



# LAPFORD LOOKOUT



## YOUR LOCAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Year 23 Issue 8

November 2020

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 8TH NOVEMBER

The Act of Remembrance on the Church Green will take place as normal this year, but those attending are asked to maintain social distancing. The wearing of masks is strongly recommended and please refrain from singing out (humming is fine).

Wreath laying will be marshalled for health and safety reasons.

9.30 am Service in the Parish Church.  
10.45 Remembrance on the Church Green and laying of wreaths at the War Memorial.

Lapford Parish Church and Church Green Trustees



### A LAPFORD MEMORIAL RETURNS

The Parish Church was contacted recently by the daughter of Eileen Parish, who many Lapford residents will remember. When they were clearing Eileen's house they found, in the back of a wardrobe, the standard of the Women's Section of the Lapford Branch of the British Legion, which Eileen had carefully preserved for many years. With it were the uniform for the standard bearer and a beautiful memorial kneeler worked by Eileen and her family. All are in good condition.

The standard is now safely back in Lapford, and the intention is that it will be 'laid up' in the Parish Church as soon as the necessary permissions can be obtained. If anybody is interested in carrying it on the Church Green at the Remembrance Sunday service, particularly a former member or their relative, please get in touch. We have the leather holster, but the uniform jacket and shirt only have a 14½ inch collar.



Does anybody know the whereabouts of the Men's Section standard? The documents in the Lapford Archive run out in 1980.

### Lapford Revel

An Invitation to take part in Lapford Revel's Seasonal Decoration Competition. Decorate your House, Wheelbarrows, Wellies or make a Scarecrow. Entries can be submitted via our Facebook page and will be judged by November 30th. prizes will be given to the 4 categories listed above

**Enjoy!**

### YOUR PICTURES



"A TENDER MOMENT IN THE HERD"

We would like to invite you to send in pictures that you have taken locally. They can be anything from local wildlife and scenery to life in Lapford. Or you may like to send us your weather photos to feature in our weather review. Please send in your photo with a caption to the editorial team and we will print our favourite each month.

**Hazel Morgan**  
Lapfordlookout@gmail.com

## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NEWS



It is with regret, we have decided to suspend Sunday morning services at the church, as most of our congregation fall into the government's "vulnerable group of over 70s" with over 80s and mid 90s amongst us! As a church we feel we have a 'duty of care' to our older members even though they might be prepared to take the risk! To make up for no 'live' service, Rev. Caroline is broadcasting a message each Sunday morning, at 11.00a.m, on the church Facebook page 'Lapford Congregational Church'. All are welcome to tune in.

## NEWS FROM 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.



## LAPFORD LOOKOUT

Please make a note of our new email address:



**[lapfordlookout@gmail.com](mailto:lapfordlookout@gmail.com)**

**Deadline for inclusion in the next issue:  
6 pm on the 14th November for inclusion in December issue**

## NEWS FROM ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

All are welcome to the Sunday services, especially if your church or worship group is not currently meeting. The Lay Led services last about 40 minutes.

The church continues to be open on Wednesday mornings from 9 – 12 for private prayer.

Elsewhere you will see a piece on the return of the standard of the Women's Section of the Lapford Branch of the British Legion – this will shortly be on view in the church and perhaps paraded on Remembrance Sunday.

Our services this month, all conducted with social distancing, will be:

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30	All Saints Day - Lay Led Morning Prayer
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30	Common Worship Eucharist for Remembrance Sunday followed by
	10.45	ACT OF REMEMBRANCE on the Church Green
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30	2 <sup>nd</sup> before Advent – Lay Led Morning Prayer
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30	Christ the King – Common Worship Eucharist
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	9.30	Advent Sunday – Lay Led Morning Prayer



## A BIG THANK YOU

To the person/ person's who have cleared all the grass/prickles/ weeds from around the seat at the top of the village.

It is a joy to be able to sit there now without having prickles and weeds at your feet and around your head.

It has been neglected for a very long time so it is much appreciated.

**Jackie McClymont**



## "NEXTDOOR LAPFORD"

You may have received an A5 flyer through your door inviting you to join "Nextdoor Lapford", apparently signed by me. I did not compose, send or deliver this letter, nor did I give anyone permission to use my name.

**Marilyn Davey**

## TRUSTEES OF LAPFORD CHURCH GREEN NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice that the Lapford Church Green AGM will be held on the evening of Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7-30pm via Zoom. Members of the public are welcome to attend but are asked to contact Ian Hemsworth via email at least 24 hours prior to the meeting in order to be included. Email [i.hemsworth@btinternet.com](mailto:i.hemsworth@btinternet.com). Thank you.

## 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 November for inclusion in December 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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## OUR ADVERTISERS

Welcome back to our advertisers and Thank You for your continued support.



**To readers:** The continuation of the Lapford Lookout will only be possible through the financial support of our advertisers. In turn we ask you to please support them whenever possible.



# DATES TO LOOKOUT FOR November 2020

- 8th Remembrance Sunday  
9.30am—Parish Church Service  
10.45am—Remembrance on the Church Green
- 14th Copy deadline for December issue of the Lapford Lookout.
- 24th Lapford Church Green AGM  
7.30pm—via Zoom

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of myself and Hazel to thank all the Lapford Lookout volunteers. They have not only made us feel very welcome members of the team but have also given us much support and advice during this first month of editing the publication.

Thanks also to those of you that have sent in contributions for this month's edition.

Beccy Fletcher

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AND DAY NOVEMBER 2020

After remembering all the Armed Forces since 1914 – 1918 onwards until now, please remember the 2.5 million National Service people who were called up for service from 1945 to 1960. The Forgotten Army. They served in Korea; Hong Kong; Malaya; Kenya; Cyprus; Gibraltar; Malta; Aden; Egypt; Germany and Great Britain and other countries of the world. Having been born in Nymet Rowland in 1933, I was called up on 18<sup>th</sup> October 1951. I was put in the Infantry, the First Battalion Wiltshire Regiment, training for an extra ten weeks after 6 weeks basic training for Korea. I spent eight weeks in Topsham Barracks and on Woodbury Common. Whilst in Topsham Barracks King George VI died, thus I served under two monarchs.

On Remembrance Day every year my thoughts return to 1953 in Hong Kong, when our mate in the Signals Platoon passed away and all those who volunteered to join the Commonwealth Brigade in Korea and never returned home. So please, please remember them all at Remembrancetide. God bless you all.

From 22602906 Leach G.H. Lance Corporal, Wiltshire Regiment. 18/10/1951 to 25/10/1953 Hong Kong.

## LAPFORD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kingfishers' Class have been really enjoying our class text, Anna at War written by Helen Peters. This book was recommended to the school by Cridion Book Shop and it hasn't disappointed. Peters is taking the children on the journey of a Jewish girl called Anna living her life during World War 2. She became a refugee and ... We cannot share any more because we are only on chapter 10! The children were asked to rewrite the chapter when Anna was leaving her parents at the platform....



### Onto the train

On the platform the children lined up. A man standing near a lady who was sitting at a table was calling out names. "Harry, Molly, Rosie, Sam, John, David," One by one all of the children started to disappear onto the train. Now I was shaking. What if I didn't get called? What would happen then? Where would I go? There were only 5 children left, me, two boys with brown curly hair that looked like twins, a girl with freckles and a red dress on and a girl with blonde hair and a blue and green striped jumper on. The man called "F. Schaeffer, Peter!" and the girl with freckles burst into tears, hugged her mum and hurried off to the train. I wouldn't cry. I would be brave. "Anna Schlesinger!" I was so relieved to hear my name. I was actually going to England! We walked up to the table where a lady with short jet black hair was standing. She took a tag with the numbers 742 on it and hung it around my neck. She put a tag with the same number on it onto my suitcase and said, "Ogg, you go Anna."

I walked up the steps with mum and papa. "Sorry but no parents allowed on the train." The lady said. She seemed to be really nice. I hoped that my English parents were as kind as her. I hugged my parents tightly and kissed them on the cheeks. The whistle blew and I quickly stepped into the train.

