



Our 'testament to the future'

PPLANTING of the Millennium Remembrance Grove on the Hillyfields open space is now complete.

This project came about as the result of an initial suggestion by the Royal British Legion that we should commemorate the turn of the millennium by planting a number of trees in a prominent place in Loughton.

The theme of the planting is to include trees in groups to represent all the continents of the world where conflict has taken place.

The British Legion further suggested that individuals or groups in Loughton should be invited to make a subscription to the grove in memory of a person or group lost in combat during the last century.

The Town Council was very pleased to respond to this idea and has expanded on the theme

by thinking of the Millennium Remembrance Grove as not just a memorial to the past, but as a living testament to the future.

The Town Council is now inviting subscriptions from any local resident or group who would like to participate.

The name of everyone making a subscription will be entered into a book of dedication. The dedication can be made to a specific group, an individual, or a subscription can be made without specifying a dedication.

There is no need for a dedication to be linked to someone lost in combat. It could, instead, be in memory of a loved one or even someone still living to whom you would like to make a dedication.

If your group does not have its own funds to make a subscription, why not ask members if they would like to contribute to a collection



Living memorial: the Millennium Remembrance Grove

towards a group subscription?

The cost of planting the Millennium Remembrance Grove equates to about £28 per tree. The Town Council is committed to the grove's future and will continue to maintain it.

A form for subscriptions is printed on page 15.

The closing date for subscriptions has initially been set at 30 June. We hope many local people will join in with the scheme.

CONTACT NUMBERS

COUNCIL SERVICES

Loughton Town Council	020 8508 4200
Epping Forest District Council	01992 564000
Epping Sports Centre	01992 564564
Waltham Abbey Sports Centre	01992 716194
Waste Management Hotline	01992 564320
Essex County Council	01245 492211
Registrar of Births & Deaths	01992 572788
Registrar of Marriages	01992 572789
Education Office	01245 436231
Loughton Library	020 8502 0181
Debden Library	020 8508 5869
Social Services	020 8508 9311

POLICE & FIRE (dial 999 for emergencies)

Loughton Police Station (non-urgent)	020 8502 3881
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HEALTH & HOSPITALS

Forest Medical Centre	020 8505 2288
Health Information Service	0800 665544
Holly House (Private)	020 8505 3311
King George	020 8983 8000
Loughton Hall Clinic, Rectory Lane	020 8272 4600
Princess Alexandra	01279 444455
Roding (Private)	020 8551 1100
St Margaret's & Primary Care Trust	01992 561666
Silverthorn Centre, Chingford	020 8529 3706
Wanstead	020 8532 2711
Whipps Cross	020 8539 5522

SPORT

David Lloyd Centre	020 8559 8466
Essex School of Swimming	020 8505 9436
Loughton Cricket Club	020 8502 2064
Loughton Rugby Club	020 8504 0065
Loughton Bowling Club	020 8508 3546
Roding Valley Cricket Club	020 8506 1001
Roding Valley Tennis Centre	020 8505 4008
South Loughton Cricket Club	020 8530 2200

ADVICE, HELP & INFORMATION

Citizens Advice Bureau	020 8502 0031
Epping Forest College	020 8508 8311
Family Care Counselling Service	020 8502 2714
Loughton Information Centre	01992 564808
Loughton Job Centre	020 8258 4740
Trading Standards Office	01245 341800
Social Security, Department of (Wentworth House)	020 8532 4200
Samaritans	020 8520 9191
SSAFA, Forces Help	020 8508 8960

TRAVEL & TOURISM

Arriva Herts & Essex	01279 426349
Arriva London North East	020 8595 3088
Essex Traveline	08457 000 333
Gatwick Airport	01293 535353
Heathrow Airport	020 8759 4321
London Regional Transport	020 7222 1234
Luton Airport	01582 405100
National Express (Victoria Coach Station)	0990 808 080
National Railways Enquiry Line	0345 484 950
Stansted Airport	01279 680500
Thamesway	01245 353104
Tourist Information Centre	01992 652295

PUBLIC UTILITIES

British Gas	08459 555208
London Electricity	0800 096 9000
Thames Water	08459 200 800

