



LAPFORD LOOKOUT

YOUR LOCAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Year 29 Issue 6

June 2025

VE DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Celebrations to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE day commenced early on the 9th May, with the Proclamation being read on the Church Green by Sue Briant-Evans, Vice-Chair of Lapford Parish Council. This was read amongst the excellent poster display of Lapford Wartime history, curated by David Garton.

In the evening a concert was held in the Church, which was preceded by a welcoming peal of bells. Entertainment was provided by the excellent 'Mid Devon Afternoon Choir' who sang a variety of war time songs and some of their own adaptations. The audience was encouraged to sing a long!

Also performing, were the Lapford Handbell Ringers, who played a lovely selection of tunes, to which many of the choir hummed along.

Tea and cakes were served and proved to be very popular. The retiring collection, together with donations for refreshments, raised £152.45 for The Royal British Legion, a very worthwhile cause.

The event closed with a Tribute read by Ian Wilkie, and the traditional lighting of the beacon on the Church Green.

This event was organised by Lapford Celebrations Committee; thank you to everyone involved.



From Julie Down



From Lisa Cotterell



From David Garton

REVEL 25

Celebrating Lapford's Industrial Heritage

Lapford Revel takes place 10-13 July. Full details in next month's Lookout!

LAPFORD REVEL DRAW 2025



Tickets
£1 each
£5 for a book

1st Prize £120

Other prizes to include:

Family ticket to Planet Play,
Tea & Garden Visit Fursdon House,
Entry to Tiverton Castle,
Six books from The Bookery,
a Family Ticket on Devon Railway,
gifts from Morrisons, Tesco's
and Waie to Play.

LAPFORD REVEL 2025

1251

Grand Prize Draw

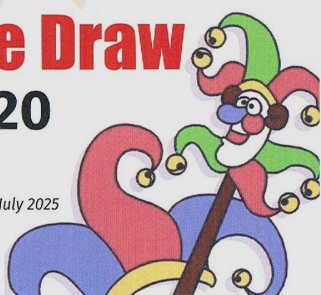
1st Prize £120

and many other prizes

Ticket Price £1

The draw will take place on Saturday 12th July 2025 at 5.00pm on Lower Town Place.

Promoter: Mr Bill Graham, Pear Tree Cottage, Lapford EX17 6PZ
Registered under the Gambling Act 2005
with Mid Devon District Council, No. MDV SL0364



Draw to be made on
Saturday 12th July 2025 at 5-00 p.m.
on Lower Town Place, Lapford.

LAPFORD REVEL 2025

Welcome to my monthly Revel segment.

I hope everyone is getting as excited about Revel as I am. Still time to come up with a name for the jester and plan both a costume for yourself and a display for your home. Remember the best ones will receive some great prizes!

My focus this month is volunteers. As everything falls into place, the key ingredient of a great revel is volunteers. Those of us who organise the Revel give as much as we can but we are still only a small number of people. The kind help of our volunteers makes it a good time for everyone. It's a straightforward idea that the more people who want to help, the less people need to do to help. This year we are bringing back the volunteers bonus of a free drink if you help for two or more hours. Volunteering is great fun and we are a fun and friendly team. If you are interested, please either speak to Lorraine Kigongo or drop me a line on at the number at the back of this Lookout. Until next time..



Revel Chair

**ADVANCE BOOKINGS ARE INVITED
FOR STALLS/PITCHES AT THIS YEAR'S REVEL.**

LAPFORD REVEL FAYRE

Saturday July 12th 2025 on Lower Town Place,

Lapford EX17 6PZ

from 2-00 p.m. to 5-30 p.m.

(Site open for access from 1-00 p.m.

Parking in adjacent car park)

For those of you interested booking a stall or pitch at the Revel please complete the booking form on page 10 of this publication or contact the Revel Secretary on 01363 83763 or susanbriantevans@gmail.com.

These will be allocated on a first come first served basis so early booking is recommended!



DATES TO LOOKOUT FOR

June 2025

- 10th Lapford Gardening Club, Garden visit
- 10th Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 14th Copy deadline for July Lapford Lookout, 6pm
- 19th Ladies of Lapford, Fun Quiz, The ARK, 7.30pm
- 21st FOST Coffee Morning, 10.30a.m. - 12 noon
- 22nd Lapford Dog Club 30th anniversary at Lapford Mill
- 28th LYPFT Vintage Rally, Playing Field, 12 noon
- 28th Lapford Village Market, Victory Hall, 10.00-1.00pm TBC

July 2025

- 8th Lapford Gardening Club, visit
- 8th Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 11th, 12th, 13th - Lapford Revel
- 14th Copy deadline for August Lapford Lookout, 6pm
- 17th Ladies of Lapford, outdoor event TBC, The ARK, 7.30pm
- 26th Lapford Village Market, Victory Hall, 10.00-12.00 TBC

August 2025

- 12th Lapford Gardening Club, Garden visit
- 13th Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 14th Copy deadline for September Lapford Lookout, 6pm
- 23rd LYPFT Lapford Village Market, Victory Hall, 10.00-12.00

September 2025

- 6th Lapford Gardening Club Village Show
- 6th LYPFT Car Boot Sale, Playing Field, 10.00 am
- 9th Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 13th The ARK, 10 years celebration
- 14th Copy deadline for October Lapford Lookout, 6pm
- 18th Ladies of Lapford, Skittles at the Waie Inn
- 20th Lapford Tidy Up Day
- 27th Lapford Village Market, Victory Hall, 10.00-12.00 TBC

Future Dates

- 14th Oct Lapford Gardening Club, The ARK, 7.30pm
- 14th Oct Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 25th Oct LVCA Lapford Village Market, Victory Hall, 10.00-12.00
- 11th Nov Lapford Gardening Club, The ARK, 7.30pm
- 11th Nov Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 22nd Nov LYPFT Lapford Village Market, Victory Hall, 10.00-12.00
- 24th Nov Lapford Project 2000 AGM, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 9th Dec Lapford Gardening Club, The ARK, 7.30pm
- 9th Dec Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 13th Jan Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 10th Feb Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 10th Mar Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 14th Apr Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm
- 12th May Lapford Parish Council, Orchard Centre, 7.30pm

**Please send your Dates to Lookout For to
lapfordlookout@gmail.com**

The Oak Tree



A mighty wind blew night and day.
It stole the oak tree's leaves away,
Then snapped its boughs and pulled its bark
Until the oak was tired and stark.
But still the oak tree held its ground
While other trees fell all around.
The weary wind gave up and spoke,
"How can you still be standing, Oak?"
The oak tree said, "I know that you
Can break each branch of mine in two,
Carry every leaf away,
Shake my limbs, and make me sway.
But I have roots stretched in the earth,
Growing stronger since my birth.
You'll never touch them, for you see,
They are the deepest part of me.
Until today, I wasn't sure
Of just how much I could endure.
But now I've found, with thanks to you,
I'm stronger than I ever knew."

— Johnny Ray Ryder, Jr.



Lapford Weather Review

Lapford Weather April 2025

Milder and wetter than average.

The warmest day was the 30th with a maximum temperature of 23.1°C and the coolest was the 15th with 10.5°C. The coolest night was on the 11th with a minimum air temperature of 1.5°C. The lowest temperature on the grass was -2.8°C on the 9th.

Apart from a week in the middle of the month this was a mainly rainless month. The middle week however produced a lot of rain, culminating with 51.1 mm on the 15th, the third wettest day I have ever recorded, and easily the wettest April day. Total rain for the month was 95.2 mm.

The windiest day was the 1st with a gust of 42 mph.

Andy Epstein





Come and join us for coffee, cake and a chat—and a sneak preview of our nearly completed extension to the church. All are welcome.

The FOST Communion and AGM will be on Sunday 22nd June at 9.30 a.m. Our president, Rev Preb Anthony Geering, will officiate.