### The Platform

Whilst I was waiting on the platform, my parents hands were stopping me. We waited for ages. My papa still hadn't been called. I was getting worried. What if my name wasn't called? What would I do? "Will my name be called, Mama?"

Mama did not answer. She was staring at the man calling names. I think that she was thinking the same thing as me. Suddenly, the man called, "Anna Schlesinger!"

I pulled Mama and Papa over to the train. My heart was hammering at my chest trying to get out. All of a sudden, a lady put a tag around my neck. I had a mixed feeling inside my stomach. I wanted to go. No I didn't. Papa scooped me up in his hairy arms and kissed me. Then he put me down. Mama hugged me tight and kissed me. Papa hugged us both so tight I almost stopped breathing. I looked at them one last time trying to store them in my mind. Finally, a voice called, "Everyone on the train please!"

All of the children were herded onto the train.

"Goodbye Mama! Goodbye Papa!" I called. They waved to me as I got onto the train. The old train smelt musty and grey. I didn't like it. A lady showed me to my seat. It was torn and moth eaten but at least I could sit down. I scanned the crowd of parents for Mama and Papa and finally I found them.

The End

**PUZZLE CORNER**



There are 44 European Cities hidden in the grid, can you find them?

I	M	M	T	M	A	H	G	N	I	M	R	I	B	X	Y
N	L	A	F	R	B	R	U	S	S	E	L	S	J	U	G
N	O	L	D	K	O	T	C	T	T	I	R	A	N	A	R
S	H	M	R	R	R	N	R	O	V	E	N	I	C	E	U
B	K	O	A	E	E	A	D	E	L	G	Y	N	B	D	O
R	C	A	C	N	S	T	R	H	R	O	A	K	A	R	B
U	O	H	S	B	C	P	S	U	E	M	G	I	R	O	M
C	T	M	O	I	O	H	B	M	A	I	F	N	C	B	E
K	S	U	E	O	P	N	E	L	A	R	M	V	E	F	X
M	R	I	L	S	E	V	A	S	T	O	P	O	L	R	U
G	I	O	A	H	N	S	G	Y	T	U	Z	R	O	O	L
F	D	N	T	L	H	N	E	R	P	E	E	B	N	D	I
Z	L	O	S	S	A	M	I	L	A	N	R	U	A	L	R
A	G	I	R	K	G	C	P	R	D	N	M	D	E	E	O
D	R	E	S	D	E	N	N	B	U	D	A	P	E	S	T
H	G	R	U	B	N	I	D	E	A	T	T	D	L	S	S
R	E	Y	K	J	A	V	I	K	A	Y	T	O	A	U	E
E	N	E	G	N	I	T	T	O	G	C	I	E	T	D	E

Amsterdam	Lodz
Barcelona	Luxembourg
Birmingham	Malmö
Bordeaux	Manchester
Brussels	Minsk
Budapest	Oslo
Caen	Padua
Calais	Pisa
Cologne	Reykjavik
Copenhagen	Riga
Cork	Rome
Dresden	Rouen
Dubrovnik	Salamanca
Düsseldorf	Sevastopol
Edinburgh	Stockholm
Estoril	Strasbourg
Gothenburg	Tirana
Gottingen	Trondheim
Granada	Turin
Innsbruck	Utrecht
Limassol	Venice
Liverpool	Zermatt

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# Lapford Weather Review

LAPFORD WEATHER SEPTEMBER 2020



Average temperature, but on the dry side.

The warmest day was the 14<sup>th</sup> with a maximum of 24.8°C and the coolest was the 26<sup>th</sup> with a maximum of 12.7°C. The coolest night was on the 28<sup>th</sup> with a minimum of 5.0°C, and a ground frost of -1.4°C.

Rainfall was less than half the month's average, with a total of 30.7 mm., most of which fell in the last week. The wettest day was the 30<sup>th</sup> with 11.4 mm. The last really dry September was in 2014.

The windiest day was the 25<sup>th</sup> with a gust of 34 m.p.h.

Andy Epstein

## WILD LAPFORD



Hibernation – more than just a long sleep.

Mid November usually heralds the beginning of hibernation for some smaller mammals as well as amphibians, reptiles and insects. The precise start of hibernation varies depending on the temperature. In warm years, hibernation may not start until December. Similarly, the end of hibernation is dependent on the weather and can be February or March.

**Why do mammals hibernate?** Smaller mammals lose heat much more quickly than larger ones and so they must burn their fat fast to keep warm in cold weather. However, for those mammals which rely mainly on invertebrates for their food, these fat reserves can't be topped up because invertebrates are particularly difficult to find during cold weather. The only way these mammals can make their accumulated fat reserves sustain them through

the winter is to slow their body metabolism to almost a standstill – they do this by hibernating.

**What is hibernation?** It is more than a deep sleep. A hibernating animal's metabolism slows drastically to minimise the amount of energy (fat) it is using. The hibernating mammal's body temperature drops to well below the normal 37 degrees Celsius (so it feels very cold to the touch). The heart rate slows to as little as three or four beats per minute in hedgehogs, but in bats, the heart rate can fall from the waking 400 beats per minute to just 11 beats. The breathing rate also slows to about once every two minutes. The hibernating mammal can have the appearance of being dead!

**Which animals hibernate?** The hedgehog is perhaps the most well-known hibernator in Britain. It fattens up in the autumn, and spends the cold months curled up in a cosy nest. Bats, which feed entirely on insects, also hibernate, wrapped in their wings deep in a cave, tree or attic somewhere. Hedgehogs and bats do not stay asleep for the whole winter. They will wake up on warmer days and look for food or water. If their temperature drops too low, they will also wake up and start shivering in order to keep the body temperature above freezing. Physical disturbance will also awake a hibernating hedgehog or bat. Every time they wake up a great deal of energy is used up, so a long, cold winter is better for these animals than a winter with lots of warm spells. Not all small mammals hibernate, those that have a food source that is easier to find, such as field mice, squirrels and voles will shelter in nests during the cold periods to conserve energy, but emerge to find food regularly throughout the winter. Some of the other hibernating animals include fish, frogs and newts, which have no way to keep warm during winter but their blood contains an anti-freeze substance that stops them from freezing. They shelter under logs, rocks and fallen leaves in the water. When the weather gets cold, they move down to the bottom of lakes and ponds and some even burrow into the mud. Reptiles and some insects also hibernate and to keep warm they find holes in the ground, under rocks or in rotting logs.

**How can I help a hibernating hedgehog?** If you usually put food and water out for hedgehogs, continue to do so. If they wake up, they will be hungry and thirsty. Our Guy Fawkes celebrations can be bad news for hedgehogs as they often make nests in bonfires so it's important to not make your bonfire in advance of lighting it or if you do, move the bonfire pile before lighting it. Dry leaves and grass are the hedgehogs preferred nesting material so don't be too tidy in the garden, sweep fallen leaves onto flowerbeds and if you have space, leave "wild" areas in your garden for them.

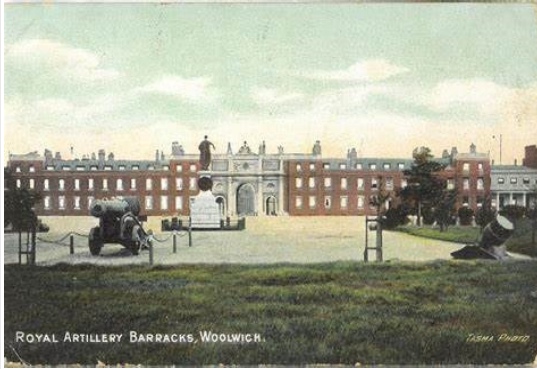
In order to survive hibernation, a young hedgehog should weigh at least 450 grams, if you find a hog weighing less than this during winter months, contact the British Hedgehog Preservation Society on 01584 890 801 or see their website for advice. <https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/> For photos and videos of the local flora and fauna search for "Wild Lapford" on Facebook and join the group for regular updates.