COMMUNITY

Care & Repair Service	01992 564086
Churches Together in Loughton	020 8508 0811
Epping Forest CVS	01992 564178
Epping Forest Volunteer Bureau	01992 564256
Royal British Legion	020 8508 5044

CINEMAS

ABC (South Woodford)	020 8989 3463
Odeon (Gants Hill)	020 8554 2452
UCI (Lee Valley)	0870 603 4567
Virgin (Harlow)	0870 505 0007

BREAKDOWN SERVICES

AA	0800 887766
RAC	0800 828282

LOCAL AMENITY REFUSE POINTS

Chigwell (closed Bank Holidays)	Luxborough Lane
Ongar	Mill Lane
Waltham Abbey	Brooker Road

For enquiries and opening time details, call Epping Forest District Council.

Want to advertise in this magazine?
Contact Elaine Dryden on 01787 242085,
by fax on 01787 242186, or by
email at: totalmedia@aol.com

Editor's notes

THE Town Council has continued to spend much time and effort working on plans for a community centre on the site of the former United Reformed Church in Borders Lane.

This is a complicated project and we're hopeful that we will see it through to a successful conclusion, although there are still many

matters to be resolved. We have had detailed discussions with our main partner, Essex County Council, which intends to share the site to provide a youth facility.

Everyone is working hard to reach our goal and I look forward to giving you more news in the autumn edition of *Think Loughton*.

You may recall that in the spring issue, I wrote about the land purchase in north Loughton. I am very pleased to say that the purchase is

complete and the land now belongs to the Town Council. It's been a long time coming, but we are pleased we got there in the end.

The Environment, Heritage & Leisure Committee has set up a working group to decide how the land will be used in future and to draw up a Development Plan. For those of you who might still be concerned, I can assure you that development does not include housing.

The distribution of *Think*

Loughton has fallen far short of the service we expect from the Royal Mail. We are in negotiations but, in the meantime, can only apologise if you have missed a copy.

We always send a bundle to both Loughton and Debden libraries, so you could collect one from there or from our offices, and all the back copies are stored on our website (loughton-tc.gov.uk).

Louise Fuller
Town Clerk

Warding off park hazards

THE Roding Valley Recreation Ground is a very precious resource to the people of Loughton.

Many people use it for casual outdoor recreation, dog walking, and more formal sports such as cricket and football.

The Town Council looks after a large part of the Roding Valley Recreation Ground and has decided to appoint Danny Carr as park warden to help make an even better job of it.

Danny will be the Town Council's "eyes and ears" on the recreation ground, and will be able to make a swift report on any problems.

Although he will not be assuming a policing role, it is



Eyes and ears: Roding Valley park warden Danny Carr

reassuring for local people to know that we have a very real presence in the area.

Danny is a long-term Loughton resident and knows the area well. He is enjoying

being out and about and meeting park users.

As part of our plans for the recreation ground, we have been busy carrying out measures to limit access for motorcycles.

Motorcyclists and other motorised vehicles, including scooters and go-peds, are an anti-social nuisance on the recreation ground and can be a hazard to other users.

We want everyone to enjoy the recreation ground, but not when their behaviour is to the detriment of so many others.

Danny is particularly concerned about this behaviour and is a prime element in the Town Council's active prevention campaign.

Council tells how it is meeting needs

THERE was a very good turnout for the Annual Town Meeting on 23 April.

The meeting was addressed by Epping Forest District Council Chief Executive John Burgess, who spoke about the good working relationship between the district and town councils.

He emphasised the role of town and parish councils.

The Town Council chairman and committee chairmen also presented their annual reports, which can be read on pages 5 and 7.

Questions on various matters were also taken from the floor, including the purchase of the former United Reformed Church site, Sainsbury's superstore planning application, council projects and skateboarding.

War fallen plaque programme gets under way

SOME while ago, the Town Council agreed to commission additional plaques for the War Memorial, to commemorate the fallen of the Second World War.

It also agreed to include First World War names which had been previously missed.

The delicate and time-

consuming task of casting the plaques has been completed, and they have now been fixed to the War Memorial.

The Town Council has arranged for a ceremony to dedicate the new plaques, to take place at 6.30pm on Sunday 30 June in the Methodist Church, Loughton High Road.

After the service, members

of the congregation can move up to the War Memorial for a simple contemplative ceremony.

