



# LAPFORD LOOKOUT

## YOUR LOCAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Year 25 Issue 3

March 2022



So tell the time!  
And time to tell  
of our village clock  
...for it's not very well.

Has it sounded out  
its final chime?  
Is mechanical mastery  
still worth our time?

Has our *Tik Tok* world  
come at a cost?  
Is the village heartbeat  
about to be lost?

Is it worth spending taxes?  
What do you say?  
Is the sound of generations  
a sound of yesterday?

## Time to Tell

RDS signals, digital displays;  
alarms and beeps that don't go away.  
Whether we want it,  
whether we care,  
the time of day  
is everywhere!

Time has been tamed,  
we now have its measure.  
But remember the time,  
when we still knew the pleasure

...of telling time?



In 1909, the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Lapford's long serving and much loved rector, Cornelius Wilson, was celebrated in some style. The village was decorated with flags and laurel; the bells rang throughout the day; there was music, dancing, fireworks and a sit down meal attended by 300-400 people (a number greater than the village population).

**Why such an outpouring of affection?**

When Rev Wilson arrived in Lapford, the village was still reeling from the legacy of the notorious, thuggish (and probably murderous) "Parson Jack". The village was scarred: it had harboured secrets; fear and mistrust had run deep.

For 33 years, Rev Wilson had been committed to healing old wounds through pastoral care. As *The Western Times* put it:

*"you could never know what were the deeper thoughts working in the minds of the parishioners. It required one who lived among them to know what they were"*

As the Rector had helped bring together a divided community it seemed fitting that it should be marked with something to benefit the whole community: **a village clock**

LAPFORD'S NEW  
CHURCH CLOCK.  
—  
UNIQUE BIRTHDAY GIFT

# Lapford's Gift

## A Village Clock or a Church Clock?

The clock was a large expense for a village of just 280 adults. The list of donors included 250 names ... so it was a real village effort !

Around a half of the families in the village belonged to Lapford's Non-Conformist Church, so it was important that the clock became a village, not a church, asset.

*"The fact that many Nonconformists as well as Church parishioners contributed is significant of the good feeling existing among the people of Lapford."*

To this day it remains a 'village clock' managed by the Parish Council.

This is not particularly unusual. Many civic clocks were put in churches out of convenience, rather than pay expense of a purpose-built clock tower. However, for councils today it creates a dilemma as the cost of preserving heritage clocks has to be balanced with other needs. Town and Parish Councils need to know that residents still care about their clocks if funding is to be maintained.

Rev. Wilson (left) had his own 80th birthday gift for the village. He donated a piece of land he had purchased to be used as a Village Green. We now know it as Church Green.





**CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN LAPFORD WELCOME YOU TO:**



**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**

**Vicar:** The Reverend Robert Gordon - (e) [vicar.ncw@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.ncw@gmail.com)

**Churchwarden:** Joan Graham - (e) [jemg47@aol.com](mailto:jemg47@aol.com) (t) 01363 83047

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays – Lay Led Morning Prayer – 9.30 a.m.

4<sup>th</sup> Sundays – Common Worship Eucharist – 9.30 a.m.

5<sup>th</sup> Sundays – See announcements on Church notice board

*The Church is open for private time on Wednesdays between 9.00 a.m. and 12 noon*



**ASH WEDNESDAY - March 2nd -**

**Common Worship Eucharist & Ashing Service at Down St Mary - 7.00 p.m.**

ALL ARE WELCOME - REFRESHMENTS SERVED AFTER SERVICES

**LAPFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Services every Sunday at 11.00am

Communion will be held on the second and fourth Sundays

Contact: Peter and Viv Lacey - Tel: **884230** or Cat Seymour (Youth and Family Worker) - Tel: **884432**

Pastor Caroline Stott - Tel: **01404 831965** - email: [caroline.stott2@btinternet.com](mailto:caroline.stott2@btinternet.com)

[www.facebook.com/lapfordcongregationalchurch](http://www.facebook.com/lapfordcongregationalchurch)



**Preachers:**

Sunday 6th March - David Warden

Sunday 13 March - Rev. Caroline Stott

Sunday 20th March - Family Service

Sunday 27th March - TBA

Sunday 3rd April - Rev. Edmonde Openshaw

**Events:**

Messy Church Pancake Party, Tuesday 1st

March from 5.00p.m.

Church AGM will follow the morning service on 20th March.

Messy Church, Tuesday 29th March 3.30p.m

**LAPFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Meets every Sunday morning at 10.30am in the Victory Hall

4th Sunday of the month is Family Service

Bible Study on Tuesdays 7.30pm and Fellowship Group on Wednesdays 7.30pm

Contact: Briony Clinch - Tel: **83666**

<https://www.lapfordcc.org.uk/>



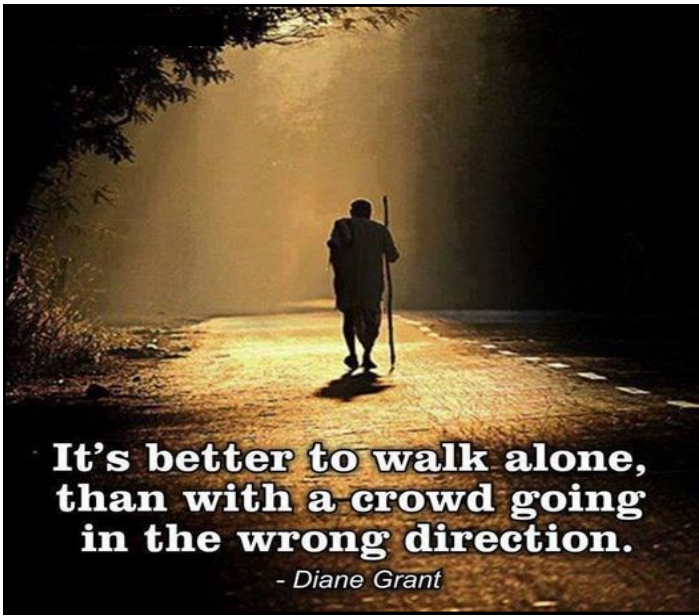
Please visit our website for information about the Foodbank and ARK.  
You will also find lots of information about Church activities and on-line services.



*All the Churches welcome everyone to any of their services and social events.*

*We look forward to fellowship with you.*





### IAN HEMSWORTH

Steven, James, and I would like to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to all those who have been so generous with their help and support since Ian passed away.

We were very touched by the amazing turnout for his funeral. My special thanks go to Joan and all the people who helped at the church with flowers and stewarding; also to the Community Church team who set up the relay; and to Briony and The ARK helpers for the very well organised (and tasty) wake in the Hall. Ian would have been very touched by the love and respect you all showed.

Sue Hemsworth



## Lapford Weather Review

### LAPFORD WEATHER JANUARY 2022

Monthly temperature was average, but only half average rainfall.

The mildest day was the 1<sup>st</sup> with a maximum of 13.8°C, not the mildest January day we have had, that was back in 2016.

The first three days of the month were very mild, continuing on from the end of December.