Many thanks to Rebecca Holley for the hedgehog artwork.

**Helen Greensmith** (helengreensmith@hotmail.com)

## MY FATHER'S WAR

*For most of his life my father would not discuss his wartime experiences, but towards the end of his life he was persuaded to recount some of his memories.*



In the summer of 1929, at the age of 17, my father joined the army. On 17<sup>th</sup> August 1929 he reported to the Royal Artillery depot at Woolwich. He was appointed to the rank of gunner and began three months recruitment training. When this was successfully completed he was transferred to the Royal Artillery barracks at Plymouth Citadel to wait for a posting. He embarked for Hong Kong in September 1930 without taking any home leave, and he remained there at Lyemun Barracks for the next three and a half years. During his time in Hong Kong he gained several qualifications, including those of Marksman and Marksman first class, Lewis Gunner, CD Layer and two re-qualifications, and the Artillery's second class education certificate. He explained that a CD Layer is the man who lines up the guns to the target and that CD related to coastal defences.

Following this overseas posting he should have had home leave. He was, however, sent to Malta, again without taking any home leave, in 1934. In Malta he re-qualified as a CD Layer. He returned to England in 1936 and was released almost seven years after enlisting and having been away from England for five and a half years.

It was not long before his adventurous tendencies took him to London, where he joined the London Salvage Corps at the Elephant and Castle. My mother joined him in London and they married at Southwark Register Office in November 1937.

In 1939, when it became obvious that war was imminent, my father volunteered to re-join the Royal Artillery, knowing that as a reservist he would be called up anyway. He delayed reporting to the Artillery's Ascot reception centre until my mother, who was expecting my sister, was safely back in Devon.

His first posting was to France, but he was soon home for Christmas. When the war began in earnest, his regiment was sent to Waterloo in Belgium, and from there to Arras, the sight of one of the First World War battles. He recalled the horror of digging up bones and pieces of equipment when they were setting up camp. The hedges and walls had also been constructed from First World War debris. He described this as being one of the most upsetting experiences of his life.

The role of the Royal Artillery at Arras was the defence of the town and prevention of the German advance. This proved unsuccessful and his Unit moved out. The withdrawal seems to have been rather chaotic as my father and two colleagues were left behind with the tanks of the Armoured Division. They were ordered to carry out forward observation for that Division, armed with only rifles.

They eventually discovered that their own Unit had gone to Dunkirk and were permitted to follow with a Bren Carrier. There was so much traffic and so many men on the road, all heading towards Dunkirk, that they abandoned the Bren Carrier by rolling it down a hill and setting fire to it so that it could not be used by Germans. Shortly after they found a riderless horse and rode that for a while. On the way to Dunkirk my father had picked up a discarded rifle but hadn't bothered to check if it was loaded. When he jumped down from the horse he dropped the rifle, which of course went off. Luckily he only burnt his hair!

When they reached the Dunkirk beaches the three set out to try to find their unit. They were on the beach at De Panne just north of Dunkirk in the dark when they heard someone on horseback calling out the number of their Unit. Unfortunately the officer was looking for his own men and told my father and his colleagues that there was no room for them on the boat. This was the only time they had any word of their Unit and they discovered that the rest of the men had already gone. By this time they were becoming desperate as there were fewer and fewer boats coming in and those were being commandeered by senior officers for their own men. They were not permitted to board any of these boats. They were pacing up and down the water's edge praying that another boat would arrive when salvation came. A Naval Pinnace came in with a rope hanging over the side. When an officer shouted at one of the ratings to bring the rope in my father and his colleagues grabbed it and were hauled on board. They were taken out to a fishing trawler which was already carrying hundreds of troops, but space was made for them. The boat landed in Ramsgate where all the men boarded a waiting train although none had any idea where they were being taken. They ended up in Cardiff and after a week were all given passes and allowed to go home. Whilst on leave my father was ill and was taken into hospital, probably because he had eaten virtually nothing since leaving Arras. Recovery took two or three weeks, following which he was told to re-join his unit at Melton Mowbray. However, when he got there he was told they were all on home leave so he was given a further two-week pass.

By the time he had finished this extended period of leave his unit had moved to Melksham. On his return they were split into small Units to guard the English coast, and he was sent to Thorney Island. He was then recalled to Aldershot where the Unit was re-equipped with new guns and vehicles, and from there sent to Savernake from where they were sent to guard the south coast against the expected invasion.



Guards Armoured Division

In September 1940 the London Blitz was overwhelming the Fire Service to such an extent that experienced men from the Armed Forces were requested to assist. As he had previously been in the London Salvage Corps my father volunteered and he was seconded until 1942.

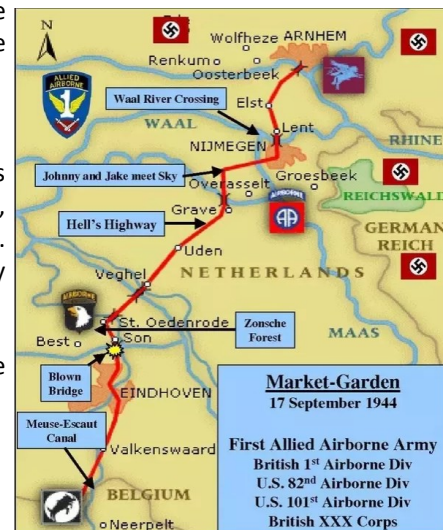
The next time he went overseas was as part of the D-Day landings on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1944. He was in the Guards Armoured Division which was part of the British Second Army commanded by Lieutenant-General MC Dempsey. His memory was rather sketchy when recounting this, but he remembers the first advance towards Bayeux which was to become the main supply and medical centre for the Second Army. The Germans retreated from Bayeux without too much serious fighting. The next objective of the Second Army was to secure the land to the south and south-west of Caen. The Germans fought hard to keep the city and there were difficult battles during June and early July with a great deal of damage to the city. The city was taken by the Allies at the beginning of July 1944. The Second Army then proceeded towards Belgium and then through Holland to Germany. He could remember being in Hamelin, which he described as a very peaceful town.

He took part in Operation Market Garden, where the plan was to secure the six bridges leading to Germany. A British force was then to speed through the last bridge at Arnhem, reach the Ruhr area, and crush the already damaged factories of the German war effort. The operation was a total disaster because of bad weather and poor judgement. My father described it as a total fiasco.

In early May 1945 the Second Army completed its advance at the Kiel Canal and the troops were brought home. He was demobilised in October 1945.

**A Lapford Resident**

Image source: <https://www.quora.com/What-is-a-summary-of-Operation-Market-Garden>



### POPPY APPEAL 2020 – EVERY POPPY COUNTS

As there will be no house to house collections this year, I am writing to ask for your support of the stationary boxes which will be in place around the village. From Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, poppies, etc. will be available from Lapford Garage SPAR Shop, Lapford School, The Old Malt Scoop, The Ark, and Lapford Vets. Special thanks to all of these for their support of this year's Poppy Appeal.



Wreaths and posies have already been received and will be distributed in good time for Remembrance Sunday.

For anyone not able to access the locations above, other ways to show your support are listed below.

Should anyone have any queries, please contact me by telephone on 83863 or email using lapford.pao@gmail.com.

**Caroline Noon**  
Poppy Appeal Organiser

#### WAYS TO SUPPORT THIS YEAR'S POPPY APPEAL



**QR Code**

**By Phone**

Please call the friendly fundraising support team on 0845 845 1945 to make a donation by phone.

#### Online

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/donate>

#### By text

- To donate £2 text POPPY2 to 70545\*
- To donate £5 text POPPY5 to 70545\*
- To donate £10 text POPPY10 to 70545\*

\*Texts cost £2, £5, or £10 plus one standard network rate message (typically 97% of the donation amount goes to the Royal British Legion).

#### By Post

Please print off a donation form (available online at the address above) and return to Freepost Plus RTZT-ATBH-RGBZ, The Royal British Legion, Bumpers Way, Bumpers Farm, Chippenham, SN14 6NG.