The Town Council would like to thank the Royal British Legion, Churches Together in Loughton and all those involved in making the arrangements for this event.

All our readers are cordially invited to attend the ceremonies.

Deadline dates

Edition	Copy deadline
September	5 August
December	21 October

Further copies of *Think Loughton* may be obtained from the Town Council at 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, or from Debden or Loughton libraries.

Please note that no unattributed articles will be accepted for publication.

GET TO KNOW YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL

1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton, Essex IG10 2QZ
 Tel: 020 8508 4200 Fax: 020 8508 4400 Web: <http://www.loughton-tc.gov.uk> Email: loughton_tc@compuserve.com

BROADWAY WARD

Cllr Joyce M Barnett
 59 Colson Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 3RL

Cllr Joan Davis 020 8508 3180
 (Council Vice-Chairman and F&GP Committee)
 4 Barrington Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 2AY

Cllr Thomas G Owen 020 8508 6916
 (Chairman, Planning Committee; EH&L)
 15 Lower Park Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4NB

Cllr Marion E Taylor 020 8508 5152
 (Vice-Chairman, Community; Planning Committee)
 52 Lower Park Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4NA

ST JOHN'S WARD

Cllr Kay F Ellis 020 8508 6018
 (Planning Committee)
 31 Algers Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4NG

Cllr Roger E Pearce 020 8281 1386
 (F&GP Committee)
 32 Millsmead Way, Loughton, Essex IG10 1LR

Cllr Christopher C Pond 020 8508 2361
 (Chairman, EH&L Committee)
 Forest Villa, 7 Staples Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1HP

Cllr Robert J Wilmot 020 8508 1987
 (EH&L and Planning Committees)
 50 Baldwins Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 1SF

DEBDEN GREEN WARD

Cllr Michael D Hogan 020 8502 5483
 3 Debden House Cottages, Debden Green, Loughton, Essex IG10 2NZ

Cllr Montague W Juniper JP 020 8508 5930
 (Chairman, F&GP Committee)
 31 Alderton Way, Loughton, Essex IG10 3EQ

Cllr Michael G Sellaars 020 8502 0782
 (EH&L and Planning Committees)
 76 Roding Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 3EF

Cllr Victoria Wisenfeld 020 8502 1025
 (Community Committee)
 The Garden Cottage, The Warren, Loughton, Essex IG10 4RN

ST MARY'S WARD

Cllr Anthony T Lee 020 8508 7649
 (Vice-Chairman, Planning; Community Committee)
 33 Priory Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1AF

Cllr Pamela Meadows 020 8508 4136
 (Chairman, Community Committee)
 98 Roding Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 3EJ

Cllr Michael W Wardle 020 8508 2771
 (Community Committee)
 61 The Drive, Loughton, Essex IG10 1HG

Please note that membership of the committees may have changed since this issue of Think Loughton was printed. Call the council for details

FOREST WARD

Cllr Suzanne M Harper 020 8508 4770
 (Council Chairman; F&GP Committee)
 23 Algers Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4NG

Cllr Judith P Woodman 020 8502 0785
 (EH&L Committee)
 164 Forest Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1EG

Cllr Leslie J Harris 020 8508 1333
 (Vice-Chairman, F&GP Committee)
 32 Upper Park, Loughton, Essex IG10 4EQ

RODING WARD

Cllr Edward V Boatman 020 8508 1890
 (F&GP Committee)
 24 Roding Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 3ED

Cllr Larry M Ford 020 8508 4344
 (EH&L and Community Committees)
 47 Stonards Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 3EH

Cllr Stephen W Murray 020 8508 7548
 (Vice-Chairman, EH&L; F&GP Committee)
 1 Avondale Court, Loughton, Essex IG10 3BT

Cllr Betty R Saggars 020 8508 2100
 (Planning and Community Committees)
 10 Southview Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 3LG

EHL= Environment, Heritage & Leisure
 F&GP= Finance & General Policy

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

ST JOHN'S DIVISION

Cllr Colin Finn 020 8508 5319
 16 Church Close, Loughton, Essex IG10 1LQ

ST MARY'S DIVISION

Cllr David Linnell 020 8508 2932
 20 Eleven Acre Rise, Loughton, Essex IG10 1AN

EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Due to the elections on May 2, we are unable to provide councillors' contact details. Please contact the council for up-to-date information

PARLIAMENTARY & EUROPEAN

MP FOR EPPING FOREST

Eleanor Laing MP 020 7219 3000
 House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Robert Sturdy **Eryl McNally** **Jeffrey Tittford**
Andrew Duff **Bashir Khanbhai** **Richard Howitt**
Christopher Beazley **Geoffrey Van Orden**

Please Go-Ped somewhere else

GO-PEDS are not permitted on off-road areas, such as Roding Valley Recreation Ground.

