2,000; Samaritans Redbridge Branch £700; Spark a branch of Worth Unlimited £1,500; 3Food4U £3,500; Voluntary Action Epping Forest £1,500; and Citizens Advice – EF District £8,500 towards its running costs.

■ **WELCOME TO THE TEAM: JAYNE BAYLEY** has joined the caretaking team at Murray Hall and has been with the Town Council since February. Jayne has previously



worked in similar roles for both Epping Town Council and Epping Forest District Council. In addition to her responsibilities at Murray Hall she is also Concierge for Loughton Town Council Committee

meetings. Jayne is looking forward to ensuring hirers get the maximum benefit for the Hall and all it has to offer, and building a rapport with our regular hirers.

■ **JOIN THE LOUGHTON WOMBLES:** Fed up with litter – join the Loughton Wombles and do something about it, either on group litter-picks or on your own. Equipment supplied. For further details email contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk Any litter removed helps wildlife and creates a better space for us Loughton Residents.



■ **LOUGHTON MARKETS:** The Town Council has assumed the role of Market Authority under the Food Act 1984. It is hoped this will lead to the prompt revival of the Farmers' and Broadway markets asap.

# Loughton Business Design Award 2022

**WITH ITS** commitment to preserving the architectural heritage of Loughton, the judges selected 140 Forest Road, from the worthy nominations received for this year's award. The refurbishment included restoration to the front elevation which had been very inappropriately altered in the 1980s with alien design windows and vivid green painted brickwork. Authentic wooden sash windows were replaced, with the brickwork cleaned off and beautifully pointed. The judges considered *"the renovation respects the style of the Victorian cottage retaining the character of this part of Loughton."*

Sadly, the owners Mr & Mrs Kosh were unable to attend the Annual Town meeting to receive their award in person but were delighted with the accolade.

A certificate of merit was also awarded to Concept 55 Architects for renovations to 68 Church Hill. The judges believing this project *"to be a neat way of enlarging a rather small and run-down house, adopting the style of its immediate Victorian neighbours to the south."*




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## Heritage plaque nominations



**LOUGHTON'S HIDDEN** heritage is celebrated through the Town Council's blue plaque scheme.

The Council welcomes new nominations for consideration. Please check the criteria below before submitting your suggestions to: [contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk](mailto:contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk)

### Criteria for granting heritage plaques

**1** In the case of a single person  
**1.1** If the person was eminent in his or her field and is listed in appropriate general national biographical sources for the period; for instance, the Dictionary/New Dictionary of National Biography, Who's Who/Who Was Who, Men and Women of the Time, the Times Obituary, or recognised specialist biographical sources, and had a significant connection with one or more places in Loughton, such as a residence of five years, place of birth, place of business etc.,  
**Or**

**1.2** If the person made a definite contribution to the history of Loughton, does not appear in the relevant national sources but had a significant connection with one or more places in Loughton, such as a residence of five years, place of birth, place of business etc.

**2** In the case of an event  
 If it was of considerable importance in the history or development of the town.

**3** In the case of a building  
 If, unconnected with an important person, the building was significant in the history or development of Loughton, or is of great antiquity, or of particular architectural importance.

**Please note:**

Proposals will not be considered for the commemoration of individuals still living.

# Storm Eunice!

**CAUSED HAVOC** across the country, on Friday 18 and Saturday 19 February. Fortunately for Loughton we survived with very little damage. Two trees fell in the Memorial Rose Garden, damaging a fence and two benches, and a Cherry Tree close to the entrance to the Roding Valley Recreation

Ground in Roding Road had also fallen. Our Cemetery staff were kept busy and a planned cremated remains Interment was brought forward to earlier in the morning, which was just as well as the branch of a neighbouring tree was brought down just after the Interment took place!



## A little bit dramatic Lopping Hall - the heart of Loughton

**LOPPING HALL REPORTS** – our 190 seat Theatre has been well used since we reopened after Covid restrictions were removed.

This includes Loughton Amateur Dramatic Societies performances of "A fine bright day" by Philip Goulding, "Gaslight" by Patrick Hamilton and "Frost / Nixon" by Peter Morgan.

The Loughton Operatic Society will be performing "Let's go on with the show" on 28 & 29 April.

We also hosted performances by several local schools, a performance of "The Mikado" by The Merry Opera Company and a Harp recital by Ricardo Curbelo and a performance by Upstage Theatre Company of "Treasure Island".

Further upgrades to the theatre have been made, together with new changing rooms that can also be rented on an hourly basis. "The Studio" is ideal for art and Yoga groups that require a quiet and naturally lit room.



# Plant a tree for the Queen's Jubilee

**LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL** took part in the Queen's Green Canopy and on Tuesday 29 March 2022, Cllr Rose Brookes, Loughton Town Mayor, assisted with the planting of a Maple Acer Campestre at the Memorial Rose Garden on Roding Road.

In her speech Cllr Brookes explained that the Councillors of the Recreation Committee, the committee that is mostly responsible for the open spaces in Loughton, agreed that a tree should be planted at The Murray Hall, and this date had been set in accordance with the Queen's Green Canopy planting programme. But after the devastation of Storm Eunice back in February where the Memorial Rose Garden lost two trees, it was agreed that it would be more suitable to plant the tree here.

Thanks were given to Rod Hunt tree surgeon, from Arbtec who attended the Memorial Garden on the day of the Storm

soon after the trees toppled. Rod and his team cleared the debris and made safe the area.