#### By Bank Transfer

For those who prefer, e.g. if you are unable to leave home, you can send a donation directly to the Royal British Legion using the following bank details:

Account: RBL Poppy Appeal  
Sort Code: 30 11 75  
Account No: 01937121  
Please send remittance to [poppyappealpayments@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:poppyappealpayments@britishlegion.org.uk)  
Please quote reference TBC13 on your donation.

Thank you.

At a Harvest service one Sunday in October this poem was read out . . .

### A HARVEST COLLECTION

I will put in my Harvest box .....

The Autumn sunshine spreads over golden fields.  
The birthday seats side to side in the rhythm of the wind  
The sparkling rain as it falls down to the earth  
The rain that falls from Mother Natures eyes.

I will put in my Harvest box .....

The sight of sunflowers growing tall  
The sound of fresh water filling the wells  
Trees dancing in the wind like ballerinas  
The farmers swear as he looks at his golden fields.

I will put in my Harvest box

The sorrow of a faraway farmer whose hard work has been destroyed  
A mother crying in despair because she cannot feed her child

The despair of a boy who must walk miles to find water  
Their hungry animals lying gaunt on a bed of dry soil.

I will put in my Harvest box .....

Those who have lost loved ones in these troubled days  
All those whose lives may never be the same  
The families who cannot meet  
The many whose livelihoods are uncertain

I will put in my Harvest box ....

Our gratitude to all who help and heal  
To those who give unasked  
The memories of selfless sacrifices  
That cannot be repaid

I will put in my Harvest box .....

The harvest treasures we will all enjoy  
From the hard work of those who filled the fields  
From the strong arms of the fishermen who work at sea  
To bring its many treasures to our shore  
The sun that hugs is all again at a backdrop of blue

Our thanks to all who keep us safe  
And, above all, Lord God, our thanks to you.

OOOOO

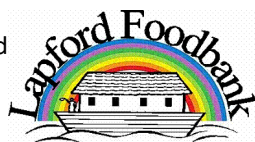
The gifts that were brought to the churches were kindly donated to the Foodbank. By the time you read this they will have been used in food parcels.

We are so grateful for any gifts for the Foodbank, without them we would not be able to put together parcels.

We will have had good donations from Chulmleigh Academy and Primary School but our shelves will not stay full as Christmas approaches, so any donations would be appreciated, to keep us going.

Thank you so much if you have donated to the Foodbank.

**Briony Clinch**



### FUNDRAISING FOR FORCE

Hi,

For those who don't already know me, my name is Karen Burrows. In early December 2019 I started to feel really unwell and was admitted to hospital. Nothing could have prepared me or my family for the diagnosis I was given. I had Stage 4 Ovarian Cancer with spikes of Cancer on my lungs and liver. We were devastated.

Gruelling chemotherapy followed. I lost all my hair, including eyebrows and eyelashes which really hurt as I never went out without my mascara. I suffered a lot of infections and needed four blood transfusions and a magnesium transfusion before I started to feel better.

Then it hit. Covid 19. I had to isolate and cut myself off from the world, my family and friends, the things that gave me comfort and support. Just as I was at my lowest, I was introduced to FORCE. They offered counsellors who could support me, mindfulness training, zoom exercise classes which I attend twice a week, and I love the online art groups. They offer support, encouragement and guidance in so many different ways. I changed my diet, practice Qu Gong twice daily, and meditate to help keep me grounded.

My chemotherapy has finished and I am on a maintenance dose now. My cancer is incurable but I have taken control. Thanks to this amazing charity, I have my life back. I am so grateful to them and I wouldn't be where I am without them. Producing a 2021 calendar of my own photographs to raise funds is my way of saying "Thank You FORCE".

Calendars are offered for a minimum donation of £5 each. If you would like to buy a calendar to help raise funds for this vital charity please contact me on 01363 83895.

Thank you for your support.

**Karen Burrows**





## ORDINATION OF REV. CAROLINE STOTT

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October Rev. Caroline Stott was ordained in Lapford Congregational Church, but Due to Covid 19 restrictions, only a small gathering was permitted to attend. However, we were pleased to have Joan Graham and Sheila Stoneman to represent the



Parish Church, Briony Clinch and Jackie Hopper to represent Lapford Community Church; along with Vincent Carrington the Chairman of the South West area of the Congregational Federation, and James Gregory its Secretary, and Minister of Crediton Congregational Church.

The service was conducted by Rev. Sandra Turner from Stalbridge Congregational Church, (who incidentally married Rev. Caroline and her husband Mike in Ullersthorpe Congregational Church), and with her husband John accompanied themselves on guitar as they sang the opening hymn, "I want to walk with Jesus Christ". During the service Caroline's daughter, Mawgan, sang "Great is thy Faithfulness"

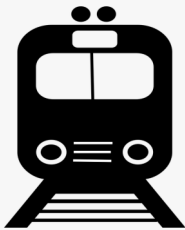
accompanied by Merrill Archer on the organ. The message was given by Rev. Edmonde Openshaw.



Above, Lapford Congregational Church presented Rev. Caroline with an engraved vase, to commemorate this auspicious occasion.

Pictured right are, from Left to Right:  
Peter Lacey, Church Secretary, Rev. Caroline Stott,  
Rev. Sandra Turner, Rev. Edmonde Openshaw.

## RAIL NEWS



It is one of the great mysteries of life that, for generations, railway managers have looked at the level of usage (passenger numbers) on trains to determine whether to improve services or reduce services where trains are not being used. The logic seems to miss the 'chicken and egg' point that, until you run the service you cannot determine how many people are using it!

Anyway, that is a rather long-winded introduction to say that GWR are now looking at passenger numbers at Lapford to inform their decision-making on whether to add even more trains to the

Lapford timetable following the first steps to improve services taken last July as reported in the September Lapford Lookout. So, the message is simple: please use the train as much as you can particularly over the next few months. In the meantime, we are pressing for the first morning train to be stopped here enabling access to Exeter before 8 o'clock in the morning, and to get more stops on the Saturday services to bring them into line with the weekday and Sunday services. Crucially, we should realise the potential for shopping and leisure trips to Barnstaple and Exeter which were never previously feasible under the old timetable.

At the same time the Parish Council is liaising with the railway authorities to look at creating a safer walking route from the village to the station. More information on this will be shared through The Lapford Lookout, as it becomes available.

### Lapford Parish Council Regeneration Committee

Exeter to Barnstaple	weekdays					
Dep. Exeter St David's	07.08	09.19	12.19	16.18	17.20	21.23
Dep. Lapford	07.38	09.51	12.52	16.49	17.51	21.55
Arr. Barnstaple	08.25	10.28	13.28	17.27	18.33	22.33
Passengers should be aware that while very few people are using the trains, these trains may pass Lapford up to 5 minutes early.						
Barnstaple to Exeter	weekdays					
Dep. Barnstaple	07.22	08.35	10.35	13.35	15.35	17.33 18.38
Dep. Lapford	08.00	09.06	11.06	14.06	16.06	18.06 19.12
Arr. Exeter St David's	08.35	09.41	11.41	14.41	16.51	18.55 19.52

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Fri 11<sup>th</sup>, Sat 12<sup>th</sup> & Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Dec  
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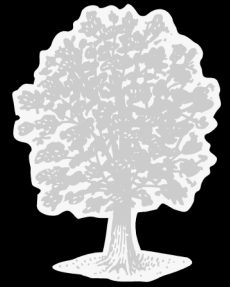
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## HOLD - AUTUMN 2020 UPDATE



### The Annual Report and Accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020 are below

David Bragg stood down as Chairman effective from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020, and Peter Norman has been elected by the Directors in his place. We cannot adequately express our gratitude to David for his tremendous energy, skills, and leadership through often difficult times. We are delighted that he has agreed to continue as a Director. As it has been decided to postpone the AGM, Board of Directors will remain as currently constituted until such time as nominations and elections can be held in the normal way.