Go-Peds, or motorised skateboards, are classed as

motor vehicles and have the same licence and insurance requirements as mopeds.

The Road Traffic Act 1988 defines them under Section 108(1) as "a motor vehicle

which has fewer than four wheels and has a maximum design speed not exceeding 50km per hour and, if propelled by an internal combustion engine, has a cylinder capacity

not exceeding 50 cubic centimetres".

Riders must be aged over 16 to ride on the highway, have a driving licence and a protective crash helmet must be worn.

Councillors set sights on community venue

Council Chairman, Cllr Suzanne Harper: It has been another very busy year. Councillors have not only attended Town Council meetings, but have been present at many others in Loughton and across Essex. These include our own Community Forum, liaison meetings with the district and county councils, health authority meetings and police meetings to name but a few. The Town Council also has small internal groups, such as the Strategy & Staff Group and the United Reformed Church Group, which seems to be meeting almost every week. Councillors have been briefed on the new Code of Conduct for Local Councils, which we will soon have to sign.

Chairmen report on the council's sixth year

On a personal level, I have represented the Town Council at many functions, both inside and outside the town. The most significant matter we are working on at the moment is the purchase of the former church building in Borders Lane. We are very aware that Loughton needs a community facility now that Loughton Hall belongs to the college, and that our young people deserve to have a venue. We were also aware that Essex County Council youth

service could not move fast enough to secure this site. We have a good working relationship with the county and have every reason to be confident. I would like to make it perfectly clear that the Town Council is not subsidising the youth service, although I am unable to give you financial details because of delicate negotiations. To purchase this site, the Town Council tax has had to rise from a very low base to £37.94 for a band D property. The equivalent rate in Buckhurst Hill, Epping and Waltham Abbey is £37, £55.05 and £72.71. Meanwhile, the Town Council has had more long discussions

on the revised proposal for a supermarket in Old Station Road. It confirmed its original objections and has added its voice asking the Secretary of State to call in the application. Finally, a plug for the Millennium Grove – the trees are in position, please watch over them. If you would like to subscribe to the grove in memory of anyone, please speak to the clerk at the council office. **Cllr Montague Juniper, Finance & General Policy Committee:** When the Finance Committee met to set a budget it could recommend to the Town Council, it became necessary to consider two options. In either

continued on page 7

Primary health patients turn to PALS for help

SINCE April, all NHS trusts have been required to have a PALS – a patient advice and liaison service – in place.

Epping Forest Primary Care Trust has been a pathfinder for PALS, having launched its service in November 2001. The PALS has been giving independent and confidential help, information, advice and support to anyone using primary care services or the elderly care wards at St Margaret's and Ongar War Memorial hospitals. When someone is unwell or has concerns about their health, it can often be a worrying or confusing time. It is at such times when a patient may feel the need to turn to someone for advice. This is where PALS can help, guiding a patient or their family through the different services

available within the trust, and trying to sort out any concerns they may have about the healthcare they receive. Epping Forest PCT's two PALS managers are Jackie May and Karen Leese. They visit various sites across the area. Anyone who would like to discuss any concerns or issues about their care or treatment, and would like to make an appointment to see one of them, can contact them on 012789 827473 or 01279 827519. Alternatively, they can email: PALS@epping-pct.nhs.uk. Epping Forest PCT is committed to ensuring its Patients' Advice & Liaison Service is proactive and listens to patients' views. The aim of the service is to make a genuine difference to the overall quality of health services provided and accessed by local people.

Charity is AIM-ing high

EPPING-based charity AIM – Action in Mental Health – is seeking to rent office space in the local area.