The Town Mayor also thanked Mark Lovejoy of Gristwood and Toms Arboriculture Service who have provided this beautiful Maple Acer Campestre, Paul Hoy our Services Manager and Debbie Taylor, Services Officer for all their work in the aftermath of the Storm and in enabling the tree ceremony to take place here in such short notice.

Special thanks were also given to Mark Petit of St. Michaels Church, as he attended the garden following the Storm, and removed the commemorative plaques from the damaged benches. Loughton Town Council now have them in the office for safe-keeping.

"We hope you will enjoy the Memorial Garden for many years and watch the tree grow into a crowning glory"



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## Dates for the diary

■ **11 Jun 7pm Concert** – by The Songbirds led by Fru Chilvers. Music for a Summer's Evening, The Church of the Holy Innocents, High Beach. Tickets £15 each to include light refreshments/glass of wine/soft drink from Jane Begley – 07572 111387 or janey.begley@outlook.com

■ **23 Jun 7.45pm Essex Handicrafts Association Woodlands Branch**, the church hall at Loughton Methodist Church contact 020 8508 7657 (see p13). Subject to be confirmed.

■ **25 Jun 7.30pm Woodford Symphony Orchestra Summer Concert** – in the Great Hall at Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill. The Programme will be a combination of old favourites plus music by the Ukrainian Composer Mykola Lysenko. *Lysenko: Overture to Taras Bulba Rimsky Korsakov: Piano Concerto with Soloist Tom Ang Beethoven: Symphony No 5* For further details: www.WSOchestra.org.uk or telephone 020 8924 9370

■ **26 Jun 10.30am Horseman's Sunday on The Green** at the top of Avey Lane, High Beach. The Church of the Holy Innocents, High Beach - service will last approximately 30 minutes and will be followed by "Tack and Turnout" and also "Cutest pet" show. For further details of any services or events, please contact Beth Horton on 07853 336880

■ **26 June 12 noon to 4pm, Jessel Green Community Fun Day** A fun-filled programme offering something for all the family to enjoy. Inflatables, bouncy castles, soft play, Punch and Judy and much more (see front page).

■ **10 Jul 2pm - 5.30pm Story-telling and riddles** given by Stephen Fellowes and friends, during Sunday teas, The Church of the Holy Innocents, High Beach. Including, Cake: £2 a slice, £5 for half a cake, £10 for a whole cake. Takeaway service available. Tea/coffee: 50p a mug. contact Beth Horton on 07853 336880

■ **12 Jul 8pm Hepworth & Moore: The Yorkshire Influence** A talk by Ian Elizabeth Strang, Official guide at The Tate. An exploration of the influence of their native county on Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore. The Arts Society, Woodford Green Bancroft's School, High Road, Woodford Green. IG8 0RF. Cost: Voluntary donation. Enquiries: Mary Affleck, T: 07767 662762

■ **16 Jul 7pm Summer Concert - The Roding Players Orchestra**, St Marys Church, 201 High Road, Loughton, IG10 1BB. Tickets: £8, £7 concessions, under 11s are free. Tickets include refreshments and are available on the door – cash and card payments accepted. Contact details - Shirley Fuller shirley.fuller55@gmail.com 07713 113384 www.rodingleaders.co.uk

■ **25 - 29 Jul & 1 - 5 Aug 10am - 3.30pm 2022 Multisport Activity Weeks** Ages 4 1/2 to 14 yrs. Activities incl: Tennis, Mini-Tennis, Cricket, Football, Basketball, Netball, Badminton, Table Tennis, Tri-Golf, Team Games, Treasure Hunt, Music/Aerobics, Unihoc, Junior Lacrosse, Mini Olympics and lots more. Costs: £145 weekly / £32 daily. See website for discounts. Tel: 07764 747069 or email: multisportactivityweeks@gmail.com Online bookings: www.multisportactivityweeks.co.uk

■ **28 Jul 7.45pm Essex Handicrafts Association Woodlands Branch**, the church hall at Loughton Methodist Church contact 020 8508 7657 (see p13). Subject to be confirmed.

■ **25 Aug 7.45pm Essex Handicrafts Association Woodlands Branch**, the church hall at Loughton Methodist Church contact 020 8508 7657 (see p13). NO MEETING.

■ **3 September 10am - 4pm, Loughton Horticultural Show & Town Mayor's Best Allotment Awards**. 10am exhibitors, 2pm members of the public, 4pm Best Allotment Awards Presentation. The Murray Hall Borders Lane, IG10 3SB.

**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.**

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# Annual Report 2022

**A**fter the postponed elections in May we welcomed several new faces to the Town Council. We were particularly delighted to welcome some younger Councillors, many of whom are juggling very busy jobs with young families. The fresh perspectives they have brought have been particularly welcome. We tentatively returned to face-to-face meetings. Despite the rapid spread of the Omicron variant in December only one Council meeting has had to be cancelled.

Many of our annual community events had to be postponed last year, but detailed planning has already gone in to this year's Jessel Green Day in June, the Horticultural Show in early September and the first Loughton Day - a community event in mid-September. The Remembrance Sunday commemoration on Kings Green was especially well supported in November, and Light Up a Life for St Clare Hospice, the first for two years, helped raise much needed funds for their excellent work.

My colleagues will give you detailed descriptions of the work of their individual Committees but I wanted to mention one or two significant events or initiatives. After several months of delays the newly formed Loughton Wombles group did their first major litter pick in November and have continued to meet regularly. I should like to say a big thank you for all who have volunteered to make our town as litter free as possible.

