

Lyskerry's

The community journal for Liskeard

Issue 7

Autumn/Winter

—
2019/2020

We want your help

Come on board and get involved in shaping and securing the future of your community magazine

Lyskerrys is dedicated to celebrating the positive initiatives and uplifting stories from in and around Liskeard.

It is published by LAMB (Liskeard Arts and Media Body), supported by Liskeard Town Council, RIO, and the Liskerrett Community Centre. It is edited by Jackie Butler and printed by Deltor, Saltash.

It is delivered direct to 4,500 homes in the Liskeard area, with 1,500 more copies available to pick up at the Tourist Information Centre, the Town Council offices and many shops, cafes and other local outlets.

Would you help us by supporting or promoting the magazine? We would love to involve more people in our community.

Here are some ways you could lend a hand:

- sponsor part of the magazine
- talk to us about becoming a LAMB partner
- connect us with potential partners and funders.
- tell us what you get out of reading the magazine.
- write a testimonial if you have benefited from featuring in the magazine.
- write social media posts to promote the magazine and contents.
- help create web pages for the magazine.
- deliver the magazine to your street or area.

Thank you/ Meur ras

Please get in touch if you have a story to tell or a great image to share, a community event coming up. Email editor@lys Kerrys.co.uk

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this autumn/winter edition of Lyskerrys, including:

Studio Wallop, Robby Bullen, Liskeard School, Zac Leon, Rod Sheaff, John Hesketh, Naomi Taylor, Paul Baxter, Adrian Elliott, Paul Program, Dean Moore, Denise Larner, Sally Hawken, Nina Hills, Mandy Hancock, Liskeard TIC, Jenny Foster and Rachel Brooks.

Welcome / Dynnargh

to the autumn/winter 2019 edition of Lyskerrys magazine. This is the time of year when the nights draw in and the town lights up in different ways.

Our cover image by Studio Wallop previews the firework spectacle that's part of the annual Lights Up and Nadelik Lyskerry celebrations in the town centre. Inside you can read about how to get involved in all the Cornish-themed fun and games. Plus there's information on all the other happenings coming up, from music, markets, shows and exhibitions to talks, walks and community events.

Also in this edition, we meet some inspirational people who make good things happen in Liskeard.



Read about a man who has sound ideas for promoting good mental health, and how Liskeard Radio DJs are returning to the airwaves to bring us good cheer and good music in the run up to Christmas and, perhaps, beyond.

Find out how creativity is at the heart of cattle market regeneration plans and how two women are getting crafty nearby.

Also on our agenda this time are environmental concerns, and the people and organisations who go the extra mile to help those who are struggling for whatever reason, including volunteer drivers, debt advisors and a supportive group for those addicted to drugs or alcohol.

We meet the new president of Liskeard Lions, a group that makes many of the great occasions in the town happen, not least the annual pantomime in January. Oh yes, it does!

There's inspiring news from Liskeard School, a chance to walk and learn Cornish at the same time and a review of a new book that shares our name.

We hope you enjoy it.

**All the best /
oll an gwella**



Artist impression of a potential cattle market workspace area (JTP ARCHITECTS)

In the market for creativity

Plans are forging ahead for two projects that would see Liskeard's former cattle market blossom into a thriving centre for artists and craftspeople, as well as high-tech digital and software companies.

Cornwall Council (who own the town centre site) has reached the second stage in bidding for European Regional Development Funding for a 1,200 square metre workspace development in the south-east corner, aimed at the fast-growing creative industries sector, with scope for "hot-desking" and collaboration between businesses.

It marks the first significant progress for proposals that have emerged from the Government-sponsored charrette earlier this year that collected and analysed what local people want to see happen to the site of the old market, closed in December 2017.

Cornwall and Liskeard councillor Sally Hawken said: "It is clear we need to

develop the cattle market in stages. It is really fabulous to get to this point where some aspirations are close to becoming reality on the ground. This is the sort of development that will work for the times we are in, driving economic development in the town and improving footfall."

The second milestone in this first phase is a bid for EU Community Led Local Development funding for a Cattle Market Makers Project, led by Liskeard Town Council, with input from several partner organisations, that is being prepared for submission.

The project would be dedicated to supporting existing creative artisan makers, and supporting new ones to start their own businesses, in a quickly establishable shipping container "box park" with room for workshops and making space. Future phases on the site could include a central community space, family hub, improved car parking and expansion of Rosedean GP surgery.

It's a crafty way of life

Two women with a flair for creative pursuits have teamed up to share their passion and artistry and to showcase other talented makers



When Kay Morritt and Karla Aram each wanted to grow their creative businesses the ideal solution was to join forces in a bigger shop in town. The result is Simple Country Living where Kay's The Patchwork Hare meets Karla's The Perfect Piece and there's space to showcase the work of other local craftspeople too.

Kay's passion is making the abundance of colourful lampshades that dominate one side of the shop. "The reason I started making them

was because my husband, Dain, said I couldn't buy any more fabric until I did something with the stuff I already had. I did a short course and that was it," adds Kay, who lives at Menheniot.

"I've always made my own curtains and cushions. Many, many years ago I used to make 3D decoupage cards and had a stall in Tavistock Pannier Market," she adds.

She uses any surplus fabric to make cushions and tea cosies.

“I don’t like throwing any fabric away,” adds Kay, who makes all kinds of shades of order, and also upcycles furniture.

“I go to lots of auctions and buy pieces that I do up or paint. I like to make things look nice.”

She and Karla took over the shop in May, moving from individual smaller units in the town to find more floor and work space. Its double frontage also offers plenty of scope for striking window displays, which they both love creating.

Karla, who lives in Liskeard, makes unique framed pictures using found seaglass and, sometimes, Scrabble letters. She describes herself as “a bit of a crafty person” and also makes miles of bunting, greetings cards and creates new baby gift packs.

The Perfect Piece is a bit of a family affair; Karla’s mum, Jane Chidlow, knits all sorts of things, including the very popular “pets in a tin” (pictured below) , and her daughter, Imogen Cole, makes felt mobiles and animals.



