



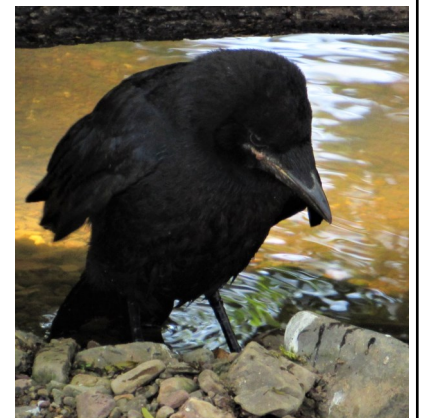
### JUNE....LONGER DAYS, WARMER NIGHTS?

Billy Connolly once said "There are two seasons in Scotland: June and Winter". We tend to think of June as the beginning of summer. There are more hours of daylight in June than any other month, with the longest day falling on the 21st, and the days are getting warmer. It is the time when we start looking forward to long summer evenings and spending more time outdoors. It is also the time when plants grow and flower more vigorously and young birds and animals start their journey through life.

We have also been able to spread our wings since the 17th May and have been able to visit friends and family indoors and even spend the night. Care home residents were finally allowed to have visitors and they too could go out for visits. The 21st June is not only the longest day, but the date set by the government for all legal limits on social contact to be removed. So this year, we are like the fledglings, stepping out into a world that we haven't experienced for some time, no doubt very cautiously finding our way to a 'new' normal.



These Great Spotted Woodpeckers are feeding their young down by the river, and, love them or hate them, these fledging rooks have survived their maiden flights in spite of landing in the water!





## LAPFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Our Sunday Services are at 11.00am and will be led by Rev. Caroline Stott. All are welcome to join us.



## The Parish Church in June



### Services in June 2021

6<sup>th</sup> June - Trinity 1: 9.30am Lay Led Morning Prayer

Prayer

13<sup>th</sup> June - Trinity 2: 9.30am Lay Led Morning Prayer

20<sup>th</sup> June - Trinity 3: 9.30am Lay Led Morning Prayer

27<sup>th</sup> June - Trinity 4: 9.30am Common Worship Eucharist

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

The last year has been very lonely for many. It's wonderful to see clubs and groups for all ages restarting in the village again. We can only hope to see it continue and for us all to be able to come together to celebrate the Revel this year. It's not too much to also ask for some great weather is it?



Beccy

## HAVE YOU SEEN A BEE SWARM?

Covid 19 has not had any effect on Mother Nature and in the months of May, June and July bees naturally swarm so if you have a garden, whether you are new to the area or not, and you find a swarm of bees please contact me John Chappell on 07583 495025 or 01363 884267 and I will collect them free of charge.



Many thanks.

John



## Lapford Weather Review

### LAPFORD WEATHER APRIL 2021

Much cooler than average thanks to persistent cold nights and many frosts. This was the coolest April since 1989. Also very dry.

The mildest day was the 21<sup>st</sup> with a maximum of 16.3°C, and the coolest the 7<sup>th</sup>, maximum 5.9°C. The coldest nights were on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, all of which had minimums of -1.5°C. The grass temperature fell to -6.4°C on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Total rainfall was 12.1 mm, about 20% of the average. The wettest day was the 11<sup>th</sup> with just 2.7 mm.

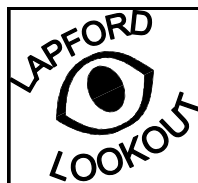
The windiest day was the 23<sup>rd</sup> with a gust of 41 mph.

Andy Epstein



## LAPFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

Please visit our website, [www.lapfordcc.org.uk](http://www.lapfordcc.org.uk) for information about the Foodbank and ARK. You will also find lots of information about Church activities and on-line services.



## DATES TO LOOKOUT FOR June 2021

- 10th Lapford Youth Club - start up meeting for volunteers, Victory Hall, 6.30pm.
- 14th Copy deadline for July Lapford Lookout, 6.00pm
- 24th Ladies of Lapford Summer Evening, Lower Town Place, 7.00pm

## TO CONTACT THE EDITOR

### Write to:

Mrs. Beccy Fletcher, 36 Orchard Way, Lapford, Crediton, EX17 6PR

Tel: (01363) 884211 or 07791 989142

E-mail: [lapfordlookout@gmail.com](mailto:lapfordlookout@gmail.com)

By hand: Use the box in The Orchard Centre or the Editor's letterbox

### Deadline for inclusion in the next issue:

**6 pm on the 14th June for inclusion in July issue**

*Contributions are welcome, to be used at the Editor's discretion.*

*Flyers and Inserts must be approved by the Editor prior to publication and shall only be included at the discretion of the Editor and editorial policy.*

*The views in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the editorial team.*

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## GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptise cats.
- 2) When your Mum is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your three year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap.

## GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing jelly to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts.
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
- 6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fibre, not the toy.





**LAPFORD SCHOOL  
JUNIOR CLASS 1949**

Back row L to R: Miss Hancock, Geoffrey Knapp, Barry Bowring, Howard Gale, John Gough, Peter Vanstone, Wilfred Turner.  
Middle row L to R: Graham Walters, Ann Gunn, Maureen Moyse, Veronica Cast, Barbara Rookes, Ron Leach.  
Seated: Norman Gale, Terry Glover.

Photo courtesy of Ann Cann

**LAPFORD CARNIVAL FLOAT  
'GYPSY ENCAMPMENT'**

Left to right: Margaret Kelly, Sylvia Spear, Ann Gunn, Maureen Moyes, Kay Wellsby, Maureen Bater, Sylvia Sanders.

Photo courtesy of Ann Cann



**'MURDER AT THE VICARAGE'** Presented by Lapford Amateur Dramatic Society at the Victory Hall. 1960s?

Left to right: Gillie Howat, ?, Angus Howat, ? Hoddinott, Mrs Withers, ?, ?, Rev. Judd?, Dorrie Manning.  
Kneeling: Men unknown. The body: Mrs Murch?  
News cutting courtesy of Ann Cann



A scene from "Murder at the Vicarage" presented by Lapford Amateur Dramatic Society at the Victory Hall last week.



