

Think Loughton



N° 30 Autumn 2005

News from Loughton Town Council

Town centre facelift begins

WORK on the first phase of the Loughton High Road Town Centre Enhancement Scheme is under way.

Phase 1 of the works is funded by Sainsbury's through a legal agreement with Epping Forest District Council, as part of planning permission granted for the supermarket in Old Station Road.

The first round of works comprises the enhancement of the pavements and resurfacing between 127 and 207 High Road (odds) and 90 High Road to 182 High Road (evens).

The work began on 25 July and is due for completion by 16 November. No work will take place from 3 December 2005 to 23 January 2006 in order to ensure that High Road operates as normal for the Christmas and New Year period.

Key elements of the scheme include:

- Conversion of the parking area around Standard Green to short-term pay and display parking.
- Three parking bays outside Minx Bar and a disabled parking bay outside 213-215 High Road.
- An upgraded controlled pedestrian crossing outside St Mary's Church Hall.
- A new bus shelter outside 168 High Road.
- New benches at Standard Green, Brook Path and outside St Mary's Church with new litter bins along High Road.
- Upgraded street lighting columns and lamps.
- New harvest buff paving slabs for the pavement areas and a resurfaced road carriageway.
- Pedestrian barriers to be

located at: the four junctions of the High Road/Old Station Road/Ollards Grove roundabout; the High Road/Station Road junction corners; and the High Road/Forest Road junction corners.

The enhancement scheme design has evolved over several

years in consultation with residents and businesses.

The intention is to keep disruption in the High Road to an absolute minimum and access will be maintained to all shops and services throughout.

For further details, call the Loughton High Road Information Line free on 0800 028 2637.



World War II victims honoured

This plaque lists 32 names of Loughton civilians killed during World War II, and was unveiled on the wall of the Loughton police station in Forest Road. More on page 7.

CONTACT NUMBERS

COUNCIL SERVICES

Loughton Town Council	020 8508 4200
Epping Forest District Council	01992 564000
Epping Sports Centre	01992 564564
Waste Management Hotline	01992 564297
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

British Red Cross	020 8508 2162
Forest Medical Centre	020 8508 4580
Holly House (Private)	020 8505 3311
King George	020 8983 8000
Loughton Health Centre	020 8508 8117
NHS Direct	0845 4647
Princess Alexandra	01279 444455
Rectory Lane Health Centre (Loughton Hall Clinic)	020 8272 4600
Roding (Private)	020 8551 1100
St Margaret's & Primary Care Trust	01992 561666
Silverthorn Centre, Chingford	020 8529 3706
Whipps Cross	020 8539 5522

SPORT

David Lloyd Centre	020 8559 8466
Debden Sports Club	020 8508 9392
Essex School of Swimming	020 8505 9436
Loughton Cricket Club	020 8502 2064
Loughton Bowling Club	020 8508 3546
Loughton Leisure Centre	01992 564574

Roding Valley Cricket Club	020 8506 1001
Roding Valley Tennis Centre	020 8505 4008
South Loughton Cricket Club	020 8530 2200
Loughton Athletic Club	020 8508 9843

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 4799
Trading Standards Office	01245 341800
Samaritans	020 8553 9900
Social Security, Department of (Wentworth House)	020 8532 4200
SSAFA, Forces Help	01206 764114

TRAVEL & TOURISM

Arriva Herts & Essex	01279 426349
Arriva London North East	020 8271 0200
Gatwick Airport	08700 002468
Heathrow Airport	08700 000123
London Regional Transport	020 7222 1234
Luton Airport	01582 405100
National Express	08705 808080
National Railways Enquiry Line	0845 7484950
Stansted Airport	08700 000303
Thamesway	01268 525251
Tourist Information Centre (Waltham Abbey)	01992 652295
Public Transport Information – Traveline South East	0870 608 2 608

Bus timetables are available from Loughton Information Centre, Traps Hill

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
Voluntary Action Epping Forest	01992 564178
Royal British Legion	020 8508 5044
Women's Royal Voluntary Society	020 8508 9276

CINEMAS

Odeon (South Woodford)	0871 22 44 007
UCI (Lee Valley)	0871 22 44 007
Virgin (Harlow)	0871 200 2000

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.

To advertise in Think Loughton, call 01787 242085

Editor's notes

IT hardly seems believable that I am writing this in the heat of summer, and elsewhere in the magazine we are inviting entries to our Christmas competitions and giving advance notice of the Light Up a Life ceremony. Although the works to the High Road, as part of the town centre enhancement, are now well under way, they will be suspended for the Christmas period to enable everyone to shop unimpeded.

If you have passed the site of the new Community and Youth Centre in Borders Lane, you may have stopped to look at its progress. So far

there is not a lot to see as most of the initial works are in the ground, but before long there will be visible evidence as the building takes shape.

The council's committees are about to start the budgeting process and they will be thinking about what they want to achieve in the next financial year and what it will cost. It is always a balance between wanting to carry out projects for the town's benefit and ensuring that any increase in the precept is kept to a reasonable level.