DROP INTO THE ARK

Why not drop into The ARK to find out about life during the Second World War?

And while you are there enjoy a cup of tea and a bite to eat. Open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10-00 a.m. until 2-00 p.m.

Don't forget to browse through the huge library of books upstairs. They are free to borrow.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN LAPFORD WELCOME YOU

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

We look forward to fellowship with you.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

All are welcome—Refreshments served after services

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

Services:

Sunday June 1st - Easter 7	9.30 a.m. Lay Led Morning Prayer
Sunday June 8th - Pentecost	9.30 a.m. Lay Led Morning Prayer
Wednesday June 11th	10.30 a.m. BCP Holy Communion
Sunday June 15th - Trinity Sunday	9.30 a.m. Lay Led Morning Prayer
Sunday June 22nd - Trinity 1	9.30 a.m. The Friends of St Thomas Common Worship Eucharist & AGM
Sunday June 29th - Trinity 2	10.00 a.m. Mission Community Eucharist, with Baptism

LAPFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Contacts:

Cat Seymour **884432** Helen Wyatt **07964 855677** Carol Worsdell **07368 860835**

email: lapfordcongregationalchurch@gmail.com

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

Services:

Services every Sunday at 11.00 a.m.

Communion will be held on the second and fourth Sundays

Preachers for this month:

1st June - No service at Lapford (joining Crediton Congregational Church)

8th June - All age service led by Cat Seymour

15th June - Merril Archer (Pathfinders Sunday Club)

22nd June - No Church Service

30th June - CF General Secretary Yvonne Campbell

Advanced notice - Quiz night at Lapford Congregational Church, 18th July, quiz master Cat Seymour.

LAPFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

Contacts:

Briony Clinch - Tel: **83666**

www. lapfordcc.org.uk

Services:

The Church meets every Sunday morning at 10.30 a.m. in the Victory Hall with refreshments served from 10.00 a.m.

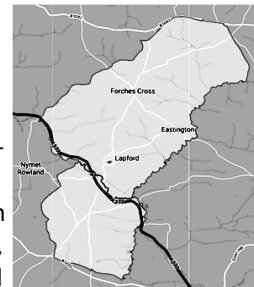
Connect Groups meet during the week at either 7.00 p.m. or 7.30 p.m.

Please visit our website for information about the Foodbank and The ARK. Our website will also give you more information about other Church activities.



NOTES ON THE LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

13TH MAY 2025



- Seven councillors, the Clerk, the District/County Councillor and four members of the public attended.
- Cllr Julie Down was elected as Chair for the next twelve months, Councillor Sue Brant-Evans as Vice-Chair.
- The District/County Councillor's report covered the DCC issues of pothole repairs and less than satisfactory Children's Services report; plus the MDDC achievement in the best ever recycling levels, the 2025 Green Enterprise Grant scheme, the judgement from the Regulator of Housing, Active Mid Devon's fee structure, ongoing debate re submission to the Government concerning Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation which will be the subject of the State of the District debate to be held on 25th June.
- New equipment was being installed in the small Playing Field and would be commissioned for use in the near future; additional youth equipment to be installed in the large field as soon as practicable.
- Devon Highways to be contacted again concerning ongoing local road problems.
- Work to rectify footpath problems had been commissioned.
- The Parish Council Bank Signatories, Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Statement of Internal Control, Receipt of Minutes and Agendas Online, Business Risk Assessment, Asset Register & Insurance and Internal Audit Report were all accepted by the meeting.
- The 2024/25 Annual Governance and Accountability Return was accepted, as was the Recurring Payments statement for the year ending 31st March 2026 and the schedule of Council Meeting Dates for the next twelve months.
- Proposals re the refurbishing of the Public Toilet and the Orchard Centre to be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.
- MDDC Planning Enforcement to be contacted re building construction and an untidy site at Eastmere Farm and the state of Prospect Cottage.
- A bundle of historic Parish Council documents to be placed in the Village Archive for safe keeping.
- A village Tidy-up Day booked in for 20th September.

LADIES OF LAPFORD MEETINGS (LOL)



Please come and join us in The ARK at 7.30 p.m.

We always welcome new members.

Thursday June 19th

A bit of brain teasing

We always welcome new members.

Come and join us!

Thursday 17th July

To be advised – An activity outside of Lapford

THANK YOU

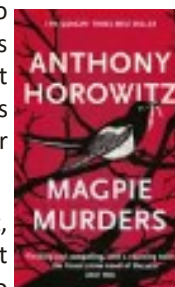


Thank you to the kind gentleman who has been weeding the pavements, etc. in Orchard Way. It has made a real difference and is much appreciated, thank you.

LAPFORD BOOK CLUB

MAGPIE MURDERS BY ANTHONY HOROWITZ

Alan Conway is a bestselling crime writer. His editor, Susan Ryeland, has worked with him for years, and she's very familiar with his detective, Atticus Pünd, who solves mysteries in sleepy English villages. It's proved hugely successful. So successful that Susan must continue to put up with his troubling behavior if she wants to keep her job.



When Susan receives Alan's latest manuscript, in which Atticus Pünd investigates a murder at Pye Hall, an English manor house, she has no reason to think it will be any different from the others. There will be dead bodies, a cast of intriguing suspects, and plenty of red herrings and clues. But the more Susan reads, the more she realizes that there's another story hidden in the pages of the manuscript - one of ambition, jealousy, and greed - and that soon it will lead to murder.

Structured as a story within a story, the first half of *Magpie Murders* is the manuscript of a period murder. The second half of the book involves editor Susan Ryeland trying to discover whether there are clues in the manuscript that might help solve a real life crime that threatens the future of the publishing business where she works.

The book is lot of fun which we all enjoyed reading.

Jane Epstein

ART IN THE ARK

The ARK Exhibition Team are looking for donated artworks created by locals to make a beautiful exhibition in The ARK



If you have an excess of drawings, paintings, 2D craftworks that you would like to donate please contact Rebecca on 07941 648087 or rebeccaholleyartworks@gmail.com

All monies raised for The ARK

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT FOR LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL 13TH MAY 2025

Cllr Steven Keable, County (Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe), District (Taw Vale)

Following the May 1st Devon County Council election this is the first of my joint Councillors report that will cover both the County Council and Mid Devon District Council. While I look forward to working with 29 different parish communities in my Creedy County Division, it does mean that with so many parish council meetings happening most months, it will be physically impossible for me to attend all meetings. I shall endeavour to keep your parish council informed through regular written reports.

It is an honour to be elected and it is my intention to serve everyone in our community and I shall keep to my election priorities of 'people, planet and prosperity'.

1. Devon County Council - there will be a new Liberal Democrat led administration formed at the first Council meeting on 22nd May, where Cllr Julian Brazil (Kingsbridge) will become Leader of the Council and Cllr Paul Arnott (Seaton & Colyton) as Deputy Leader. There will be a Cabinet of 9 Councillors formed around the same themes as the previous Council. County Committee positions will be determined on 22nd as the political groups become organised. More information: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/democracy/councillors-info/> The political composition of the Council is as follows:

- Liberal Democrat: 27
- Reform UK: 18
- Conservative: 7
- Green: 6
- Independent: 2

2. Potholes - the most talked about issue and this will receive a great deal of attention.

Q: Why does it cost 3x as much to fill a pothole in Devon than it does in Somerset?

3. Children's services - after months of delay OFSTED publish their long awaited judgment on Children's Services in Devon <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50276862>. The 5-point grading of 4 x inadequate and 1 x requiring improvement is not good! "Children's experiences in Devon remain poor. For too many children, serious weaknesses remain, leaving children at risk of harm".

4. Mid Devon District Council - Full Council met for the new Municipal Year on 7th May. Details of Councillors, Democracy and Meetings are available <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/your-council/councillors-democracy/>

5. Mid Devon District Council has achieved its highest-ever ranking for waste and recycling performance, thanks to the continued efforts of residents to reduce waste and recycle more.