The coolest day was the 21<sup>st</sup> with a maximum of 4.5°C. The coldest night was on the 21<sup>st</sup> when the air temperature fell to -4.0°C, and the grass temperature fell to -9.4°C.

There were 19 grass frosts through the month, which has delayed the onset of flowering bulbs to more like a normal time as opposed to some more recent years when this has been earlier than average.

Total rainfall was 50.5mm, exactly half the average for January.

The wettest day was the 7<sup>th</sup> with a fall of 10.7mm rain.

The windiest day was the 8<sup>th</sup> with a gust of 46 m.p.h.

Andy Epstein



## DATES TO LOOKOUT FOR

### March

- 1st Messy Church Family Pancake Party, Lapford Congregational Church, 5.00pm
- 2nd Lapford Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 6th Crocus and Cream Teas at East Worlington House, 1.30-5.00pm, for National Garden Scheme
- 8th Gardening Club presentation on Goats Cheese, The ARK
- 14th Copy deadline for April Lapford Lookout, 6pm
- 17th Ladies of Lapford, Talk about Seeing Dogs for the Blind, The ARK, 7.30pm
- 19th Spring Fair, St. Thomas's Church, 10.30am-12.30pm
- 20th Lapford Congregatuonal Church AGM, after service, Lapford Congregational Church
- 24th Lapford Over 60's Club, Victory Hall, 3pm
- 26th Lapford Village Market, Victory Hall, 10am-1pm
- 28th Victory Hall AGM, 7.30pm, all welcome.
- 29th Messy Church, Lapford Congregational Church, 3.30pm

### April

- 5th Lapford Youth Club Management Committee, AGM, The ARK, 7.30pm
- 6th Lapford Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 14th Copy deadline for May Lapford Lookout, 6pm
- 21st Ladies of Lapford, Talk by Next Steps, The ARK, 7.30pm
- 30th Lapford Village Market, Victory Hall, 10am-1pm
- 29th Quiz Evening, Victory Hall, 7.30pm

### May

- 4th Lapford Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 14th Copy deadline for June Lapford Lookout, 6pm
- 19th Ladies of Lapford, Walking Netball



### LAPFORD LOOKOUT

Contributions  
welcome



**lapfordlookout@gmail.com**

**Deadline for inclusion in the next issue:  
6.00 pm on the 14th March  
for inclusion in April issue**

### 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

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

**Deadline for inclusion in the next issue:  
6.00 pm on the 14th March for inclusion in April issue**

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

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

*The views in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial Team.*

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## CHESTNUT TREE

Those of you who have passed the Church Green and Victory Hall in recent months can't but help to have noticed the declining health of the old Chestnut tree by the Melissa Lake Shelter. Its bark is peeling; it looks most unhappy.



A tree surgeon was employed to look at it before Christmas. His report suggested removing one branch, which has now been done, and carrying out a further inspection in the Spring when the tree should be coming back into leaf. However, there is a high possibility that this not very healthy tree will need to be felled for safety reasons. This is just a heads up as to the possibility for it and to say that any further work being done to it, including felling, will have been done with expert consultation over the last months and with due regard for public safety.

Lapford Church Green Trustees



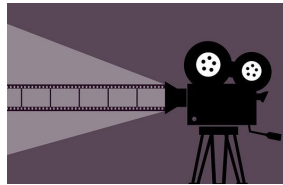
Thank you to everyone who came and supported us at our recent coffee morning when we were raising funds for the storage of the knitted poppies that we all enjoyed displayed at the last remembrance.

A grand total of £100 was raised which means that we can pay for the rental of the storage unit and also look at purchasing appropriate packaging.

**Many thanks from the LP2K Committee**

## CHULMLEIGH RURAL CINEMA CHANGE OF FILM

News has arrived that the film scheduled for release in time for our March presentation has now been delayed, so we are bringing forward the film previously scheduled for April, Spencer (12A), to Friday 11th March, and hopefully The French Dispatch (15) will be released in time for 8th April. I shall keep you advised.



Liz

## THE JUBILEE IN LAPFORD

Heads up for the Jubilee in Lapford!

Following the public meeting held in January a small working party has come together under the auspices of the Parish Council to put some events in place for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June.



The draft programme is as follows:

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** – evening. A family event in the Victory Hall, an entertainer, BBQ and Beacon Lighting on the Church Green.

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – Art exhibitions in The ARK and the Parish Church. Treasure Trail around the village, with prizes.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June** – Exhibitions open in The ARK & the Church  
**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June** – afternoon. Children's games, community picnic in the centre of the village, cream teas on sale, Jubilee pudding competition, Church service.

Other ideas in the pipeline are tree planting, a display outside houses competition – and in order to raise some funds:

**A Quiz Evening in the Victory Hall.**

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April from 7-30pm.**

Eight rounds to reflect the seven decades of the Queen's reign plus a picture round.

Teams of 6 people maximum, £5 per head. Ploughman's supper.

More details to follow next month!



## CREDITON IN & AROUND

### CREDITON IN & AROUND LAUNCHES ONLINE NEWSLETTER

The Crediton In & Around website has launched a monthly online newsletter to keep you updated with local events, activities, articles and business news.

The website was set up in 2020 by the Crediton Heart Project to promote everything going on in our area. It includes listings of shops, services and community groups, a What's On calendar, articles by local people and a section for visitors.

The website is run by a team of volunteers who are regularly adding new content, so the newsletter will provide a convenient summary of what's new on the site. It will highlight upcoming events and activities in Crediton and the surrounding villages, as well as showcase our brilliant local businesses with special offers for our subscribers.

The newsletter will also feature a recent article from the website. We publish an article every week and have been amazed by the range and quality of the contributions we've received. They include regular columns on gardening and walking, reports on local arts and environmental projects, features on local businesses and stories about our local history.

These articles really demonstrate what a special area we live in, with such a rich history, beautiful landscape and talented people.

**To receive the newsletter just visit the website at [www.creditoninandaround.co.uk](http://www.creditoninandaround.co.uk), scroll to the bottom of the home page and enter your email address in the 'subscribe' box. You can unsubscribe at any time.**

**If you would like to include your business, event or article on the website get in touch at [info@creditonheart.org](mailto:info@creditonheart.org)**

**Rosemary Stephenson**

**Crediton In & Around editor**

*Crediton In&Around is run by the Crediton Heart Project (registered charity no 1189549) and supported by Crediton Town Council, Devon County Council and the National Lottery.*

## LAPFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH WINDOWS

A big thank you to all of you who came to the Quiz on Friday 11th February in support of our 'Window Fund'. We hope you all enjoyed the evening. Our first estimate is that about £300 was raised. Why have we got a 'Window Fund'?

The first references to the church were in 1838. However from the research Noel Parry did for his book on the history of the church, it looks as if building work started in 1846. So the windows, which are made of wood, have been around for a long time and have reached the end of their life. We have some with 'lumps' falling out on the outside and on the inside at least one is crumbling to dust! They need replacing!

We have had a quote of £38,000 to replace all the windows, a big ask!! We will be holding further fund-raising events which we trust you will support. We are also looking at possible funding streams but, as I am sure you are aware, we have to be seen to be making an effort to raise money ourselves before any bid we make is considered. To date we have raised about £2,000. We are looking forward to your support for this big venture and will keep you appraised of our progress.