Despite our emergence from the pandemic life continues to be a challenge for many households in the town. The two food banks in Loughton continue to be extremely busy and a vast army of volunteers help these two initiatives run smoothly. I should also like to pay tribute to the many staff in schools and New City College in Loughton for their hard work during the various lockdowns and now, as they try to catch up the ground that has been lost, and I feel certain that you would all join me this evening in wishing our young people all the very best as they face over the next few weeks their public examinations.

I have been privileged to attend many local events including the excellent Grow Garden in Pyrles Lane, many different plays and cultural events at Lopping Hall including the hilarious Loughton Panto and the attendance of a lunch at Holmehurst House for surviving Holocaust Survivors and their families. The Holocaust being something we should never forget and always learn from.

This followed an exhibition at Epping Forest District Museum's about the Loughton Boys who escaped the holocaust to make a new life in a hostel in Epping Forest.

Finally, I should like to thank the Loughton Town Council staff who are extremely helpful in running the Council so smoothly and the commitment of my fellow Councillors in helping make Loughton a better place to live.

**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**

**Cllr Rose Brookes**  
Town Mayor

# Planning & Licensing

## Cllr Trevor Downing

Since I took over as Chair of the LTC P&L Committee after the TC elections in May 2021, we have been able to revert to our face-to-face meetings. Over the last year we have considered 307 planning applications: we have objected to 164, had no objection to 133 and considered 17 amended plans. There were 10 applications for which the Committee requested amended drawings as the plans were insufficient/incomplete for the Committee to comment on (I will return to this later). We also considered 6 licensing applications.

As before, we offer suggestions to many that we object to in order to help with the refinement of the application.

One of the advantages that the P&L Committee of LTC Councillors can bring to the planning process is local knowledge and appreciation of our local architecture in Loughton. However, our opinion is only consultative. The final decisions on planning applications are taken by Epping Forest District Council (EFDC), which of course may involve delegated powers to officers, or to Committees that include Councillors from areas outside the town.

Also as before, 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 Government 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. As a result, this has increased the number of applications that we have objected to.

Unfortunately, we have a difference of opinion with EFDC Planning Department over the SAC. We believe that an agreed pollution mitigation strategy has not been approved by the Inspector of the Local Plan. EFDC believes that they have a pollution mitigation strategy because they have voted on it, but have not yet enacted it. Effectively, this mitigation strategy will be to charge developers of new houses to make an unspecified contribution.



They are also likely to institute a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) which will charge motorists for driving through the forest.

One result of this stance by EFDC is that they reject any planning objections that we submit solely on the grounds of the SAC, even though their mitigation strategy is not yet in force. This is a ridiculous situation. We will continue to object to planning applications that impact the forest.

We have also flagged up issues with the quality of plans. We often object on the grounds that the plans are not detailed enough – no elevations for example; the problem with this strategy is that we have a very short time frame in which to register our objection, and the plans may well be approved by an EFDC planning officer in the interim. Our position is that EFDC should not have validated the plans in the first place!

We also have issues very often on enforcement strategy. We think this could be more stringent.

The Head of Planning and Development Management Manager attended a meeting with the Committee in February 2022, without coming to any understanding as to how these differences might be sorted out.

On a brighter note, EFDC has recently published its draft Sustainability Guidance and Checklist Volume 3: Extensions and Refurbishments, which we have been invited to comment on. All new planning applications now require a sustainability assessment as this Guidance has been passed by EFDC's Cabinet.

Also on a brighter note, the Town Mayor, the Chairman of the Environment & Heritage Committee and I have considered the 5 applications for the Building Design Award. With our eye on the local architectural heritage, we have agreed to issue the award to 140 Forest Road (above) together with a Certificate of Merit to 68 Church Hill. One of these was a renovation of an historical building; the other was a reconstruction of a 1920s house in the style of its Victorian neighbours.

I wish to thank my Committee Members in particular my deputy Cllr. Carol Davies. I also wish to thank our very able Clerk Debra Paris, without whom we would not be able to function.

# Recreation

## Cllr David Wixley

Following the Local Elections in May 2021 the Committee was reconstituted with four new Councillors replacing departed members.

The Roding Valley Recreation Ground has occupied much of our time with flooding being a continuing problem causing football matches having to be cancelled.

Progress on a new relocated playground, away from the risk of flooding, has been made with the possibility of completion by the Autumn.

Gates, to be locked overnight, have been installed at the entrance to the football changing rooms car park. Anti-social behavior and resulting disturbance to neighbours has made this an expensive necessity.

In previous years I have reported on plans by the District Council for a flood alleviation scheme. This would involve river bank restoration, tree planting and repairs to the footpath. Unfortunately, this beneficial plan seems to have stalled but I hope for clarity as talks with the District Council seem to be a possibility.

Likewise, a lack of resources means that even minimal refurbishment of the football changing rooms isn't possible at present and so they remain out of use.

On a brighter note the Council was again successful in receiving awards from the Essex Playing Fields Association. Awards were received for the Roding Valley Recreation Ground and the Westall Road and Traps Hill playgrounds (the latter voted the best playground out of 120 entrants). A full report can be found in the Spring edition of "Think Loughton".

The Committee is responsible for two community halls.

At the Kingsley Hall new window frames and windows were installed last autumn.

The Murray Hall has now been returned to the Council by the NHS following

its use as a Covid vaccination centre and is available for hire again.

There are plans to replace the obsolete lighting system with a new energy efficient LED lighting.