The best news of all is that the two loans showing on the Balance Sheet as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020 are now being cleared. The private loan (£25,000) has been very generously converted to a donation and the £35,000 owed to St Thomas' PCC should be repaid within the next few weeks, when we receive the grant from Lapford Parish Council. **This will mean that HOLD is then free of debt.**

The Directors are actively engaging with the Church Green Trustees to assist the repair of the bank to the Church Green, and with several volunteers who are keen to enhance the site with planting and wildlife habitats.

However, the weather has not been kind, and although we are working to have Lower Town Place open to the public before the end of October that will depend on the 'take' of the final delivery of turf.

The Directors wish you all the best of health in the current pandemic and we look forward to the whole community being able to enjoy the new open space.

### Chair's Report to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020

After the excitement of the successful procurement of Lower Town Place in the last financial year this has been a roller coaster year of moving on its development to become a public space for the benefit of all the community.

At the same time as getting quotes for demolition of all the farm buildings and restoration of the area ready for grass turfing, fencing and generally creating a safe area for community enjoyment, we were working to assimilate feedback from diverse sections of the community, and try to address their concerns. HOLD was well supported by H4L through this process and we continued to move the process forward.

All quotes were approved and then commissioned by the Parish Council as required for payment through the Parish Council's loan from the Public Works Loan Board.

With all that in place work started in January with the demolition of the steel frame agricultural building and removal of all roofs on the traditional buildings using a contractor with all the necessary health and safety certification for safe disposal of any asbestos containing materials.

This was followed by a tree specialist removing all the overgrown ash and sycamore to make safe the area from storm damage and open up the views to the Church. Finally the walls of the traditional buildings were demolished, and all building stone removed from site for storage pending possible re-use in future developments.

The Covid-19 crisis then brought a stop to proceedings for the duration of the full lockdown period which extended beyond the end of the year that this report refers to.

Significant progress therefore was made in the year towards making the whole site safe but not yet ready for public use. All being well 2020/2021 should be the year in which the site will finally be made available to the community.

Grateful thanks go to all HOLD Directors for their patience and persistence and to those from our farming community who voluntarily assisted with the transport of materials off site for storage.

**David Bragg**  
*Chair*

## HEART OF LAPFORD DEVELOPMENT LTD.

	<u>NOTES</u>	<u>2020 (£)</u>	<u>2019 (£)</u>
<b><u>PROFIT &amp; LOSS FOR YEAR ENDING 30<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2020</u></b>			
TURNOVER	Fund Raising	7359	154
	Grant	0	222,500
	Donations	1446	0
	Sundry	<u>966</u>	<u>0</u>
		9771	222,654
OPERATING ADMIN EXPENSES	(1)	(3287)	<u>(3950)</u>
	Grant to Victory Hall	<u>(5000)</u>	
OPERATING PROFIT/LOSS		1484	218,704
<b>RETAINED PROFIT/LOSS FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b><u>1484</u></b>	<b><u>218,704</u></b>
<b><u>BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2020</u></b>			
FIXED ASSETS:	Lower Town Place	<u>382,500</u>	<u>382,500</u>
CURRENT ASSETS:	Cash at bank and in hand	4793	2771
CREDITORS:	Amounts falling due within one year	0	0
CREDITORS:	Amounts falling due after one year	(2)	<u>60,000</u>
		<u>60,000</u>	<u>65,000</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES		(55207)	(62229)
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b><u>327,293</u></b>	<b><u>320,271</u></b>
<b>CAPITAL &amp; RESERVES</b>	Share Capital	9,550	8,850
	PCC Donation	100,000	100,000
	Reserves	<u>217,743</u>	<u>211,421</u>
		<b><u>327,293</u></b>	<b><u>320,271</u></b>

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS:

(1)	Operating & admin expenses	£	
	Bat survey	990	
	Asbestos survey	95	
	Co-op Sub	120	
	Insurance	993	
	Fund raising	<u>1089</u>	
		<u>3287</u>	
(2)	Loans		
	St. Thomas PCC	35,000	
	Private individual	<u>25,000</u>	
		<u>60,000</u>	



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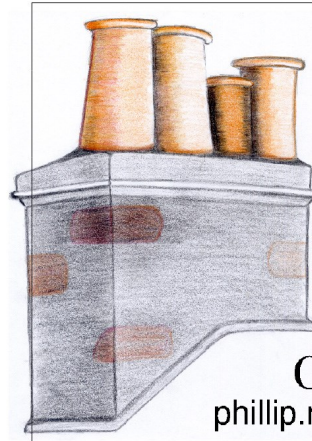
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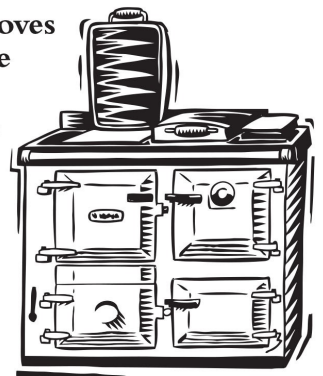
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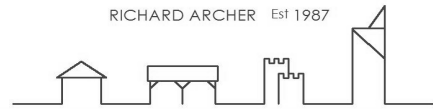
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### LAPFORD LOOKOUT ADVERTISING RATES AND POLICY

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 14<sup>th</sup> 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.

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### WALDORF SALAD RECIPE

4 sticks celery,  
 2 russet apples,  
 50g (2 oz) chopped walnuts,  
 salt and pepper,  
 cider vinegar,  
 mayonnaise.



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

Slice the washed celery, chop cored and quartered apples, and sprinkle with a few drops of cider vinegar, add the walnuts, season and mix together with mayonnaise. Garnish with watercress and sprinkle with pomegranate seeds for extra colour and flavour.

**Paul Cleave**

**Stove Centre**

01769 574411

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**Unit 2 Horsepond Meadow, South  
 Molton, Devon EX36 4EJ**

### LOWER TOWN PLACE UPDATE – FLORA AND FAUNA

Hopefully, after many delays, all the turf will have been laid and the grass will be establishing.

Wild flower seeds are being sown on some of the fringe areas – along the back of the Orchard Way houses and garages, along the bank round the churchyard and in the area adjoining the Church Green bank.



The idea will be to not only enhance the area with a colourful display in future years, but to also benefit pollinating insects and thus enhance the biodiversity of the whole site. These wild flower areas will then be managed in a wildlife friendly way, which usually means just cutting back once a year in the late summer, once seeds have set.

Some spring flowering native bulbs are also being planted on the churchyard bank, thanks to an embryonic team of volunteers. If anyone else would be interested in lending a hand then do please get in touch ([amepstein55@gmail.com](mailto:amepstein55@gmail.com)). It is also planned to install some nest boxes this winter. Any other ideas to enhance the site for the benefit of wildlife are always welcome. (The planting of hedges and/or trees are just some of the things that will be open for discussion in the coming months and years).

**Andy Epstein**

## LEAPing IN TO ACTION!

On behalf of the village, the Parish Council would like to extend gratitude to all the volunteers who have been working so diligently under the Lapford Emergency Response Team (LERT) to ensure the more vulnerable villagers have been able to access deliveries of essential groceries and prescriptions.

With the first job being served on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March, Lapford is amongst the first villages to have an operational system in place! Not just a simple errands service, but with a fully risk-assessed and insured set of printed procedures for signed-up volunteers operating with PPE and every job logged and managed under GDPR!

To the end of September, the LERT team have served 357 jobs including 121 prescription collections and even 2 pets safely exercised for owners who needed to isolate!

The bulk of the jobs came in between March and May, with the busiest month of April serving 106 jobs alone and remained high through the summer. We saw a reduction in the need from August, with August and September serving around 20% of the levels we saw back in April.

It should be further noted that a significant debt of gratitude is also owed to the **Lapford Cross Spar shop and staff** who, not only applied the control measures promptly, but have also modified their procedures in order to allow isolating residents to pay remotely as the LERT team collect these essential groceries.

Now, as we stand on the edge of winter and the expectation of an increase in Covid and the ensuing lockdown measures that may follow, we feel ready to take on the challenge!