**Peter Lacey**

Secretary, Lapford Congregational Church.



## LADIES GATHER FOR GAMES

On a crisp January night, the ladies gathered in The ARK, possibly tempted by the promise of mulled wine, hot spiced apple juice and Moroccan Orange cake plus biscuits.



The smells floating from the kitchen were promising and the cake looked delicious but we managed to restrain ourselves. The plan was for a simple evening of games. We had quite a selection to choose from and decided on bird bingo to brush up our ability to identify birds and combine this with some fun. I was caller and there must have been about 60 birds altogether some with very exotic plumage and equally exotic names; they were definitely not ones I might expect to see in my garden but the familiar garden birds were there, too. It brought out the competitive streak in some of our members when they became close to 'getting a line' and tension was high towards the end when several members were close to getting a full house. There were no disputes, though, I'm pleased to say and we moved amicably on to refreshments and a good natter. The cake proved well worth the wait with several people asking for the recipe.

Our second game was Taboo which involves trying to convey to your team, a word printed on a card by giving verbal clues whilst avoiding certain taboo words (usually the ones you would be most likely to want to use!) As the idea was to correctly convey as many words as you could, speed was important so it was very easy to get caught out as you tried to rush. Some members were very good at 'thinking outside the box' and thus avoiding the taboo words when they gave their clues.

After the games we enjoyed more chatter (as usual) and a little more refreshment (pity to waste anything) before calling it a night and braving the cold night air to wend our way home.

**Sue Raffill**

## FIRE SAFETY

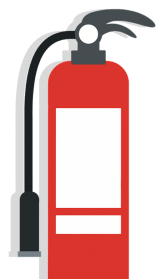
About three years ago, a very nice fireman (I am not sure that we can call them that now) came to Phoenix House in Tiverton to give us a talk about fire safety. We were told that if one conformed to a few simple criteria we could have a home visit and we were asked to spread the information about this service. We were all given a card with all the necessary needed to contact the fire service. I went home full of good intentions to contact them myself. I put the card in a drawer and promptly forgot all about it.

A few weeks ago I found the card and decided to do what I had planned all those years ago.

If you are over 55, living alone, have children living in the house, have a disability or are a smoker, you can qualify for a fire safety visit from the fire service. As I knew that I didn't have a smoke or a carbon monoxide alarm in my home and I qualified on several points, I decide to see how it worked. A simple phone call to the number on my card and a visit was arranged for the following week. A charming gentleman arrived and we chatted about the danger points in my home and safe exit points, most of which I already knew but it was reassuring to have them reinforced by the expert. He then fitted a smoke alarm to the ceiling in the hall and a carbon monoxide alarm near to my wood burner. All in all, he was here for about an hour and it didn't cost a penny. He explained that it was cheaper to prevent a house fire than to have to turn out and fight it with the added risk to life.

Before he left, I asked if I could still pass on information about this service to either individuals or societies in Lapford that may benefit from knowing about it. So, you can either phone 0800 0502 999 or email [firekills@dofire.gov.uk](mailto:firekills@dofire.gov.uk), then tell them that you received the information from Mid Devon District Council. If you are not happy about doing that yourself, give me a ring on 01363 83410 and I will be pleased to help by making the call for you.

**Jill Doe**



## LAPFORD BOOK CLUB REVIEW – THE SAPPHIRE WIDOW BY DINAH JEFFERIES

This book, set in Ceylon, 1935, concerns a seemingly happily married couple, Louisa and Elliot. She is the daughter of a gemstone merchant and he works with her father. He is also a gambler and, when he is killed in a car crash, all kinds of lies and deceits come to light – debts, a mistress, a child (most painful of all as Louisa has suffered from several miscarriages) and an apparent partnership in a cinnamon plantation. As she is left to unravel her late husband's life, whilst being harassed by his creditors, she is eventually able to put her own life back together.

There are lovely descriptions of the scenery and way of life in Ceylon at the time, and very interesting information on how the cinnamon we use is produced. However, we were all agreed that the story was fairly limited, with every plot development well sign-posted, and was probably best enjoyed as a holiday read. Louisa did, however, live happily ever after.

**Suzy Mann**



## BIOGRAPHIES AND DIARIES

At the suggestion of an ex-girlfriend, I have kept a diary for the last thirteen years. This is a habit I have kept four times longer than the actual relationship, which says more about my habits, than my choice of partner. I do it for mental clarity, even though I wonder what my stepson will actually do with them when I am not here.

This must explain why I am fascinated by autobiographies, biographies and diaries. This, for an avid reader like myself, is the equivalent of a nourishing meal. You can learn a lot about your favourite celebrity, the best will leave the odd unanswered question. Either way, there is skill and craft involved as much as a good read.

So firstly, a word about celebrity autobiographies: don't read them. They are the instant noodles of the book world, but at least instant noodles aren't sold at 50% off in January. If this is your bag, bag them then. Sports biographies used to be like that and still are to a certain extent. Possibly the best: *61 Minutes in Munich* by Howard Gayle, the first black player to play for Liverpool. Honest about both what was a disappointing career and the part that racism played in curtailing it.

Music is my other big passion, and again there has also been an improvement in this genre. *Me* by Elton John is candid, shocking and no stone is left unturned, either in terms of his sexuality, addictions or tantrums. It also confirms the urban myth that whilst staying in a hotel, he rang his record company to ask the wind to stop blowing outside his room.

Keith Richards confirms the "I am not your drummer story" in *Life*, as well as his ongoing guerrilla war with Mick Jagger - he describes him as "a nice bunch of blokes." *I'll Never Write My Autobiography* by Grace Jones is in the same vein, with possible pub quiz questions about regretting turning down a role in *Blade Runner* and being asked to do *Slave to the Rhythm* by Trevor Horn, whilst setting fire to her then boyfriend Dolph Lundgren's trousers.

*Head On/Repossessed* is a double volume charting Julian Cope's rise from slacking Scouse student teacher to post-punk icon and finally, The Arch Drude we know and love today. The best is undoubtedly *Miles: The Autobiography*. Published a few years before an untimely/somewhat inevitable death, Miles Davis talks at length about being one of the great artists of the twentieth century, but with as much honey as venom. It's like being mugged by angels.

For actors and entertainers, start with *Who on Earth Is Tom Baker?* It's delicious stuff from the best Doctor Who. It's good on growing up as a Catholic in 1930's Liverpool as much as Tom's "experiences" with *Doctor Who* groupies or drinking with Francis Bacon. John Peel was halfway through *Margrave of the Marshes* when he died. And appropriately enough, you get two sides of the man: the first is as dilatory as Peel himself, the second reveals someone with real doubts and insecurities.

A recent read was *I Know This Much Is True* by Miriam Gargoyles. Arch, entertaining and completely filthy. The book is pretty much the same. See also *Absolute Pandemonium* by Brian Blessed. Jasper Rees was given access to Victoria Wood's archives by her family. *Let's Do It* is a loving portrait of a much-missed comic mind, but someone with a propensity for personal cruelty as much as a Stakhanovite work ethic.