For the year 2023/24, the district council recorded a recycling rate of 57.9%, placing it 11 out of 197 local authorities. Mid Devon also achieved a non-recyclable waste figure of 307.8kg per household, ranking ninth and placing the district within the top 5% of local authorities nationwide. <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/mid-devon-achieves-best-ever-waste-and-recycling-results/>

6. Mid Devon District Council's 2025 Green Enterprise Grant is now available to small and medium businesses in the district.

The Green Enterprise Grant scheme offers capital grants from £500 to £5,000, covering up to 50% of eligible project costs. Funded by Mid Devon District Council, it is open to small and medium sized local businesses who want to reduce their carbon footprint by investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy, or by efficient use of resources or materials. <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/grants-now-available-to-help-mid-devon-businesses-go-green/>

7. Mid Devon District Council has received a judgement from the Regulator for Social Housing, following its housing rent calculation error. The Council made a self-referral to the regulator in September 2024, following the discovery of a historic error in the way it applied formula rent to the majority of our tenants. <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/housing-rent-error-regulator-judgement/>

8. Active Mid Devon - Mid Devon's new look leisure service, introduces fee reductions to unpaid carers who use it's facilities and classes with a 25% discount on Membership or a 20% discount on casual sessions, for adult carers while those carers who are under 18 years will have free access to Mid Devon's leisure centres.

9. Devolution & Local Government Reorganisation – 28th November is the deadline for submissions to Government. The District Council are pooling resources to work through joint consultants on 1:4:5. DCC has put forward 5 options: these will be considered by the new Council.

10. State of the District Debate – this annual event has been deferred due to the County Council Elections and is being scheduled for 25th June – where Local Government Reorganisation in Devon will be the theme.

Councillor Steven Keable

Devon County Council - Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe
steve.keable@devon.gov.uk

Mid Devon District Council - Taw Vale Ward
skeable@middevon.gov.uk



Thank You - Lapford Voting for me as your County Councillor on 1st May

**Green Party - thank
you for lending me
your support.**

With the name of the three rivers, Creedy, Taw Mid Exe, this County Council seat is one of 60 in Devon. It is a huge honour to represent people from Wembworthy to Silverton. A total of 29 parish councils. I shall continue my surgeries in local villages with a new timetable & new venues.

Contacts for:

Devon County matters - steve.keable@devon.gov.uk

Mid Devon District matters - skeable@devon.gov.uk

07967 655045 or Freepost RRHT-YACT-RLKY Crediton

Steve Keable

SANDFORD SUMMER SHOW

10 August 2025 - Parish Hall at 2pm

Sandford Summer Show 2025 planning is hotting up - must be all that sunny weather!

We need lots of produce entries from both novice growers and seasoned professionals. Whether its fruit, flowers, tomatoes, beetroot, onions, herbs, the longest runner bean or the freakiest vegetable, there is something for everyone. Get your copy of the entry form to see the many categories you can choose to enter.



Crafters, artists, photographers and cooks can join the competition with their best efforts. Age is no bar – there are categories for everyone!

We could do with some help too - setting up on Saturday 9 August, clearing up on Sunday afternoon 10 August, helping in the kitchen during the show, baking some small cakes (the prettier looking the better) or maybe a tray bake for the café.

Please message on the email below if you could offer help. Competition entry forms available at Sandford Community Stores or via email sandfordsummershow@gmail.com

Growers – may the weather be with you!

On behalf of the Sandford Summer Show Committee



CHAWLEIGH COMMUNITY MARKET

JUBILEE HALL, CHAWLEIGH

SATURDAY 21st June

10.00 TO 12.00

Stalls Raffle Refreshments

Vegetables and Preserves,
Meat, Sausages and Baked Goods,
Artisan Bread, Cakes,
Bric a Brac, Books,
Cards and Hand Made Gifts,
Glass and Jewellery

Refreshments by Amber
Bacon baps, cakes, tea and coffee



CHULMLEIGH RURAL CINEMA



RENÉE ZELLWEGER
**BRIDGET JONES
MAD ABOUT
THE BOY**

Bittersweet romp about new beginnings, with another sparkling turn by Renée Zellweger, which gracefully closes the book on Bridget Jones' diary. Arguably the best in the franchise. (15)

Friday 13th June 2025

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 £5.50 (Chulmleigh Society members £4.50) on the door

Coming shortly

Friday 11th July A Complete Unknown (15)



CHULMLEIGH & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Chulmleigh & District Society is pleased to announce an additional event this June. Two short plays direct from Trinity College Dublin prior to their debut at Barnstaple's Fringe Theatrefest: Fia Bhán Theatre Company presents "Tatty Bogle" (a series of folk tales, probably true) and Fungus and Moss "Too Big to Try" (big business comedy), Tuesday 24th June Chulmleigh Town Hall 7.00pm. Cash bar before and during the interval.

"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining,
the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing,
and the lawnmower is broken."

– James Dent

"Let a man walk ten miles steadily on a hot summer's day
along a dusty English road, and he will soon discover
why beer was invented."

– Gilbert K. Chesterton

LADIES AND KINUSAIGA

Our April meeting turned out to be a full house. I think word must have spread that the talented Beccy Fletcher was going to be giving a demonstration! Many of you will know that Beccy is multi skilled. She can fix your plumbing, take in your skirt and probably whip up a quick craft project while she waits for you to try on the altered skirt! Knowing her skills, we asked her if she would come up with a craft activity for our April meeting. We knew we could rely on her to do a good job and she certainly did.



We were introduced to Kinusaiga. This traditional Japanese craft involves creating art using material but without needle or thread. Originally, the art would have been created using scraps of material and wooden boards into which grooves had been cut. The material was held in place by pushing it down into the grooves. Often the scraps would come from garments which had been 'retired' but which reminded the owners of a special era or occasion so that as well as creating a picture, the artwork could contain a host of happy memories.

Beccy came with two examples of what could be achieved. The first thing she showed us was a stunning mosaic in lovely vibrant colours and at this point I wanted to sneak quietly out of the door as I knew I would not be able to produce anything remotely similar. Fortunately, she explained quickly that we were not expected to be able to do something on that scale and showed us a much simpler but very effective scene of a sun rising over the horizon with folds of hills in the foreground. She explained how we were to pin our desired picture (sketched on paper) onto the insulation board and then using a sharp modelling knife, we were to go over all our drawn lines cutting grooves into the board. Once this was done, we were to cut pieces of fabric to the approximate size of an area we wanted to cover, put it into place and secure it there by tucking the edges down tightly into the grooves.

What really impressed us all was the work Beccy had put into making the task very straightforward. She handed out a pack to everyone. We opened our packs to find instructions, a sample picture and spare paper in case we wanted to draw our own picture, pen and pencil, a little set of pins, the modelling knife, the insulation board, neatly cut to size, scissors, glue and an assortment of tools that could be used to press the material into the grooves. Instantly, each of us was equipped with everything we could possibly need so that we could get to work quickly. Get to work quickly we did with the usual varying degrees of success. Our natural crafters were soon racing ahead while some of us followed more slowly but Beccy's careful preparation had made sure it was achievable for everyone. Her attention to detail made everything very straightforward.

It was a task which required some concentration but not so much that we couldn't chatter so the room buzzed with conversation while the pictures slowly appeared. Everyone's hands were busy and the time flew by. People seemed reluctant to stop what they were doing so tea and cake were served while the work continued. Eventually the evening came to an end with some pictures finished and others being carried away carefully to be completed at home.

It was a very enjoyable evening thanks to the really thoughtful effort Beccy put in. The only drawback from her point of view is that because the evening was so successful, we are very likely to ask her to do something for us again!

Sue Raffill



LITTLE VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER GRAND PRIZE DRAW

Get ready for the Little Valley Grand Prize Draw – an exciting chance to win amazing prizes while supporting the animals that need us most. This year, we're aiming to raise £4,000 to help fund our vital work at the shelter, and we need YOU to get involved.