## LAPFORD GARDENING CLUB



Spring has arrived and the Gardening Club is starting to burst into bloom. We intend to have a presence at the Revel; there might even be some plants for sale. After a long break it will be good to get back to meeting fellow gardeners and encouraging new members. A garden evening is already planned for 17<sup>th</sup> August with wine and nibbles; more details in next Lapford Lookout. In the meantime current members are being contacted personally with the intention of a meeting in late June.

For further information about the Club please contact Trisha Mumford on 01363 83911.

## OFFICE BANTER

To whoever stole my copy of Microsoft Office: I will find you, you have my word!

To err is human, to blame it on someone else shows management potential. . .

When an employment application asks who is to be notified in case of emergency, I always write "A very good doctor".

Nothing ruins a Friday more than suddenly realising it's actually Tuesday.

I live in constant fear that my child will become a famous artist or painter and I will have thrown out about a trillion pounds' worth of their work.

## THOUGHTS FROM THE ARK

Life before lockdown wasn't always a bed of roses, but it was normal and predictable, or at least we thought it was. Now everything seems unknown. What does the future hold?

It's been a long time coming, but the ARK is open, at last. The pandemic has caused people to feel isolated and detached from family and friends. People have felt fearful, especially with the high number of deaths and barrage of confusing information.

The volunteers at the ARK have all experienced difficulties during the lockdowns. They were asked about their experiences and their feelings about coming back to the ARK.

All felt the frustrations, the isolation, the loneliness and the confusion that came with the pandemic - one wrote... "When lockdown happened I thought, Oh good, that gives me chance to do some jobs around the house. The first lockdown felt like a holiday. The last lockdown was hard, by that time I was missing friends, family and the interaction with other people. Now I'm looking forward to being able to do the things we used to do, although it will not be as it was, but the freedom to meet up with people is liberating and never to be taken for granted. I am really happy to be back at the ARK and looking forward to meeting old friends."

Another put ... "Lockdown was awful. None of us knew how long it would last. Not being able to see family, friends and colleagues was hard. We had to stay positive, in spite of the barrage of news we had to contend with night after night, telling us the dreadful rising number of deaths. It did seem that the people of Devon were handling it very well, and for those of us with gardens, the wonderful weather was a boon. I even got a tan. Gradually things improved, in spite of the countless number of people who refused to believe there was a problem. I very much missed being at the ARK where everyone was lovely, and we had such fun. However, there is definitely light at the end of the tunnel, and we are all looking forward to being together again in the ARK and welcoming villagers back in."

There were positives as written by this volunteer... "Lockdown provided me with time to sort out the garden. I missed friends and family most and found it difficult through the winter. Looking ahead it is quite exciting to be able to go to the ARK once again. I am looking forward to spending time with friends and chatting over a cup of tea."

It obviously had a devastating effect as well, I am sure this was felt by many, as this volunteer wrote... "During lockdown, I was so nervous and didn't feel safe. I got very depressed and didn't feel life was worth living. There seemed to be no hope and it was distressing to see all those people dying all alone. I missed my children so much and couldn't stop crying. I missed meeting in the ARK and talking to people. Now at last we are preparing to open the ARK again and it has given some reason for carrying on. There is hope on the horizon."

Another volunteer wrote that she was pleased to be getting back to some kind of normal. She found she was getting forgetful, not having a normal routine. She felt living where we do we were a great deal better off. She didn't like going into Crediton at first and still only goes to Exeter if it is really necessary.

Another volunteer was delighted and touched by the work of the Emergency helpers who helped the "oldies" who were "locked in", the NHS, as to how they coped is a wonder and a mystery, and the volunteers now working hard to administer the vaccine, all much appreciated for their selfless work done in extreme circumstances. All these volunteers experienced all the highs and lows during the last 15 months.

It's a time I am sure we never imagined we would ever face. Everyone of us can relate to these experiences the ARK volunteers went through. As we slowly come out of each lockdown, please be kind to one another, still show care and concern for each other. Be good listeners.

Billy Graham said "Everywhere I go I find that people .... both leaders and individuals ..... are asking one basic question. Is there any hope for the future? My answer is the same, "Yes, through Jesus Christ."

**The Ladies at the ARK.**





**READER REQUEST:  
HELP WITH LAPFORD SCHOOL RUN NEEDED**

We are looking for a local parent or child minder who can very occasionally take and collect our children to/from Lapford Primary School. We are paying £10 per hour. Call or text 07747 334455 for info.

**Nick**

**THE MONARCH OAK**

The monarch oak, the patriarch of trees,  
Shoots, rising up, and spreads by slow degrees;  
Three centuries he grows, and three he stays  
Supreme in state, and in three more decays.

**John Dryden, 1631-1701**

**WILD LAPFORD - "FLAMING" JUNE**

The weather in June is usually getting warmer and drier with the start of summer and the longest day on the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month.

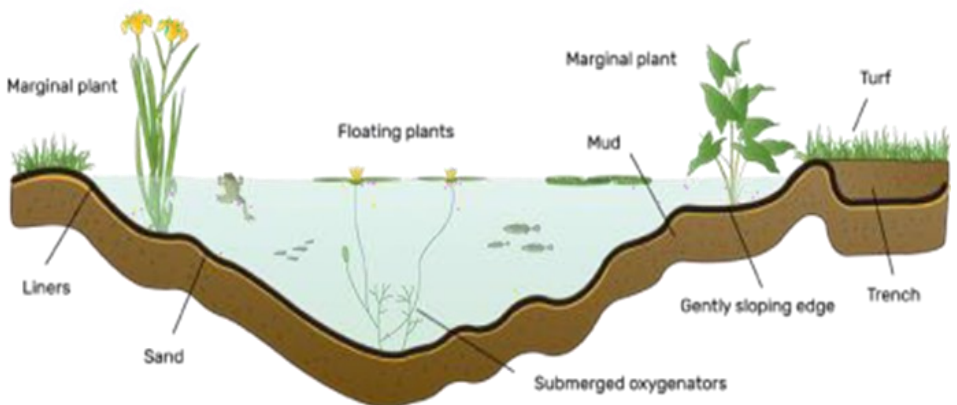
During the summer in particular, our wildlife can struggle to find water during dry spells. All animals, just like humans, need water to survive. It is either consumed directly (by drinking) or indirectly via their food (think of a slug eating a juicy lettuce). Some creatures need water to breed for example: dragon and damselflies or toads and frogs who lay eggs in water and spend their larval phase of their lives living in water.