You may have heard that the council has temporarily withdrawn its planning application for a cemetery in Debden Lane. This is true, but it does not mean the

council has abandoned the project. Before the application can be processed by Epping Forest District Council, further information is required to satisfy the Environment Agency. The necessary surveys will be carried out to obtain this information, and the application will be re-submitted. Although there is a wide variety of views on the best way to dispose of the dead, in the end this is a very personal decision. The Town Council has, in the past, received a number of representations that there was a need for a cemetery in Loughton. In response to this, a policy decision was taken some time ago that the council would seek to

establish a new cemetery, and this is what it is doing now.

The transfer of the Willingale Road allotments from the district to the Town Council is a saga which has dragged on far too long. The latest promised date for completion was the end of July 2005. Although this was not achieved, the legal documents I have seen most recently encourage me to hope that completion might not be too far off. It will truly be a cause for celebration when ownership of the land changes hands.

If you contact the town council by email, please note our new email address contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk.

Louise Fuller
Town Clerk

It's easier than ever to be heard

LOUGHTON Town council has amended its standing orders to make it easier for members of the public to address any of its committee meetings.

This opportunity has been available for some while, and people wishing to take advantage of it must register their request in advance.

The deadline for registering a request to speak is now 3pm on the day of the meeting. This gives local residents more time

to find out what is on the agenda and decide if they would like to have an input at the meeting.

Written representations to the Planning Committee must also be received by 3pm on the day of the meeting.

Committee agendas can be seen on the council's website (www.loughton-tc.gov.uk), and a notice listing the matters to be discussed at meetings is also placed on council noticeboards.

A copy of the standing orders is also available on the website

– see appendices B and C for rules on addressing a meeting.

■ Meanwhile, we welcome a new addition to the team; Paul Hoy joined Loughton Town Council on 4 July as the new Properties & Projects Officer.

His predecessor, Paul Roden, left in June to return to Chesterfield. Paul Hoy is an apprentice-trained bricklayer, who worked in the building industry for 17 years. In 1997, he joined the prob-

ation service and for the past eight years has worked in the community service team.

In this time, many of the beneficiaries as well as the projects Paul has undertaken have been Loughton-based, so he already has an affinity with the town.

Paul has lived in the Epping area for 10 years, although he originates from East London.

His main interest is sport and he coaches his son's football team, Ongar Juniors U-12b.

Paul looks forward to his new role, as he is keen to use his skills and knowledge in the service of the community.



Loughton Town Council meetings

Sept 5	Planning	31	Planning
14	Environment, Heritage & Leisure	Nov 9	Environment, Heritage & Leisure
19	Planning	14	Planning
28	Finance & General Policy	23	Finance & General Policy
Oct 3	Planning	28	Planning
12	Council	Dec 7	Finance & General Policy (budgets)
17	Planning	12	Planning
26	Community		

All meetings are held at 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton, at 7.45pm.

Deadline dates

EDITION	COPY DEADLINE
Winter 2005	10 October
Spring 2006	16 January

The next issue covers December to March.

Call 020 8508 4200 to add diary entries. Further copies of Think Loughton may be obtained from the Town Council at 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, or from Debden or Loughton libraries. Think Loughton is also available on tape – call to request a copy – and is on the council's website.

Please note that we will not accept unattributed articles for publication.

Business call

DO YOU run a business in the Loughton area that offers building trade services?

If so, the Town Council would like to hear from you. It has a policy of supporting local businesses where possible and is keen to expand its list of contacts.

If you would like to be considered for work and your company meets all current legislation then call 020 8508 4200 to register an interest.

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

Town Clerk: Louise R Fuller

Web: <http://www.loughton-tc.gov.uk> Email: contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk

ALDERTON WARD

Cllr Matt L Daniel 07986 079 498
(EH&L and Planning Committees)
21 Amesbury Road, Epping, Essex CM16 4HZ

Cllr Caroline P Pond 020 8508 2361
(F&GP Committee)
Forest Villa, 7 Staples Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1HP

Cllr Peter S Sheen 020 8502 2149
(Chairman, Planning; Community Committee)
4 Cherston Gardens, Loughton, Essex IG10 3PN

BROADWAY WARD

Cllr Lorne Daniel 07736 452944
(Vice-Chairman, F&GP Committee)
19 Broadstrod, Loughton, Essex IG10 2SB

Cllr Joan Davis 020 8508 3180
(EH&L Committee)
4 Barrington Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 2AY

Cllr Rob W Sheen 020 8925 4838
(Community Committee)
216 Willingale Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BX

FAIRMEAD WARD

Cllr Christine E Baggarley 020 8508 8231
(F&GP Committee)
21 Hillyfields, Loughton, Essex IG10 2JT

Cllr William T Lattimore 020 8502 1901
(Community Committee)
29 Harvey Gardens, Loughton, Essex IG10 2AD

Cllr Eileen C Murphy 020 8502 5664
(Planning Committee)
44 Deepdene Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 3PP