The charity needs a room big enough to accommodate at least four members of staff, three computers and general office equipment. Its staff would preferably also like the use of a fax and photocopier, too.

Wheelchair access and transport links would also be desirable. But all this needs to be done on a budgets – it's a small charity, so funds are limited. Anyone who knows of suitable premises, please contact Patricia Willock or Lisa Milton on 01992 564040 or write to AIM, Homefield House, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping CM16 4BZ.

Chairmen's reports

continued from page 5
case, because of our providence, we were able to take £45,000 from our reserves in order to keep the precept low.

Our first option was to consider a precept of £375,500, an increase on the band D rate of only 0.72p. We did not know then if the bid for the United Reformed Church and adjoining land would be successful.

The second option required us to set the precept at £482,500, a substantial increase on the band D tax of £9.14, or 0.18p per week (£37.94 or £28.80).

As you know, the bid was successful and, as Loughton's residents will have a community hall and much-needed youth facilities, the Town Council took the decision to adopt the higher budget.

Because of the many requests for grants last year, the committee has doubled the amount set for this financial year. Grants have already been made to the Debden Day Golden Jubilee Celebrations, Loughton Stroke Club, the Family Care Counselling Service, Essex Handicraft Association, the Alzheimer's Society, Christian Drama Resource Centre and Loughton Citizen's Advice Bureau.

Emergency bids can still be considered – application forms are available from the Town Clerk.

During the year, we have set policy on the many matters not within the scope of committees.

We made written comments on various Government consultation papers, particularly on "Quality Councils" and the Code on Standards & Ethics for Local Councils. This we adopted in May.

■ **Cllr Pamela Meadows, Community Committee:** A short time after 11 September, we were invited to Epping Forest DC to discuss how to set up an emergency plan. I am pleased to say that our original plan was more than adequate.

The Millennium Remembrance Grove has been planted. This scheme was requested by the Royal British Legion, and the plan to accept donations from associations and the public is going ahead. A book of dedication will also be produced.

Our first afternoon forum was on 22 March and was a great success. We will continue our evening meetings in the autumn.

We held an open day to celebrate the opening of our new Town Council offices. It was well attended and it was good to hear such favourable comments.

We continue with our newsletter *Think Loughton*, but we have been disappointed with the delivery by the Post Office. We will continue to pressurise for a better service, not only for us but also for residents' mail.

■ **Cllr Christopher Pond, Environment, Heritage & Leisure Committee:** Good progress has

been made in several areas, but we have continued to be frustrated in other aspects of our work.

The condition of the cemetery is now much improved, and the committee adopted new rules for cremated remains plots following public representation. We are acutely aware of the lack of burial space in Loughton and the very high charges made by neighbouring burial authorities. Names of World War II dead will soon be added to the war memorial.

The Roding Road Allotments & L G Association was appointed managers of the Council's Roding Road Allotment Site under Section 29 of the Smallholdings & Allotments Act 1908.

A park warden was appointed for Loughton Town Council-held parts of the Roding Valley lands, and we have had discussions with neighbouring parishes and Epping Forest DC about managing the area in future.

Land adjacent to Davenant Foundation School was acquired from Essex County Council in March. The land consists of a fallow pasture, Lady Whitaker's Mead and a set of playing fields with five football pitches.

A working group is to consider the land's future management, but it was a condition of the purchase that Staples Road School is granted a licence to use the sports fields for five years.

The committee has approved the use of the former Felstead Road playground as a temporary work area for

London Underground contractors, after which it will be reinstated as a playground.

Meanwhile, heritage plaques for Arthur Morrison and John Finlaison were erected.

In July 2000, the Town Clerk and I were "urgently" summoned to a meeting of EFDC's Area Plans Committee to discuss allocation of environmental improvement funds. Loughton was allocated £17,000.

The committee decided its priorities immediately, but no action has been taken. I do not believe it should take Epping Forest DC nearly two years to replace lamp-posts or reinstate the fountain.

The committee believes the "can do" culture has not yet reached certain parts of EFDC. The committee asked me to write to the chief executive at the last Town Meeting, but I regret to say there has been no progress. We have also failed to secure any action on street cleaning.

We resolved that a number of Loughton alleyways be named, but EFDC have not assisted with the project. This may be, therefore, a project the Town Council will have to pursue on its own.