The installation of Wi-Fi is being investigated but this is likely to be expensive and with technical difficulties to overcome.

The Committee is also responsible for the Willingale Road Nature Reserve. This is the area of land adjacent to the allotments. While not open to the public there are volunteer working days there, undertaken under the auspices of the District Council's Countryside Team. A special visit was arranged in January for Committee members to learn more about the Reserve. Although none were seen on the day, we were advised that it was a habitat favoured by Slow Worms, the Common Lizard and Grass Snakes.

Difficult decisions were made to discontinue the holding of the "Mayor's Charity Fun Run", and the "Countdown to Christmas" event and instead to focus resources on the "Jessel Green Family Fun Day" and a new "Loughton Day" event to be held on the Loughton Cricket Club Ground in September.

Another responsibility of the Committee is the Memorial Garden in Roding Road which suffered damage from Storm Eunice. Windblown trees left damaged railings and broken benches but work is underway to carry out repairs.

Finally, with the easing of Covid restrictions, it was good to be able to return to in-person meetings rather than the virtual Zoom meetings that became the norm last year.

As always, I thank Members and Officers for their contributions in running the five committee meetings held during the Council year.

# Resources & General Services

## Cllr Judy Jennings

The Resources and General Services Committee is responsible for the Town Council's finances ensuring that the Town Council acts openly, transparently and ethically.

It oversees the day-to-day financial transactions that are necessary for the smooth running of the Town Council and is also responsible for staff salaries, insurance and the paying of bills.

It is responsible for banking arrangements, admin for the whole Council, all Council finances and end of year accounts, personnel and employment matters and staff management, IT and office equipment, Members' expenses, management of Buckingham Court, and also maintaining the Kingsley and Murray Halls and producing the quarterly Town Council Magazine, "Think Loughton," and the Town Noticeboards and Website and the Financial Assistance Scheme.

We run Civic Celebrations including the Christmas Card Competition and the Citizenship Awards.

Each year we undertake policy reviews, contract reviews, training strategy, internal audits and review our banking and investments.

I am very pleased to report that the External Auditors again gave the Council a clean audit report.

Every year we review the Council's insurances, Council-wide priorities and policies including, this year;

- the Essex Pension Fund Administration Strategy
- Investment Strategy and Policy
- Members Remuneration Scheme
- Procedure to fill a Casual Vacancy
- Laptop Policy
- Staff Absence Policy
- Data protection Policy
- Code of Conduct and Complaints procedure
- Freedom of Information Publication Scheme
- Health and Safety
- Training Strategy

This year has been very challenging again for the Town Council as the Covid Pandemic continues to affect the budgeting process especially in income generating areas.

Income has been reduced from sports pitch hire, hall lettings and other sources but this has been offset by the Murray Hall being used by the NHS as a Covid-19 vaccination centre.

Careful planning has meant that Council Officers have been able to work from

home successfully on a rota basis.

Regretfully we had to cancel some Community Events again but we are now looking forward to some exciting new projects later this year including the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June and Loughton Community Day in September.

This year the tax base which will be used to calculate the 2022/23 Band D Council Tax for Loughton Town Council is 12,732.8. This will mean Loughton Town Council's annual council tax for a Band D property will be £65.16. An increase of approximately £2.72.

In order to maintain this low precept we have made savings and reduced expenditure on certain projects, a reduction in Earmarked Reserves and postponed other projects. There will also be no increase in the Councillors' Parish Allowance.

Awarding grants to local groups and organisations is one of our most important functions and we are careful to ensure that these awards are for the benefit of people living in Loughton and that they provide a positive benefit to local residents.

This year we are supporting 14 organisations that help our local community.

These include Counselling Sessions for adults and a complex case counselling service for young people, assistance in equipping a new emergency services doctor, food parcels and 3Food 4U, Loughton Voluntary Care, Voluntary Action Epping Forest and the Samaritans.

Our grants also support operational costs for the many Restore Community's work in Youth and Community projects.

There is also a separate grant provision of £8,500 to Citizens Advice Epping Forest.

There have been some staffing changes this year. We have appointed a new Part-Time Assistant Caretaker/Concierge, a Finance and Office Assistant and the appointment of a new Deputy Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, to replace the previous Assistant who has moved on.

In December 2021 Cllr Murray visited the Office and undertook a financial check on purchase orders and receipts for the Financial Year 2021/22.

My very grateful thanks go to our Town Clerk, Mark Squire, who continues to do sterling work, to our new Deputy Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (the latter formally as from 1 April 2022), Kim Lumb, to Pippa Bryce, Community Manager / Assistant Town Clerk and to all our hard-working officers.

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

# Environment & Heritage

## Cllr Chris Pond

Following the town elections in May 2021, the Committee was reconstituted with new Members, including some Councillors in their first term.

### Cemetery

An immediate problem that had to be tackled – with budgetary implications – was a leakage in the water supply to the Cemetery. This had been installed more than fifty years ago, and had never previously given trouble. Thames Water issued a legal notice to remedy the defect. The Committee considered various options to deal with it, and after much effort by the Officers, decided on employing a contractor to replace the old metal pipes, work that was successfully completed in the autumn.

### Allotments

Regular reports were received. There had been some churn in the number and composition of plot holders following the pandemic, but the situation had stabilised. There was still a small waiting list. The situation re Pylles Lane allotments was discussed in the light of EFDC's desire to develop the nurseery depot adjacent, which had been compulsorily acquired as allotments in 1947.