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

CHIGWELL & LOUGHTON BROADWAY DIVISION

Cllr Michael Tomkins 020 8500 2043
42 Coolgardie Avenue, Chigwell, Essex IG7 5AY

LOUGHTON CENTRAL DIVISION

Cllr Chris Pond 020 8508 2361
Forest Villa, 7 Staples Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1HP

LOUGHTON SOUTH & BUCKHURST HILL DIVISION

Cllr Colin Finn 020 8505 5319
16 Church Close, Loughton, Essex IG10 1LQ

PARLIAMENTARY & EUROPEAN

MP FOR EPPING FOREST

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

MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Christopher Beazley	Andrew Duff
Richard Howitt	Robert Sturdy
Jeffrey Titford	Geoffrey Van Orden
Tom Wise	

FOREST WARD

Cllr Jack Benjamin 020 8508 4765
(Community Committee)
23 Newnham Close, Loughton, Essex IG10 4JG

Cllr Rose E Brookes 020 8502 5981
(Community Committee)
3 Lower Park Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4NB

Cllr Suzanne M Harper 020 8508 4770
(Chairman, Community Committee)
Sydney House, 23 Algiers Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4NG

RODING WARD

Cllr Ken E Angold-Stephens 020 8281 0674
(F&GP Committee)
89 Lower Park Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4NE

Cllr Margaret R M A Chalk 020 8508 2226
(EH&L Committee)
49 Southview Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 3LQ

Cllr Richard J Pennington 020 8508 0807
(EH&L Committee)
51 Stonards Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 3EH

Cllr David J Wixley 020 8418 9284
(Vice-Chairman, Community Committee)
2 Copper Beech Court, Goldings Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 2QH

ST JOHN'S WARD

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

Cllr Stephen Pewsey 020 8508 5582
(EH&L Committee)
59 Wroths Path, Loughton, Essex IG10 1SH

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

ST MARY'S WARD

Cllr Brian W Moore 020 8508 7112
(Vice-Chairman, Planning Committee)
6 Forest View Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4DX

Cllr Michael W Wardle 020 8508 2771
(Town Mayor; F&GP and Planning Committees)
61 The Drive, Loughton, Essex IG10 1HG

Cllr Janet L Woods 020 8508 1764
(Deputy Town Mayor, Chairman EH&L; F&GP and Planning Committees)
1a Woodland Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1HQ

EH&L= Environment, Heritage & Leisure
F&GP= Finance & General Policy

EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

ALDERTON WARD

Cllr Maureen Boatman Tel: 020 8508 1890
24 Roding Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 3ED

Cllr Terence C Farr 020 8502 5652
13b The Elms, Lippitts Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4AW

BROADWAY WARD

Cllr Joan Davis 020 8508 3180
4 Barrington Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 2AY

Cllr Thomas L Richardson 020 8281 0806
111 Forest Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1EF

FAIRMEAD WARD

Cllr Stephen W Barnes 020 8502 1152
34 Durnell Way, Loughton, Essex IG10 1TG

Cllr Patricia H Richardson 020 8281 0806
111 Forest Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1EF

FOREST WARD

Cllr Kenneth N Faulkner 020 8508 1215
Briar Patch, Park Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4ES

Cllr James M Hart 020 8502 5430
4 Connaught Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4DU

RODING WARD

Cllr Kenneth E Angold-Stephens 020 8281 0674
89 Lower Park Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4NE

Cllr Stephen W Murray 020 8508 7548
1 Avondale Court, Loughton, Essex IG10 3BT

ST JOHN'S WARD

Cllr John A Markham 020 8508 1945
77 Queen's Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1RR

Cllr Caroline P Pond 020 8508 2361
Forest Villa, 7 Staples Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1HP

ST MARY'S WARD

Cllr Mitchell M Cohen 020 8502 1533
16 Ollards Grove, Loughton, Essex IG10 4DW

Cllr Anthony T Lee 020 8508 7649
33 Priory Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1AF

Moped crackdown

AS REPORTED in the Winter 2004 edition of *Think Loughton*, the use of mopeds, scrambler bikes and motorised skateboards and scooters has become a real problem on the area's public open spaces.

So much so that a working group has produced a strategy for dealing with those who flout the law. The Town Council and its partners, Essex Police and

Epping Forest District Council, are targeting owners and riders. There will be more foot patrols by the Community Policing Team and a leafleting campaign aimed at informing residents of how they can help.

Posters will also be placed at key points around Roding Valley Recreation Ground reminding riders that they are acting illegally. Anyone with information, call Loughton Police on 01279 641212.

Loughton Old Girls do lunch

MEMBERS of Loughton High School Old Girls' Association are hoping former schoolmates will join them for lunch and an afternoon of entertainment and reminiscences with old friends and staff on Saturday May 13, 2006.

To secure a place, please send a £10 deposit to

Treasurer Susan Lawes, 72 Arrendene Road, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 9JT by 16 September 2005.

The full cost will be £25, to include lunch and wine. The balance will be payable by 31 January.

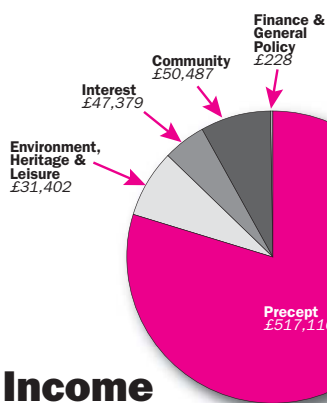
For further details, email LCMS100@hotmail.com or call Ros Ellis on 07776 135822.