In a similar vein, Piers Paul Read was given access to Alec Guinness' diaries. This is as complete a picture as you'll get, despite the destruction of several volumes of diaries throughout his lifetime (and Read explores the reasons why). It's shows a man who was fastidious, insecure about his own talents and ultimately resentful of being in *Star Wars*, which gave both financial freedom and an unwanted, but geeky fanbase.

Richard Burton's widow gave Swansea University his diaries after his death. Chris Williams condenses 45 years of introspection into nearly 700 pages of brutal honesty, self-destructive behaviour (hence lapses in the narrative) and a man who wanted to be rich, but with minimum effort. Finally, Richard E Grant's diaries *With Nails* is as gossipy and witty as the man himself.

So, plenty to enjoy till Alan Rickman's diaries are published in October. You can expect my diaries sometime in the late 21st century, subject to my stepson understanding my handwriting and legal clearances.

**Kev McCready**

## I HEARD YOUR VOICE IN THE WIND TODAY — UNKNOWN

I heard your voice in the wind today  
and I turned to see your face;  
The warmth of the wind caressed me  
as I stood silently in place.

I felt your touch in the sun today  
as its warmth filled the sky;  
I closed my eyes for your embrace  
and my spirit soared high.

I saw your eyes in the window pane  
as I watched the falling rain;  
It seemed as each raindrop fell  
it quietly said your name.

I held you close in my heart today  
it made me feel complete:  
You may have died . . . but you are not gone  
you will always be a part of me.

As long as the sun shines . . .  
the wind blows . . .  
the rain falls . . .

You will live on inside of me forever  
for that is all my heart knows.

## IAN HEMSWORTH - A TRIBUTE

There are people who come into our lives that result in thoughts of good feelings, happiness and indeed affection. Ian was indeed one such person, he did and achieved much for our village.

Choosing Lapford for their active years of retirement both Ian and Sue became quickly engrained in all the richness of Lapford, arriving in the summer of 2012. Having enjoyed their first Lapstock both Ian and Sue were quick to get actively involved with more than a quarter of the 50 societies and groups listed on the inside back page of this month's Lapford Lookout.

Sadly, after a very short illness Ian passed away on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January. Last month the Church of St Thomas of Canterbury was full of family, friends and those who had worked with Ian on so many local projects:

- Setting up HOLD, to achieve Lower Town Place
- Working with the Heart for Lapford Strategy Group of 8 organisations working together & co-ordinated for community benefit
- Revel Committee and public address announcer
- Youth Club Management Committee
- Lapford's Emergency Action Plan and response
- Regular driver for Lapford Voluntary Car Aid & the Hospital Service.
- Keen supporter of Lapford Association Football Club
- Over 60's Club
- LADS Panto performer
- Lapford Parochial Church Council attending the Church of St Thomas of Canterbury, where Ian and Susan renewed their wedding vows.

Ian supported The ARK, this is where he would be found most open lunch times and he was always a very enthusiastic supporter of The Old Malt Scoop. However, his outstanding service was with Lapford Parish Council where he performed the duties of Chairman of the Council for five years until his retirement last summer. Ian was proud to have brought the Devon Air Ambulance mast to Lapford Primary school, to have been involved in stopping trains again at Lapford station, help gardeners get dug into new Kelland Allotments, set up the defibrillator at the Orchard Centre with trained volunteers and of course the purchase and clearance of Lower Town Place at the very heart of our village.

Ian was a man of honour and integrity. A team player who listened and drew people in. He was a very social person and was so good on the Parish Council because of that. He led it through some difficult times with a lot of understanding and good humour.

This all adds up to a huge amount of community service doesn't it? Our tribute is to Ian — We shall remember you!

*Donations to FORCE Cancer Charity [justgiving.com/fundraising/IanHemsworth](http://justgiving.com/fundraising/IanHemsworth)*

Lapford Parish Council would like to add its own tribute to Ian. He served the village as a Parish Councillor, and later as Chair, with dedication, integrity and humour. He led the Council through the challenges of Covid and the difficulties surrounding the lack of a clerk in his last two years of office; Zoom meetings are not always easy to facilitate or run! He was very much involved in the sourcing and installation of the defibrillator at the Orchard Centre and subsequent delivery of the training and First Aid sessions to many members of the community; and the Devon Air Ambulance night landing site at the school, plus the Heart for Lapford project. He is very much missed.

**Councillor Peter Heal**  
**Chair, Lapford Parish Council**



## VICTORY HALL

Annual General Meeting  
Monday 28th March  
7.30pm in the Victory Hall

All Welcome



## THANK YOU FROM YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE

We would like to express our gratitude for the consideration all our customers have shown during these trying and difficult times. With the relaxations now, however, we can welcome customers back into the Orchard Centre to wait if we are serving another customer, so no more waiting in the cold and wet! If you are comfortable still wearing a mask this would be appreciated.

We continue to offer the full range of Post Office services on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9:00 and 12:30 as well as household essentials and cards and confectionery.

We look forward to seeing you all under more relaxed circumstances and, if you haven't visited us yet, call in and see how we can help.

We thank you again for your support and understanding during the past two years.

June and Nigel



## LAPFORD OVER 60's CLUB

Lapford Over 60 Club will be meeting as usual on Thursday 24th March at 3pm in the Victory Hall.

We hope to publish a list of themes for the meetings and also outings soon. Please look out for posters in later editions of the Lapford Lookout.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

Best Wishes,

Ron



Lapford & District  
Over 60 Club

## LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL NOTES, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2022

Please note this is a summary of the main points of interest. A copy of the draft minutes will be made available on the Council website, [www.lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk) and on the notice boards in the Orchard Centre and in The ARK.

### The Parish Council met on 18<sup>th</sup> January in the Victory Hall.

Five members of the public attended.

### The meeting stood in silence as a mark of remembrance and respect for Ian Hemsworth who died on 3<sup>rd</sup> January and had been Chair of the Council for five years up until May 2021.

- In answer to a statement from a member of the public regarding Lower Town Place the Locum Clerk replied that a report he was preparing on that subject would hopefully be presented to Councillors at the next meeting.
- The Church Green Trustees had met. The Chestnut tree by the Melissa Lake shelter had been cut back. It would be re-inspected for health & safety reasons in the Spring. The revised Governing Document could now be presented to the Charity Commission.
- The Chairman and County Councillor to arrange to meet with the Highways Officer to discuss outstanding issues, and the locum clerk to write to DCC Highways re the lack of action on local Highways problems.
- The misinformation on the Lapford Post Office website had not been corrected despite requests for this to happen. The matter could not be dealt with locally.
- A small working party had been set up to plan for the local celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It would operate with insurance through the Parish Council.
- Section 106 funding possibilities were discussed.
- The planning application to provide toilet facilities at the Parish Church was supported.

### The Parish Council met again on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022.

Eight members of the public attended.