“We have a lot of fun and the people who come into the shop are chatty and friendly”

She is also a stockist for Emma Bridgewater pottery.

Kay and Karla stock the work of talented, exclusively local, makers who supply turned wood, fused glass, hand-painted cards, bespoke shopping bags, photographs and prints, as well as a host of other wares like aromatherapy candles, lamps, toys, slate signs, homeware, and doorknobs.

“We try quite hard not to stock things that you can already get in other shops in the town,” says Karla.

With an eye on the environment, they use paper rather than plastic bags and recycle everything they can. Soon they aim to stock environmentally sound alternatives like beeswax wraps, bamboo toothbrushes, organic soaps and reusable make-up pads.

They are also dog friendly, which is good for people who bring their pet on holiday – no one needs to stand and wait outside!

Simple Country Living is at Fairpark Road, near the cattle market. Current opening times are 9.30am to 4pm, except Wednesdays and Saturdays 9.30m to 2pm and closed Sunday. There will be some late opening evenings in the run-up to Christmas.

My Liskeard

With Martin Symonds



Q) What's your age and occupation? I'm 71, a solicitor and the president of Liskeard Lions. I'm a natural performer – you might have seen me in the annual pantomime. I'm also a musician, currently working with a jazz trio called Lounge Lizards.

Q) How long have you lived in Liskeard and why do you like it? I was born and brought up in Weymouth, Dorset. After I qualified as a solicitor in 1980, I knew I wanted to specialise in family law and needed to be in a bigger town or city. I came to Plymouth, where my practice still is, and met my partner, Kathryn. We both liked Liskeard and moved into our home here in 1986. It's a lovely town with very attractive old architecture and a lot of history. The hills add to its great character and being a farming community is part of its charm.

Q) How did you get involved with the Lions? I was introduced by my next door neighbour, Alan Parsons, 12 year ago. There's a great camaraderie and a hard core of people who get on with things – they are very hard working and committed. There's a real sense of community and a lot of people have lived here all their lives, which I like. Through the things we do I hope we are helping people to

become more aware of the need to help each other when times are difficult. It is also enormous fun, especially the annual pantomime, which is open to people outside the Lions to take part.

Q) Favourite event? It's difficult to choose just one. The carnival in summer gets everyone involved, particularly the procession. The recent 3 Bags Full wool market was first class. I rather like the events that take place at Stuart House and also the Liskerrett Centre. St Matthew's Fair, celebrating the transition between summer and autumn, was a lot of hard work this year, but has potential to develop and grow. And, of course, the panto – rehearsals are under way for Mother Goose in January.

Q) Favourite shop? Goldsworthys and Philip Warrens at Oughs both have a traditional feel and attractive buildings. They are the kind of shops a town like Liskeard should have.

Q) Favourite eating place? I was recently introduced to Olive and Co, which is first class. Their coffee and cake is delicious.

Q) Favourite walking place? Siblyback Lake is gorgeous.

Our environment matters

Climate change is high on the town council agenda

While the international spotlight falls on the high profile climate change campaigns of Greta Thunberg and Extinction Rebellion, what happens on a local level is important too.

Liskeard Town Council has set up an environmental emergency working group, with chairperson Cllr Naomi Taylor as the new people's champion. "We are going to look at what we are doing currently and what we can do in the future. We want this initiative to be community-led," she says.

The working group is taking over the Plastic Free Liskeard and a plastic-free policy was adopted earlier this year, with all single-use plastics removed from council buildings. Other initiatives discussed include encouraging more use of solar panels, particularly in new buildings and rainwater collection in public places for plant watering.

"There are discussions about the dark sky and reducing the carbon emission from street lighting, which would also mean people can see the stars. That would involve switching off quite a lot of street lights and obviously there would be safety issues, so we need to talk a lot more about that," says Naomi

Recycling rates in this part of



Cornwall are generally good, and no rubbish travels out of the county for disposal. More things can now be recycled, like yogurt pots, plastic bottle tops and aerosols, for example. You can find up to date recycling information at www.cornwall.gov.uk

As well as being more conscious of what you are buying, you can take advantage of various other schemes. For instance, Smile Dental Centre will send old toothbrushes and finished toothpaste tubes back to the manufacturers. And REfill is an app for your smartphone which shows you where you can have your water bottle filled for free.

To voice your environmental ideas email Naomi at councillortaylor@btinternet.com or call her on 07704 428089. For more information see the Liskeard Council website and the Plastic Free Liskeard Facebook page.



Celebrate all our yesterdays

There's a chance to step back in time for an evening when the best creations of the past take centre stage at Liskeard's Vintage Fayre.

says organiser Denise Larner of Zero2Vintage in the Cattle Market, who provides vintage teacups and saucers for the event.

Around 25 stallholders from across the Westcountry will showcase treasures from days gone by in a fun, warm and welcoming pre-Christmas atmosphere, with a cocktail bar, tea room and live entertainment. A few speciality artisan makers will also join the party.

“We have cakes from the WI and we use Trevethan gin in the cocktails. Some people dress up to come, which is lovely – we have a loose 1940s theme this year.”

It's a great opportunity to find unique gifts you won't find anywhere else, as well as socialise with friends and like-minded folk over tea and cake or something a little stronger.



Setting the mood by serenading shoppers will be vintage style singer Betty Bluebird whose repertoire spans classics from the 1930s onwards.

“We have a tea room up on the stage, and people can sit up there and see what is going on. We try to keep everything as local as possible,”

Liskeard Vintage Fayre takes place on Friday, December 6 from 4-8pm in Liskeard Public Hall. For more information see the Facebook page. Anybody who wants to get involved in the fayre is welcome to send Denise a message or call her on 07943 135899.

Radio crew lines up for festive fun



Photo by DAVID BRAY

Liskeard Radio is taking to the airwaves again with a new home, a (hit?) single and big plans for the future

Get ready to tune in to Liskeard's very own radio station as it takes to the airwaves for the seventh year running on 87.7 FM, and online, for four weeks in the run-up to Christmas.