Held to account

THE charts summarise the Town Council's financial activity for the year 2004/05.

They refer to the income and expenditure during the year, and are mainly allied to the council's committees.

They are in a simpler format than the formal end-of-year accounts which the council is required to produce by statute, but also give a clear picture of



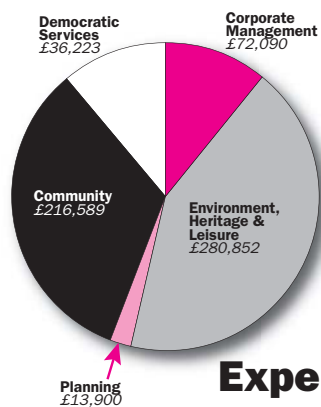
Income

where the money comes from and where it is spent.

There are a couple of new headings this year. 'Corporate management' accounts for much the same expenditure as that described as 'General admin' last year, and refers to costs which can not be directly attributed to running a service.

'Democratic Services' refers to the cost of democracy, such as elections and council meetings.

In the latter part of the year, work on the new Community & Youth Centre gathered pace, and this is reflected in increased financial activity. In this partnership project with Essex County



Expenditure

Council, the Town Council is paying the bills in the first instance, then invoicing the county for its share of the cost. Therefore, we can see large sums spent and significant income received.

At the end of the year, the council held £572,245 in general reserves, and £393,937 in reserves for specific purposes.

We have better news this year concerning the audit of the council's accounts. The years 2002/3 and 2003/4 have now been audited.

No major issues have been found, although there are some matters related to presentation still to be resolved. The audit certificate will not be issued until outstanding matters have been cleared up.

The Town Council has approved the accounts for 2004/5 but no date has been set for their audit. They will be published by 31 October, with an audit opinion if the audit has been carried out by then.

Community Forum to meet

THE TOWN Council is planning to hold a Community Forum in October. We hope to have as our speakers the new Chief Constable of Essex and the recently appointed Chief Superintendent for the Harlow Division (which incorporates Loughton).

The Forum is open to all local residents and is an opportunity to meet your councillors and other

Financial help for local

THE Town Council is pleased to support local charities, clubs, voluntary groups and organisations by awarding grants.

This year, the following have benefited from financial help totalling £4,995:

- Alzheimer's Society Epping Forest Branch
- Epping Forest Community Church Youth Group
- Epping Forest Youth for Christ
- Kidzone
- Loughton & Epping WEA
- Loughton Fencing Club
- Oakwood Senior Citizens Club
- OY (Operation Youth)
- Roding House
- Samaritans of Redbridge
- U3A Roding Valley branch
- Vitalise (formerly the Winged Fellowship Trust)
- Loughton Broadway Town Centre Partnership (for Debden Day)

There is also a provision for financial help for the Christmas lights in the High Road and Broadway.

The closing date for applications for the 2006/7 financial year is 31 December, 2005.

So if your group or club would like to apply for a grant, don't delay, contact the Town Council for more details or download a form from the website. Decisions on applications will be made by the Community Committee at its meeting on 25 January.

residents and have a cup of tea or coffee and a chat.

The date has yet to be confirmed, but will probably be 13 or 20 October at the Methodist Church Hall, High Road, at 8pm.

Look out for the exact date either in the local *Guardian* newspaper, on the town council noticeboards or website www.loughton-tc.gov.uk, or give the office a call to check the details.



From left to right: Cllr Ken Avey, Town Mayor of Epping; Cllr Richard Morgan, then Chairman of Epping Forest District Council; piper Alex Wilson; Loughton Town Mayor Chris Pond, and Cllr Antony Watts, Town Mayor of Waltham Abbey

Plaque for war dead

EARLIER this year, the then Loughton Town Mayor, Cllr Chris Pond, was honoured to unveil the civilian war memorial which the council had erected.

The plaque is on the wall of the Loughton police station in Forest Road and lists 32 names of Loughton civilians killed during World War II.

Local resident Norma Cross first suggested the plaque. She thought the council might want to commemorate Ben Platten as part of its Blue Heritage Plaque Scheme.

Mrs Cross had been contacted by a relative of Mr Platten, a pacifist who was killed in Loughton in the war. He was a well-known local figure, a journalist, civil

defence worker and councillor for Chigwell Urban District Council. Loughton's Environment, Heritage & Leisure Committee agreed to erect a plaque which would commemorate all civilians.

Council officer Paul Roden carried out extensive research into the names to be inscribed on the plaque.

Essex Police were asked to agree to the plaque as the police station marked the spot where the bomb fell which killed Mr Platten and two others. It is also a highly visible location which can be seen by all passers-by.

The date of the unveiling was particularly apposite as it was the 60th anniversary of the signing of the German capitulation throughout Europe.

Alex Wilson, who works for the council and is also an accomplished bagpipes player, played two laments at the ceremony.