If you need to make use of the LERT service, the contact details are;

**Dedicated phone number : 07496 144 772**

**Dedicated Email address : [help@lapfordvillage.co.uk](mailto:help@lapfordvillage.co.uk)**

Further information can be found on the village website

**[www.lapfordvillage.co.uk](http://www.lapfordvillage.co.uk)**

and Facebook page

**Help the vulnerable in our community (Lapford)**

The current **LERT** team is tasked with providing all sorts of support for the village, from Snow and Flood Wardens spreading grit when needed the manning of this emergency support. We comprise 28 signed-up insured volunteers, (of which 14 are currently active with Covid-19 Emergency Support) from a pool of 60 offers to help, so whilst the team is reasonably stocked for volunteers, as their personal circumstances change, so do their capacities.

**IT IS SO IMPORTANT FOR THESE INITIATIVES TO STAY WELL STOCKED WITH OFFERS TO VOLUNTEER!**

SO!! If you would be able to offer help and would like to volunteer for the LERT service, please contact us on;

**Alex Gater 07815795918 or email to [icanhelp@lapfordvillage.co.uk](mailto:icanhelp@lapfordvillage.co.uk)**

**Thank You!**

## LAPFORD EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN (LEAP)

**For emergency contact details see page 26**

After a long summer of restrictions preventing many village organisations from meeting, the LEAP group were finally able to sit together, at distance, on a chilly Tuesday morning in the Victory Hall.

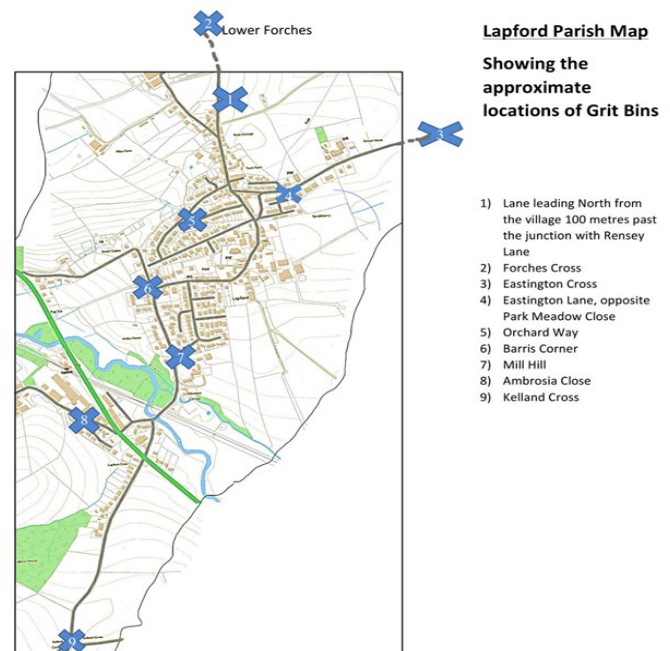
At the top of the list was a review of the past few months under Covid and a massive debt of gratitude to the volunteers of LERT and the success of the program. We expect the need to continue well in to next year and the team have informed us that they are well prepared to continue the service. For contact details see separate article **LEAPing in to ACTION!**

Moreover, to consider the forthcoming winter months and the risk of snow, ice and flooding that they portend!

### Winter Gritting

The grit bins situated around the village are full in preparation for possible adverse cold weather conditions. Please use the grit on public paths and pavements only. Instructions for the best way to use the grit can be found inside the lid of each bin.

The bins are located at Lower Forches; on the right near the top Lapford sign; Eastington Cross; Eastington Lane opposite Park Meadow Close, the lower part of Orchard Way; Barris corner; Mill Hill above the Mill; Ambrosia Close and Kelland Cross.



## THE ARK IS BACK



By this time, more of you lovely Lapford villagers will be aware that we are up and running, not literally, I hasten to add. It is an absolute joy for we volunteers to get together and welcome you back. Yes, we do have a limited menu, but that's a small part of what the ARK is all about.

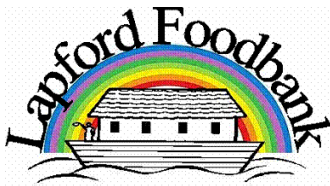
Rest assured that we are adhering to government guidelines, so come on in.

P.S. Aunty Bac and San It are working overtime.

**The ARK Volunteers**

## LAPFORD FOODBANK

Based at the Ark, the village foodbank continues to provide a lifeline to the village and is in need *(and always grateful for)* donations of **non-perishable, in-date food items**



The Ark is now open on Tuesdays and Fridays when donations can be passed in. All other times please use **the donations box** situated by the back door which is checked and emptied regularly. If you prefer to make a most welcomed donation of funds under GiftAid, please find the Foodbank page under *Services* on the village website [lapfordvillage.co.uk](http://lapfordvillage.co.uk) or ring **01363 83666**.

*FoodPacks* can be requested through Lapford Community Primary School, Lapford Pre-School, Doctors' surgeries or by phoning 01363 83666. Packs are normally delivered out but can be collected by prior arrangement.

We are currently running short of the following items:

- Instant coffee/Tea
- Sugar
- Cereals (preferably not too many sugary ones)
- Biscuits (sweet or savoury)
- Tinned Beef / Chicken / Ham
- Tinned Tuna / Salmon
- Tinned Vegetables
- Long Life Milk
- Cooking Oil
- Bolognaise / Curry Sauce
- Rice
- Toilet Rolls / Kitchen Rolls / Bin Liners
- Shampoo / Toothpaste
- Bathroom /Kitchen Cleaner
- Detergent (very needed)

Please note that we are not able to accept fresh fruit and vegetables and other perishable goods.

With gratitude,  
**Lapford Foodbank**

## NATIONAL BLOOD SERVICE



Donations can be made at  
Boniface Centre, Cridton,  
on



Tuesdays 10th or 24th November  
at 13:10 to 19:15

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

*Do something amazing - Give Blood!*

## ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

### ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE BOOKS ON WHEELS

Do you have difficulty in getting to Cridton 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**

## NEED TRANSPORT TO YOUR SURGERY APPOINTMENT?



**LVCA**  
Lapford Voluntary Car Aid 2011

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
- Cridton (Breast Screening) - £6
- Cridton Community Hospital - £5
- Morchard Bishop Surgery - £3
- New Valley Health Centre - £6
- Winkleigh Surgery - £5

## FISH AND CHIPS ARE COMING BACK TO LAPFORD

Dymond's Catering will be visiting Lapford weekly from **FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER, 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm** at the Car Park in Orchard Way.

There has been an excellent response from the various social media posts so beware, it might be busy.

In answer to some questions, YES there will be Curry Sauce and Gluten free meals including Chips, Bacon and eggs.

If you have any queries regarding ordering or the menu, please contact Caroline on 07810 675089.



## Devon Libraries

### DEVON LIBRARIES

will visit Lapford and  
Nymet Rowland on

November 24th

Bugford	11.25—11.45
Yeo Vale Cross	11.55—12.15
Nymet Rowland	12.25—12.45
Orchard Way	13.45—14.55
School	15.00—16.00

(Please note times are subject to change -  
Phone 0345 1551001 to check)

Numbers will be limited and face masks should be worn please

## LAPFORD BOOK CLUB



We had our second meeting since the lock down last March on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> October. This was after several phone conversations with both Briony at the ARK and the library service to make sure that we would be able to conform to the many Covid-19 rules.

It was lovely to be able to meet up again. We all agreed that one of the things we had missed most during lock down was the meeting up with our friends and being able to chat face to face, the telephone is not quite the same.

We all appreciate sharing our thoughts on the book that we have read and our discussions can get quite lively. The members have found that a good meet-up can change the way you see a book, get you to read something you never would have picked up otherwise, and give you an opportunity to be part of a group of people who just appreciate reading.

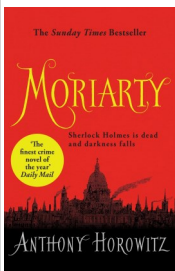
We read a wide range of literature; literary fiction, crime fiction, translated fiction, some popular fiction, short stories, biographies, autobiographies and other non-fiction.