- The Locum Clerk would progress the matter of 106 finance to assist the Football Club.
- The telephone box at Moorland View was in bad repair and would be chained shut to avoid danger to the public pending repair work being carried out.
- A councillor vacancy now existed.
- County Councillor Margaret Squires' written report was received.
- The Lapford Emergency Plan Committee had met. There were still outstanding training matters relating to the Road Warden scheme and the Snow Warden to be addressed through the Highways Officer. This has resulted in the village having no accredited Snow Warden at the moment. First Aid/ Defibrillator training will be offered soon. Details to follow in the Lapford Lookout. A Foodbank report was received – (see separate article)
- Planning permission has been granted for seven dwellings on the Yeo Vale site.
- Councillors were told about the exhibition in The ARK relating to the village clock in the Church Tower.
- The Locum Clerk's appointment was made permanent initially for a fixed contract of twelve months.
- The Locum Clerk's report on the history of the Lower Town Place project was received. This would be condensed so that the Council could start a conversation with other Lapford groups to look for ways forward for the future.

The Council will meet again on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022.



Some people aren't just missing a screw,  
the whole toolbox is gone.

A little old man shuffled slowly into an ice cream parlour and pulled himself slowly, painfully, up onto a stool.. After catching his breath, he ordered a banana split.

The waitress asked kindly, 'Crushed nuts?'

'No,' he replied, 'Arthritis.'

**Youth Club**  
**More Adult**  
**Helpers Wanted**  
**On either Thursday or**  
**Friday evenings**  
**24 people have signed**  
**up for 1 evening a**  
**month but we want**  
**more! Can you help?**  
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### LAPFORD FOODBANK

We have had two more requests for help which takes our numbers up to ten.

Donations from community are spasmodic but we are getting donations. I can call on Crediton foodbank if things get really difficult. Unfortunately supermarket prices are steadily going up so the fresh items that we have been providing will be a little less each time.

We will obviously monitor this and families will take priority.

Stacey Lumsdon has offered to help with locating items from a cheaper source to keep the shelves stocked. Hopefully as the evenings get lighter deliveries will be a bit easier.

List of items needed .....

Coffee, tea, UHT milk (semi and full) rice, we have lots and lots of pasta, so pasta sauces are always useful, sugar, tuna, tinned meat like Irish stew, mince and onions, beef stew and cereals. Any household items like bleach and washing up liquid, also shampoo and shower or bath gel.

Thank you so much.

**Briony**



### IMPORTANT HISTORICAL VILLAGE BOOKS

When clearing through the house of my late uncle, George Gunn, in Lapford, my mother Ann Cann (maiden name Gunn) found various books that seemed to have nothing to do with the family even though we've been there for 75 years. Many had family names Dart, Horwill and Snell written inside.

The one important one of these is a handwritten volume bound in white board, it is marked in gold on a burgundy label as being the "Overseers' Book of Receipts & Payments" for Lapford. As far as we are aware it had literally been sat in a cupboard for the last 75 years. It is handwritten inside the front cover by John Dart many times and twice adding Assistant Overseer Lapford and also by Samuel Dart and Henry Dart.

The entries are from 9 May 1848 to a last entry 6 March 1868. They are an account book registering various payments paid into the scheme and those paid out to people for various reasons, particularly when the gentleman of the household had run away leaving the family to fend for themselves.

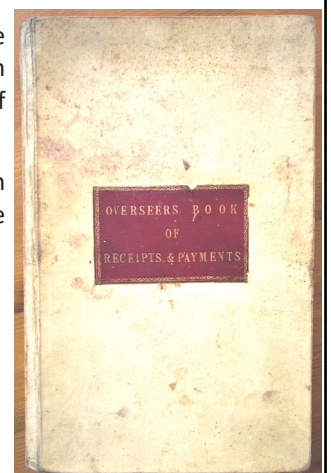
For anybody interested in village history this is a particularly important book. The Devon Heritage Centre in Exeter has various Overseers Books for Lapford and this volume appears to be missing from the collection as they only have records up to 1848. This volume ends with the account for the half year ending Lady Day 1868 and audited 9 June 1868 at about half way through, rest is blank.

To ensure that the information can be easily used locally, the Lapford Village Archive has been allowed to photograph the book so they can work on it before it gets deposited for safekeeping at the Devon Heritage Centre.

So before it is worked on by the Lapford Village Archive here are just a few example entries.

- 1 April 1852 paid for warrant to apprehend William Raymont who has deserted his family. 2/6
- 1 March 1864 Paid George Woolway, Carpenters Bill for repairing Parish Property. £5 11/4
- 1 March 1864 Paid Magistrates Clerks fees for commitments of John Ferris for vagrancy. 8/0

**David Cann**



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March

Friday 11<sup>th</sup>

& 25<sup>th</sup>

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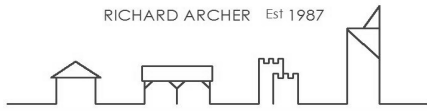
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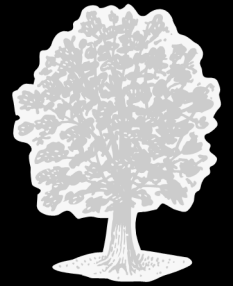
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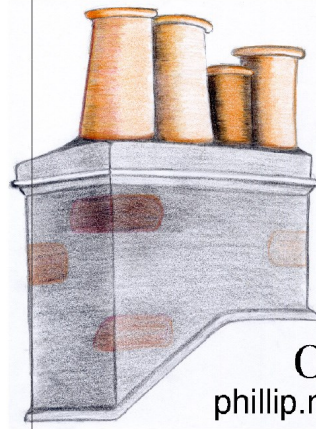
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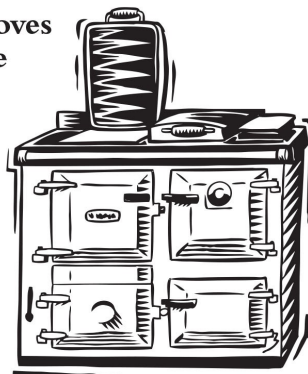
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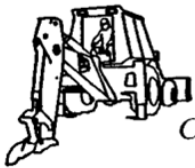
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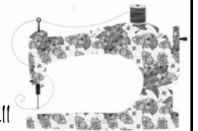
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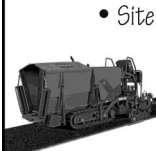
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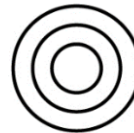
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e: [admin@lapford-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lapford-primary.devon.sch.uk)



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e: [admin@chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk)



@ChulmleighCollege

## CHULMLEIGH RURAL CINEMA



Imagining of what might have happened during the last fateful days of Princess Diana during the Christmas festivities at Sandringham, starring Kristen Stewart. (12A)

Friday 11th March 2022

The Pavilion, Leigh Road, Chulmleigh EX18 7JL

Doors open 6.45pm Film starts 7.30pm

Wine, beer, soft drinks and interval ice-creams for sale

Tickets £5 (Chulmleigh Society members £4.50) on the door

Face masks encouraged unless eating or drinking

Contactless payment preferred



**Stephen Tanner**  
and  
**Andrew Downton**  
present

### **AN ORGAN CONCERT WITH A DIFFERENCE**

Popular melodies  
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of  
Witheridge Church  
in duet with piano and other instruments.