Guests included relatives of some of those named on the plaque, as well as local councillors and residents.

Afterwards, all the guests gathered for refreshments and the opportunity to chat and reminisce.

Cllrs Chris Pond and Janet Woods, chairman of the Environment, Heritage & Leisure Committee, told the assembly about how the plaque came about and some of the personal stories behind the names.

Many Loughtonians had volunteered for dangerous war work, including in the medical services, the ARP, the police and fire services, and other voluntary services.

Of course you can!

WORKERS Educational Association Loughton & Epping Branch is pleased to announce a full winter programme of classes and activities.

Highly qualified tutors are allocated to the WEA by the Eastern area of the movement, based in Cambridge.

No previous qualifications are needed, except a commitment to worthwhile study and an enjoyment of life-long learning field trips. The programme features theatre and museum visits as well as some social activities.

For details, see the publicity boards in local libraries, or alternatively call 020 8508 3183.

■ **THE next series of British Red Cross First Aid courses has been arranged to enable residents to gain vital first aid skills.**

They will be held at Lincoln Hall, Loughton High Road, and begin in September with Basic First Aid, either over five Monday evenings starting on 12 September or one day courses on 24 September or 19 November. These courses cost £30 including training materials and manual.

A comprehensive Standard First Aid course is also scheduled to start in January.

For details, call 020 8508 2162 between 10.30am and 12.30pm, except Tuesday.

Fun in the sun – hopefully

RODING Valley High School is holding a family fun day on Sunday 18 September between 11am and 4pm.

The playground is the venue and is situated on Brook Road.

The entrance fee is £1 for adults, children free.

Refreshments include a barbecue, ice creams and homemade cakes. Local firefighters will be on hand, emergencies permitting, to

show children how to drive a fire engine.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Awards Trailer has a mobile climbing wall which can be used by children with the help of an instructor.

The school is donating half of the takings to Epping Forest District Council's chosen charity, the Chigwell Riding Trust.

For more details, call 020 8508 1173.

Dates for the diary

■ **5 Sept, 8.15pm:** St John's Wives Group, St John's Parish Hall. Social evening and Bring & Buy + meet new M&S manager Lee Owen

■ **19 Sept, 8.15pm:** St John's Wives Group, St John's Parish Hall. Welcome to Guernsey – Bill Bossom.

■ **24 Sept, 11am-4pm:** Michaelmas Fayre and Flower Festival, St Michael and All Angels Church, Roding Road. Cakes, toys, bric-a-brac, games for all ages. Refreshments and light lunches. Admission is free.

■ **3 Oct, 8.15pm:** St John's Wives Group, St John's Parish Hall. Kensington Palace Gardens & Belgravia – Talk with slides by Peter Lawrence

■ **5 Oct, 8pm:** The National Trust, Sir James Hawkey Hall: 'Pearls Before Swine', a talk by Jane Kelsall. Call 020 8505 3501.

■ **17 Oct, 8.15pm:** St John's Wives Group, St John's Parish Hall. The Life & Times of Edward Bear (Bring your own Bear) by Cynthia Ives

■ **27 Oct, 7.45pm:** Woodlands branch of Essex Handicrafts, venue as above. Lace and leftovers.

■ **3 Nov, 8pm:** The National Trust, Sir James Hawkey Hall: 'Waterways Wonders', a talk by Richard Thomas. Call: 020 8505 3501.

■ **7 Nov, 8.15pm:** St John's Wives Group, St John's Parish Hall. The Tsunami, by Sue Collingwood.

■ **21 Nov, 8.15pm:** St John's Wives Group, St John's Parish Hall. How I Became a Real Old Sew & Sew by Brenda Harley.

■ **23 Nov, 2.30pm:** The National Trust, Sir James Hawkey Hall: 'The Role of a Police Wildlife Liaison Officer' an illustrated talk by Barry Kaufmann-Wright. Call: 020 8505 3501.

■ **24 Nov, 7.45pm:** Woodlands branch of

Essex Handicrafts, Trinity Church, Mannock Drive. Somerset Patchwork.

■ **5 Dec, 7.45pm:** St John's Wives Group, St John's Parish Hall. Christmas Crafts by Bernadette Nichol.

■ **8 Dec, 8pm:** The National Trust, Sir James Hawkey Hall: 'The Story of Tyntesfield', a talk by Pamela Wright. Call: 020 8505 3501.

■ **Second Mon of the month, 2pm:** Civil Service Retirement Fellowship meets in the Retreat, St Edmund's Church Hall, Traps Hill, Loughton. Details: 020 8508 2459.

■ **Every Tues, 7pm:** Roding & Loughton Chess Club, Loughton Bowling Club premises. Details: 020 8504 0770.

■ **Every Sat, Sun, Wed + Thurs:** Walk with the West Essex Ramblers. New walkers always welcome (sorry no dogs). Call 020 8502 1628.

■ **Every Tues (term time), 10am:** Toddler Church, 0-5 years old plus fellowship, Loughton Methodist Church, High Road. Contact: Cathy Morling, 020 8508 1834.