Its DJs bring you music of all genres and vintages, chat on a wide variety of local and global topics, with special guests to spice things up, all with the aim of celebrating the good things in Liskeard and getting the people talking and shopping.

This year marks a turning point in the station's fortunes as it broadcasts for the first time on November 25 from its own premises in the heart of town on The Parade. And to celebrate they have released their own pop single.

The catchy Turn The Radio On, written and produced by long established Liskeard group The Various Assortments (Paul Program, Keiron Standfield and Chris Garnett), it features several of the station's DJs on vocals.

Paul has been involved almost from the beginning, writes jingles for the station's adverts and has his own slot on Saturday and Sunday evenings from 5-7pm. He describes the song as "a mix of Rolling Stones, Abba, Van Halen, Human League, ABC pizzicato strings and a Michael Jackson drum beat"—just the thing to raise the spirits and get toes tapping.

Paul is also the quizmaster for the

pre-broadcast Big Music Quiz Night on November 22, in conjunction with Community Treasure Chest CIC who redistribute donated furniture and white goods to help people on low incomes set up home.

The station, which started above a carpet shop and has moved on several times since, has been based at Liskeard School, for the past two years.

The town centre move marks a significant turning point. With enough finances saved to secure a five-year lease on the building, it gives scope for involvement with other community projects and brings the station directors' dream of broadcasting full-time a step closer.

Adrian Elliott, one of the Liskeard Radio directors, says that will depend on having enough presenters – who volunteer their time – but it is on the cards, with potential to later grow into a station for the whole of south east Cornwall, which currently has no local radio of its own.



Various Assortments – Chris Garnett, Paul Program and Keiron Standfield



“We could cater for all the villages and other small towns around here,” he says.

Highly experienced in forces and international broadcasting as well as live disco, Adrian, says the swing towards online listening has changed the game. “Going on to new media takes away the limits of the FM transmitter.”

This year Adrian is DJ on Saturday mornings as well as being a “spare”, filling in where needed.

Regular crew returning to the airwaves includes Jesse Foot, Phil Seeva, Bryan Ugalde and James Outten, Adam and Alex, Tracy H, Jackie Hocking, Rachel Southern, Mark McCartney and Lee Edwards.

New faces this year are Liskeard in Bloom; every Friday between 1pm and 3pm Lynda Fletcher and John Hesketh will have experts in the studio to answer your knottiest garden questions. Send your questions to info@liskeardinbloom.org.uk.

- Turn the Radio On is available via Apple Music, Google Play, Amazon Music and Spotify. For more information visit www.liskeardradio.com

A little studio with a big heart

Meet the DJ who has found new purpose in the wake of despair

Sitting in the control room of the tiny Pipewell Studios in Well Lane, Dean Moore is bubbling with enthusiasm for a project that he is giving every ounce of his energy and commitment.

The experienced DJ, who helped set up Liskeard Radio above the carpet shop he used to run, is building a state-of-the-art production suite, recording studio, rehearsal space and education facility that will open its doors to train some of the most vulnerable members of the local community in creative industry craft.

Dean knows what it's like to hit rock bottom and lose hope. Setting up the community interest company, backed by good friends, music company donations and a Crowdfunder

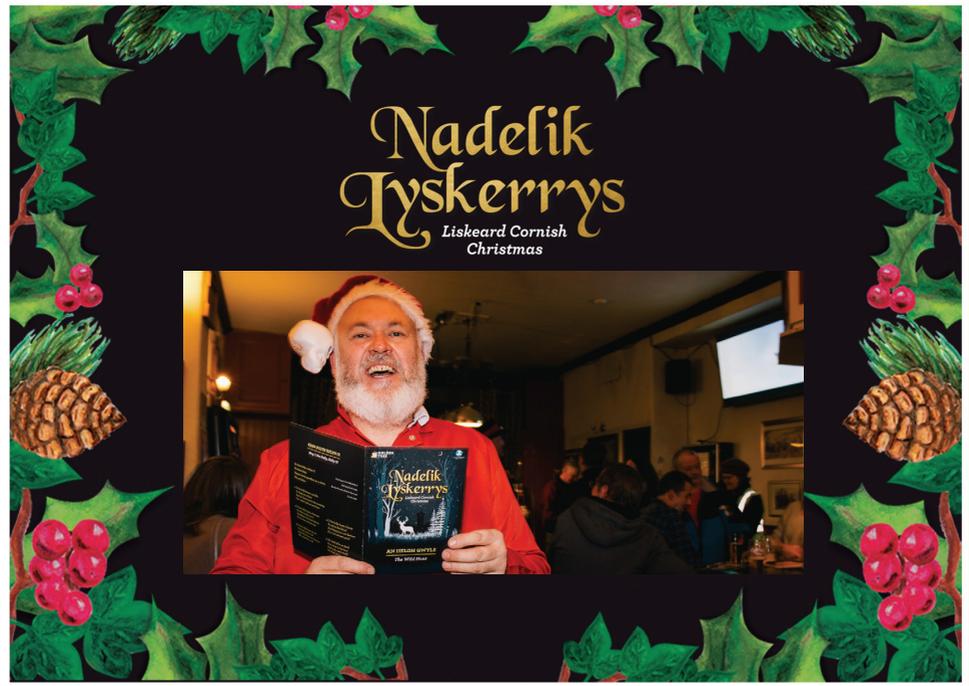
appeal, has helped him find his feet after a breakdown that saw him living alone off grid in an old ambulance with no job and no money. "I had to completely fall apart in order to repair myself," he says.

Returning to Liskeard and immersing himself in his first love of music creation brought home how valuable studio experience could be for people with mental health problems.

"Above all it is about giving everyone a voice," says Dean, who is planning podcasts and YouTube training and has been teaching radio production to pupils at Liskeard School. "I want to break down barriers and take away misconceptions about people."

Visit www.pipewellstudios.uk.





Brush up your Cornish and light up the town

This year's Cornish Christmas – Nadelik Lyskerryys – and Lights Up celebrations promise to be a magical treat, heralding the community's festive season and offering plenty to get involved in leading up to the main events on November 30.