**Sunday 3rd April 3pm**

**Preceded at 2.30pm by Coffee and Cake**

Tickets: **£10** unreserved

Including Refreshments and Programme  
Accompanied Children under 15 free

## PUBLIC NOTICE

# Lapford Youth Club Management Committee Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022**  
**7.30pm The ARK**

Or join by Zoom

Request to

[steve.keable@btinternet.com](mailto:steve.keable@btinternet.com)



**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
**10am-1pm**

- Local produce stalls
- Handmade crafts
- Foodbank drop off point
- Bric-a-brac, Car-boot tables and much, much more
- Tea, coffee & snacks

To book a stall/ table please call Stacey on:

07891556884 or email

[lapfordvillagemarket@gmail.com](mailto:lapfordvillagemarket@gmail.com)

£5 per stall payable on the day.

## SOME UNUSUAL NATIVE TREES AROUND LAPFORD

There are two interesting native trees growing in and around Lapford. One is relatively well known, the other almost of unheard of but it is a true Devon speciality. These are the Wild Service and the Devon Whitebeam trees, botanically *Sorbus torminalis* and *S. devoniensis*.

The first is a widespread European tree which in England is very common in south east England and often known as Chequers and in the west Midlands and areas of limey soil. The fruits are edible and most books on trees give some detail about eating the fruit. Sadly in Devon it is not an abundant fruit producer, even where it flowers well. The fruit it produces is around thumbnail size and brown to orange-brown ripening in October/November. The distribution in Devon is very scattered, with 'hot spots' and, rather than 'not spots', large areas where it has not been found, largely dependent on the soil derived from the underlying rocks but also due to the climate of Devon, it's not quite the Continental south east. So it is unusual here for a good reason.



It is an attractive species. Its leaves are maple like but arranged alternately along the stem, where in maples they are opposite each other. In May it has heads of white flowers followed by bunches of fruit in autumn. Although in Devon a few fruit in the bunch is generally the best to hope for.

There is a plant of this in the parish. The plant is on the side of the A377 between Pope's Wood and Lapfordwood House which I recorded in July 1996. Then close by but just into Chawleigh parish further along the A377, between Nymet Bridge and Chenson are two together in a hedge which I recorded in 1992. The next nearest are one on the roadside from Morchard Bishop to Morchard Road, in a hedge between East Leigh and Zeal Monachorum and one on a bank west of Coldridge heading down to the Taw north of Brushford. All first recorded in the 1990s while I was out exploring.

There are not many locally to look at, so imagine my surprise in finding a huge length of hedge well within the parish in June 2021. Not usually known for suckering, there was a stretch of about 30 paces long and another shorter stretch further down the hill in the same hedge. It is easy to spot, it's in the south hedge on the road from Lapford to Eastington. and as I found around Yeoford in 2020, where three new specimens were discovered. There is still plenty to find, who knows what there is in the hedges not by roadsides and footpaths?

The other plant, Devon Whitebeam, doesn't make it into the parish but is very, very close. On the Chawleigh road between Forches Cross and Leigh Cross, and just into Chawleigh parish, there are three plants in the hedge, on the west side of the road by Nutson entrance. Being roadside plants they are understandably heavily pruned. This is a far more interesting species. Almost every single native plant grows in Devon. You can count the number of plants growing in the rest of England, on just your fingers and toes. In Devon around 1,000 – 1500 plants are known, most north of Okehampton.



Why? Well this species and many others in Britain, Ireland and Continental Europe have odd genetics. They don't reproduce in the normal way of pollen fertilising an egg to make a fertile seed with the genetics of both plants. At some point after the last ice age the Wild Service Tree and one of the Whitebeams produced a one-off hybrid plant. This plant would have been expected to be sterile but the confused genetics of the plant resulted in the genetic material doubling making it fertile. The result of this was that the egg didn't need to be fertilised by pollen to produce the seed and the seed produced a plant genetically identical to the parent, and so on down the generations.

From that one event it slowly spread from where ever it was created in north Devon, across the north of Devon and hopped to Roborough (the one by Plymouth), Little Haldon above the Teign Estuary and southeast Ireland.

This happened twice more in Devon (and many times in Europe) and those species are even rarer and grow on the north Devon coast. There is another species of the same origin in the Avon Gorge at Bristol.

The leaves are hazel-like but start off grey hairy on both sides, the topside shedding the hairs and becoming dark green and the fruit are like the Wild Service Tree though generally more orangy-brown and far more productive. The fruit were even sold in Barnstaple Pannier Market. The round up of market prices in the North Devon Journal has them at a penny a bunch in 1925, 1926 and 1929, though sadly not who sold them.

It can grow to be a medium sized tree, bigger than a large fruiting cherry tree but is most often seen in hedges where it survives moderate cutting very well.

So could there be some Devon Whitebeams and more Wild Service Trees in Lapford to find? Yes, It just needs the right eyes looking in the right places. So many hedges, so little time. If you think you have found one then email me a picture.

**David Cann**

canndavid@hotmail.com

## CHULMLEIGH FLORAL ART CLUB

Our next meeting will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 starting at 7.30pm at The Pavilion, Chulmleigh, when Janet Ward will demonstrate "What can I do with That?"

After graduating from Art School in Birmingham Janet decided to train as a Florist and for many years she owned a florist shop there. She then worked in a garden centre before living in France for five years and then moved to Holsworthy. Janet is now Chairperson for Bude Floral Art Club and works on the Area Committee. We look forward to seeing her arrangements with that intriguing title and if you buy a raffle ticket you may win one to take home!

Our competition is "A Design using an unusual Container! So put your thinking caps on and give it a go! Tea and Coffee will be served during the evening so please come and join us for a friendly, interesting time .

Diary note: Our Annual coffee morning will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March in the Town Hall Chulmleigh so please keep the date free. More information at our meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March.

For any other information please contact:  
Heather Russell on 01769581258  
or Joan Rowland on 01769 581241



## LADIES OF LAPFORD MEETINGS (LOL)

Please come and join us in The ARK at 7.30

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

A talk by The Seeing Dogs Alliance  
who provide assistance dogs



**Thursday 21st April**

Presentation by Next Steps Development  
(A Barnstaple charity that offers support  
to young adults with additional needs,  
to gain independence in a working environment)

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May**

Walking Netball  
Further details to come

## THOUGHTS FROM THE ARK

Helping people brings great fulfilment. When you spend your day serving others, you can lay down your head at night and sleep soundly. Even if you have spent most of your life chasing selfish gain, it's not too late to have a change of heart. Even Charles Dickens Scrooge discovered you can turn your life around and make a difference to others. That's what Alfred Nobel did. He was shocked when he saw his obituary in the newspaper. (His brother had died, and the editor mistakenly named Alfred instead, in an uncomplimentary statement, because the explosives his company produced and profited from had killed many people.) So, Nobel vowed to spend the rest of his life promoting peace and acknowledging contributions to humanity. That's how the Nobel Prizes came into being.