■ **Every Tues, Thurs + Fri at 10am-11.45am and every Tues at 12.45-2.30pm:** Messy Play Parent & Toddler Group, Debden Park Arts & Community Centre, Willingale Road. £3 per session. Tel: 07931 500802.

■ **Every second Tues, 7.30pm:** Epping Forest & District Stamp Club, Music Room 1, Roding Valley High School. Details: 020 8508 1244.

■ **Every Wed, 7.30-9.30pm:** Fencing Club at Loughton Sports Centre, Rectory Lane (entrance by side of Health Centre). Age: from about eight years to adult. First two evenings are free. Contact: Aubrey Crick, 01992 522462 or email: aubrey_crick@ntlworld.com.

■ **First Wed of month, 2.15pm:** Loughton

Women's Institute meets at Lincoln Hall (Red Cross Hall), High Road, Loughton. Call 020 8508 4514 or 020 8508 1400.

■ **Third Wed of month, 8pm:** The Royal Naval Association social Evening, music, dancing, raffle, buffet, Royal British Legion Club.

■ **Every second + fourth Thurs, 8pm:** Debden House Quilters. Call: 020 8508 4873.

■ **Every Thurs + Fri, 6-9pm:** 41st Epping Forest Scout Group for girls and boys aged 6-15. Loughton Union Church. For information about Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, tel: 020 8923 2378.

■ **Alternate Thurs, 7.15-10.15pm:** Friends of Light & Healing meetings, Kingsley Hall, Austen Close. Everybody welcome. Tel: 020 8508 3266.

■ **Every Fri 4.30-6pm (term time):** Kidz Club, Epping Forest Community Church. Contact: Phil Joiner, 020 8502 0695.

■ **Alternate Fri, 7.45pm:** Loughton & Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society meets at The Old Rectory, All Saints' Church, Chigwell Row. Details: 020 8502 1645.

■ **Second Sun of month, 3pm:** Loughton Bereavement Service group meeting with refreshments, Methodist Church, High Road. Contact Kathleen: 020 8508 9408.

■ **Every Sun, 7.30-10.30pm:** Dance – ballroom, Latin and popular sequence, Victory Hall, Hainault Road, Chigwell. Admission: £3.50. Details: 020 8508 0313.

■ **Every Sun, 10.30am:** Sunday school & family church service, Epping Forest Community Church, Contact: Phil Joiner, Church Leader, on 020 8502 0695.

■ **First Sun of month at 3.30pm:** Church Service, St Michael's Church, Roding Road, Loughton. Friendly, informal service, welcomes people with learning difficulties and their friends. Lasts about half an hour.

■ **First Sun of month, 9am-2pm:** Farmers' market, Centric Parade, High Road. Details:

Suzanne Harper, 020 8508 4770.

■ **Every Mon, 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.

■ **Every Mon, 8-10pm:** Epping Phoenix Choir meets at Epping Methodist Church Hall. New members welcome. Details: 020 8508 3539.

■ **Every Mon, 9.30pm:** Loughton Mountaineering Club, Victoria Tavern, Smarts Lane, Loughton. Call Jeff Harris, 020 8508 2888.

■ **First Tues of month, 8pm:** Royal British Legion Branch and Club meetings, 118 Church Hill, Loughton.

■ **Every Wed (term time), 9.30am-11.15am:** Trinity Toddlers, Mannock Drive. Contact: Isobel Jackson on 020 8508 3317.

■ **Every Thurs, 12.45pm:** Rotary Club of Loughton & Buckhurst Hill, Britannia Sports & Social Club, Bank of England, Langston Road. Call: 020 8500 6910.

■ **Second Thurs of month, 8pm:** Loughton Historical Society, Methodist Church, High Road. Guest visitors welcome (£1.50 entry).

■ **Fourth Thurs, 7.45pm:** Woodlands branch of Essex Handicrafts, Trinity Church, Mannock Drive. Details, Pam: 020 8508 7657.

■ **Every Fri, 7.30pm:** Kingsley Spiritualist Church, Kingsley Hall, Kingsley Road.

MONTHLY COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES:

First Saturday (Labour):

■ **10.30am:** The Broadway shopping parade (under the walk-through)

First Sunday (Loughton Residents' Assoc):

■ **9am-2pm:** at the Farmers' Market, Centric Parade, High Road.

By appointment (Conservative):

If you have any concerns, call Matt or Lorne Daniel to schedule an appointment.

First signs of Christmas

Christmas 2005 Card Competition ENTRY FORM AND RULES



Name:
 Address:
 Tel no:

Class: (please tick as appropriate)
 Key Stage: 1 (infants) [] 2 (juniors) []
 3 (years 7/8/9) [] 4 (years 10/11) []
 Adult []

I live in Loughton [] I attend school in Loughton [] I work in Loughton []

COMPETITION RULES

1 The competition is open to those who live, work or attend school in Loughton. 2 Photocopied entry forms are acceptable. 3 Submitting your entry will confirm your agreement to the rules. 4 Entries not in accordance with the rules will not be judged. 5 Size of paper used must be A5 (148mm x 210mm). 6 A 1cm-wide plain white border must be left around the design edge. 7 Designs may be landscape or portrait orientation. 8 Entries must be your own design and artwork, including text. The original work must be submitted,

not a copy. 9 Colour or monochrome, illuminated script, drawing, photograph, picture, illuminated poem or any other artistic style may be used. 10 Entries must be suitable for copying and printing. 11 Receipt of entries will not be acknowledged and no responsibility for entries is accepted. 12 The overall winning entry and its copyright remain Town Council property. 13 Entries will not be returned unless they are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope. 14 The judges' decision is final.