Mammals can survive a considerable number of days with no food, but few can survive beyond a day or two with no water. During hot dry spells, natural ponds and even rivers can dry up so it is vital that we help our wildlife by providing water, ideally year-round so that the water source is familiar to the local wildlife.

At the most basic level, leaving shallow dishes or bowls of water out around the garden or providing a bird bath will allow thirsty birds to drink. Placing some partially submerged pebbles in the dish or bowl will make a platform to allow insects like bees and butterflies to also drink. If this bowl was to be placed at ground level, then mammals like hedgehogs can use it. However, shallow bowls of water and birdbaths soon dry out so need topping up regularly.



If you really want to encourage the wildlife of all kinds to your garden, by far the best thing you can do is provide a wildlife pond. It doesn't have to be big, something the size of a washing up bowl with some stones and a few plants in will be a great help to wildlife. However, the bigger the pond, the greater the potential for different habitats and increased biodiversity. If you are really enthusiastic, creating a pond using a liner, similar to the one pictured, with varying depths and a variety of marginal plants would support a whole host of insects and amphibians as well as provide drinking water for birds and mammals.



Whatever you use to make a pond, it does need a shallow beach area or a ramp to allow any creatures that might fall in to escape to safety. Hedgehogs are the perfect example, they are very good swimmers, but struggle to get out of steep sided ponds so can drown if there isn't an escape route.

In our garden, we have a mixture of water sources: numerous dishes at or above ground level, a formal bird bath that is very shallow which allows the bees to drink as well as the birds, a bog garden made inside an old water trough full of marginal water plants and a small pond (approx. 3' in diameter) that seems to be used in preference to all the other water provisions by all creatures, especially the birds who queue up on the escape ramp for a bath!

If you are a Facebook user, why not join "Wild Lapford" <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wildlapford> to see lots of photos and videos of wildlife and share your wildlife photos with us all. Feel free to contact me [helengreensmith@hotmail.com](mailto:helengreensmith@hotmail.com) if you have any wildlife questions.

Thanks to the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust for the pond diagram and as always to Rebecca Holley for her lovely artwork.

**Helen Greensmith**



## POTATO SALAD



[www.sustainablecrediton.org.uk](http://www.sustainablecrediton.org.uk)

New potatoes are good as a salad.

Boil the potatoes in salted water with mint. Drain, and when cold slice or dice.

Add a generous helping of chopped chives and finely chopped radishes.

Season with freshly ground black pepper and mix with mayonnaise and a splash of cider vinegar.

**Paul Cleave**

## LAPFORD YOUTH AND PLAYING FIELD TRUST NEWS



The LYPFT committee are extremely grateful for the donations we have received following our appeal earlier this year. We'd like to say a special thank you to all: LADs, Peter Totterdill and Rosemary Exton, David and Ingrid Gardner, Carolyn Ward, Alex from Lapford Mill as well as some other donors who would prefer to remain anonymous.

We are absolutely delighted that we will soon be in a position to repay our inherited debts and start raising money for essential maintenance. The first thing we intend to do is improve the drainage in the field to help prevent it from becoming waterlogged in the wetter months. This will involve clearing the ditches around the perimeter and installing a drain. The labour for this work is being kindly donated, but we still need to pay for materials.

As the COVID-19 restrictions start to ease, we hope to start some fun-fundraising activities including a traction engine rally and fun-day on the 14th August, obviously this is to be confirmed providing COVID restrictions allow.

In the meantime, we still need your help to pay for the vital maintenance so you can do so via:

- Credit or debit card donations online via PayPal account use the email address [lapfordplayingfield@gmail.com](mailto:lapfordplayingfield@gmail.com) (please use the friends and family option so there are no fees charged).
- Cheque (payable to the Lapford Playing Field Trust), post it through the letterbox at Ebenezer Cottage (located behind the Ark) in Lapford or at the Ark (when lockdown restrictions ease).
- Cash: collection box inside the Ark (when lockdown restrictions allow).

Please email your comments about the playing field to [lapfordplayingfield@gmail.com](mailto:lapfordplayingfield@gmail.com) or comment on the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LapfordPlayingField>

**The LYPFT Committee**

## LAPFORD PRESCHOOL LEARNING

We are so excited to see our Preschool growing in numbers and it has been lovely to welcome some new families into the setting over the last few months. This term, we have been learning about 'planet heroes' – thinking about how we can care for our planet. We changed our playhouse into a recycling centre, looked at materials which can be recycled, and the children have helped the staff sort the materials into groups – plastic, paper, card. In our 'talk time' the children have talked about what our planet may have looked like in the past. The children have very much enjoyed reading the book 'Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish' by Michael Foreman.

If you would like to arrange a visit, please contact Lorraine Kigongo – [lkigongo@catpreschools.co.uk](mailto:lkigongo@catpreschools.co.uk)

## LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL NOTES APRIL 2021

*Please note this is a summary of the main points of interest. A copy of the draft minutes will be made available on the Lapford village website, and on the notice boards in the Orchard Centre and in the Ark.*

The Council met on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 via Zoom. Four members of the public attended.

- There were no reports from the County or District Councillors this time due to the forthcoming elections.
- The Church Green Trustees were awaiting updated drawings and costings for work to the bank by Lower Town Place. A meeting with representatives of the Community Church had resulted in agreement to pursue planning permission to move the Church Green fence by the Ark slightly outwards to the edge of the grass and to make a gated entrance from the Green on to the hard standing in front of the Ark. Permission was granted to temporarily remove railings from the fence by Lower Town Place and by the Ark to make an easy way through during the hoped-for Revel celebrations in July.
- The Clock in the Church tower was reported to be in need of work to the mechanism, the chimes and the interface between the clock face and the mechanism. Short term repairs were likely to cost about £1800. More investigations would be undertaken, and costings sought.
- The vaccination programme at Wallingbrook surgery was proceeding well.
- The Highways Officer would be contacted again concerning the repair of local roads and other issues.
- A report was awaited concerning trees along the Playing Field boundary.
- Dog fouling warning signs to be posted around the village.
- Mid Devon District Council to be approached re weed spraying in the car park and other public areas in the village.
- The Council has agreed to apply to join the Devon County Council Road Warden scheme. More volunteers are needed to take part in this.
- The current grass-cutting contractor will be asked to continue to provide services for the next twelve months.
- The Parish Council Annual return for 2020/21 has been completed. A Public Interest report will be made concerning the report for the previous year.