Once again the town has teamed up with Golden Tree, the creative people behind the Man Engine, to offer a host of immersive events, steeped in Cornish language and culture, that are fun for all ages.

Drop-in, informal Cornish language sessions – to include Cornish Christmas songs – run every Monday in November from 7-9pm in the Hub Cafe at the Liskerrett Centre and are suitable for beginners or the more experienced.

There's footstomping fun in store at Carmen Hunt's Cornish dance workshops every November Wednesday from 7-9pm at .Liskerrett, with live music and dances taught from scratch for all abilities.



To join in the lantern parade you will need a lantern. Learn how to make your own at free workshops every Saturday from November 9 to 23 at the Liskerrett Centre. Wear old clothes and bring an apron.

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 28 & 29 NOVEMBER

SANTA TRAINS: TRO TREN

Festive fun on the Looe Valley railway branch line. Children and their families can meet Santa and receive a gift on a return trip to Looe.

Leaves Liskeard: 4.41pm

Leaves Looe: 5.15pm

Return fare: £4.50 adult, £2.25 child, under 5s free. Booking essential: rebecca.catterall@plymouth.ac.uk

SATURDAY, 30 NOVEMBER

11am-1pm FAMILY CHRISTMAS TRAIL: LERGH NADELIK TEYLU

Starting at Stuart House, learn how to answer simple questions in Cornish and collect holly berry stickers, then enjoy a celebratory 'cakey tea' at the Public Hall. Children on last year's trail are pictured above.

11am-1pm THE WILD HUNT: AN HELGH GWYLS

Try and track down the Wild Hunt as they perform carol songs and a Dando and his Dogs Mummers play around the town. Everyone is welcome to join in the singing.

5.30pm LIGHTS UP LANTERN PARADE AND FIREWORKS: KESKERDH LUGHARN HA TANWEYTH

Leaving from the Cattle Market, the lantern parade, often more than 500 people, weaves its way through town leading to the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights and a spectacular fireworks display – see our cover photo.

6.30pm PARTY: GOOL NADELIK

Free Yuletide party in the Public Hall, with Cornish language entertainment, live music, Cornish dancing, food and a cash bar.



What's on Lyskerrys

Christmas and the Lights Up celebrations may be the star turns, but there's plenty going on before and after the festive season, including regular group meetings, music and drama events, talks and exhibitions. For additional details and to see new events as they are announced visit www.visitliskeard.co.uk/whats-on/ or pop in to the Tourist Information Centre in Pike Street.

UNTIL DECEMBER 20

Meet the Daleks, and see other Dr Who exhibits, plus toy man Phil Chapman's large collection. Liskeard Museum. Free entry. Open weekdays 10am-4pm, Saturdays 10am-1pm.



4 NOVEMBER

Healthy lifestyle walking group, Level 1. Every Monday, meet at Luxstowe House at 2.30pm for a 45-minute walk. Contact Marcia Henning – Marcia.henning@cornwall.gov.uk or call 07795 496623.

Slow and Easy Folk Session, Quimperle Room, Liskeard Public Hall, 7-9pm and every other Monday. For those new to folk or your instrument.

5 NOVEMBER

Bonfire Night Fireworks with Liskeard Lions at Liskeard Rugby Training pitch, off Coldstyle Road. Gates 6.15pm, event starts at 7pm. Entry £5 adults, children free.

Oak Tree Surgery Walking for Health group. Meets in surgery car park on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 10am. Contact Paul on 01579 342765 or Jill on 01579 340349.

Nevra Degoweth – Never Alone group for people sharing the experience of bereavement. Beech Lawn Nursing Home, Liskeard, 12-2pm. Lunch £5. First Tuesday of each month. Call 01872 266383 to book.

7 NOVEMBER

Bookstart Rhymetime for babies and toddlers, every Thursday from 10am, run by Tracee Foot from Liskeard Library at RIO, 26 Fore Street, Liskeard.

Liskeard Knit and Natter, every Thursday, 10.30-1.30pm, Hub Cafe, Liskerrett Centre. All welcome.

8 NOVEMBER

Liskeard Old Cornwall Society, 2.30pm, Public Hall, talk on Calstock Viaduct by Vic Harman. Non-members welcome for small donation.

Liskeard Country Market, every Friday Public Hall, 8.30am- 12 noon. Home made cakes, bread, biscuits and pies plus hand stitched and knitted gifts.

8 & 9 NOVEMBER

Woman in Mind by CAMP Theatre Group, Sterts Theatre, 7.30pm. Susan is a dissatisfied suburban housewife who inhabits two worlds – real and imaginary. Box office 01579 362382.



9 NOVEMBER

The Sounds of Simon, Carnglaze Caverns, 8pm. A tribute to singer songwriter Paul Simon. Box office 01579 320251.

Christmas Fayre, Morley Tamblyn Lodge, 10am-2pm. Stalls, food, drink, raffle and tombola.

12 NOVEMBER

Garbo to Garland: the magical art of Hollywood, Public Hall from 7pm, talk for The Arts Society, Liskeard by Geri Parly. Free for members, visitors £6.

Rosedean House Surgery Walking Group meets second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 10am near Westbourne Car Park

toilets, start or car share to the walk. Brian Oldham on 01579 340875 or email contactbrian@btinternet.com.

13 NOVEMBER

Liskeard Town Forum, Public Hall, 7.30pm. Take an interest in the future of your town, come along and have your say. All welcome, free entry.

Make and Mingle, Chequered Flag, Plymouth Road, Liskeard. 6-8pm, every middle Wednesday of the month. Bring your craft or hobby work along and meet new friends.

15 NOVEMBER

Murder Mystery Evening, Rumours Bar and Bistro, 6pm. A night of intrigue, drama and murder including arrival drink, three course meal and murderous entertainment. Book on info@rumoursbistro.co.uk or 01579 342302.

Patchwork class, Painters, Fore Street, 10am-2pm, make a useful tote bag with Liz Trinder. Details on 01579 347237.