We have a very interesting selection of books chosen for the next 12 months by authors ranging from Michael Caine, Michelle Obama and Val Mc Dermid to Terry Pratchet, so there should be something for all tastes. Books are provided by the library Service so there is no need to purchase a book each month.

We meet on the first Monday of the month at the ARK and if you feel that you might like to join us, please give me a ring and I can answer any questions that you may have.

Jill Doe tel; 83410

## BOOK CLUB REVIEW

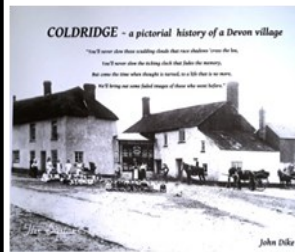


To give you all an idea of our books, a different Book Club member will write a review each month. This is the first.

The book choice for September was "Moriarty" by Anthony Horowitz, a story of what happened after Sherlock Holmes and Moriarty were dead (or were they?). It opened with the struggle at the Reichenbach

Falls and rushed along with tremendous speed, with very vivid (sometimes even gruesome) descriptions of how the narrator and his accomplice, a Scotland Yard detective, follow the trail of an American criminal mastermind intent on taking over from Moriarty all his murderous and profitable schemes. I found it a page-turner, describing the dark side of Victorian London in a well constructed plot. In discussing it, even if we didn't all enjoy the book, none of us expected the twist at the end! I think Sir Arthur Conan Doyle himself would have approved."

Suzy Mann



## COLDRIDGE BOOK

A new book "Coldridge - a pictorial history of a Devon village" is now on sale and can be ordered from John Dike via email [jojohndevon@googlemail.com](mailto:jojohndevon@googlemail.com).

The cost is £10 of which the profit of £5 goes to Coldridge Village Hall funds. The book comprises 80 pages and features a collection of many of the old photographs of the village and farming in the area. An A4 landscape format is used in order to best present the images.

The book also tells the story of the village from Domesday until about forty years ago. Extensive research has revealed many of the old family names that existed in the area, right back to the Middle Ages. The book discusses the mystery of Coldridge Church and its possible association with The Princes in the Tower, the subject of an ongoing investigation. This publication is being printed in limited numbers and will not be available online or in the shops.

## LAPFORD REVEL, HOW ARE YOU?



It was supposed to be such a great year! An Olympic year. Our Revel theme would have been **The Olympics** and we can only imagine the fun we could have had. Young and old together in the glorious weather we had throughout the Summer.

Yet it was not to be. And whilst we remain fully aware of the massive hardships so many in the country have had to face;- with relatives, with care, with schooling,- perhaps the loss of our 2020 Revel is reasonably seen as a minor casualty of the crisis, however your serving Revel team have, like so many of us, felt the loss deeply.

We have lost a few members along the way and want to wish a massive Lapford Revel "*Come Back Soon*" to our friend and serving member Donna, who is fighting to recover her health and return to us when she can.

The Revel team managed a socially distanced meeting on the 14th of September (the first time since March) and considered the medium-term future, along with accepting that we would not be able to hold a productive AGM in 2020 under the current restrictions. In this, the team agreed to postpone an AGM for a further 6 months and review the situation then.

### The Future - 2021?

Our Constitution gives the **Revel Thursday** as the first Thursday following July 7th (being a Wednesday), so Revel 2021 dates are **Thursday 8th - Sunday 11th of July 2021** with a programme yet to be produced.

It really is still anyone's guess whether a Revel in 2021 will go ahead. So much depends now on how the winter plays out in the Southwest;- provided the numbers remain in our favour; whether we see further spikes in the Spring as the more stringent measures, once again, are relaxed and tourism starts. All this will dominate our planning.

### But we have to aim for the positive!

So, with this in mind, 2021 could be a great opportunity to steel our mettle! We realise only too well that so many have missed out in 2020 and assure you that your Revel won't overlook you. Whether in 2021, or beyond!



## MORE ABOUT HEDGEHOGS

Further to last month's Wild Lapford article about hedgehogs, please note that when finding a orphaned, injured or sick hedgehog speed is essential in getting it to a carer. Don't put it in a box and wait until the next day to make contact with a carer. BHPS has a list of carers in the UK. Alternatively contact your local carer, John Groves, on 01363 866564 or 07966 435147. John has kindly submitted the following information which will also be relevant in November if the mild weather continues.



### Hedgehogs in October by Kay Bullen, Trustee, British Hedgehog Preservation Society

Now is the time when hedgehogs will be concentrating on putting on weight for hibernation. As the weather gets colder so their natural food is harder to find. However if they are underweight but healthy in October they can still stay in the wild provided they are given a plentiful supply of food.

Check out the British Hedgehog Preservation Society's website: [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk) for a feeding station that is easy to make. There is also a leaflet on Autumn Juveniles suggesting when they might be left in the wild and whether or when they need to be rescued at this time of year.

Do take care when clearing away autumn leaves and if you are making a bonfire in advance do check it for sleepy hedgehogs before lighting it or better still move the pile to a new site just before you start to burn it. Finally, always light from one side to allow an escape route for anything you may have missed. If you have an out of the way corner in the garden, then an undisturbed pile of leaves etc would make a great place for a hedgehog to hibernate.

Our native hedgehogs are now officially vulnerable to extinction according to new research. The UK Red List conservation report, which was conducted by the Mammal Society, suggests that our hedgehogs could be at risk of dying out completely if we don't act to help them. Do your bit by helping any visiting hedgehogs to survive the winter and perhaps they will also raise a family in your garden next year.

## Remember hedgehogs this bonfire night



**Are you planning a bonfire event this Guy Fawkes Night?**

The 5th November can be a dangerous time for hedgehogs as before they are lit, bonfires are ideal nesting sites. Hedgehogs may move into what looks to them like a nice log pile thinking it's a safe and suitable hibernation site.



Hedgehogs can be tricky to spot in their nests, so make sure to check bonfires thoroughly before lighting!

**You can avoid accidents and ensure hedgehog safety by:**

- ▶ building the bonfire at the last minute to prevent any hedgehogs from moving in. Ideally it should be built on the day of lighting.
- ▶ moving the entire bonfire a few metres just before lighting.
- ▶ putting up a fence or barrier around the bonfire beforehand using chicken wire or a pile of old tyres.
- ▶ checking the bonfire thoroughly for hidden hedgehogs before lighting, even if the other steps have been followed – just to be on the safe side.
- ▶ using the hashtag #RememberHedgehogs to spread the message on social media.

- ▶ contacting local event organisers to pass on the above tips and ensure they consider hedgehogs in their plans. This might be the local council, school or sports club.
- ▶ bearing in mind that amphibians, reptiles and even pets also like to hide in structures like bonfires, so keep an eye out for them too.



What if I find a hedgehog?

Have a high-sided box ready to put any hedgehogs in that are found. You can also put an old towel, meaty cat or dog food, and some water in the box. It can then be stored in a safe place like a shed or garage until the fire is damped down and the hedgehog can be safely released later that night. If you find an injured hedgehog, call BHPS for advice on 01363 866564.

To learn more about hedgehogs and how you can help them, visit [hedgehogstreet.org](http://hedgehogstreet.org).

Hedgehog Street is a partnership project between People's Trust for Endangered Species and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

People's Trust for Endangered Species

British Hedgehog Preservation Society

## CHECK YOUR WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES ONLINE

For 2020/21 the online version of the Mid Devon calendar will be available on the Council's website to view and print.

For anyone who has difficulty accessing material online you can call Customer Services on 01884 252555 or email [customerservices@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@middevon.gov.uk) who will be able to help.