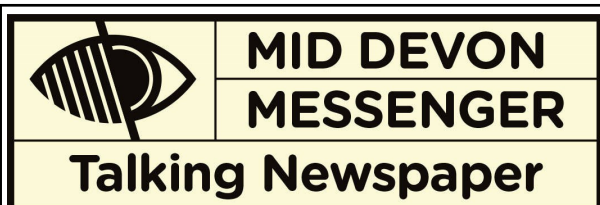
## LAPFORD DOG CLUB GETS BACK TO BUSINESS DESPITE SETBACKS

Since more people have been getting dogs during lockdown, the Club has been inundated with requests for puppy training. With the hall out of action, we were able to move training to the indoor school at Serstone, but during the last lockdown the Government decreed that the indoor school was indeed *indoors*. However as the Club has always been told it would be able to use Lower Town Place for training, we were hopeful that we could start training puppies there as soon as groups were allowed to meet again. Sadly HOLD had a last minute change of heart and the Club needed to look elsewhere. Luckily one of the Committee offered the use of their land and so we have been able to help eleven lucky owners, and reduce our waiting list, although more are added daily. By the end of May we were allowed to use the indoor school again and resume our November training course. We were surprised how much the dogs had grown up and showed off their owners' hard work.



Sadly Government regulations also meant the cancellation of our two planned agility shows in December and March, the curtailment of training and reduced fitness for dogs and owners. Everyone was glad to get back to business as normal at the end of last month and get ready for a summer of competitions. We are making up for lost time to be ready for our two-day agility show to be held at Southcott In July.

Trisha Mumford



### MID DEVON MESSENGER - HOW WE THRIVED DURING LOCKDOWN

Many of you will know about the Mid Devon Messenger – a free local talking newspaper for the blind and visually impaired, and a registered charity.

All had been running smoothly for nearly 40 years... until lockdown! Overnight we had to evacuate the studio at Heathcoat Fabrics in Tiverton, put our heads together and come up with a plan. With a little ingenuity and bags of determination, we switched to a whole new way of working without missing a heartbeat – or even a single week's delivery.

At first, Rod and Helen produced the recordings each week, reading news, articles, quizzes, interviews and entertainment from the Gazette, parish magazines and elsewhere. We were upbeat, knowing the last thing our listeners needed was more bad news.



A typical recording session at our Studio in Heathcoat Fabrics

When the dust settled we were joined by 20 of our readers who adapted to a 5 week roster, recording at home using their mobile phones or laptops, emailing their recorded tracks to the technician of the week. Despite all the complications, it's been working a treat and listeners are happy - though volunteers do miss getting together in the studio!

Our listeners have often told us that when the yellow MDM pouch drops on their mat on a Thursday morning, it's like a friend has come to visit. One recording had been 'a real pick-me-up, like a nice glass of wine!' We're so glad we haven't had to stop visiting, and have been able to do something to alleviate the isolation and loneliness that have been such a sad feature of the lockdown.

We are now extending our **free** service to others who struggle to read a paper and keep in contact. People suffering from Parkinson's, stroke, rheumatoid arthritis, dementia and other disabilities may want to receive the Messenger and continue to feel a part of their community.



Carol Brown and her guide dog, Nellie,  
listening to the Messenger

If you know of someone who you think would benefit from our **free** service, please contact us or pass on our details. And if you would like to join us as a volunteer, do get in touch. Call Helen McIntosh on 07834 688838.

You can find more information, and hear the latest recording, at our website [www.middevonmessenger.org.uk](http://www.middevonmessenger.org.uk).





## **To all the ladies of the village – We welcome you to a summer evening**

AT LAST! we are preparing to meet up again for some entertaining evenings and outings and we welcome newcomers as well as current members of Ladies of Lapford (LOL.).

We will meet up at Lower Town Place (with the back up of the Victory Hall if the weather is against us). Please bring your own drink (be it in a flask or a bottle), a chair or a rug, and we will provide nibbles.

We plan an informal chatty evening for a good old catch up and would like to offer a chance for new ladies (who have been locked in by lockdown) to meet up, meet us and mix.

On Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> June from 7pm (a little earlier than our usual time), we are hoping you will join us at Lower Town Place. Please roll up at whatever time you can manage – we will probably be there for a couple of hours, possibly longer once we get chatting and chuckling!







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  - ◆ If you answer 'YES' to any of these questions We are here to help

01363 83058

07891556884

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## EGGESFORD CROSSING CAFÉ

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**Offering breakfasts, coffee and cake.**

With the current social distancing regulations we have five tables available inside the premises and five outside, weather permitting. We will be operating table service to prevent the need for queuing. Due to the small number of customers possible at any one time and to keep our business viable we are asking you to be considerate in these difficult times.



**We look forward to  
seeing you soon!**



Look out for further information regarding extended opening hours. For further details and bookings contact Ashley or Harriet:-

Tel: 07772 254005 / 07940 157555

Email: [harrietcresswell@yahoo.com](mailto:harrietcresswell@yahoo.com)

Or Message on Facebook:

Eggesford Crossing Café



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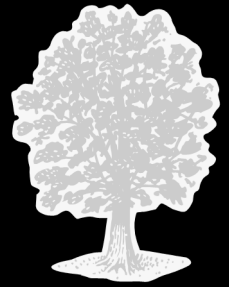
EMAIL:  
richard@thebigsweep  
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# NICK TUCKER

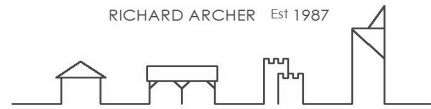
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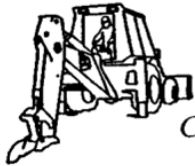