Enter our Summer Grand Prize Draw for a chance to win £250 Cash, plus many other great prizes! The best part is, you will be raising money for RSPCA Little Valley Animal Shelter, helping to fund our vital work rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming dogs, cats, rabbits and other small animals across the county.

Tickets are just £1 each or £5 for a book of five! You can also grab yours at any of our 7 retail shops across Exeter, Budleigh, Brixham, Bideford, Newton Abbot, and Tiverton. Or come visit us at the shelter in Black Hat Lane, Exeter. You can even find us at county shows and events throughout the spring and summer.

SWIFT CONSERVATION TALK BY EDWARD MAYER OF SWIFT CONSERVATION HOSTED BY SUSTAINABLE CREDITON

This talk was held in the CREDITON Congregational Church at the start of May and Edward spoke entertainingly about these amazing birds. Swifts have been around for millions of years with an image a 49 million year old swift fossil displayed. Nowadays we may be privileged enough to hear these all-black birds screeching speedily over the village. I noticed them arriving at the very start of May. They land only to nest while they feed, drink, mate and sleep on the wing. Living for around 9 years, they are loyal to their mates and nest location.

Unfortunately, like many species they are now on the red list meaning their numbers have dropped by more than 60% in the last 40 years.

Due to changing weather, reduced woodland cover and the use of pesticides in farming. Modern building practices have reduced nesting space for swifts further. Worryingly, an example was given of a single UK oil seed rape crop that required 22 applications of pesticide and fungicide.

Urban areas can now often provide more biodiversity including habitat for swifts. Urban parks, trees and buildings provide shelter, food and nest sites.

We can improve things for swifts! The talk encouraged us to be alert to any new planning applications and request these include bat and swift boxes. We can increase the availability of insect food by creating meadows, small wild patches and other native planted areas.

If you are carrying out any repairs to your eaves or roof, talk to your roofer about keeping nests and providing more with swift bricks, access or boxes. Edward explained that the direction doesn't matter, as long as they aren't facing into the prevailing weather. You can make or buy boxes. Some people also play swift calls to attract the birds to new nest sites and there was discussion about the suitability of adding nesting boxes to local church bell towers adding nest boxes. The swifts don't mind the bells.

Here in Lapford we also enjoy the sight of House Martins in the village but you can differentiate these birds as they can land on wires and have white chests. We can also make space for them by not disturbing their mud nests and providing similar habitats for insects.

One final point was to make sure that water was accessible and if there were ponds that these were bromide free.

Once you are attuned to their screeching calls it is a pleasure to watch them speed across our skies.

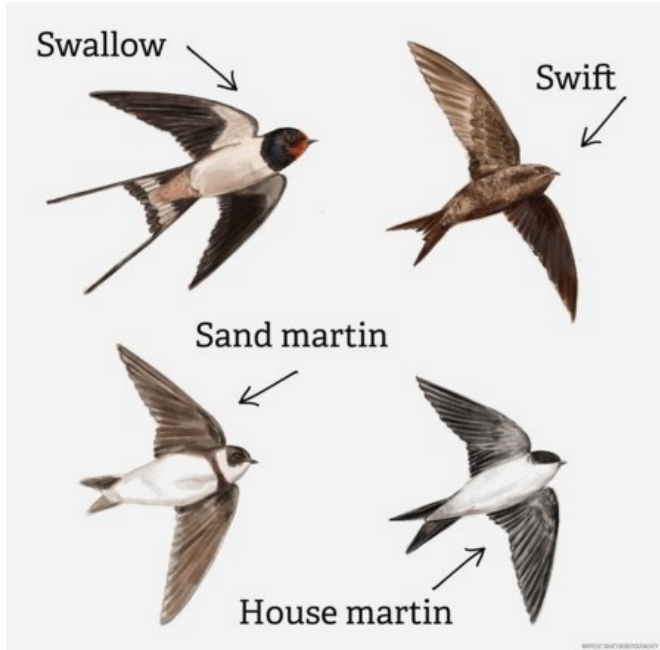
For more information:

Swift Conservation Trust <https://www.swift-conservation.org/>

Listen to swift screams at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/swift>

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/wildlife/how-identify/how-identify-swifts-swallows-sand-martins-and-house-martins>

<https://sustainablecrediton.org.uk/SustainableCrediton>



**Advance Bookings are invited for stalls/pitches at this year's Revel.
Allocated on a first come first served basis so early booking recommended!**



LAPFORD REVEL FAYRE

Saturday July 12th 2025 on Lower Town Place, Lapford EX17 6PZ

from 2-00 p.m. to 5-30 p.m.

(Site open for access from 1-00 p.m. Parking in adjacent car park)

BOOKING FORM

Name.....

Contact details (phone and email)

Type of stall/goods for sale

(Please note that all catering provision is already in place)

Please tick one option below:

- a. A table under shared tented cover – fee £5 ☐
b. A pitch for your own gazebo – fee £7.50 ☐
c. Village Club or organisation – fee £2.50 ☐

(Payments in advance via cash or cheque please. Cheques payable to Lapford Revel Committee)

Please indicate whether your stall is a Private Stall ☐ **or a Trade Stall** ☐

(Trade stall holders will be asked to show evidence of public liability insurance).

Completed forms to be returned to the Post Box at Pear Tree House, Lapford, (opposite the Victory Hall), The ARK, or emailed to susanbriantevans@gmail.com Phone for further information 01363 83763.

Note: That in the event of bad weather the event will move to the Victory Hall, adjacent to Lower Town Place and some stalls may be accommodated there at the discretion of the Revel Committee.

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL CITIZENS ADVICE

We have just finished compiling our Annual Reports for 2024-25. In them we relate our impact on local communities. They will be available before the end of May on our website and make for interesting reading. Inquiries about welfare benefits, energy, debt and housing remain key areas where people need our help. We have covered advice on all of these issues over time and shall doubtless be doing so again. However, this month I'd like to talk about another aspect of our work and ask for your help!



In-house we refer to our Research and Campaigns which roughly translates into trying to make society fairer. This is a lesser known aspect of our work but every bit as important as the advice and help we give because it enables us to put pressure on the decision makers where we see something is unfair. Our charity is highly respected and people listen to us. We also maintain relationships with our local MPs and councillors. Whilst maintaining the highest standards of confidentiality, we compile compelling data to support our causes.

We support this at both local and national levels and are very active locally, getting out and about in the community and undertaking surveys which are a vital part of this work. We recently published a report on the impact of the cost of living crisis based on our local research.. Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid & West Devon 2024 Living Standards Report - Rural Devon Citizen's Advice We were also delighted when Karen Plum, our Research and Campaigns volunteer received an "Unsung Hero" award at the recent Research and Campaigns national conference. She and our Team Leader Laurence Atkinson, who heads our Research and Campaigns work, put a great deal of time and energy into this crucial aspect of our work. Which leads me to my request for help!

As part of a Devon-wide campaign we seek information from people experiencing problems with repairs in private or social rented properties. There is a simple form here <https://forms.office.com/e/OgRCPqVggG> and if you could complete it for us it would be really helpful. We can't undertake to try and resolve any issues you may have but it will help us to escalate what is a very real and widespread problem. We would also like to hear from you if you do seasonal work in the area and are on means tested benefits as we are also picking this up as an issue that needs serious review for people finding it hard to make ends meet. If you can help us with this, please use the following link. campaigns@citizensadvicecnmwd.org.uk.

As ever, we are looking to grow our volunteer numbers in our drive to help more people. We are running a volunteer taster session in Barnstaple on Thursday June 5th. from 10.00am – 12.00pm. I am reliably informed that cake will feature on the agenda. If you would like to attend please register here [Volunteering Taster Day - Registration of Interest](#). We would love to see you there!