An application to alter the gate into the Roding Road site was refused on the reluctance of the Managers to change the existing arrangement.

### Seats, York Hill Green

There have been numerous reports of anti-social behaviour on and near these seats, and in the adjacent Pub's land. The Committee expressed its desire for the seats to be restored, but because of a planning application decided nearby in December, the benches were not immediately put back. After a further discussion, the City of London, who own the land, decided not to permit them to be restored whilst anti-social behaviour allegations were ongoing. At the

close of the reporting period, it became known the pub's licence had been put under review by the District Council, with a decision not expected until April 2022. The view from these seats is superb; and the loss of public amenity has to be balanced with the annoyance caused to residents nearby.

### Litter picking

The Committee is always grateful to volunteer litter pickers, of who there are many throughout the Town. The Town Clerk initiated a scheme – the Loughton Wombles, to systematise this, and the first litter sweep by the Wombles took place before Christmas.

### Heritage Plaques

A decision was taken in lockdown to commemorate some of Loughton's health heroes, and the plaques were erected over the year, including a special oval one to father and son, Leonard and Tony Hill, the former a public health innovator, and the latter the man who co-discovered the link between smoking and cancer. Arthur Bacot, who died in Egypt whilst investigating the role of the mosquito in spreading malaria in 1920.

### Remembrance Day ceremonies

Were held again in 2021. A large crowd was present, and despite a certain isolation for the Town Council in its preparations, went off very well. The knitted poppy appeal was again successful. We also supported the Light up a Life event held at the Methodist Church with St Clare Hospice. The work put in by Officers on these events is considerable, and much appreciated by the Committee. It was agreed to clean the War Memorial again. A Roll of Honour from Claybury Hospital was acquired from the Royal British Legion; it will be presented to Redbridge Museum when it reopens.

## Attendance at meetings during the municipal year 2021/22

Committee/ Councillor	Council *7 meetings	Planning & Licensing **23 meetings	Recreation 5 meetings	Environment & Heritage 5 meetings	Resources & General Services 6 meetings
P Abraham	7	21			
P Beales***					
R Brookes	7				6
B Cohen	7			2	6
C Davies	4	22			
T Downing	5	16			
S Fontenelle	7		5	4	
L House	6		4		
J Jennings	5				5
W Kauffman	7				2
N MacKinnon	7		5		
S Murphy	6	22			
S Murray	7		4		5
M Owen	4				4
C C Pond	7			5	
C P Pond	6			5	
K Rainbow	7	22			
J Riley	5	18			
M Stubbings	7		5		6
K Valentine	6		5	3	
G Wiskin	5	21		5	
D Wixley	7		5		

\*\*One meeting cancelled due to Covid 19 Omicron

\*\*One Meeting cancelled due to Covid 19 (Planning Committee Comments submitted under powers of delegated authority)

\*\*\*Approved leave of absence

## Financial Report

£	2020/21	2021/22**
<b>Band D precept figure per household</b>	<b>59.47</b>	<b>62.44</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Precept	756,445	782,675
Interest	104	57
Operating income	102,489	145,211
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>859,038</b>	<b>927,943</b>
<b>Running Costs</b>		
Resources & General Services	162,263	208,462
Environment & Heritage	176,814	236,014
Recreation	481,626	519,190
Planning & Licensing	33,299	34,000
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>854,002</b>	<b>997,666</b>
<b>Summary</b>		
Balance c/forward	697,453	702,489
Add receipts	859,038	927,943
Less payments	854,002	997,666
Balance c/forward	<b>702,489</b>	<b>632,766</b>
<b>Total net assets represented by:</b>		
General fund	338,378	343,594
Earmarked reserves	364,111	289,172
Overall balances	<b>702,489</b>	<b>632,766</b>

\*\*Unapproved & unaudited. For a detailed copy of the accounts please contact the council.

## Members' Allowances 2021/22

The Parish Basic Allowance for 2021/22 was £120 pa			
Councillor	Parish Basic Allowance	Travel & Subsistence	Total
	£	£	£
P Abraham	120.00		120.00
R Brookes	120.00		120.00
B Cohen	120.00		120.00
C Davies	120.00		120.00
T Downing	120.00		120.00
S Fontenelle	120.00		120.00
L House	120.00		120.00
N MacKinnon	120.00		120.00
S Murphy	120.00		120.00
C C Pond	120.00		120.00
C P Pond	120.00		120.00
M Stubbings	120.00		120.00
G Wiskin	120.00		120.00
D Wixley	120.00	18.90	120.00

Cllrs P Beales, J Jennings, W Kauffman, S Murray, M Owen, K Rainbow, J Riley and K Valentine, have renounced their right to claim the allowance.

### Councillors list, by ward, during the year 2021/22

#### Alderton Ward

Cllr Philip Abraham  
Cllr Michael Stubbings  
Cllr Katie Valentine

#### Roding Ward

Cllr Rose Brookes  
Cllr Neil MacKinnon  
Cllr Stephen Murray  
Cllr David Wixley

#### Broadway Ward

Cllr Philip Beales  
Cllr Les House  
Cllr Kevin Rainbow

#### St John's Ward

Cllr Michael Owen  
Cllr Caroline Pond  
Cllr Chris Pond

#### Fairmead Ward

Cllr Carol Davies  
Cllr Sebastian Fontenelle  
Cllr Will Kauffman

#### St Mary's Ward

Cllr Barbara Cohen  
Cllr J Jennings  
Cllr G Wiskin

#### Forest Ward

Cllr Trevor Downing  
Cllr Stella Murphy  
Cllr Jon Riley

Contact details for the councillors may be viewed at [www.loughton-tc.gov.uk](http://www.loughton-tc.gov.uk)

# An invitation to our inaugural Loughton Day

**JOIN US** at our inaugural Loughton Day, on Saturday, 17 September at Loughton Cricket Club in The Uplands, IG10 1NQ from 11am – 4pm. This free event will provide

an opportunity for locals to meet up and discover what Loughton Community Groups have to offer, while enjoying entertainment, live music, food & drink and more.