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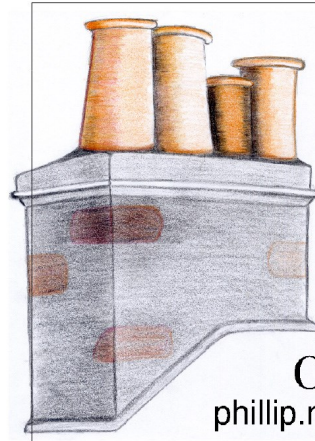
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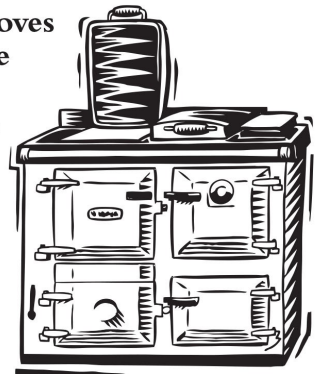


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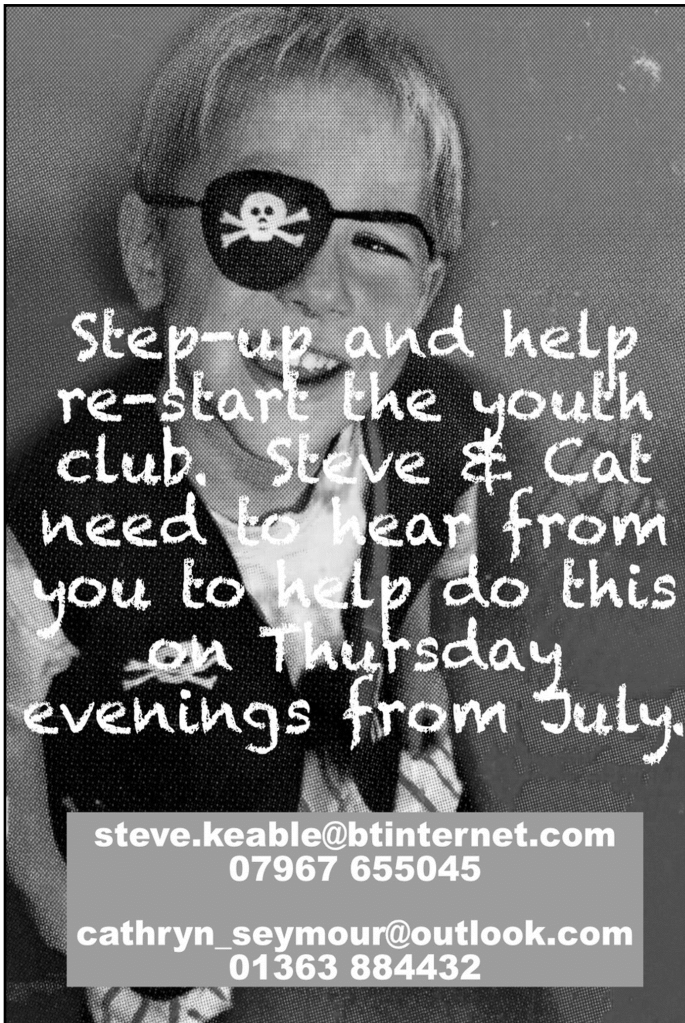
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## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION 6TH MAY 2021—RESULTS

Name of Candidate	Home Address	Number of votes
ANDREWS Roy	Old Bakery Park Road, Lapford, Crediton, Devon, EX17 6QJ	218
LUMSDON Stacey Ann	Address in Lapford. Mid Devon District	246
PARSLEY John Charles	The Lindens, Lapford, Crediton, EX17 6PU	153
RICE Pete	10 Ambrosia Close, Lapford, Crediton, Devon, EX17 6GA	98

### MY JOB SEARCH

1. My first job was working in an **orange juice factory**, but I got canned and found I couldn't concentrate.
2. Then I worked in the woods as a **lumberjack**, but just couldn't hack it so they gave me the axe.
3. After that I tried being a **tailor**, but wasn't suited to it, mainly because it was a sew-sew job.
4. Next I tried working in a **Muffler factory**, but that was too exhausting.
5. Then I tried being a **chef**. I figured it would add a little spice to my life, but just didn't have the thyme.
6. Next I attempted being a **deli worker**, but any way I sliced it.....I couldn't cut the mustard.
7. My best job was as a **musician**, but eventually I found I wasn't noteworthy.
8. I studied a long time to become a **Doctor**, but didn't have any patience.
9. Next was a job in a **shoe factory**. I tried hard but just didn't fit in.
10. I became a professional **fisherman**, but discovered I couldn't live on my net income.
11. Managed to get a good job working for a **pool maintenance company**, but the work was just too draining.
12. So then I started working in a **gym**, but they said I wasn't fit for the job.
13. After many years of trying to find steady work I finally got a job as a **historian**, until I realised there was no future in it.
14. My last job was working in **Costa Coffee**, but I had to quit because it was always the same old grind,
15. So I tried retirement and found I'm perfect for the job!

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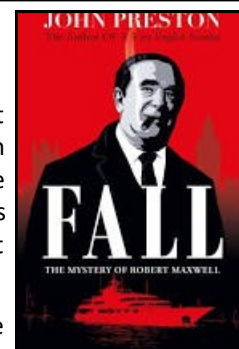
#### FALL The Mystery of Robert Maxwell by Robert Preston

This book was not on our list, but comments by those who read it ensured that it made its way around most of our members. I found it a compelling read. Preston's thorough, extensive and penetrating research together with his richly detailed yet fluent narrative provides a fascinating and entertaining story of the life of this extraordinary man who 'charged through people and events like a demented rhino'. It also depicts the society which surrounded him and the hypocrisy of some who turned a blind eye to his doings while it suited them, but were quick to pounce and distance themselves when his empire began to crumble.

One of nine children, born in 1923 in Czechoslovakia, he had a harsh childhood. Money and food were scarce and he lived in terror of his father by whom he was beaten often and viciously. He was however, his mother's pet and her death in a gas chamber along with other members of the family, had a lasting and profound effect on Maxwell. When asked about his childhood, he said only that he remembered how cold it was, how hungry he was and how much he loved his mother.

It is remarkable that from such humble beginnings, this man could make his way to England, serve during the war earning the Military Cross, learn several languages speaking English with the accent of a wealthy background, become a Labour MP meeting and mixing with many well-known names, and steadily build an outwardly impressive empire. He did so by a bullish determination to succeed and do whatever it took to achieve that success. When everything fell apart it became apparent that he had survived by constantly shifting money around and ultimately by stealing multi millions from the pension funds of many of his firms. His fall from grace was swift and dramatic but he was not there to take the consequences. His life ended before the full extent of his wrong doings was known. Opinions varied about whether his death was an accident, a murder or suicide. There was even a suggestion that it was faked so that he could escape and resume life as someone else. Preston himself does not give us a conclusive answer.