In conclusion, the committee regards its remit as protecting and enhancing Loughton's environment, making its heritage more accessible and providing recreational facilities.

Progress has been made in all these areas and, when the EFDC environmental improvement budget money is spent, that progress will be more tangible.

Sainsbury decision doubts

■ **Cllr Tom Owen, Planning Committee:** I took the chair under rather unfortunate circumstances and I am sure everyone will join me in wishing Mike Hogan well.

I would like to thank all the members for their support and diligence. We have made considerable effort to make our decisions tighter in relation to planning law and guidance.

We have dealt with some controversial applications, such as Higgins and Sainsbury's. The latter has taken up much time in

debate. It was concluded that a superstore on the site would have a detrimental effect on both the existing traders and traffic. Epping Forest DC's ad hoc committee recommended approval, against its officers and the Town Council.

The final decision was made by the full council.

Traditionally, the chair is supposed to remain neutral, but I do have some difficulty in coming to terms with this decision. It brings into question the basis of our existence.

Dates for the diary

- **17 Jun, 8pm:** St John's Wives Group: "Naked Chef Territory – Outing to Darkest Essex" – St John's Parish Hall, Church Lane
- **1 July, 8pm:** St John's Wives Group: "Within Harem Walls", Louise Read.
- **13 July, 7.30pm:** Roding Players Orchestra celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee with a feast of regal music. Methodist Church, High Road. £4.50, concs £3.50, under-11s free. Includes refreshments.
- **15 July, 8pm:** St John's Wives Group – Cheese & Wine finale. St John's Parish Hall, Church Lane.
- **Every Sunday, 3.30-5.30pm (term time):** Kidz Club for children aged 6-12. Details: 020 8502 0695.
- **Every Sunday, 7.30-10.30pm:** Dance – ballroom, Latin and popular sequence, Victory Hall, Hainault Road, Chigwell. Admission: £3 + refreshments. Details: 020 8508 0313 (after 6pm).
- **First Sunday of month at 3.30pm:** Church Service, St Michael's Church, Roding Road, Loughton. Friendly, informal service, welcomes those who have learning difficulties and their friends. Includes a number of modern Christian songs, a talk and a few prayers. Lasts about half an hour and is followed by tea. All welcome.
- **Every Monday, 7.15-9.15pm:** Roding Players Orchestra rehearses at Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill, Loughton. New players welcome. No audition. Call Miles Harwood on 020 8505 4329 for details.
- **First and third Monday, 8pm:** St John's

- Wives Group, St John's Parish Hall, Church Lane.
- **Every Monday, 8-10pm:** Epping Phoenix Choir meets at Epping Methodist Church Hall. New members welcome, especially tenors and basses. Details: 020 8923 5025.
- **Every Monday, 9.30pm:** Loughton Mountaineering Club, Victoria Tavern, Smarts Lane, Loughton. All hill walkers and climbers welcome. Call Jeff Harris 020 8508 2888.
- **First Tuesday of month, 8pm:** Royal British Legion Branch and Club meetings, 118 Church Hill, Loughton.
- **Second Tuesday of month, 7.30pm:** Forest Philatelic Society meets, Centenary Hall, Loughton Methodist Church, High Road. Details: 020 8508 1244.
- **Every Thursday, 12.45pm:** Rotary Club of Loughton meets Roebuck Hotel, North End, Buckhurst Hill. Call: 020 8504 6367.
- **Every Thursday, 4.45-7.45pm:** The Valley School of Dancing, Children's Dancing Classes, Kingsley Hall, Kingsley Road, Loughton. Details: 020 8508 7349.
- **Second Thursday of month, 8pm:** Loughton Historical Society, Methodist Church, High Road, Loughton. Guest visitors welcome on payment of £1.50.
- **Every Friday 7.30pm:** Kingsley Spiritualist Church, Kingsley Hall, Kingsley Road

LABOUR COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES:
First Saturday in each month:
 ■ **9.15-10.15am:** Oakwood Stores, Longcroft Rise

- **From 10.30am:** The Broadway shopping parade (under the walk-through)
- **10.30-11am:** outside the former Mother Hubbard pub, Valley Hill

Second Saturday in each month:
 ■ **9.30-10am:** outside Londis, Valley Hill

Further copies of Think Loughton can be obtained from the Town Council's offices at 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton, or from Debden or Loughton Libraries.