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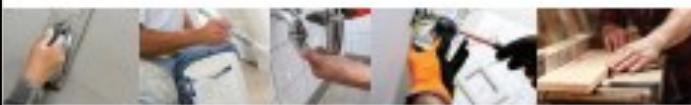
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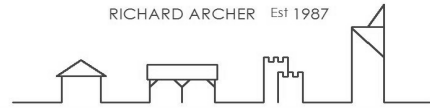
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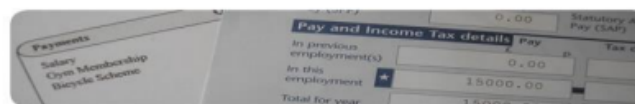
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- Motorbike Servicing & Repairs

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upon request.

Contact Cameron on: 07950 318121

Email: williamsfabvehiclerepairs@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/williamsfabvehiclerepairs

LAPFORD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Lapford Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Victory Hall, Lapford, Crediton, EX17 6PZ on Tuesday 10 May 2022 at 10.00 am.

Attendees: Cllrs. Julie Down (LPC Chairman), Sue Briant-Evans, Bill Graham, Steven Fletcher, Roy Andrews, Steve Keable (District and County Cllr), Luke Groves-Davies (Devon Communities Together), Rob Martin (Parish Clerk) and twelve members of the public.

1. Lapford Neighbourhood Plan – DCT Presentation

2. Acceptance of notes of meeting held on 14 May 2024

The minutes of the meeting on 30 May 2023 were agreed as a correct record and were duly signed as such.

3. Chairman's Annual Report 2023/24

This year has been challenging in many ways, both on a national level with a change of Government, ongoing discussions with regards to the future of both County and District Council structures, and changes/resignations within the Parish Council.

Looking to the future, there is some uncertainty, but one thing that is virtually guaranteed is that more work will be undertaken by us, your Parish Council. We do have three vacancies at the moment, so if you are interested in getting involved, please speak to us, or contact our Clerk. The Parish Council plays a pivotal role within the village of Lapford, much of its work goes unnoticed, that is until it doesn't get done! Below is just a 'taster' of the work undertaken:

Approximately twelve planning applications have been received for the village, and reviewed, some straightforward, some requiring more thought and consideration.

Our year started in June 2024, with D-Day celebrations, a Proclamation on the Church Green early in the morning, a flypast, an evening event and beacon lighting, all arranged by the Celebrations Committee.

In July, following much lobbying by the Parish Council, Lapford's biggest and most talked about issue was finally resolved - Mill Hill was resurfaced, much to the delight of everyone in the area. An excellent job was done by the contractors, who kept the road open as much as possible.

Numerous tidy up days have taken place, including litter picks, weeding, and general maintenance of village assets, and there are quite a few! Thank you to everyone who helps whether it's at the organised events or not, it's much appreciated.

The first of the Neighbourhood Plan consultations took place in October, with over 100 villagers taking part. This formed the basis for the survey and report, already covered today by DCT.

The Council is in a good financial position, which has enabled some significant improvements to be made in the village.

A new bus shelter was erected at the top of Highfield, which is very well used by all both the school pupils and service bus users.

A contribution was made toward the new sound equipment in the hall.

New equipment is being installed on the toddler area at the moment, which is being funded partly by the Parish Council and partly from S106 monies. The area will be managed by us moving forward.

The last event for this Parish Council year was on Thursday evening, to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day. There was a proclamation, a flypast, a concert in the church and lighting of the Beacon. The observant amongst you will notice that our year started and ended in a very similar way.

Councillors are all volunteers, who have the village and it's residents at the heart of every decision taken, sometimes it's difficult, but on the whole rewarding.

Thank you to every one of you, councillors, volunteers, and those who do things 'on the quiet' so to speak, you are all appreciated.

4. Reports from Outside Bodies

Lapford Youth and Playing Field Trust (LYPFT)

The Lapford Playing Field Committee is continuing to improve and maintain the facilities at the playing field – hopefully our S106 grant application will be successful and enable us to add some new equipment to what is already there, to be used by the older youths and adults.



Last year's fundraising events were hampered a lot with poor weather, however, we still managed to raise £621 by holding indoor car boot sales and running a couple of village markets.

We have "spruced up" the goal posts for the budding footballers, we will be adding more picnic benches for families to use, and hopefully we will be making a wildlife area at the very bottom of the field.

We had a ROSPA safety inspection in March and everything passed.

There is always ongoing maintenance taking place with grass cutting, strimming and tidying overgrown shrubs etc to keep it safe and looking nice – all of this maintenance is done voluntarily.

We have a busy year of events planned (weather dependent!) – we have two car boot sales, a vintage rally and two village markets booked, so we are still making a huge effort to raise our own funds for future improvements and maintenance.

We would like to thank the Parish Council for their continued support.

Lapford Project 2000

Lapford Project 2000 continues to thrive as a well run and cohesive group. Our current areas of work can be summarised as follows:



1. The Lapford Lookout. Our village magazine continues to be published every month and is very well received. We are now in our 29th year of publication and continue to welcome contributions on a wide variety of topics to maintain variety and interest. Our readers also appreciate feedback from events that have taken place in the village. Many volunteer hours go into producing and delivering the Lapford Lookout each month which is very much appreciated.
2. The Village Archive. There is a continuing flow of donations coming in and we are still in the Orchard Centre every Tuesday morning documenting and photographing. We have recently re-established the link to the school with Kirsty and boxes from the school have taken up much of our space. Audrey's visit to the Cathedral Archivist, Ellie Jones, has given her the confidence that we are doing the 'right' work, also learning from the experts. Audrey invites you to please come and visit the Village Archive if you are free.
3. We provide ideas, help, support and materials for the regular displays in The ARK.
4. LP2K also organises Lapford's poppy displays and our "Silent Soldier" on the Church Green for Remembrance each year. This year we have also updated the wording on the Orders of Service.
5. We take the lead in providing and maintaining the village notice boards outside the Victory Hall. Both have recently been renovated and are now in tip-top condition.
6. We organise village improvements and events on an ad hoc basis, as and when a need or opportunity arises, and will continue to do what we can to improve village facilities for the benefit of all. Should you have any suggestions for consideration please get in touch.



Lapford Voluntary Car Aid 2011

Lapford Voluntary Car Aid (LCVA)

Lapford Voluntary Car Aid continues to be very busy, providing subsidised transport to medical appointments for the residents (clients) of Lapford.

During 2023/24 the LVCA completed 222 journeys, covering 3282 miles, proving that we are still a very valuable service to Lapford.

Lloyds Bank have now started to charge us £4.25 per month just to hold an account with them (as they have registered us as a business, which we clearly are not) – this will be a drain on our resources, so we are going to ask the Charity Commission if we can register with them, hoping it will make us exempt from these charges. We do not generate an income – our funds come from donations/fundraising and legacies.

This service has been running since 1998, so soon to be 30 years - what an achievement!

We currently have eleven drivers, but we are still on the hunt for more to keep the service running smoothly and efficiently.

We would like to thank the Parish Council for their ongoing support.

Lapford Poppy Appeal Organiser

I have been Lapford Poppy Appeal Organiser for seven years now, helping the long standing tradition of local support for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal to continue and grow.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributes in any way to the annual Poppy Appeal, including the amazing house-to-house collectors, everyone who kindly hosts collecting tins, counts all the cash, and John and June at the Post Office. The totals raised are a wonderful testimony to your collective efforts.

My contact details are listed in the back of the Lapford Lookout each month should anyone wish to get in touch.



Trustees of Lapford Church Green



The Trustees have met regularly over the last twelve months:

- The Chestnut tree by the Melissa Lake Shelter has died. Conservation Area permission is in place to fell it for public safety reasons. The work will be carried out following a hopefully favourable survey to confirm that no bats are using the tree for roosting. The felled timber will be gifted to the school and placed in the conservation area there.
- The Melissa Lake Shelter has been repaired, including the installation of a replacement carving, courtesy of Melissa's family. They have been thanked for this.
- The EVJ bench has been restored by a volunteer. Thank you.