Preston interviewed a large number of people in gathering his material including three of his seven surviving children. With the aid of these interviews, countless articles, documentaries, biographies and autobiographies, he creates for his reader what feels like an authentic account of the twists and turns in the life of this bizarre individual. In the penultimate chapter, we are offered an analysis of Maxwell provided by Richard Stott, a fellow editor of Fleet Street papers who knew him well. In a damning eighty-five words, he lists his many flaws. What impressed me, and what was testament to the author's skill was that Stott described exactly the man I had come to see by the end of this fast moving, absorbing and occasionally darkly comic biography.



**Sue Raffill**



Light up your BBQ table  
with a bottle light

All proceeds to the  
Foodbank

Available from The Ark

Suggested donation £5



#### DOGS ON LOWER TOWN PLACE

Thank you to everyone who has contributed constructively to this discussion, and great to see such an interest in the future of Lower Town Place. It's clear that there are strong arguments on both sides, and the priority must be to find a consensus that meets the needs of as many people as possible in as safe a way as possible. HOLD is a charitable organisation dedicated to the community as a whole, and its trustees feel that the solution lies with the community itself. They have asked me to volunteer as an independent facilitator, bringing people together from both sides of the argument to understand each others' concerns and to see whether they can find common ground.

I am completely open-minded about the outcome, and my interest is entirely about creating an opportunity for constructive dialogue and a consensual solution (something I also do in my day job from time to time). I am inviting representatives from both sides of the discussion, plus anyone else with an interest in the issue, to a meeting (or, if needed, a series of meetings) where we can explore and identify possible solutions in an open and friendly way.

If you would like to take part, please email me at [peter.totterdill@ukwon.net](mailto:peter.totterdill@ukwon.net) with a couple of sentences about your interest in the topic. Numbers may be limited to ensure roughly even representation on each side. I do hope that you'll get in touch, and I'll happily answer any questions via email (but apologies in advance if I don't respond straight away due to pressures of work!)

Meanwhile, HOLD trustees have agreed to suspend the ban on dogs until these discussions reach a conclusion.

Peter Totterdill

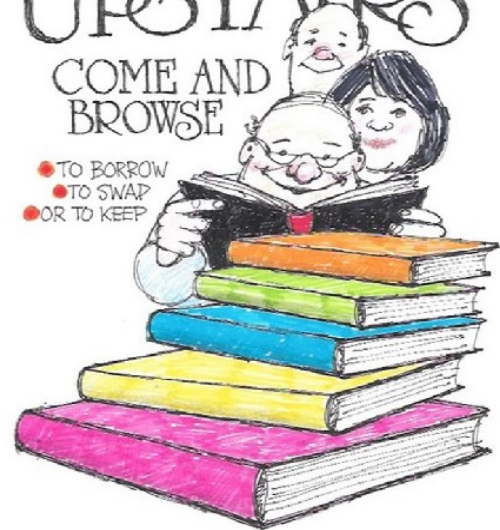


The Ark is open on  
Tuesdays and Fridays  
11.00 to 2.00.  
Arrangements can be  
made for access at other  
times

BOOKS  
UPSTAIRS

COME AND  
BROWSE

- TO BORROW
- TO SWAP
- OR TO KEEP



WIN  
1 OF 5  
£100  
B&Q  
Gift  
Cards

SUPPORT US  
Through Thick & Thin

- Help us raise essential school funds
- Support our lottery from just £1 a week
- Guaranteed cash prize every week
- Win up to £25,000

To support your school, go to:  
[yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://yourschoollottery.co.uk)  
and search for: Lapford Community Primary School

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. Offer ends 5th June 2021. Terms and conditions apply (see website for details).

Spring  
in Lapford



Colour me in

Image by Paul Adams



## NATIONAL BLOOD SERVICE



Donations can be made at  
Boniface Centre, Crediton,  
on Tuesdays 6th or 13th July 2021  
at 13:10 to 19:15  
or at Chulmleigh on 29th July



Call the donor helpline on 0300 123 23 23  
for more information or to check for cancellations

*Do something amazing - Give Blood!*

NB Travel to blood donation sessions  
is considered essential travel

## LAPFORD LOOKOUT ADVERTISING RATES AND POLICY

Lapford Lookout has a circulation of 600 copies and the advertising of village events is free of charge. There is a charge for all other advertisements and current advertising rates, **payable in advance**, are:

One eighth page:	£6 per month.
One quarter page:	£12 per month.
One half page:	£24 per month.
Whole page:	£48 per month.

Pay for 12 months and you get **one extra month, FREE!** Please send all advertising requests to the Editor in time to make the deadline of the 14th of each month for inclusion in the next issue. Please allow sufficient time to make your advance payment which may be by BACS or cheque. Payment details will be on your invoice.



CAT Preschools is a director-led organisation incorporating Chulmleigh, East Worlington and Lapford Preschools.

### Lapford Preschool

Care for 2 - 5 year olds  
Monday - Friday, 9.00am - 3.30pm  
Wrap around care is available through the school

Please call Lorraine Kigongo on 01363 83162  
or email lkigongo@catpreschools.co.uk  
for further information and to arrange a visit.

We are registered to take 2yr old and 3 / 4 year old  
funded children at all of our settings.

We are registered for 30 hours funding.  
- We are open term time only -



## LAPFORD LOOKOUT

Contributions  
welcome



**lapfordlookout@gmail.com**

**Deadline for inclusion in the next issue:  
6 pm on the 14th June for inclusion in July issue**



## LIBRARIES UNLIMITED BOOKS ON WHEELS

Do you have difficulty in getting to Crediton Library and carrying heavy books home to read? Or even reaching the mobile library? Would you like us to collect and deliver talking books, or large and normal printed ones of the kind that you enjoy, directly to your home free of charge? If so, I will be happy to help.

**Peter Westcott - Telephone: 01363 83525**



## DEVON MOBILE LIBRARY STOPS



### Lapford

Orchard Way: 13.30-14.55  
School: 15.00-16.00

### Nymet Rowland

Opposite Village Hall: 12.30-12.50

Every 4 weeks on Tuesdays

June 22nd, July 20th, August 17th, September 14th,  
October 12th, November 9th and December 7th.