Copy date for next issue: 5 August. Next issue covers September to mid-December

LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

2002			
June	5	Wednesday	Community
	10	Monday	Planning
	19	Wednesday	Environment, Heritage & Leisure
	24	Monday	Planning
July	3	Wednesday	Finance & General Policy
	8	Monday	Planning
	22	Monday	Planning
	24	Wednesday	Council
August	31	Wednesday	Community
	12	Monday	Planning
September	2	Monday	Planning
	11	Wednesday	Environment, Heritage & Leisure
	16	Monday	Planning
	18	Wednesday	Finance & General Policy

All meetings will be held at 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton at 7.30pm unless shown otherwise. Please telephone the Town Council for the dates of meetings after 18 September 2002.

Short nights welcome the summer triangle

SUMMER'S arrival brings short nights, with little proper darkness for observing.

The summer solstice on 21

A good time with Friends

THE Loughton Friends of St Clare Hospice, Hastingwood, have raised over £60,000 over the last seven years.

The money has been raised by events including quiz nights, old time music hall, charity tables and collection boxes.

Anyone who would like to know more about Loughton Friends can join our social events or become a volunteer.

For details, call chairperson Marilyn Coleclough on 020 8508 6115.

Meeting hall for hire

LOOKING for a meeting hall or wish to start up an evening class? Kingsley Hall, off The Broadway, in Debden, has some evenings free for hire.

For information please contact Joan Hall on 020 8508 4200.

June sees the Sun at its highest on the ecliptic for the year.

The couple of weeks around the solstice are usually peak season for observing noctilucous clouds.

They appear as silvery-blue, highly-structured filamentary clouds, which form in the high atmosphere around midsummer.

The "Summer Triangle" of Vega, Altair and Deneb is high in the sky throughout this period.

Planets

Venus is prominent in the West after sunset throughout this period. Mars, Jupiter and Saturn gradually sink into the evening twilight in the west.

The Moon will be full on 26 June, 24 July and 22 August.

Perseids meteor shower

Meteor observers' favourite

shower, the Perseids, reaches a maximum on 12 August.

This year, observations will not be badly affected by moonlight, but clouds are much more unpredictable!

Loughton Astronomical Society

If you are interested in astronomy and want to find out more, then the Loughton Astronomical Society meets weekly on Thursday nights at the Theydon Bois Scout Hut from 8-10pm.

New members are always welcome.

Useful websites

For those of you with internet access, you can find the Loughton Skywatcher website at www.loughtontc.gov.uk/6sky.htm.

This site is regularly updated and has useful links to help you

find your way around the night sky.

The next time you are outside on a clear dark night, look up and see what you can spot in the sky, there's always something to look at.

In the next edition, I'll be taking a look at our autumn skies. Let's hope for clear skies and good viewing.



Plaque honour for local actuary figurehead

LOUGHTON Town Council has erected a blue heritage plaque in honour of John Finlaison.

The plaque was erected on 97 High Road, Loughton, in honour of the figurehead for the actuary profession.

John Finlaison was born in Caithness in 1783 and lived in the 1840s and 50s in Algiers House, a 17th century property situated between The Crescent and Algiers Road.

The house frontage was developed from about 1880, and the old building itself demolished in the 1960s.

John Finlaison's official title was Actuary & Principal Accountant of the Check Department of the National Debt Office, where he served from 1822 to 1851.

He was the first actuary in government and forerunner to the official Government Actuary post created in 1917.

John Finlaison also served as first President of the Institute of Actuaries from its foundation in 1848 for 12 years.



The toil is almost over

NOW is the time to stand and stare, enjoy your garden. All the hard toil is over, but a garden never stands still.

Always be aware of the changes that are taking place as plants die and others become too large.

A good filler for blank spaces are lilies – they come in a variety of colours.

Place in gaps, leaving them in their pots until spring, top with fresh soil and fertiliser and they will be ready to flower again.

June is a good month to take softwood cuttings, and Santolina and Lavender are good plants to do this.