When you get outside of yourself and make a contribution to others, you really begin to live. Unselfishness is its own reward; it's not dependent on the response of others. This is the principle by which the apostle Paul lived: "I will gladly spend myself and all I have for you, even though it seems the more I love you, the less you love me."

When you see a four year old, you expect selfishness, but when you see it in a forty year old, it's not very attractive. Of all the qualities you can pursue, unselfishness seems to make the biggest difference to towards cultivating other virtues. Yes, it goes against the grain of human nature, but if you can learn to think unselfishly and become a giver, it becomes easier to develop other virtues like gratitude, love, respect, patience and discipline.

Taken from UCB Word for Today notes.

That's what The ARK and Foodbank has always been about, giving to those in need. It's true The ARK cafe helps fund the Foodbank, but donations from the community are also appreciated. Sometimes the donations are exactly what we need. There have been so many times when we have been short of an item, needed it for a delivery that day and someone has left what we need in the box. We are all beginning to feel the pinch and The ARK is no exception. When I have done a top up, which happens more often these days, the price of items have gone up noticeably. It stands to reason that we will be paying more for water, electricity etc. Any food donations to the Foodbank are always gratefully received. Thank you so much to those of you who continually support The ARK and Foodbank.

It's not been an easy time so far, but there are signs that Spring is just around the corner. I love to see the catkins and snowdrops as the first to appear in a new year, evenings are getting lighter, so there is plenty to look forward to.

Just a reminder the Cafe is open Tuesdays and Fridays from 10.30am – 2.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you there for coffee and cake or perhaps a toasted teacake.

**The Ladies at The ARK**

# Lapford Parish Church **SPRING FAYRE**

in the Church

**Saturday 19th March**  
**10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.**

**Raffle - Cake Stall - Plants**



**Coffee**  
**SIMNEL CAKE**



## **WARNING!**

There's an email going round offering processed pork, gelatine, and salt in a can.  
If you get this email DO NOT OPEN IT. It's Spam!

**TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**  
**7.30 AT THE ARK**  
**GOAT CHEESE AND**  
**WINE EVENING**



Artisan cheese makers Dave and Marilyn Johnson from Norsworthy Dairy will be at our next meeting to talk about making their cheese. You may have seen their stall at the Crediton Farmers Market. Samples will be available to try and this will be complimented with some locally made wine. Tickets (£5) for this event are still available from The ARK, or by phoning 01363 83911. Non Club members are very welcome. For those who are yet to be convinced about goat cheese, Quicke's cheese will also be available.

Our meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April will be about plans for the September Show.

Lapford CP School is looking for donations to help support the children's exploration and understanding of nature in the school's fantastic outdoor spaces. Any garden related items would be gratefully received.

Specifically, we would like: Tools (large and small)

Gardening gloves

Wheelbarrow

Large pots/planters

Compost



If you can help, please take donations to the school, or contact Kirsty on 07977 825814 or [kirstywensley4@gmail.com](mailto:kirstywensley4@gmail.com) for collection. Thank you



## FRUIT SALAD WITH FRAGRANT POMEGRANATE SEEDS

Enjoy a little winter luxury. Take the seeds from one or two pomegranates and remove any pieces of the yellow membrane.

Sprinkle the seeds with a little rose water and caster sugar. Stir well and leave for an hour or so before adding to fresh fruit salad or yogurt.

Paul Cleave



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

## 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

## NATIONAL BLOOD SERVICE



Donations can be made at Boniface Centre, Crediton, on Tuesday 1st March at 13:10 to 15:15



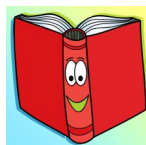
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*Do something amazing - Give Blood!*

Libraries Unlimited

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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

## FREE WI-FI

No we do not have free Wi-Fi, talk to each other!



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
- Chulmleigh Dental Practice - £5
- Chulmleigh Health Centre - £5
- Crediton (Breast Screening) - £6
- Crediton (Covid jab) - £6
- Crediton Community Hospital - £5
- Morchard Bishop Surgery - £3
- Redlands Health Centre - £6
- Winkleigh Surgery - £5

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



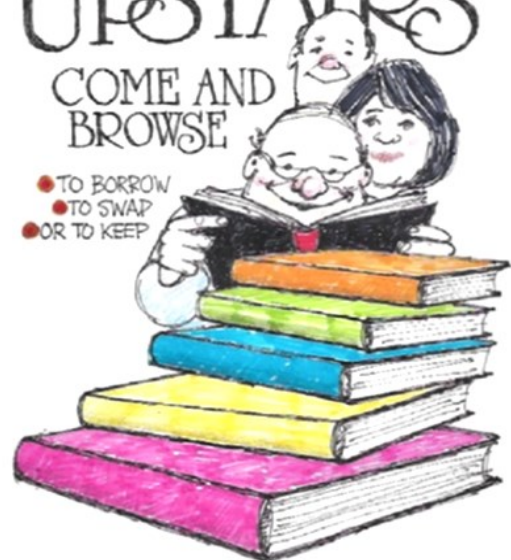
The ARK is open on Tuesdays and Fridays 11.00 to 2.00.

Arrangements can be made for access at other times

# BOOKS UPSTAIRS

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- TO SWAP
- OR TO KEEP



# IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY IN LAPFORD



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

**Parish Council Contact:**  
**Sue Briant-Evans - 01363 83763**

**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

## LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

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

## LAST POSTING TIMES AROUND THE VILLAGE

	<u>Mon-Fri</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Eastington Cross	9.00p.m.	7.00 a.m.
Woodland Cottage	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Industrial Estate	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Highfield	4.00 p.m.	10.15 a.m.
Orchard Way	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Saxtons	4.00 p.m.	10.15 a.m.
Morcharm 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 — [www.lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk)