To check your collection date visit <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/collectiondaylookup>

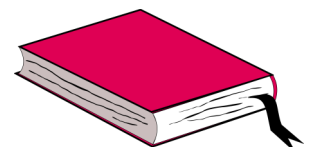
## JUST A BIT OF FUN

Beware the mobile phone, oh do  
Some texts can really trouble you  
I'll give you just a small example  
Of how a text can make you crumple  
I'd spent the day on work and chore  
Some of which proved quite a bore  
And then at last with open book  
I'd settled in a cosy nook  
So when my phone pinged in a text  
I really felt a little vexed  
But when I looked, got rather worried  
And to my calendar, I'd hurried  
'Where are we meeting, yours or mine?  
If I leave now, be there by nine.'  
The text, you'll think, was very clear  
Nothing there to make me fear

The thing that had me in a state  
Was, knowing not, who was my date!  
I didn't recognise the number  
Oh Lord, I must have made a blunder  
On my calendar, sure enough  
In shorthand, like my usual stuff  
It said 'CC', but who was he?  
Or she? Who could it be?  
I racked my brain to no avail  
Began to panic, almost wail  
I'd have to text, I must confess  
I'd got myself into a mess  
I took the phone to own my sin  
When PING! another text came in  
'Do ignore, I'm very sorry.  
Should have sent that text to Laurie'  
At first, I thought, I'm off the hook  
I could again pick up my book

But no, it wasn't quite that easy  
There still remained mysterious 'CC'  
Was someone, somewhere cross with me  
Because I wasn't where I should be?  
And then, at last, I saw the light  
I was no longer in a plight  
'CC' was just a memory jog  
(My mind's so often in a fog)  
'Credit card' it indicated  
I was indeed quite vindicated  
Next Tuesday was the day to settle  
So with relief, on went the kettle  
I needed tea to calm my head  
And then I took my book to bed.

**Sue Raffill**



# 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) ~ 0845 1551004
- 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	3.00 p.m.	7.30 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 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 Donna Egan	Primrose Cottage, Lapford, EX17 6PZ	01363 83732 / donnaegan84@gmail.com
Cllr Hilary Hassett	School House, Eastington Lane, Lapford, EX17 6QE	01363 83858 / hilary.hassett66@gmail.com
Cllr Peter Heal	Ashlands, Lapford, EX17 6AE	Home - 01363 884277 / Office - 01363 775467 peter.heal@btconnect.com
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, Coplestone, 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 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 Poppy Appeal Organiser            Lapford Project 2000            Lapford Regeneration Committee            Lapford Revel            Lapford Revel Volunteers            Lapford School            Lapford Scouts            Lapford Short Mat Bowls            Lapford Victory Hall Booking Secy (Temporary)            Lapford Village Archive            Lapford Voluntary Car Aid            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            Mrs Briony Clinch            Mr Niall McAreavey            Mrs Jill Doe            Mrs Cat Seymour            Mrs Sara Thurgood            Mrs Sue Briant-Evans            Mr Alex Gater            Mrs. Briony Clinch            Mr Steve Munday            Mrs Cat Seymour            Mr Richard Hassett            Mrs Jeanne Whittaker            Mrs Beccy Fletcher            Mrs Jayne Grover            Steph Heard            Mr Ron Kercher            Mrs Caroline Noon            Mrs Sue Briant-Evans            Mr Ian Hemsworth            Mr Alex Gater            -            Mrs Clare Wilmott            Mrs Hayley Hardy            Mr Jon Tucker            Joanne            Mrs Jeanne Whittaker            Mrs Grace Hill            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></p> <p>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            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 / lapfordpreschool@gmail.com            01363 83788            01363 83733 / lapfordafc@gmail.com            01363 83410 / sunnyside@jilldoe45.plus.com            01363 884432 / cathryn_seymour@outlook.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 83858 / rich.hassett@btinternet.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 83863 / lapford.pao@gmail.com            01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com            01363 884460 / i.hemsworth@btinternet.com            07815 795818 / alex@lapfordmill.uk            revelvolunteers@gmail.com            01363 83292 / admin@lapford-primary.devon.sch.uk            07730368636 / Hayley.Hardy@middevonscouts.org.uk            07814 568846 /            07803 002910            01363 83068 / jeanne.whittaker@btinternet.com            01363 83178 / lvca2011.19@gmail.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>

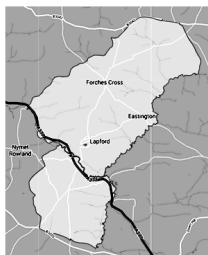
## PARISH CLERK / RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER FOR LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Applications are invited for the position of parish clerk/RFO for Lapford Parish Council. The Parish Council meets on the first Tuesday of each month, except for August, with occasional planning meetings in between. The role is for approximately three hours a week paid at spinal point 20. The Parish Clerk carries out clerical functions to support the Parish Council meetings (including discharging actions), manages the Parish Council emails, will be required to maintain the parish website, and manage the Parish Council financial matters, including preparing the accounts for audit. As Parish Clerk you will guide and advise the Parish Council on legal matters and procedures.

No previous experience is necessary as training and support will be provided. Well established IT skills are required. A computer and printer/scanner will be provided.

The applicant should ideally be a self motivated individual, with good interpersonal skills, who can work alone or as part of a team.

For further information and to apply please contact the current Chairman, Ian Hemsworth, 01363 884460 or [i.hemsworth@btinternet.com](mailto:i.hemsworth@btinternet.com)



map from google.com

Lapford Parish Council

## THANKS AND MORE

I'd like to say thank you to all the people who have made it possible for the Lookout to start up again after the full-on lockdown period. The first issue (September) was particularly lovely, so many positive reports of how our community was supporting each other during difficult times.



Talking of our community, over the many years I've lived in Lapford I've often noticed how often people contribute articles/ viewpoints which come from a Christian perspective. I guess this isn't surprising - in a small Devon community like this, we don't have anything like such a rich diversity of culture/religion and ethnic history as towns or cities. But I would be surprised if there are no people in our area who are either Humanists, or who follow other paths to spirituality - be they Buddhist, Quaker, Hindu, Muslim, Jewish, Sikh - or even Pagan. Or any other faith that I've not included.

If you are one of them, I would love you to write something for the Lapford Lookout, sharing reflections you may have about our world or our community, as seen through the lens of your faith or beliefs. What do other people think?

Penny King

## OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Two vacancies have arisen on the Parish Council following the resignation of Councillors Briony Clinch and Jill Doe. Many thanks to both of them for their dedicated service to the Council and the village over a number of years. They leave huge gaps in the experience and expertise of the Council as a whole and we wish them well for the future.

Due to the Coronavirus emergency there can be no elections for Councillors until May next year at the earliest, so in order to fill the vacancies it is possible to co-opt new councillors who could then present themselves for election in due course.

Candidates for co-option should bear the following in mind as a good Parish Councillor should:

Have a good working knowledge of and interest in the community and local affairs

Be forward thinking

Be willing to listen to and represent the views of parishioners regardless of his/her own opinions

Offer skills or expertise to forward the work of the Council

Listen constructively

Be a good team player

Be willing to learn and undergo training

Represent the Council to the community in a positive way

Have the time to attend the meetings of the Council and other affiliated or associated groups as may be required.

A candidate must have been resident in the parish for at least twelve months or employed in the parish as their main place of work for that time.

For further eligibility information, co-option procedures and application forms please visit the Council's website [www.lapfordparishcouncil.btck.co.uk](http://www.lapfordparishcouncil.btck.co.uk) or contact the Parish Council Chair, Ian Hemsworth, on 01363 884460 email [i.hemsworth@btinternet.com](mailto:i.hemsworth@btinternet.com)

More information on the work of Parish Councils and Councillors can be found on the website of the Devon Association of Local Councils [www.devonalc.org.uk](http://www.devonalc.org.uk) under 'All About Local Councils'.

**AS A REQUEST FOR AN ELECTION HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY MDDC WE CANNOT CO-OPT TO THE COUNCIL PRIOR TO THE ELECTION DATE. DUE TO CORONA VIRUS, THE EARLIEST DATE AN ELECTION CAN TAKE PLACE IS 6TH MAY 2021. IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR NAME TO BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF APPLICATIONS FOR ELECTION, PLEASE CONTACT IAN HEMSWORTH WITH YOUR DETAILS.**