- Maintenance of the fencing and gates is ongoing.
- Trustees have worked to keep the Churchyard wall and the bank between the Green and Lower Town Place tidy.
- Original Church Green documents, including conveyances, have come to light and been deposited in the Village Archive for safe keeping.
- A new power box has been installed to enable easy connection for outside events e.g. the lighting of the village Christmas Tree.
- Public events on the Green have included The Revel, The Annual Remembrance Service, the D-Day commemoration, a display of Mysterious Lapford to coincide with the Mid Devon Walking Festival event and the siting of the Christmas Tree. The next event will be the village's VE Day commemoration.
- The ARK café makes very good use of the tables and benches on the Green in the summer months.
- New banking arrangements are in place.
- Thank you to our grass cutting contractor for keeping the Green looking so good and to the volunteers who keep other areas tidy and the fencing and seats in good condition.

Lapford Revel Committee



Following the AGM in September sixteen people agreed to serve on the committee for the current year. An average of ten people turn up for the monthly meetings.

The huge amount of planning for the July Revel begins early with the booking of bands, bouncy castle and entertainers, all in place by Christmas. Subsequent meetings are concerned with arrangements for road closures, food and bar provision, timings of events, liaising with other organisations e.g. the school for the procession and choosing of the Revel Royal Party, and churches for the Revel service; approving the event management plan, insurance and security, volunteers, the draw, publicity, and more.

This year's Revel theme will be 'Industrial Lapford', so watch out for displays on this theme. Also this year the Revel Church Bell ringing competition will be revived after a gap of around sixteen years.

The Revel rarely makes a profit, last year it just about broke even. In March the committee held a successful quiz in the Victory Hall raising just over £400 towards this year's costs.

Thank you to all those people who come together to create such a wonderful annual event for the village.

The Committee is always looking for new ideas and for additional people to join it to plan for the next twelve months.

Lapford Emergency Action Plan (LEAP)

LEAP is a working party of the Parish Council with its own terms of reference. During the last twelve months it has been concerned with:

- Pressurising Highways to improve the condition of local roads culminating in the resurfacing of the road over the river bridges and up Mill Hill.
- Joining the DCC Road Warden Scheme, with two local people half-way through their training, and road mending equipment bought by the Parish Council.
- The purchase and installation of a new grit bin for Highfield.
- The maintenance of winter grit stocks for the parish.
- The acquisition and siting of a second defibrillator for the village.
- A meeting with Steve Tucker, District Highways Officer and County Councillor Margaret Squires to discuss local road safety issues, particularly potholes and flooding issues, responsibility for the safe removal of dead and dying trees and the lack of safety fencing by the river bridge.
- Regular highlighting of local road issues and communication with Devon Highways about them, with little or no response.
- Attendance at the Devon Resilience Forum meetings.



This committee would really welcome additional members and volunteers from members of the public.

Lapford Celebrations Committee



The Committee was formed in order to organise local celebrations of National events, e.g. the Coronation.

Last May it co-ordinated the village's D-Day commemoration event and has just completed planning for this year's commemoration of Victory in Europe Day. To help finance this a really enjoyable quiz evening was held last January raising £500.

The Committee is a working group of the Parish Council. It has its own Terms of Reference and presently comprises four Parish Councillors and one member of the public. Last autumn the committee arranged Lapford's contribution to the Mid Devon Walking Festival, including a total revision of a local walks leaflet first published in 1994, an exhibition relating to the parish footpaths, tea at The ARK and a Village Treasure Trail.

Lapford Twinning Association

Lapford Twinning with Granville Langannerie started in 1975.

We then visited them and they had a return visit the same year. At one time the schools exchanged, pupils staying with families here. We now visit them once a year and they have a return visit the following year.



Twenty-two people visited us last May, we visited a couple of breweries and Castle Drogo amongst other places. Seventeen of us are now going to Granville Langannerie on 27th May 2025, cruising from Portsmouth to Calne. We have three days with our hosts, being entertained by visiting places of interest and joining in family life, returning on 1st June 2025.

We are now joined by friends from North Tawton, Hatherleigh and Sampford Courtney, under the heading of Friends of Langannerie.

If anyone is interested in joining the Twinning Association, our secretary is Marion Pratt, her contact details are in the Lapford Lookout or speak directly to one of us.

The Parish Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury

It has been something of an intensive year for St Thomas'.

We continue to work with both the Congregational Church and the Community Church and have established regular shared services. On the first Sunday of the New Year with the Community Church, for Mothering Sunday at the Parish Church, and for Harvest Festival at the Congregational Church. We also work jointly for 'event-related' services such as the Crib Service, Remembrance Sunday and the Revel.



It cannot escape notice that the church has gained its first extension since the end of the 19th century. This project was made possible by a very large bequest from the late Phyllis Partridge MBE. It is a matter of some 'inconvenience' that there is no public toilet within easy reach of the church. This is particularly felt at weddings and funerals where people have travelled some distance, for any service involving small children, and when we have disabled visitors. It is also hoped to use the church for recitals and concerts in the future when the need for such facilities is even more necessary.

The vestry and many corners of the Grade 1 listed building contain considerable quantities of non-sacred equipment that enables the decoration of the church for particular occasions. There are also administrative files, even more of which are stored in the homes of PCC members and should be held centrally. The vestry fire exit is also blocked by storage so unable to be used.

The new extension therefore has three spaces – a fully accessible toilet with baby change table, a document store with filing cabinets and a large area for the storage of all the sundry equipment.

Unfortunately the establishment of the necessary easements for the drains to cross neighbouring properties has become embroiled in legal processes. We hope these will be able to be resolved within the next few months but in the meantime our considerable investment stands idle.

It should be recorded with the most heartfelt thanks that the whole external appearance of the extension is the work of Derek Pleace, and he completed it the evening before he sadly passed away. Derek loved the church and worked tirelessly on it in his spare time, whenever he was needed. Everyone who has seen it comments about how well it fits in with the ancient architecture and it is, in many ways, his memorial.

Lapford Community Church



Thank you for the invitation to report the work of our church at the AGM. Unfortunately, this is a busy week for us and so we are unable to be with you in person, but would like to submit the report below:

One might be tempted to think that the church is in decline. Certainly, anecdotal evidence might show that, but there are places both in the UK and around the world, where the church is thriving, especially amongst the young adult generation. Purely on numbers our church is doing well and our passion to serve the community is very much part of our journey.

We are delighted to be able to use the village hall regularly on Sunday mornings and, as you will be aware, with consultation with other hall users, we have recently undertaken a new refit of the audio/visual system.

The new system is working very well and a noticeable improvement on the old one. We are very grateful to the Parish Council for their considerable help with the funding for this and wish to point out that, with guidance, it is available for all users of the hall.

The ARK continues to be a focal space in the village, as well as the Foodbank, and we are currently undertaking a review of how best to use it to further serve the community of Lapford. Later this year it will have been ten years since its opening and, to mark this, we are planning a weekend of celebrations in the second weekend of September; more details available nearer the time.

We remain committed to working through Churches Together (with the other churches in Lapford) to provide support, regular Christian worship and witness both in the village and the surrounding area.

Lapford Youth Club

It takes a village to raise a child and that is why having a thriving youth club is so important, especially now after Covid lock-down and where so many teenagers are either studying hard or lost in their own private world of IT, social media and smart screens. Spaces are needed for social events, to meet with others, to talk, to play, to explore. This is the value of a thriving youth club. But to do this does require adult help and to be safe and sound a lot of adults are needed to help.