ENTRIES TO BE RETURNED TO:

Loughton Town Council, 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton, Essex IG10 2QZ.
 Tel: 020 8508 4200 Closing date: 31 October 2005

Best Dressed Window Competition 2005 ENTRY FORM



Shop: Manager/contact:
 Address:
 Tel:

Class: (please tick as appropriate)
 Local/independent [] Multiple/chain store [] Charity []

Please state the name and address of the charity you would wish to receive the £100 donation from the Town Council should you win

COMPETITION RULES

1 Eligibility All shops and businesses within the Town Council's boundaries may enter. 2 Classes of entry Entrants will be split into three classes: (i) Local/independent businesses; (ii) Multiples/chain stores (three or more branches); (iii) Charity. All entries must be on the Town Council's official entry form (photocopies are acceptable). The closing date for entries is 18 November 2005. Window displays must be in place for judging by 1 December 2005. 3 Judging will be carried out by a panel consisting of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Community Committee, and the Town Mayor (or substitutes if circumstances dictate). Judging will take place during the period 1 to 14 December. Results will be announced the following week. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. 4 Theme Entrants may base their

display on any Christmas theme. 5 Judging criteria The window displays will be judged on a range of criteria, including: Overall impression/visual impact; Creativity/ideas; Artistic merit; Inventive use of materials; Effort. Window displays relying primarily on considerable expenditure to achieve their impact will not be favoured in the judging. There is no maximum or minimum size for the display. 6 Prizes All entrants will receive a certificate indicating their participation in the competition. The first prize-winner in each class will receive an engraved cup to retain for 11 months (to be awarded again the following year) and a certificate to keep. A £100 donation will be made to the charity of their choice. The runner-up and highly-commended entries in each class will be awarded a certificate.

ENTRIES TO BE RETURNED TO:

Loughton Town Council, 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton, Essex IG10 2QZ.
 Tel: 020 8508 4200 Closing date for entries: 18 November 2005

As summer draws to a close it's time to plan for Christmas festivities. In response to popular demand, Loughton Town Council will run both Christmas competitions again this year.

In the Decorated Christmas Window Competition, Loughton shops and businesses are invited to dress their windows in a Christmas theme. The closing date for entries is 18 November.

All entrants will receive a certificate to display in their window and the winners will receive a certificate, an engraved cup to keep for 11 months and a £100 donation to the charity of their choice.

A list of entrants will appear on the Town Council web site and on all its notice boards to encourage shoppers.

Last year, the three winners were Flower Elegance, 51 The Broadway; Past Times, 235

High Road; and Oxfam, 206 High Road. The nominated charities for the £100 prize were Help the Aged, Cancer Research UK and Oxfam.

The Christmas Card Competition is open to everyone and the Town Council will use the winning design as its official Christmas card.

There are five age-related categories and the winner in each class will receive a £20 gift token. A certificate is awarded to a runner-up from each category.

The best entries will be displayed in Loughton and Debden libraries during the run up to Christmas. The closing date is 31 October. Last year's winner was Nathaniel

Greenleaf, adult category. Fill in a form today and put your artistic talent to the test!

To enter either competition complete the entry form printed here or collect one from the Town Council's office.

Light up a life

THE Christmas lights on the Town Council's tree on Kings Green will once again be the focus for the sixth annual "Light Up a Life" in conjunction with St Clare Hospice.

The ceremony will be during the late afternoon of Saturday 26 November. The time has not yet been set, so

telephone the Town Council on 020 8508 4200 in early November for information or look on the website.

Anyone wishing to sponsor a light on the tree in memory of a loved one can obtain a form from the Town Council offices during November, or call St Clare Hospice on 01279 773750.

Places to go, people to see...

LOUGHTON Residents' Association has gathered details of various indoor and outdoor amenities available for hire in the town.

The list includes prices, booking arrangements, transport and facilities available at halls, meeting rooms, fields and pitches. The list can be seen at the Town

Council office, the Information Centre in Traps Hill, or on the council's website at www.loughton-tc.gov.uk/2vpoin.htm.

The Town Council's Kingsley Hall is for hire in Austen Close. It is quite small but can accommodate 36 people seated or 60 standing. It is not available for parties (other than those for small children) but is ideal for small group meetings. Call Adèle

Harriss on 020 8508 4200 for details.

The Town Council has football pitches for hire on Roding Valley Recreation Ground and Willingale Road Playing Field. The 2005/6 season runs from 3/4 September 2005 to 22/23 April 2006, excluding Christmas/Boxing Day and New Year's eve/New Year's day. Call Joan Innis on 020 8508 4200 for details.