Lapford Voluntary Car Aid 2011

## NEED TRANSPORT TO YOUR MEDICAL APPOINTMENT?

Lapford Voluntary Car Aid provides the residents of the village (including friends and family staying with you) with courteous, reliable, fully insured drivers to get you to your appointment safely and on time. Bookings can be made by telephoning Grace Hill on 83178. Current fares for the services covered are as follows:

Bow Medical Centre	- £5
Chiddenbrook Health Centre	- £5
Chulmleigh Dental Practice	- £5
Chulmleigh Health Centre	- £5
Crediton (Breast Screening)	- £6
Crediton (Covid jab)	- £6
Crediton Community Hospital	- £5
Morchard Bishop Surgery	- £3
New Valley Health Centre	- £6
Winkleigh Surgery	- £5

We have LVCA drivers available to take anyone to have their Covid vaccination. Please contact Grace as above.

## I LOVE MY MUM BECAUSE .....

You were the centre of my world,  
When I, my hand round your finger could curl.  
You soothed my tears and calmed my fears,  
Were a rock of safety through the years.  
But then I went to school one day  
And oh, you felt so far away.

You always taught me right from wrong,  
Were sometimes cross, but not for long.  
When I do well, as I sometimes do,  
Who can I boast to....always you.  
You encourage and love not matter what,  
So I love you back with all I've got.

# IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY IN LAPFORD




**KEEP CALM**  
AND FOLLOW THE  
**EMERGENCY PLAN**

**Parish Council Contact:**  
**Ian Hemsworth - 01363 884460**

**Village Contact:**  
**Roy Trevaskis - 01363 83742**

**South of Taw/A377 Contact:**  
**Sue Briant-Evans - 01363 83763**

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency numbers ~ 999 or 112
- Childline ~ 0800 1111
- Churches House Action Team ~ 01884 255606
- Citizens Advice Bureau ~ 03444 111 444  
CAB Crediton ~ 01363 776210 (M, W, Th, 9-3)
- Crediton Ring and Ride ~ 01363 773303
- Crimestoppers ~ 0800 555 111
- Dog Fouling/Fly Tipping 01884 255255
- Environment Agency Floodline ~ 0845 9881188
- Farming Community Network ~ 03000 111 999
- Gas Emergency ~ 0800 111999
- Highways (roads/lights/potholes) ~ 0345 155 1004
- Mental Health Support Out of Hours ~ The Moorings  
@Devon ~ Exeter: 07990 790 920 or  
Barnstaple: 07850 927 064
- NHS for non urgent medical needs ~ 111
- Patient Participation Group ~ Bill Graham ~ 01363 83047
- Police Non-emergency ~ 101
- Power cut ~ 105 or 0800 6783 105
- RSPCA ~ 0300 1234 999
- Safeguarding concerns and Social Services ~ 0845 6000388
- Samaritans ~ 116 123, 01271 374343, 01392 411711
- SHOUT ~ Text 85258 for help from crisis volunteers
- Water leaks or burst mains ~ 0800 230 0561



## LAPFORD OUTREACH POST OFFICE



### OPENING HOURS:

Monday 9.00 - 12.30  
Wednesday 9.00 - 12.30  
Friday 9.00 - 12.30

## LAST POSTING TIMES AROUND THE VILLAGE

	<u>Mon-Fri</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Eastington Cross	4.30p.m.	11.00 a.m.
Woodland Cottage	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Industrial Estate	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Highfield	4.45 p.m.	10.15 a.m.
Orchard Way	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Saxtons	4.30 p.m.	10.15 a.m.
Morchar Road	5.00 p.m.	11.15 a.m.

In addition, items left at the Post Office during opening hours will be posted that day via North Tawton.

## LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL, ETC

Cllr Ian Hemsworth (Chair)	Argosy, Lapford, EX17 6PX	01363 884460 / i.hemsworth@btinternet.com
Cllr Sue Briant-Evans (Vice Chair)	Edgerley Cottage, Lapford, EX17 6AH	01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com
Cllr Roy Andrews	-	-
Cllr David Davenport	Pleasant Cottage, Lapford, EX17 6PZ	01363 884236 / daviddport@gmail.com
Cllr Julie Down	Rafters, Lapford, EX17 6QP	01363 83356 / julielpc@hotmail.com
Cllr Peter Heal	Ashlands, Lapford, EX17 6AE	Home - 01363 884277 / Office - 01363 775467 peter.heal@btconnect.com
Cllr Stacey Lumsdon	-	-
Cllr Alex Shapland	13 Highfield, Lapford, EX17 6PY	alex1990shappers@hotmail.com
Vacancy	~	~
Vacancy	~	~
Parish Clerk - vacancy		lapfordpc@live.co.uk
District Cllr Clive Eginton	6 Moortown, Chawleigh, Chulmleigh, EX18 7EU	01769 580830 / ceginton@middevon.gov.uk
County Cllr Margaret Squires	Frostland Farm, Copplestone, EX17 5NY	01363 84337 / margaret.squires@devon.gov.uk
Mel Stride MP	House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA	02072 197037 / mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk



NAME OF SOCIETY	CONTACT	TELEPHONE / EMAIL
<p><b>LAPFORD EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM - CORONAVIRUS LOCAL HELP</b></p> <p>Adventure Gaming            Beginners Ballroom Dancing            Banyu Hatten Aikido            Books on Wheels            Friends of Langannerie (twinning)            Friends of Lapford Mill            Friends of Lapford School            Heart for Lapford Strategy Group (H4L)            HOLD            Ladies of Lapford (LOL)            Lapford Allotment Society            Lapford Amateur Dramatic Society            Lapford and District Pre-school Playgroup            Lapford ARK            Lapford Association Football Club            Lapford Book Club            Lapford Choir            Lapford Community Church            Lapford Community Primary School            Lapford Congregational Church</p> <p>Lapford Dog Club            Lapford Emergency Action Plan Committee            Lapford Emergency Response Team            Lapford Foodbank            Lapford Handbell Ringers            Lapford High 5 (ages 7-12)            Lapford Gardening Club            Lapford Gardening Club (Shows)            Lapford Lookout            Lapford Meat Bingo            Lapford Pilates            Lapford Over 60 Club            Lapford Parish Church            Lapford Poppy Appeal Organiser            Lapford Project 2000            Lapford Regeneration Committee            Lapford Revel            Lapford Revel Volunteers            Lapford Victory Hall &amp; Lower Town Place Bookings            Lapford Village Archive            Lapford Voluntary Car Aid            Lapford Youth Club            Lapford Youth and Playing Field Trust            Lapstock            Nymet Rowland Village Pump            Save Our Heritage Lapford            Springers 4's and under            The Friends of St Thomas of Canterbury</p>	<p>Mr Warren Clayburn            Mr Steve Munday            Mr Geoff Flather            Mr Peter Westcott            Mr Peter Henshaw            Mr Alex Gater            Mrs Kirsty Wensley            Secretary            Mr Bill Graham            Mrs Joy Quickenden            Mr Raymond Waldron            Mr Ian Wilkie            Mrs Lorraine Kigongo            Miss Briony Clinch            Mr Niall McAreavey            Mrs Jill Doe            Mrs Cat Seymour            Miss Briony Clinch            Mrs Clare Wilmott            Mr Peter Lacey</p> <p>Mrs Sara Thurgood            Mrs Sue Briant-Evans            Mr Alex Gater            Mrs. Briony Clinch            Mr Steve Munday            Mrs Cat Seymour            ~            Mrs Jeanne Whittaker            Mrs Beccy Fletcher            Mrs Jayne Grover            Steph Heard            Mr Ron Kercher            Mrs Joan Graham            Mrs Caroline Noon            Mrs Sue Briant-Evans            Mr Ian Hemsworth            Mr Alex Gater            ~            Joanne</p> <p>Mrs Jeanne Whittaker            Mrs Grace Hill            Mr Steve Keable            Miss Helen Greensmith            Mr Steve Keable            Liz and Roland Smith            Mrs Donna Egan            Mrs Caroline Gilpin            Mrs Prue Lambert</p>	<p><b>07966 144772 / help@lapfordvillage.co.uk</b>  <b>Facebook: Help the Vulnerable in our Community (Lapford)</b>            01363 83095 / wmclayburn@gmail.com            07798 684225 / steve@lowerfieldhouse.co.uk            01363 83355 / bhaikido@googlemail.com            01363 83525 / pj.westcott@btinternet.com            01837 89070 / petehenshaw@yahoo.co.uk            07815 795918 / alex@lapfordmill.uk            07977 825814 / kirstywensley4@gmail.com            heart4lapford@aol.com            01363 83047 / bg4847@aol.com            01363 83245 / joyquickenden@gmail.com            01363 83894 / ednawaldron@btinternet.com            01363 83437 / i.wilkie45@btinternet.com            01363 83162 / lkigongo@catpreschools.co.uk            01363 83788            01363 83733 / lapfordafc@gmail.com            01363 83410 / sunnyside@jilldoe45.plus.com            01363 884432 / cathryn_seymour@outlook.com            01363 83666 / admin@lapfordcc.org.uk            01363 83292 / admin@lapford-primary.devon.sch.uk            01363 884230 /            lapfordcongregationalchurch@gmail.com            01363 83081 / info@lapforddogclub.co.uk            01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com            07815 795918 / alex@lapfordmill.uk            01363 83788            07798 684225 / steve@lowerfieldhouse.co.uk            01363 884432 / cathryn_seymour@outlook.com            ~            01363 83068 / jeanne.whittaker@btinternet.com            01363 884211 / lapfordlookout@gmail.com            07900 477247            07773 010512 / steph.instructor@talktalk.net            01363 83810 / lapfordover60@yahoo.com            01363 83047 / jemg47@aol.com            01363 83863 / lapford.pao@gmail.com            01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com            01363 884460 / i.hemsworth@btinternet.com            07815 795818 / alex@lapfordmill.uk            revelvolunteers@gmail.com            07803 002910</p> <p>01363 83068 / jeanne.whittaker@btinternet.com            01363 83178 / lvca2011.19@gmail.com            07967 655045 / steevekeable@btinternet.com            helengreensmith@hotmail.com            07967 655045 / steve.keable@btinternet.com            01363 884446 / pump@incywincyweb.com            01363 83732 / donnaegan84@gmail.com            01363 83674 / caroline@gilpin.eclipse.co.uk            01363 83150 / pruelambert@yahoo.co.uk</p>



**Friday  
July 9<sup>th</sup>**



**Saturday  
July 10<sup>th</sup>**



The Official Opening of  
~ Lower Town Place! ~  
Coronation!

Opening Ceremony & Celebrations!

BBQ!

Bar!

Morris!

Ceilidh with "RED SHED"!



**Sunday  
July 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Churches Together  
Full Revel Service  
at St. Thomas'**

Join Ratty & Mole as they  
meet for the first time on  
the riverbank!

Playing Field Games!

Dog Show!

Skittles!

Bar!

Evening Disco!  
Entertainments!



Calling Everyone!

We are watching the restrictions with eager  
anticipation and fully expect to hold a good Revel this  
year if the situation keeps improving.

As always, we need village help so please let us know if you'd be  
able to help out!

Calling ALL Village Groups, Clubs, Orgs and  
Societies!

Getting seen and involved at this unique Revel couldn't be easier!  
Bring your stall to Lower Town Place and be a part of the fun!

Tel: Sue Briant Evans 01363 83763 / David Bragg 01363 83245

Contact: Gwennie Trendell

gwendin2003@yahoo.co.uk - 07595 830 526

**FRIDAY PROCESSION!!** Call to all parents / carers of Lapford School and primary aged village children  
who would like to take part in a Friday procession, (if we can!) Please contact Gwennie.

LAPFORD LOOKOUT - THE LAPFORD PCC - PARISH COUNCIL - LAPFORD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL - LAPFORD REVEL - LAPSTOCK - LAPFORD LOOKOUT - LP2K - PARISH COUNCIL - LAPFORD PCC - THE LAPF...



Pat and Sheila Tynan (from Halifax, daughters of Dorothy, nee Gunn, and Jim Tynan) visiting Bill Manning's yard to see the day old calf. Early 1960s. Photo courtesy of Ann Cann.