16 NOVEMBER

Bronte by The Tavonians, Sterts Theatre, 7.30pm. Compelling literary detective take about the Bronte sisters. Box office 01579 362382.

Liskeard Chamber Players in Concert, 7.30pm, St Petroc's Church, Bodmin, a duet by Beethoven, a trio by Shostakovich, a quartet by Haydn, and Dvorak's Piano Quintet. Tickets from Liskeard TIC.

18 NOVEMBER

Look Group, art discussion gathering, every third Monday, 7pm, Liskerrett Centre. A fun, informal way to meet new people and talk about art, artists and ideas. Regular visits to exhibitions at Tate St Ives as well as special events, offers and activities. Drop in or call 01579 340307

21 NOVEMBER

St Lalluwly Christmas Gift Fayre, St Lalluwly Church, Menheniot, 6-9pm. Gifts, artisan foods, beauty products, books, pop up cafe, handbell ringers, and raffle.

22 NOVEMBER

Big Music Quiz with Liskeard Radio, Eliot House Hotel. Entry is £10 per team (up to five people) and tables can be pre-booked via PayPal using liskeardfmradio@gmail.com

23 NOVEMBER

Healthy Hearts CPR training, Liskeard Guide Hut, 9am. Liskeard and Looe Ladies Circle. to book call Lizzie on 07419 777343.

Rock for Heroes, Carnglaze Caverns 8pm. Live band plays favourite rock and pop songs across the eras, fundraising for Help for Heroes. Box office 01579 320251.

30 NOVEMBER

Sarah McQuaid (pictured, right), Sterts Theatre, 7.30pm. Cornwall-based singer, songwriter and guitarist who tours internationally and has recorded five albums. Visit www.sterts.co.uk or ring 01579 362382.

Christmas Art and Craft Exhibition Sale, Parish Hall, Upton Cross. Featuring artists and crafters refreshments, raffle and parking. Also 1 December. Opens 10am.

6 DECEMBER

Oh No It Isn't by Ho Hum Ah Theatre, 7.30pm, Liskerrett Centre, Varley Lane. They're the best of sisters onstage but the worst of friends off it. It's the final performance of Cinderella in a moth-eaten, regional theatre and backstage tensions threaten to boil over onstage. Ages 10+.

Charity concert, Liskeard Methodist Church, 7pm. Harpist Elizabeth-Jane Baldry, Levow Kesson choir, soprano Janine Wright and compere Tank Sherman. Organised by Liskeard & Looe Rotary, proceeds to Cornwall Hospice Care and Children's Hospice South West Tickets £10 from TIC.

Liskeard Vintage Fayre, Public Hall, 4-8pm. See page 9.

7 & 8 DECEMBER

Alternative Christmas Present Show, Carnglaze Caverns, minerals, gems and fossils, local crafts and faery fun. 10am-5pm. Entry £2.



10 DECEMBER

The Journey of the Magi – 1700 Years of the Three Kings, The Arts Society Liskeard talk by The Rev. Christopher Herbert, Public Hall, from 7pm. Members free, visitors £6.

Pelynt Male Voice Choir in concert, St Cleer Church, 7.30pm. A fun evening of carols and Christmas songs, with the ladies also singing. Refreshments and festive cheer.

13 DECEMBER

Stan and Ollie (PG), Liskerret Community Cinema, Liskerrett Centre, 2.30pm (subtitled) and 7.30pm. The true story of Hollywood’s greatest comedy double act, Laurel and Hardy, starring Steve Coogan and John C Reilly. Entry £4. Book on 01579 340307.

14 DECEMBER

Mad Dog McRea, Carnglaze Caverns, 8pm. A unique mixture of folk rock, pop, gypsy jazz and bluegrass. Call 01579 320251.

21 DECEMBER

Candlelit Christmas Concert, Sterts Theatre, 7pm. Celebrate the start of Christmas and raise funds for local charities. Mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets £8/£6 from www.sterts.co.uk

22 DECEMBER

Smokey’s King Shufflers, The Albion pub, 4-7pm. Chicago blues band with frontman Smokey from The Big Sets.

23 DECEMBER

Christmassy Christmas Show by

Squashbox Theatre, Sterts Theatre, Upton Cross, 2pm. Meet a snowman who lives in the fridge, spot naughty elves, play hunt the brussels sprout and gaze at the ‘beautiful’ Christmas Fairy. Tickets £6 from www.sterts.co.uk

10 JANUARY 2020

Antiquities Saved, talk for Liskeard Old Cornwall Society by Brian Oldham. Public Hall, 2.30pm.

14 JANUARY

Edouard Manet and Music, The Arts Society Liskeard talk by Dr Lois Oliver, Public Hall from 7pm.

25 JANUARY

Mother Goose panto by Liskeard Lions, Public Hall. Tickets on sale at Liskeard TIC after Christmas.

EDITOR’S CHOICE



21 FEBRUARY

Bait, Liskerrett Community Cinema, Liskerrett Centre, 7.30pm. Shot on a vintage 16mm camera using monochrome Kodak stock, Mark Jenkin’s Bait is a timely, funny, yet poignant new film that gets to the heart of a Cornish community facing unwelcome change. Stars Ed Rowe (pictured above) aka Kernow King, as a struggling modern day fisherman.

Theatre takes to the streets

By Nina Hills

As a local drama club we are very fortunate to perform some diverse and original pieces of theatre. This year we were asked by Mayor Rachel Brooks to get involved in Liskeard Unlocked as part of the Heritage Open Days project.

The theme was “people power”, so we focused on the Children’s Miners Strike of 1842. We had great fun devising a promenade theatre piece that took our audiences on a trail around town taking in the Methodist Church, Castle Hill, Pipewell, Stuart House, Webb’s House (pictured below) and ending at the Museum.

At each location a different scene was acted out and so the audience followed the story physically and visually. It was a great success and helped show off beautiful buildings that people don’t often get to see.



Wham Bam meets regularly at the Liskerrett Centre, with drama groups for different ages. For more details see the Facebook page or email ninathenasty@hotmail.com.