**Loughton Day**  
**Saturday 17 September 2022**  
**11am - 4pm**

**Loughton Cricket Club**  
The Uplands, Loughton IG10 1NQ  
Come along and enjoy the day  
**Free Admission**

See what Loughton Community Groups have to offer!  
Food, Drink, Entertainment, Live Music and Much More ...!

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**NOTIFICATION OF** intention to close the churchyard of St John the Baptist, Loughton

We are writing, as required by law, to inform the local community of the intention of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St John the Baptist, Loughton to close the churchyard to burials. This is the first stage of the statutory process for the closure of Church of England churchyards that are full. The PCC has determined that St John's churchyard is full, and that the churchyard should, therefore, be closed to all future burials, with the exception of any identified family plots with space for further interments, and with the continuation of the existing facility for the interment of ashes.

The PCC is required to notify interested parties of its intention, and to allow sufficient time for parties to make representations. The PCC has already notified the Local Authority (in this case Loughton Town Council) that would assume responsibility for care and maintenance of the churchyard in the event of its closure to burials. The PCC is now notifying you, our local community, through this edition of *Think Loughton*, to explain how to make representations, ask questions, or seek information.

This is the legal background. The Burial Act 1853 provides for the Secretary of State to make representations to the Privy Council for an Order in Council to discontinue burials in any burial ground, with or without exceptions (such as identified family plots with space, or the interment of ashes). There is no provision for such Orders in Council, once made, to be rescinded – closure of a churchyard, with or without exceptions, is final.

Before the PCC may apply to the Secretary of State for closure of the St John's churchyard, we must be able to demonstrate that the churchyard is, indeed, full, and that all proposed exceptions (such as family plots with space for further burials) have been specifically identified. **Please tell us by Sunday 31 July if you think that you or your family has an existing and documented right to be buried in an identified plot of the churchyard of St John the Baptist, Loughton.**

Once the PCC's application for closure has been approved, both the Department for Constitutional Affairs and the Privy Council will publicise the details of the proposed closure, allowing an opportunity for any objections to be lodged.

If you have any questions, or if there is any aspect of the proposed closure or the closure process that you would like to discuss, please contact the Parish Office at St John's by Sunday 31 July 2022. You can do this:

- by writing to The Parish Administrator, St John the Baptist, Church Lane, Loughton IG10 1PD
- by e-mail to the Parish Office [church@outlook.com](mailto:church@outlook.com)
- by telephone to the Parish Office 020 8532 0060

**Chris Davies – Rector, Geoffrey Wolfson – Churchwarden, Jo Duffett – Churchwarden**

# How does your garden grow?

**GREEN FINGERS** at the ready! The Loughton Horticultural Show returns on Saturday 3 September from 2pm at The Murray Hall in Borders Lane. Classes will include vegetables,

fruit, flower arrangements, preserves & cakes. Allotmenters, keen gardeners, children and novices are all welcome to have a go – the only restriction is that entrants must live, work or attend school in Loughton. Admission to the show is free and refreshments will be available. Awards will be presented at 4pm, followed by the presentation of the Town Mayor's Best Allotment Awards. For more information contact Debbie Taylor at the Town Council on 020 8508 4200.





# Best Allotment Competition

**FOLLOWING A** two year break we are pleased to announce that Town Mayor's best allotment competition is taking place this year. All plot holders are automatically entered (unless have notified the Council otherwise), and shortlisting will take place in July with a representative from the National Allotment Society judging the competition. Awards will be presented to the successful winners at the Horticultural Show on Saturday 3 September 2022.

The Town Council is fully committed to the

provision of allotment sites in Loughton with a secure future. These should be affordable, fully tenanted, well appointed, well managed and maintained, open to all, and valued by the communities they serve. Such sites also make a positive contribution to the landscape and local biodiversity.

The competition, arranged by the Town Council, is for all allotment holders in Loughton. The allotments in Loughton are The Potato Ground, Roding Road and Willingale Road.

## Play in The Park

**IT'S ALL** about playing and having fun outdoors. The Play in The Park Team bring along a range of sports equipment and arts and crafts resources for children and young people to enjoy. The team help organise activities and games **ALL TOTALLY FREE OF CHARGE!**

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Phone: 01992 564 363.

**Tuesday 26 July** – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Roding Valley Recreation Ground

**Thursday 28 July** – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Jessel Green

**Tuesday 2 August** – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Roding Valley Rec

**Thursday 4 August** – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Jessel Green

**Tuesday 9 August** – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Roding Valley Rec

**Thursday 11 August** – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Jessel Green

**Tuesday 16 August** – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Roding Valley Rec

**Thursday 18 August** – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Jessel Green

**Thursday 25 August** – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Jessel Green



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-  Woodland Grove Care Home, Rectory Lane, Loughton, Essex, IG10 3RU
-  [oaklandcare.com/woodland-grove](http://oaklandcare.com/woodland-grove)



# Abbeyfield

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Rider House is a residential home for persons aged sixty and over seeking support with independence.