We have lots of energetic kids who want to do things but sadly we simple do not have enough adult helpers anymore to run the youth club programme of activities. Immediately after Covid we had a pool of 25 people running the Hi Five Thursday junior session and the Friday Drop-in for the older teenagers. Now with just four regular adult helpers the Hi Five Thursday nights has not run since last September. Thanks to Sue Hemsworth, Steve Fletcher, Jake Lloyd and to Darren Crump for being on call as we need a minimum of 3 each Friday Club night.

Financially the Youth Club 'washes its face' and we are a working voluntary management committee. We have purchased new equipment and we have a plan to renovate and refurbish the small meeting room at the Victory Hall. We are totally dependent upon our own funds to do this. There are the regular costs of insurance and rent that must be paid out. These are met from a £1 subs fee for each Club session. The open space of Lower Town Place is a wonderful asset. However, using a door other than a fire door is urgently needed.

5. Parish Council Financial Report 2024/25

The Clerk summarised the financial position as it stood at 31st March 2025.

The Receipts for the year of £38,027 (£28,532 in 23/24) included £26,000 of precept and £10,424 of grants, (of which £5,510 was for the DCT Neighbourhood Plan work, £2,214 towards the bus shelter and £1,800 for P3 PROW Grant) and £1,122 in reclaimed VAT.

Payments during the year increased over last year from £27,442 to £39,636 with the main additional items being the bus shelter (£4,429), new defibrillator (£1,511), replacement signpost fingers (£1,048), DCT Consultant Work (£2,755), Additional VAT (£2,074) The overall level of Reserves fell between the years by £1,609, but more of this total has been reserved for the outstanding commitments at the end of the year, those being the final payment for the DCT work (£2,755) and the amount found from reserves towards the Toddler Play equipment (£6,851). The result is that the General Reserve left to provide a back-stop to the precept has reduced from £25,937 to £15,795, which is still at a sufficient level, the guidance for which is between 50 and 100% of the precept.

6. 'Have Your Say'

There were no further comments made.

7. Closure of Meeting

The meeting closed at 11.55am



**LAPFORD YOUTH PLAYING FIELD TRUST
ARE HOLDING A VINTAGE RALLY
ON SATURDAY 28TH JUNE—12pm to 5pm**

Free entry, donations on the gate



**TO ENTER CONTACT MALCOLM: malcolm.hayes@outlook.com
TO BOOK A STALL CONTACT GRACE: 07807019890**



NEED TRANSPORT TO YOUR MEDICAL APPOINTMENT OR A PRESCRIPTION COLLECTED?

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 are as follows:

Bow Medical Centre - £6
Chulmleigh Dental Practice - £6
Chulmleigh Health Centre - £6
Credton (Breast Screening) - £7
Credton Community Hospital - £6
Morchard Bishop Surgery - £4
Redlands Health Centre - £7
Witheridge Surgery - £6

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

LIVE IN MID DEVON AND NEED DEBT OR ENERGY ADVICE?

The Citizens Advice's Mid Devon team will be attending The ARK from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. on the last Friday of each month to allow people to chat with them about any issues they would like help with, particularly around Energy or Debt issues. There is access to private spaces if necessary.



NATIONAL BLOOD SERVICE

Donations can be made at
Boniface Centre, Credton, or at
Chulmleigh Community College



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

Do something amazing - Give Blood!



LAPFORD'S DEFIBRILLATORS

One is on the outside of
The Orchard Centre in Orchard Way

What 3 Words app location:
emperor.stated.stapled

Another defibrillator is at Rose Removals.
It can be found in the red telephone box
in front of the building.

Access through the front car park and up the
stairs, about 200 yards from the main gate.
(Pedestrian access around the side out of hours).



What 3 Words app location:
inert.depend.smart



A third defibrillator has now been installed
at the Spar Shop at Lapford Cross. It is round
the side to the left as you look at the shop.

What 3 Words app location:
that.snowstorm.speaks

LAPFORD WEBSITES

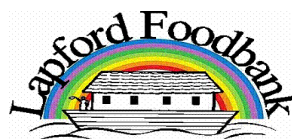
www.lapfordhistory.co.uk
www.lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
www.lapford-primary.devon.sch.uk
www.lapfordvictoryhall.co.uk
www.lapfordvillage.co.uk
www.facebook.com/lapfordparishcouncil



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF THE FOODBANK

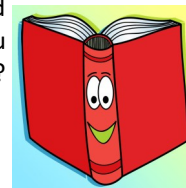
We would be grateful for the following donations:

Coffee, Tea, Drinking Chocolate, Rice Pudding,
Custard, Tinned Fruit, Rice, Pasta, Pasta Sauces,
Tuna, Baked Beans, Tinned Meats, Tinned Tomatoes,
Vegetables, Carrots, Peas, Sweetcorn, Soups,
Breakfast Cereals (not Porridge), Toilet Rolls.



LIBRARIES UNLIMITED HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

Do you have difficulty in getting to Credton Library and carrying heavy books home to read? 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.



Credton Library - Telephone: 01363 772578

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency numbers ~ 999 or 112
- Childline ~ 0800 1111
- Churches House Action Team ~ 01884 255606
- Citizens Advice Bureau ~ 03444 111 444
- CAB Credton ~ 01363 776210 (M, W, Th, 9-3)
- Credton 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
- RAB 24/7 Support Line ~ 0800 188 4444
- 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 PARISH COUNCIL — www.lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk

Cllr Roy Andrews	Old Bakery, Park Road, Lapford, EX17 6QJ	07969 823256 / roy.andrews@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr Sue Briant-Evans (Vice-Chair)	Edgerley Cottage, Lapford, EX17 6AH	01363 83763 / sue.briantevans@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Cllr Julie Down (Chair)	Rafters, Lapford, EX17 6QP	07756 363678 / julie.down@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
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Cllr Peter Heal	Ashlands, Lapford EX17 6AE	01363 884277 (home)/01363 775467 (office)/ peter.heal@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
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Vacancy	~	~
Vacancy	~	~
Vacancy	~	~
Parish Clerk - Rob Martin	~	07768 829511 / clerk@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
District Cllr Steve Keable	~	07967 655045 / skeable@middevon.gov.uk
County Cllr Steve Keable	~	07967 655045 / steve.keable@devon.gov.uk
Mel Stride MP	House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA	02072 197037 / mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk



LAPFORD LOOKOUT

Contributions welcome

lapfordlookout@gmail.com

Deadline for inclusion in the next issue:

6.00 p.m. on the 14th June for inclusion in the July issue

TO CONTACT THE EDITOR

Write to:

Mrs. Becky Fletcher, Larkrise, Eastington Lane, Lapford, Crediton, EX17 6QE

Tel: (01363) 542062 or 07791 989142

E-mail: lapfordlookout@gmail.com

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

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

Our Editorial Policy:

Published monthly, the magazine welcomes contributions on any topic of interest. The editorial policy is to exclude anything of a political or personal nature and to avoid unnecessary controversy or ill feeling.

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.

Any requests for placement of articles on particular pages in the Lapford Lookout should be submitted via email to the address above.

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

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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:	£7 per month.
One quarter page:	£14 per month.
One half page:	£28 per month.
Whole page:	£56 per month.

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

PLEASE REMEMBER THE COPY DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LAPFORD LOOKOUT IS THE 14TH OF EACH MONTH



LAPFORD OUTREACH POST OFFICE

OPENING HOURS:

Monday 9.30 - 12.00

Friday 9.30 - 12.00

Sending gifts or goods abroad?

If you're using Royal Mail or Parcelforce,
fill in your customs form online while you wait.

Scan here to get started.



A gentle reminder of the services we offer at the Lapford Post Office. These include Car Tax, postage, home shopping returns, bill payments and cash deposits and withdrawals from all the major banks. We also have a great selection of hardware, stationery, confectionery, and greeting cards for that special occasion. Every transaction keeps us in the heart of the community. Why not pop in, say "Hello", and receive a warm welcome?