Watch out for Wham Bam’s next show – Murder in Pantoland!! – which will be performed on February 22 at 6pm in Liskeard Public Hall.



The Soul of Lyskerrys by Robert Beck

Walking past the Fountain and the Pipewell now I feel a tingle, a dream of another reality. This is due to the part they play in Rob Beck's new book, the second in his Liskeard-based fantasy series *The Otherworld*.

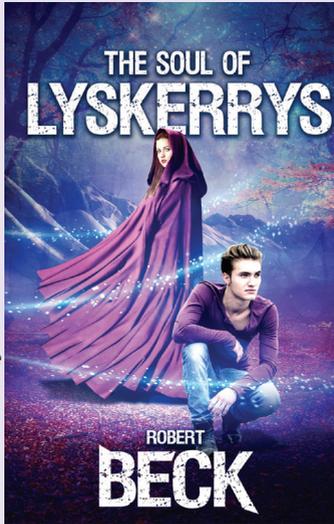
Beck's cosier first novel, *The Solstice Blade*, brought characters from Cornish folklore alive during a snowy night in Liskeard, but this time around he shows us a separate reality, a place where nebulae blaze in the night sky, where boats steer themselves and fish jump into time streams. Sharing an archaic name for the town, Lyskerrys is a place that alludes to a forgotten, wondrous past.

It is a world under threat. With the stone that binds its magic together stolen, Lyskerrys is prey to a mysterious force which will slowly bring about its destruction. It is down to returning hero Liam Verren, now a young adult, to save it.

It is Liam's quest that drives the story, with splashes of romance and dashes of action, but it is the side characters

BOOK REVIEW

who add the required spice. Liam's earthbound best buddy Jacob is likeable and believable, while the stern but driven witch Kerenza stands out as an engaging Otherworld figure.



Perhaps the best passages are Beck's poetic descriptions of the stone's effects, which describe the interconnectivity of all things. These contrast with the mysterious destructive force, which breaks reality to nothing and traps the characters in dark shrouds.

The book's various mysteries hang intriguingly, and ultimately weave together in thoughtful ways. Longer, faster moving and more tightly written, this sequel marks a clear improvement on its predecessor and paves a road to possible future adventures. Spring and Autumn still to go?
ZAC LEON

The Soul of Lyskerrys is available to buy at Liskeard Museum/TIC.



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Could you be a governor?

Year 8 students Jessica Shaw and Alice Doyle find out what it takes from recently retired chair of governors Davina Finch

Q): How long were you a governor and what led you to take on this role?

A): I have been a governor for nearly 20 years, because I wanted to give something back to the school my family and I attended.

Q): What have you enjoyed most about your work as chair of governors?

A): It has been extremely rewarding. You can see the impact of the decisions that the governors have made. For example, governors are involved in the appointment of staff at every level. You get to know the school really well!

Q): Would you recommend this kind of community work to others?

A): Absolutely! If you have time to give and want to make a real difference, then it's a worthwhile job. If anyone thinks they might like to be involved as a governor, I'd be happy to meet and discuss the role with them.

Q): Can you tell us a bit more about what the role entails?

A): It is really about improving outcomes for the school, including staff and pupils. We oversee all aspects of school life, from safeguarding to



ensuring that 'pupil premium' students are well provided for. The headteacher is responsible for the day to day running of the school. The governors work with him on the strategic running of the school. Part of the job is to monitor how well the school is doing.

Q): What qualities do you think a prospective governor needs?

A): You need to be committed and you need to have a fair amount of time to give to the role. You will need to be a good listener and to communicate well on a range of subjects to staff, pupils and parents. You will need to be organised and good at managing paperwork. And last but not least, you will need to be challenging when a critical friend is needed.

If you are interested in being a governor, contact Kate Williams (clerk to the SMART Trust Board and LGCs) at Kate.Williams@smart-trust.net

Students go the extra mile for Duke of Edinburgh

Two years ago Liskeard School launched its Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, aided by a grant from the Diamond Fund. Nearly 40 year 9 students completed their Bronze Award and more than 20 of these, now in year 10, became the school's first Silver Award students. The number of students signing up is rising, and some are moving up to Gold level.

To participate in the scheme students must complete a minimum of six months volunteering, practise a skill and take part in weekly physical activity. Many take the opportunity to give something back to their community. Some have volunteered at Liskeard library, at charity shops, at the town's primary schools and at local churches.

"I've really enjoyed helping with the summer reading challenge at the library," says Giulietta. "I helped children pick six books to read and then listened to their book reviews as part of the challenge. The library is a really important part of the community and it has been fantastic



to learn more about how it is run and the services it offers."

Others have supported local sports teams including Caradon hockey club, football, gig rowing and county cricket. Cricketer Emily says: "It has been a privilege to play for Cornwall. I have had the opportunity to travel to different counties and play on many nice grounds, like New Road Worcester County Ground in the play-offs. I've gained so much experience and knowledge from playing county cricket. I now know my strengths and weaknesses to help improve my game."

The awards year concludes with expeditions. Bronze explorers follow the coastal path and Looe Valley, while Silver students go up on Bodmin Moor. They carry all they need and navigate to local campsites.

A kynyar / gwar walk in Kernewek



with
Rod Sheaff



To begin this walk at Liskeard station you will, coming from town, pass the former workhouse, later Lamellion hospital, now Lamellion Court. A century ago it had a fine arch in high classical style, now demolished. On leaving the station pass the *tollji*, then turn right down the narrow sunken lane. This was already *koth* when the royalist Cornish army used it during the Civil War. In the valley, cross the *pons hynshorn*. Apparently *yth esa* a corn mill here, but the large building on the left was a wool factory. Pictures from the 1960s show a handsome stone building, *gyllys lemmyn*. Over the bridge turn right towards Moorswater viaduct. Beside it are *touryow* in the gothic style, built in 1859, which supported timberwork to carry the trains. After the lime kilns on the left are two paths. Take the one *a-gledh*. Cross the stile, the field and a second stile. At the *penn an vre* cross the bridge over the mainline railway, then continue left downhill back to Lamellion. From the small bridge across the railway to Looe, you can go *a-hys* Coombe Halt platform,

then beside Looe railway itself until a stile on the left. The path, *nebes serth*, leads you up to Lodge Hill and back to Liskeard station, where you might get *hanafas teg a de*.