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# Regular activities

Amendments to: [debra.paris@loughton-tc.gov.uk](mailto:debra.paris@loughton-tc.gov.uk)

## ALLOTMENTS

**Loughton Potato Ground**, Baldwins Hill. [www.loughtonpotatoground.com](http://www.loughtonpotatoground.com)  
**Roding Road Allotment & Leisure Gardens Association**, Roding Road. [www.rodinroadallotments.co.uk/](http://www.rodinroadallotments.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 07804 630394

**Forest Dog Training School Club**, Debden Park Community Centre. Tues, 6.30-7.30pm. 020 8508 3468 / [fdts1@aol.com](mailto: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](http://www.ruthdronsfield.co.uk)

**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](mailto:theormes5@hotmail.co.uk)

**Woodford & District Floral Arrangement Group**, Church Hill 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 [affordablecounselling@gmail.com](mailto:affordablecounselling@gmail.com)  
**Samaritans**. Free, confidential emotional support for the distressed & despairing available 24/7. 020 8553 9900 / 116 123 / [jo@samaritans.org/](http://jo@samaritans.org/) txt 07725 909090  
**Spark Counselling and Mentoring for young people**. Loughton Youth Centre, Borders Lane, Loughton 020 8508 6743 [www.sparkworthunlimited.co.uk](http://www.sparkworthunlimited.co.uk) Free service - donations accepted

## EDUCATION

**Music Lessons**, Loughton Music Academy, High Rd. 020 8502 2992 [www.loughtonmusicacademy.co.uk](http://www.loughtonmusicacademy.co.uk)

## FOOD

**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

**Epping Forest Conservation Volunteers**, The Warren, Epping New Rd most Suns. Kevin Mason 8529 9273 [efcv2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:efcv2@yahoo.co.uk) [www.efcv.co.uk](http://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/out-and-about/countrycare](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/index.php/out-and-about/countrycare)

**Epping Forest & District Stamp Club**, Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill, 2nd Tues (most months) 8pm. 01992 654001

**Epping Forest Singers** Thursdays (during term time) 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Buckhurst Hill Community Primary School, Lower Queen's Road, Buckhurst Hill, IG9 6DS [www.eppingforestsingers.com](http://www.eppingforestsingers.com)

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

**Film Loughton**. Film screenings locally. [www.filmloughton.com](http://www.filmloughton.com)

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

**Forest Musical Theatre Company**, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. Tues & Weds (rehearsals). email [rachel@forestmusical.co.uk](mailto:rachel@forestmusical.co.uk) or visit [www.forestmusical.co.uk](http://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. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Herts-Essex-Architectural-Society-280618285380086/>  
**HEARS**: <http://hears.vpweb.co.uk>

**Hornby Railway Collectors Association**, St John's Church Scout Hall, Church Lane. 2nd Thurs, 5-10pm alternate months. David Southgate 020 8508 7530

**Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society**, Lopping Hall, High Rd. Martin Howarth 020 8508 8644 [www.lads.org.uk](http://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](http://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 7.20pm [lindajenkins34@hotmail.com](mailto:lindajenkins34@hotmail.com) [www.bridgewebs.com](http://www.bridgewebs.com)

**Loughton Camera Club**, Lopping Hall, High Rd. Weds, 8-10pm. 07873 534 604 [www.loughtoncameraclub.org.uk/](http://www.loughtoncameraclub.org.uk/)  
[Loughton\\_Camera\\_Club/Welcome.html](http://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](http://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](http://www.lefars.org.uk)

**RSPB North East London Local Group** Talks held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 8pm (except July and August). St Mary's Church, 207 High Road, South Woodford E18 2PA. [www.rspb.org.uk/groups/northeastlondon](http://www.rspb.org.uk/groups/northeastlondon)

**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](mailto:admin@adasuk.org.uk) [www.adasuk.org](http://www.adasuk.org)

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

**Cycling For Health** Weekly lead rides with a break at a café. Bring your own bike or hire one. Various locations across the district. Every Weds 10am. Enqs: [kmurray@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:kmurray@eppingforestdc.gov.uk) or 01992 564222. Booking: <https://eppingforestdc.bookinglive.com> or 01992 564226

**Lifewalks** Short brisk walks for all. Btwn 1 to 3miles, various locations Mon, Tues, Thurs 10am & Sun 10.30am. Enqs: Karen Murray 01992 564222 / [kmurray@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:kmurray@eppingforestdc.gov.uk) Booking: <https://eppingforestdc.bookinglive.com> or 01992 564226

**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 Angels Church Hall, Roding Rd, IG10 3EJ [opendoorfrienship@gmail.com](mailto:opendoorfrienship@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](http://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](http://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](mailto:lulu.brede@gmail.com)

**30th Loughton Scout Group**, St John's Church, Church Lane. Beavers (6-8 yrs), Cubs (8-10 yrs) & Scouts (10-14 yrs) Paul Snowden GSL 020 8508 4336 / [info@30thloughton.co.uk](mailto: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 / [ags41@gmail.com](mailto:ags41@gmail.com)

**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](mailto: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/>

**Junior Youth Club - Restore** Ages 7-11yrs. 6-7.15pm Weds. Oakwood Hill Community Centre, Longcroft Rise, IG10 3NB. Weekly sign-ups: Restore Community Facebook Page & Oakwood Hill Community Centre Facebook page.