LAST POSTING TIMES AROUND THE VILLAGE



	<u>Mon-Fri</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Eastington Cross	9.00 a.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	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Orchard Way	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Saxtons	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Morchar Road	9.00 a.m.	7.00 a.m.
Copplestone	4.30 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.

NAME OF SOCIETY	CONTACT	TELEPHONE / EMAIL
Adventure Gaming	Mr Warren Clayburn	01363 83095 / wmclayburn@gmail.com
Community Equipment	Mr Darren Crump Mr Steve Keable	07960 715553 / darrencrump99@hotmail.co.uk 07967 655045/ steve.keable@btinternet.com
Friends of Langannerie (twinning)	Marion Pratt	01837 82285 / marion174@btinternet.com
Friends of Lapford Mill	Mr Alex Gater	07815 795918 / alex@lapfordmill.uk
Friends of Lapford School	Mrs Stacey Lumsdon	07891 556884 / friendsoflapfordschool@gmail.com
HOLD	Mr Bill Graham	01363 83047 / bg4847@aol.com
Home Library Service	Crediton Library	01363 772578
Ladies of Lapford (LOL)	LOL Team	ladiesoflapford@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 Association Football Club	~	lapfordafc@gmail.com
Lapford Book Club	Mrs Jane Epstein	07779 926342 / jane.epstein@hotmail.com
Lapford Celebrations Working Group	Mrs Sue Briant-Evans	01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com
Lapford Church Green Trust	Mr Steven Fletcher	07891 142436 / steven.fletcher@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Lapford Community Church	Miss Briony Clinch	01363 83666 / admin@lapfordcc.org.uk
Lapford CP School and Nursery	~	01363 83292 / admin@lapford-primary.devon.sch.uk
Lapford Congregational Church	Cat Seymour	01363 884432 / lapfordcongregationalchurch@gmail.com
Lapford Dog Club	Mrs Sara Thurgood	01363 83081 / info@lapforddogclub.co.uk
Lapford Emergency Action Plan Committee	Mrs Sue Briant-Evans	01363 83763 / sue.briantevans@lapfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Lapford Foodbank	Miss Briony Clinch	07925 410172
Lapford Handbell Ringers	Mr Steve Munday	07798 684225 / steve@themundays.org
Lapford High 5 (ages 7-11)	Mrs Cat Seymour	01363 884432 / cathryn_seymour@outlook.com
Lapford Gardening Club	Mrs Trish Mumford	01363 83911 / james@mumfordj.plus.com
Lapford Lookout	Mrs Beccy Fletcher	01363 542062 / lapfordlookout@gmail.com
Lapford Over 60 Club	Mrs Jeanne Whittaker	lapfordover60@yahoo.com
Lapford Parish Church	Mrs Joan Graham	01363 83047 / jemg47@aol.com
Lapford Poppy Appeal Organiser	Mrs Caroline Noon	01363 83863 / lapford.pao@gmail.com
Lapford Project 2000 (LP2K)	Mrs Sue Briant-Evans	01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com
Lapford Revel	Mr Mark Tanner or Mrs Sue Briant-Evans	07846 483231 / Gryff_raven@hotmail.co.uk or 01363 83763 / susanbriantevans@gmail.com
Lapford Victory Hall & Lower Town Place	Mr Darren Crump	07960 715553 / darrencrump99@hotmail.co.uk
Lapford Village Archive	Ms Audrey McCormack	01363 779462 / archivellapford2022@gmail.com
Lapford Village Market	Mrs Stacey Lumsdon	07891 556884 / lapfordvillagemarket@gmail.com
Lapford Voluntary Car Aid	Mrs Grace Hill	01363 83178 / lvca2011.19@gmail.com
Lapford Youth Club Management Committee	Mr Steve Keable	07967 655045 / lapforyouthclub@gmail.com
Lapford Youth and Playing Field Trust	Mr Roy Andrews	07969 823256 / roy.andrews1950@icloud.com
Lower Town Place Gardening Group	Mr Andy Epstein	amepstein55@gmail.com
North Creedy Choral Society	Mrs Patricia Robottom	01363 884495 / patricia@serafim.eclipse.co.uk
Nymet Rowland Village Pump	Liz and Roland Smith	01363 884446 / pump@incywincyweb.com
The ARK	Miss Briony Clinch	07925 410172
The Friends of St Thomas of Canterbury	Mrs Prue Lambert	01363 83150 / pruelambert@yahoo.co.uk

THE LITTLE DART WAY

A new Pilgrim route in North Devon

You are warmly invited to join in the launch of the Little Dart Way as a pilgrim route on Saturday 14th June, in one of two ways:

- A walk from All Saints, Eggesford, to St James, Chawleigh (4.5 miles), with a lift back to Eggesford.
- A walk along the whole 12.5 mile circular route, starting and finishing at Eggesford.

In both cases the walk starts at 9.30 a.m. at All Saints, Eggesford. Walking boots or strong shoes are essential. Please bring a packed lunch. Well behaved dogs welcome—with leads for when crossing roads or fields of livestock.

To join in please contact: John Rhodes (tel. 01769 580265; john.a.rhodes@btinternet.com).

A circular route of approx. 12.5 miles taking in All Saints, Eggesford, St James, Chawleigh, and St Mary Magdalene, Chulmleigh.



LAPFORD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS



- They say 'time flies, when you are having fun' and we are certainly enjoying ourselves at Lapford Community Primary School! The first half of the Summer term is rushing past and it is hard to believe it is almost half term.

Y4/5 Residential

The term began with our Year 4 and 5 residential visit to Ultimate Adventure in Abbotsham. This year we teamed up with the children and staff from East Worlington Primary School to enjoy our residential together. This gave the children an opportunity to get to know their peers from another school as well as take part in a huge range of adventurous activities: climbing, kayaking, SUP, nightline, assault course, mountain boarding...the list goes on! It was an action packed few days and the children certainly returned to school on the Friday absolutely exhausted!



Kingfishers' Romans Topic

The children in Kingfishers' Class have been learning all about the Romans in Britain and last week they welcomed David Garton into the classroom to talk to them about the Roman settlement at Bury Barton. The children were fascinated to find out that Romans had settled so close to Lapford and had many questions for David to answer. This helped prepare and excite them for their 'Memorable Moment' to the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon later in the week. Here, children learnt more about the Romans in Devon and how their invasion impacted the lives of those living in Devon (or Dumnonia) at the time.



VE Day 80

At the start of May it was VE Day and we commemorated the 80th Anniversary with a 2-minute silence, followed by a 'street party' lunch. All the children enjoyed having their lunch outside even if it was a little windy! The playground had been decorated with bunting, and the children were entertained with music from the 1940s. Children in Forest School that day made poppy decorations and a lovely day was had by all.



LAPFORD VILLAGE MARKET



NEW ORGANISER NEEDED

If you're interested in taking over the
running of Lapford Market,

Please contact Stacey at

lapfordvillagemarket@gmail.com or
07891556884

The ARK BOOKS UPSTAIRS

COME AND
BROWSE

- to borrow
- to swap
- or to keep

The ARK is open on
Tuesdays and Fridays
10.00am to 2.00pm
Arrangements can be
made for access at
other times.

Lapford Gardening Club



Call For Entries

to our Art & Photography competition
to be part of our September Show
ALL AGES WELCOME!

The theme is summer gardens,
landscapes and skies.

LAPFORD YOUTH CLUB



EVERY 2ND AND 4TH FRIDAY

7pm - 9pm during term time

FOR 11-16 YEAR OLDS - ONLY £1 PLUS MONEY FOR TUCK SHOP

High 5 THURSDAY



EVERY 2ND AND 4TH THURSDAY BUT CURRENTLY SUSPENDED
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HIGH 5 TO RECOMMENCE
PLEASE CONTACT lapforyouthclub@gmail.com
TO FIND OUT MORE

at LAPFORD VICTORY HALL