CORNISH TO ENGLISH

kynyar – autumn *gwar* – winter
tollji – toll house (*chi* or *ji* = house)
a-dyghow [Say: 'a-dih-hoe'] – to the right
koth – old
pons – bridge
hynshorn [Say: 'hins-horn'] – railway
yth esa [Say: 'ith ezza'] – there was
gyllys – gone
lemmyn – now
touryow – towers; *tour* – one tower
a-gledh [Say: 'a-gleth'] – to the left
pen an vre – hill top
a-hys – along
nebes serth – some steep
hanafas hweg a de – a cup of sweet tea (= a nice cup of tea)

Pick up a leaflet for this Countryside Walk 3 at the TIC or download a map at www.visitliskeard.co.uk

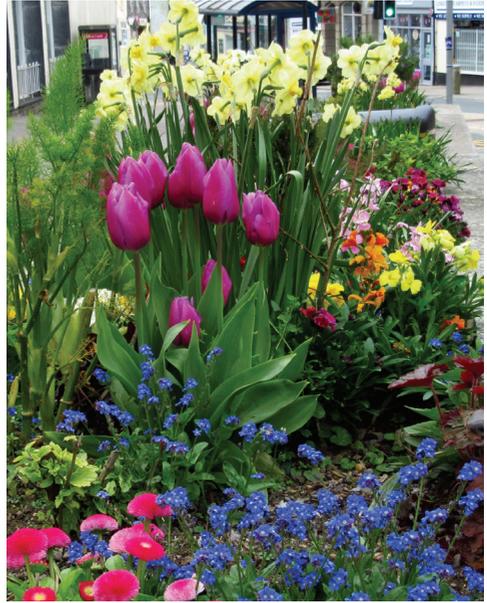
A blooming marvellous award win

The team who bring Liskeard alive with beautiful plant and flower displays have been recognised for their exceptional work by winning Gold in this year's South West in Bloom Pennant Cup.

Liskeard in Bloom competed against five other towns and won high praise for everything they do! Rated 'excellent' for horticulture and community work, and 'very good' for environmental work, the judges singled out some impressive projects. These included regeneration in Dean Street and Pig Meadow Lane, work on The Pipewell, the efforts of volunteer gardeners at Stuart House, and support for several bee species.

They were also noted for year-round fundraising, presence at local events, engagement with rough sleepers and young people, and volunteer work that brought people together to clean and repair street furniture and paint empty shops.

Other town groups were praised for their work for the It's Your Neighbourhood scheme for 'greening up' local areas – adding colour to the community, making new friends and getting active. They were Melbourne Road Allotments Association for their urban



allotments at Lanchards; Liskeard Foyer at Hendra Lodge; Hillfort Primary School and Morley Tamblyn Lodge for their greenhouses and new sensory garden.

The Mayor of Liskeard, Cllr Rachel Brooks attended with the LIB gardeners, and was on hand to collect a Gold award for the Liskeard Traders Association in the Business, Leisure & Tourism category. This is their second year running for the beautiful flowers in Fore Street.



LIB's John Hesketh, Lynda Fletcher, John Crumpton, Mayor Cllr Rachel Brooks and Lynette Rule



Why debt doesn't have to be the end of the world

Modern poverty is real, with millions locked in its miserable grip. Christians Against Poverty is committed to bringing life-changing freedom and good news to people in desperate need. Now Liskeard has its own frontline CAP debt centre.

It's a completely free, non-profit making service which has been funded by donations and grants. The new centre is a partnership between a group of local churches – St Martin's, Liskeard, the Liskeard & Looe Methodist Circuit, Greenbank Community Church, Grace Church in Morval and Light & Life Free Methodist in Liskeard.

The people CAP help have often suffered multiple life traumas – family illness, bereavement, relationship breakdown and poor mental health are some of the causes that can trigger an unstoppable spiral into debt and poverty. 37% told us they were afraid to leave the house

before they got help from CAP and 35% have considered or attempted suicide as a way out of debt.

CAP doesn't pay off its clients' debt. Instead it helps clients by:

- Analysing income and expenditure and advising what income is available after covering essentials to repay debt.
- Teaching budgeting skills.
- Advising the best way to deal with debt.
- Taking over responsibility for dealing with those who are owed money.
- Making arrangements with these creditors to repay the debt.

Clients often feel an immediate release by calling CAP and seeking help. Please call freephone 01274 761911 or visit capuk.org for more information. To find out more about the centre or maybe lend a hand – contact CAPLiskeard@outlook.com or call 07539 473754.

Where opportunity knocks

Fridays are the new action day in Liskeard for young people who are looking for jobs, college courses and career progression opportunities.

Opportunity Hack, at the RIO (Real Ideas Organisation) office in Liskeard, is open to 15-24-year-olds who are not in education or employment. They can come along and get support with preparing a CV, job searches and applications.

They can also explore various sectors of employment via RIO's Gamechanger and Ambitions Projects. Sessions are relaxed but progressive, with the bonus of food and music. The latest Gamechanger project has recently finished its latest induction programme with young people attending an action-packed week of challenge-based learning.

Activities included programming robots with Software Cornwall; foraging and wild cooking at the Eden Project (pictured below) with

“I have been to Opportunity Hack twice and each time I have met someone new and left with info that has helped with my job search. I have sorted out my CV too.”

Cornwall Food Foundation; a filleting workshop and introduction to Cornwall Marine Network at Pengelly's; music production with Black and Gold Audio and introduction to Creative Kernow, and a CV and interview workshop and Opportunity Hack.

Paul, navigator for Gamechanger in Liskeard and East Cornwall says: “Young people have been able to explore a large number of employment sectors and gain valuable insight and pathways into employment and training which will be followed up by our RIO opportunity hacks.”