**Little Angels Baby & Toddler group**, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. Weds 10-11am (term-time) 020 8418 7944

**Little Oak's Child & Family Wellbeing Service**, 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 / [louisa.stirling@essex.gov.uk](mailto:louisa.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](mailto: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](mailto:Spark@worthunlimited.co.uk)

**Noah's Ark Toddler Group (under 5s)** Oakwood Hill Community Hall, IG10 3NB 10-11.30am Mon (term time) + Trinity Church, Mannock Drive, IG10 2JD. 10-11.30am Thurs (term time). £1.50 per family. 020 8508 9883

**The Loughton Pantomime UpStage Theatre Company** Mon 6-7pm 7-15yrs (Junior Chorus). Mon 7-10pm over 16s (Adult Cast) @ Lopping Hall, Loughton, IG10 4LF [www.upstage.org.uk](http://www.upstage.org.uk) [hello@upstage.org.uk](mailto:hello@upstage.org.uk)

**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 **Rainbows, Brownies, Cubs & Scouts Groups**, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. 020 8418 7944

**Reindeer Explorer Scouts**, St Edmund's Church, Traps Hill. Girls/boys (13½-18 yrs). Fri. Dave Martin 07889 189261

**Toddler Church**, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. (0-5). Tues (term time), 10am. 020 8502 3071 [administrator@loughtonmethodist.org.uk](mailto:administrator@loughtonmethodist.org.uk)

## 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. [loughtonfolkclub@googlemail.com](mailto:loughtonfolkclub@googlemail.com)  
**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](mailto:loughtonoperaticsociety@hotmail.com) [www.loughtonoperatic.org.uk](http://www.loughtonoperatic.org.uk) Rehearsals Tues & Thurs

**National Jazz Archive**, Loughton Library, Traps Hill Mon-Weds, Fri, 10am-1pm 020 8502 4701 [www.nationaljazzarchive.org.uk](http://www.nationaljazzarchive.org.uk)

**Roding Players** Orchestra rehearsals, Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill. No audition. Mons, 7.30-9.30pm. Miles Harwood 020 8505 4329 [www.rodinplayers.co.uk/](http://www.rodinplayers.co.uk/)

**South West Essex Choir**, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. Tues, 7.45-10pm. 01992 812606 [www.southwestessexchoir.org.uk/](http://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](mailto:roy.tyzack@btinternet.com)

**Theydon & Abridge Jazz Club (TAJC)** Abridge Village Hall, 39 Ongar Rd, RM4 1UD. 07903 879209 / 01945 588325. [www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com](http://www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com) Every other Tues 2-4.30pm £10 members (£12 non-members).

**Woodford Symphony Orchestra** welcomes new string players. Rehearsals Thurs, 7.45-9.45pm, Roding Valley High School, 020 8924 9370 [www.wsorchestra.org.uk](http://www.wsorchestra.org.uk)

**17**  **SOCIAL**

**Bowls** Social Bowls for beginners at Loughton Bowls Club, Eleven Acre Rise. From May-Sept. Fri. 5pm. Free parking. Call Chris 020 8508 1661

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

**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 & 3rd Thurs, 2pm-4pm. 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, 10-11.15am

**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. 1st Fri 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

**Wesley Café**, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd Mon-Thurs 9.30am-3.30pm; Fri 9.30am-12 noon. Closed Sat and Sun. 020 8502 3071

**SPORT**

**All-ability Trampoline Club** (disabled people to 19 yrs), Debden Park High School, Willingale Rd. Weds 6.45-7.45pm. Loughton Flyers Trampoline Club & EFDC. Fabrizio Ferrari 01992 564567 / ferrari@epingforestdc.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

**Connaught 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@epingforestdc.gov.uk / 01992 564561

**Epping Forest HF Walking Group** regular Sunday walks in the local area. www.ehfg.org.uk

**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) efscc@hotmail.co.uk www.efsportability.com

**Katy Little School of Dance**, Loughton. Ballet, tap, jazz, examinations & shows. 4 yrs to adults 07712 106941 / www.katylittleschoolofdance.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, 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.loughtonccc.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 (youth 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.oldloughtons.co.uk 020 8504 4010, 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.westsexramblers.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

**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

**St John's Wives' Group**, St. John's Parish Hall, Church. Lane, Loughton, 1st & 3rd Mons 2pm (excluding August). Anne Pratt 020 8508 3539

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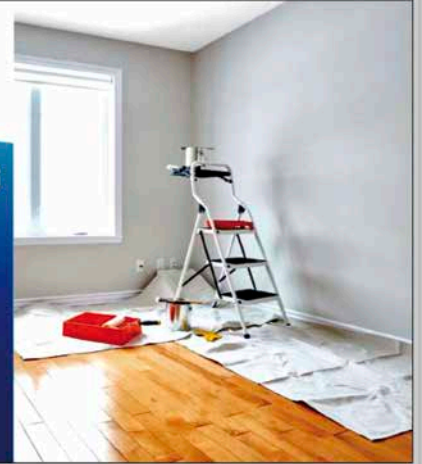
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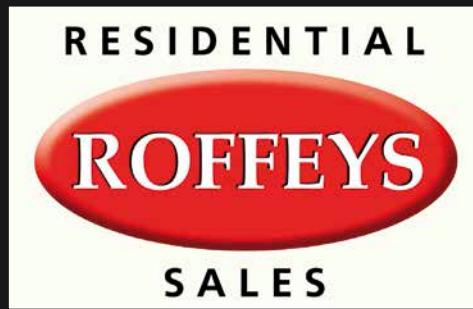
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