Learn to love your library

LOUGHTON Library's **Learn direct IT courses (everything from absolute beginners to high flyers) go from strength to strength.**

You can gain confidence and a certificate at the same time to help with job prospects or for leisure and most of the beginner's courses are free.

Loughton Library also continues to build on the successes of its one to one IT coaching sessions, including 'getting started' with basic computer use, email, internet and office applications.

The library is also holding the following events:

■ **1 Oct, 10am-4pm:** Local and Family History Day. Loughton & District Historical Society, members of the East London

Family History Society and the Essex Record Office will all be attending to give advice and information.

■ **8-16 Oct:** Family Learning Week. The theme this year is 'Our World About Us', and there will be lots of activities under a 'Discover Your Library' banner.

■ **27 Oct, 2pm:** Lynn Forest-Hill, from the Tolkien Society, will explain how events in Essex 1,000 years ago came to inspire the *Lord of the Rings* books and films we know so well today.

For details of more events at Loughton Library this year, either log on to our website at www.essexcc.gov.uk/libraries and click 'loughton', call 020 8502 0181 or pay us a visit at Traps Hill.



Airbag 'won't save you'

AT THE Town Council's request, Essex Police ran more speed monitoring exercises, in Church Hill, Valley Hill and Westall Road on 30 June.

The number of speeding offences was as expected, but a high number of motorists were not wearing seat belts.

Motorists are misguided in assuming that their vehicles' airbags will save them in an accident.

The Town Council is awaiting a county council report on a one-year trial of speed indicator devices, SIDs, before pressing for improved speed reduction measures.

Anti-crime initiatives show signs of success

CRIME and disorder continues to be part of everyday life within our communities.

And it is the aim of Essex Police to reduce such incidents and make the county a much safer place to live in.

Over the last three years, we have worked with other agencies under the Epping Forest Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) and made significant inroads in tackling local issues such as anti-social behaviour and people's fear of crime.

For example, an action plan was created to tackle incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour on the Oakwood Hill Estate, in response to a 106 per cent increase in reported crime over the past year. We also saw an alarming increase in the number of complaints concerning anti-social behaviour.

The CDRP decided that we would implement a Ten Point Action Plan to reduce this trend in crime and help tackle the anti-social behaviour. Importantly this plan was discussed with local residents and the Residents Association was consulted.

The plan was implemented in February and figures show there has been a marked reduction in crime – but there is still more work to be done.

The installation of CCTV has been completed in and around the local store and community centre, and the police will soon be able to view the system from Loughton station. Street lighting there will also be upgraded.

A community action day was held on the estate in May and local people were invited to come and talk to local service heads, as well as the

police, regarding their concerns. The charity Nacro is carrying out a 12-week action plan to encourage local youths into sports-based activities.

The Vineyard Church has offered its services free of charge to estate residents, in relation to decorating.

Essex Police has provided more of a uniform presence on the estate – it has a beat officer and a dedicated police community support officer, and they hold regular surgeries in the community centre. We are also looking to tackle crime and disorder in other areas, such as the Broadway.

Loughton is a safe place, but we all have a part to play in keeping it that way.

Trevor Newman
Problem/ASB Co-ordinator
Loughton Police

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.

Loughton & District CAB

THE CAB OPERATES AT:

■ St Mary's Parish Centre, Loughton High Road: Mondays to Fridays. Evening and solicitors appointment sessions are held on alternate Wednesdays 6.30-7.30pm.

■ Chigwell Health Care Clinic, Limes Avenue: Monday and Wednesday mornings.

Advice and further details of opening hours are available on 020 8502 0031.

Help us to help you

LAST year, Loughton and District CAB, the charity for your community, helped thousands of local people solve their problems.

And they brought additional money into the area by helping people to get the money from welfare benefits and pensions to which they are entitled.

The CAB also dealt with debt worth around £1.35m, saved many from losing their homes, and supported dozens of people dismissed or unfairly treated by their employers. Research shows that 37 per cent of people who used a CAB were financially better off as a result.

Loughton CAB has a vibrant workforce of professional advisers who undergo rigorous

training. Some bring a wide range of experience from their previous working lives whilst others use the training and work to help them into paid employment in the long term or even find a solution to their own problems.

Our staff find their work rewarding and enjoyable, and most stay with us for many years.

To help us solve the thousands of problems local people bring to us, we have a comprehensive, electronic information system equivalent to 12,000 paper pages, and this is updated centrally every month so we can answer practically every query.

I am pleased to report that the bureau scored very highly

overall in our recent client satisfaction survey, with as many as 94 per cent of clients who were 'very satisfied' with the service they received.

We are very proud of the service we provide, and we try to deal with all the problems people have, not just the one issue they come to see us about, so it's holistic.

However, it should be remembered that we are a charity and I would like to express my personal gratitude for all the many individual donations we receive from our clients and larger sponsors. If you are interested in learning more about us, or supporting us in any way, please get in touch.

Sue Britton
Loughton CAB manager