Cllr Peter Heal (Chair)	Ashlands, Lapford, EX17 6AE	Home - 01363 884277 / Office - 01363 775467 peter.heal@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr Sue Briant-Evans (Vice Chair)	Edgerley Cottage, Lapford, EX17 6AH	01363 83763 / sue.briantevans@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr Roy Andrews	Old Bakery, Park Road, Lapford, EX17 6QJ	07969 823256 / roy.andrews@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr Julie Down	Rafters, Lapford, EX17 6QP	01363 83356 / julie.down@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr Pat Gowie	Honeysuckle Cottage, 1 Park Road, Lapford.	07722 426650 / pat.gowie@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr Stacey Lumsdon	~	07891 556884 / stacey.lumsdon@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr John Parsley	The Lindens, Lapford, EX17 6PU	07889 168680 / john.parsley@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr Alex Shapland	Homelands, Eastington Ln, Lapford. EX17 6QE	07738 690937 / alex.shapland@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr Abigail Whittaker	Bashiba Barn, Wembworthy, EX18 7SH	07565 768386 / abigail.whittaker@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Vacancy	~	~
Locum Parish Clerk - Rob Martin	~	clerk@lapfordparishcouncil.org.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
<b>LAPFORD EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM - CORONAVIRUS LOCAL HELP</b>		<b>07966 144772 / help@lapfordvillage.co.uk</b> <b>Facebook: Help the Vulnerable in our Community (Lapford)</b>
Adventure Gaming	Mr Warren Clayburn	01363 83095 / wmclayburn@gmail.com
Beginners Ballroom Dancing	Mr Steve Munday	07798 684225 / steve@lowerfieldhouse.co.uk
Books on Wheels	Mr Peter Westcott	01363 83525 / pj.westcott@btinternet.com
Friends of Langannerie (twinning)	Mr Peter Henshaw	01837 89070 / petehenshaw@yahoo.co.uk
Friends of Lapford Mill	Mr Alex Gater	07815 795918 / alex@lapfordmill.uk
Friends of Lapford School	Mrs Kirsty Wensley	07977 825814 / kirstywensley4@gmail.com
Heart for Lapford Strategy Group (H4L)	Secretary	heart4lapford@aol.com
HOLD	Mr Bill Graham	01363 83047 / bg4847@aol.com
Ladies of Lapford (LOL)	Mrs Joy Quickenden	01363 83245 / joyquickenden@gmail.com
Lapford Allotment Society	Mr Raymond Waldron	01363 83894 / ednawaldron@btinternet.com
Lapford Amateur Dramatic Society	Mr Ian Wilkie	01363 83437 / i.wilkie45@btinternet.com
Lapford and District Pre-school Playgroup	Mrs Lorraine Kigongo	01363 83162 / lkigongo@catpreschools.co.uk
Lapford ARK	Miss Briony Clinch	01363 83788
Lapford Association Football Club	Mr Niall McAreavey	01363 83733 / lapfordafc@gmail.com
Lapford Book Club	Mrs Jill Doe	01363 83410 / sunnyside@jilldoe45.plus.com
Lapford Choir	Mrs Cat Seymour	01363 884432 / cathryn_seymour@outlook.com
Lapford Church Green	Mrs Sue Briant-Evans	01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com
Lapford Community Church	Miss Briony Clinch	01363 83666 / admin@lapfordcc.org.uk
Lapford Community Primary School	Mrs Clare Wilmott	01363 83292 / admin@lapford-primary.devon.sch.uk
Lapford Congregational Church	Mr Peter Lacey	01363 884230 /
Lapford Dog Club	Mrs Sara Thurgood	lapfordcongregationalchurch@gmail.com
Lapford Emergency Action Plan Committee	Mrs Sue Briant-Evans	01363 83081 / info@lapforddogclub.co.uk
Lapford Emergency Response Team	Mr Alex Gater	01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com
Lapford Foodbank	Miss Briony Clinch	07815 795918 / alex@lapfordmill.uk
Lapford Handbell Ringers	Mr Steve Munday	01363 83788
Lapford High 5 (ages 7-12)	Mrs Cat Seymour	07798 684225 / steve@lowerfieldhouse.co.uk
Lapford Gardening Club	Mrs Trish Mumford	01363 884432 / cathryn_seymour@outlook.com
Lapford Lookout	Mrs Beccy Fletcher	01363 83911 / james@mumfordj.plus.com
Lapford Meat Bingo	Mrs Jayne Grover	01363 884211 / lapfordlookout@gmail.com
Lapford Pilates	Steph Heard	07900 477247
Lapford Over 60 Club	Mr Ron Kercher	07773 010512 / steph.instructor@talktalk.net
Lapford Parish Church	Mrs Joan Graham	01363 83810 / lapfordover60@yahoo.com
Lapford Platinum Jubilee Committee	Mrs Sue Briant-Evans	01363 83047 / jemg47@aol.com
Lapford Poppy Appeal Organiser	Mrs Caroline Noon	01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com
Lapford Project 2000 (LP2K)	Mrs Sue Briant-Evans	01363 83863 / lapford.pao@gmail.com
Lapford Regeneration Committee	~	01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com
Lapford Revel	Mr Alex Gater	~
Lapford Revel Volunteers	~	07815 795818 / alex@lapfordmill.uk
Lapford Victory Hall & Lower Town Place	Mr Darren Crump	revelvolunteers@gmail.com
Lapford Village Archive	Ms Audrey McCormack	07960 715553 / darrencrump99@hotmail.co.uk
Lapford Village Market	Mrs Stacey Lumsdon	01363 83103 / audreysmccormack21@gmail.com
Lapford Voluntary Car Aid	Mrs Grace Hill	07891 556884 / lapfordvillagemarket@gmail.com
Lapford Youth Club Management Committee	Mr Steve Keable	01363 83178 / lvca2011.19@gmail.com
Lapford Youth and Playing Field Trust	Mr Roy Andrews	07967 655045 / stevekeable@btinternet.com
Lapstock	Mr Steve Keable	07969 823256 / r.andrews1950@icloud.com
Lower Town Place Gardening Group	Mr Andy Epstein	07967 655045 / steve.keable@btinternet.com
Nymet Rowland Village Pump	Liz and Roland Smith	amepstein55@gmail.com
Save Our Heritage Lapford	Mrs Donna Egan	01363 884446 / pump@incywincyweb.com
Springers 4's and under	Mrs Caroline Gilpin	01363 83732 / donnaegan84@gmail.com
The Friends of St Thomas of Canterbury	Mrs Prue Lambert	01363 83674 / caroline@gilpin.eclipse.co.uk
		01363 83150 / pruelambert@yahoo.co.uk

## THE VILLAGE CLOCK

The chimes of the clock in the Church tower have been silent for more than a year now! To restore them, and to safeguard the future of the clock itself requires much thought and hard decision making.

In 1909 Lapford celebrated the 80th birthday of its long-serving and much-loved Rector – the Revd CW Wilson. To provide a lasting tribute a subscription was raised amongst the villagers and others to purchase and install a public clock in the Church tower, the same clock which is running today – the heartbeat of the village.

The original clock mechanism is fine, there are no issues with it despite its age. However, there are problems with the bearings where the shaft to the hands passes through the tower wall to the face which we all see; and with the winding mechanism which governs the chimes.

In the year 2000 a motorised system was installed to wind up the weights which allow the chimes to work. Previously this had been done by a person, latterly George Tucker, climbing the tower each week to wind the weights up manually.

Now, after more than twenty years' service the circuit board controlling the winding motor has failed. Interestingly Lapford's is not the only clock to be suffering in this way. There is also evidence that the motors themselves may be working on borrowed time. The whole clock workings are very dirty as they are unprotected.

A quote of £2,000 has been received to replace the switches and circuit boards only; a quote of £8,000 to replace the whole driving system and build a protective cover around it, and to replace the shaft bearings. This is the solution recommended by Cumbria Clocks.

The Parish Council which maintains the clock is looking for comments from the public to inform its decision making about the future. There are three choices:

- Do nothing, so that when the clock next stops that will be it.
- Spend £2,000 for a quick but temporary fix.
- Spend £8,000 to make a proper job of repairing and safeguarding the clock for the future.

For more information please visit the clock exhibition in The ARK which runs until the end of March. Comments can be left in the dedicated envelope in The ARK or emailed to Peter Heal, Parish Council Chair, at [peter.heal@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:peter.heal@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk).

# Marking Time

Timekeeping  
& the Lapford village clock

A small poster display, now showing  
during normal opening times

@THE ARK