Cut 8cm stems below a node, strip off lower leaves

and pop in the soil around the mother plants.

Cut back Weigela and Spirea when finished flowering. Lavender also benefits from a shearing, but mind you do not cut into old wood.

Deadhead flowers to keep them blooming and water and fertilise pots regularly –

with care, your garden will be full of colour until late autumn.

I have written articles for the four seasons giving you my ideas for easy gardening. Write and tell us your favourite garden tip and we will print them in the next edition.

Cllr Pam Meadows

Team talk for local jobless

A COURSE designed to build self confidence and self development, and aims to make each team member more impressive to employers is coming to your area.

The Prince's Trust, in conjunction with Essex Youth Service, runs 12-week personal development courses for young people aged between 16 and 25.

The course has been very successful in Harlow and it is

now moving to the Roding Centre at Buckhurst Hill.

The course is free and local unemployed people can use it to improve their skills while signing on.

The programme includes an outdoor adventure week to build teamwork, as well as environmental and community projects, care work, and fundraising and community placements. Each are tailored according to individual needs.

The programme also offers a nationally-recognised first aid qualification and two City & Guilds certificates in Profile of Achievement and Key Skills.

Entrants could also gain Trident certificates in recognition of community-

based projects, and work experience.

In total, there are seven certificates available.

For further information, call John Hazlett, team leader, Prince's Trust on 020 8559 2144.

Market day returns

A FARMERS' market is coming to the High Road on Sunday 7 July.

This follows on from the successful French market, organised by the Town Centre Partnership last autumn.

The farmers market is being organised by Loughton

Residents' Association as a change from their usual spring event. It is being held on a Sunday to minimise its effect on local traders.

Local suppliers and charities will also attend so they can publicise their cause and sell their wares.

Viewpoint

Citizens' advice that's just the job

FEW people expect their jobs to last for life these days, and employers increasingly want their staff to be flexible.

The present Government has introduced new rights for

Contacting us

WE welcome contributions to *Think Loughton*, but do not guarantee their inclusion and reserve the right to edit them. The views expressed are not necessarily those of Loughton Town Council.

employees. All in all perhaps it isn't surprising that so many of the Citizens' Advice Bureau inquiries relate to employment – around one in nine of the people who contact us for assistance have problems relating to work.

If someone has lost their job, we can help them sort out whether they have been unfairly dismissed. We will also calculate whether an employer

has paid all the right of amounts of redundancy, notice pay and outstanding holiday pay at the end of a job.

We can help clients negotiate with their boss or, if necessary, support them through an Employment Tribunal claim.

The question of changes to contracts of employment often arises. Typical enquires include: "Can my boss insist that I move

to the Enfield branch when I've always worked in Loughton before?" Or: "They want me to change my hours so that I start and finish two hours earlier – can they do that?"

In that sort of case, the first thing to do is check the written contract, if there is one.

The basic rule is that an employer cannot simply change a fundamental element of a contract without agreement. But we must look carefully at all the detailed circumstances before we can advise on the best way of tackling a problem.

One of the latest changes in the law is that employees now have the right to take unpaid time off work to deal with domestic emergencies involving children or other dependants.

If you would like help with these sorts of problems, please contact us.

Alison McBrayne
Manager, Loughton Citizens
Advice Bureau

CAB opening times

■ St Mary's Parish Centre: Mon, 10am-1pm and 2-4pm; Tues, 10am-1pm and evenings, by appointments only; Wed, 10am-1pm and 2-4pm; Thurs, 10am-1pm; Fri, 10am-1pm.

■ Debden Library: Tues, 10am-1pm; Thurs,

10am-1pm;

■ Outreach service, Buckhurst Hill Information Centre: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month 2-4pm.

■ Telephone advice on 020 8502 0031

MILLENNIUM REMEMBRANCE GROVE SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION FORM

Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS**
Please tick your preferred option

I wish to make a subscription to the Millennium Remembrance Grove

Name

Date:

Organisation (if relevant)

Address

Telephone

The dedication is to:

I wish to make a subscription without a specific dedication

My subscription is for the following amount

£5 £15 £30 £50 Other

Please make cheques payable to: Loughton Town Council

Please return cheque and form to:

Loughton Town Council, 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton, Essex IG10 2QZ



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