Opportunity Hacks are on Fridays at RIO, 26 Fore Street, Liskeard, from 10:30am to 2pm. Just drop in.



Driven to make a difference

When Martin Taylor retired from his busy life as a farmer near Dobwalls, he was looking for something to keep him active and involved in the community.

“I wasn’t ready to vegetate,” he says. “I quite enjoy driving and meeting people, so I thought I would volunteer.”

Eleven years on and Martin, now 74, has provided transport for scores of isolated and disabled people around Liskeard and surrounding areas needing to get to hospital appointments near and far and to visit relatives who are inpatients.

“You do as much or as little driving as you like, and you don’t do anything you are not comfortable with, but I

am the sort who says yes to everything,” he laughs. “I tend to do about 2,000 miles a month, but most people do a lot less.” One of Martin’s main driving jobs at the moment is delivering children who have been excluded from mainstream education to a specialist school in Liskeard and taking them home again at the end of the day.

“Some people may not be comfortable with that, but I feel they have obviously lost their way a bit in life and when they are in my car I like to mentor them a bit,” says the father of two and grandfather of six. “I would recommend volunteer driving to anyone. It is very rewarding socially, and you get your petrol money covered. Retirement is not all it’s cracked up to be – you need something to keep your brain active.”

Volunteer Cornwall are urgently looking for more people like Martin to join their community transport scheme to make sure they can continue providing this vital service. If you’re interested in becoming a volunteer driver drop in to the Liskeard Volunteer Cornwall office at 6 Church Street, call 01579 344818 or email bookings@volunteercornwall.org.uk.



STANDING BY FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

The British Red Cross are looking for community reserve volunteers – people who would be on call by text to help in the event of a major emergency in the Liskeard area. You don’t need to be a firefighter to make a difference – small acts of kindness, like making refreshments and sorting donations, really count too. Visit <https://reserves.redcross.org.uk> to find out more and to sign up.



Finding hope when drugs or alcohol take hold

Living with a drug or alcohol problem can be a lonely place. Connecting with people who really understand and can offer help is often the starting point for a new beginning.

A group in Liskeard that opens its doors and its arms to anyone struggling with drug or alcohol addiction is Cocaine Anonymous. Run by members for members, they meet every week, offering a safe and anonymous space where people can start a 12-step programme to recovery with support from others who have gone through the same thing.

David founded the Liskeard group last year after moving from Brighton and finding there was no local meeting in East Cornwall – the nearest were in Plymouth or Truro. He says: “Before I was introduced to the fellowship I thought I could

never give up. I had been so isolated for so long. The people were warm and welcoming and it gave me hope that maybe there was a way. They said if you do what we do then your life can start to change. It is over 20 years for me now. It is amazing how it works. You learn to live without drink and drugs in your life – working the programme you don’t get tempted.



“My past, which was pretty desperate, has become my greatest asset and I feel that I can help other people.”

Liskeard CA meetings are from 7-8pm every Tuesday at the Methodist Church, in the room above Manna

Café. They are open to anyone who thinks they may have a problem with drink or drugs or is interested in CA’s work. For more information visit www.cocaineanonymous.org.uk or for regular meeting details see Twitter CAuk_DandC.

Meet your town's councillors

Ian Goldsworthy (North Ward)

I've been a Liskeard resident all my life. I attended St Martin's and Liskeard Schools before going to work in our family business, HE Goldsworthy, on Market Street in the heart of Liskeard. Through my work I meet many people from the town and the surrounding area which helps to give me an insight into what residents think of the town and what the council should do.

I currently chair the Facilities committee which manages the council's properties. The council works hard to maintain and improve its buildings and open spaces. The recent improvements to the facilities and accessibility at the Public Hall are a good example of this work. I



look forward to supporting the council as it works towards improving the town's parks and open spaces.

Christina Whitty (North Ward)

As a resident born in Liskeard, I joined Liskeard Town Council over 16 years ago. I serve on all of the council's committees and represent the town council on some outside bodies. I had the great honour and privilege of serving as the Mayor from May 2017 to May 2019. I am a member of several of our town's organisations and recently joined the Lions which is one of our town's community groups that works extremely hard for the benefit of many other organisations.

I am one of 15 volunteers on the town council. We are supported by an excellent team who maintain our buildings and run the office. With Liskeard expanding and developing I will continue to serve the community for as long as I am in office.



For details of all your Liskeard Town councillors and how to contact them, please visit www.liskeard.gov.uk/meet-your-councillors/councillors

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Pensilva

Millennium House

10.00am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm

Tel: Hayley

07966 370233

TUESDAY

Liskeard

The Eliot House Hotel

9.30am, 11.30am & 6.00pm

Tel: Vicki

07973 402829

Looe

St. Martin's Church Hall

9.30am

Tel: Louise

07914 320697

Torpoint

Torpoint Football Club

9.30am, 11.30am, 1.30pm, 5.30pm

& 7.30pm

Tel: Rachel

07463 929696

Saltash

SHADO

(opposite Saltash Leisure Centre)

9.30am, 11.30am, 3.30pm, 5.30pm

& 7.30pm

Tel: Kelly

07852 714819

WEDNESDAY

Liskeard

The Royal British Legion

9.30am

Tel: Hayley

07966 370233

Callington

Callington Methodist Church

9.30am, 11.30am, 3.30pm, 5.30pm

& 7.30pm

Tel: Luisa

07972 856788

THURSDAY

East Taphouse

East Taphouse Community Hall

9.30am

Tel: Sammy

07807 289801

Dobwalls

Dobwalls Football Club

5.30pm & 7.30pm

Tel: Sammy

07807 289801

FRIDAY

Callington

The Scout Hut (B&M car park)

9.30am

Tel: Vicki

07973 402829

Saltash

The Core, Saltash College Campus

9.30am

Tel: Sophie

07813 528545

SATURDAY

Saltash

The Core, Saltash College Campus

8.30am & 10.30am

Tel: Sophie

07813 528545

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