



LRA's Loughton News

10 October 2025

In this issue, [read about another successful Loughton Day](#) where residents, visitors, and local organisations came together.

[Four different Local Government Reorganisation proposals](#) have now gone forward to the Government for consideration.

At the Recreation Ground, [a new bench has been installed](#), [fences have been put up around river erosion](#), and [oak processionary moth nests have been destroyed](#).

The [2026 Epping Forest calendar](#) is available to purchase, and [the deer rutting season has started](#) so be careful walking and driving in the forest.

Halloween is in three weeks, so [use these tips to keep children safe](#).

Thank you for supporting LRA which is 100% run by volunteers. You can contact us by emailing contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk to raise an issue, give your views, or offer help.

News Sections

[LRA News](#)

[Planning and Licensing](#)

[Roads, Parking and Travel](#)

[Police, Fire and Crime](#)

[Council News](#)

[Local News](#)

[Health and Wellbeing](#)

[Epping Forest](#)

[And More](#)

Your LRA



[LRA Website](#)



[LRA on Facebook](#)



[LRA on X](#)

Contact LRA by email at contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

[Links not working? Read the online version](#)

LRA News

Local Government Reorganisation

Four different proposals have now gone forward to the Government for consideration. Provided they meet the criteria set out earlier in the year, these proposals will go forward for public consultation later this autumn, with a preferred option likely to be announced by Government in the spring of 2026. [More](#)



- Southend-on-Sea City Council, along with nine district, borough and city councils, has put forward a plan for five unitary councils.
- Thurrock Council's proposals focus on dividing Greater Essex into four new unitary councils.
- Rochford Council has put forward a different proposal for a four unitary councils model.
- Essex County Council, along with two district councils, is proposing a configuration of three new unitary councils.

District Council no longer under Conservative control

As we reported in our last news email, the District Council is no longer controlled by the Conservatives, after two of their Cllrs resigned from the Conservative party. We still expect a call will be made for a meeting to note and action this situation, and consider a motion, if necessary, to appoint a new Cabinet.

Flags on the streets

With the flying of flags in parts of town, Essex Highways say they are not inclined to take proactive action on flags unless they are overly distracting. However they take a serious view of painting out of zebra crossings and defacement of road signs.

Planning and Licensing

[Read more on our website](#) about Planning and Licensing, the role of the LRA Plans Group (LRAPG), how to get more information and how to comment to the Town Council and the District Council, and to the LRA Plans Group – please have your say.

There are no new Planning Applications of interest to report for now. You can [download the most recent week's applications here](#) or [search for planning applications here](#).

Roads, Parking and Travel

Planned road closures

- Old Station Road - the road will be closed from 16 to 18 October between 8pm and 5am for road resurfacing by Essex Highways. [More](#)

- Pyrles Lane - the road will be closed from 20 to 24 October between 9:30am and 2:30pm for road resurfacing by Essex Highways. [More](#)
- Debden Lane - the road will be closed from 27 to 31 October between 9am and 3pm for gully cleaning works by the County Council. The closure is from Ripley View north towards Theydon Bois for 710 metres. [More](#)



Dates and details can change so [check here or the latest updates](#), and for other planned roadworks including ones that involve only temporary traffic lights. However unplanned closures can still happen.

Police, Fire and Crime

The police in August

During August, the police in our district:

- helped to find 28 people who were reported missing and helped them to get the support they needed.
- investigated 79 reports of antisocial behaviour having listened to local communities about the things which were causing them concern.
- attended 44 road traffic collisions, helping to keep those involved safe and our roads moving.
- investigated 204 reports of domestic violence incidents and made sure victims were given help, support, and advice, putting them in contact with relevant organisations where appropriate.
- solved 102 crimes, ensuring those who are intent on committing crime are held accountable for their actions.
- submitted 467 pieces of intelligence which assists us in targeting criminal activity in our community.



Let's talk with the police

The police will be at Loughton Library on 14 October from 10am to 12pm. Just drop in, no booking required. [All future events are listed here](#).

Car criminals targeted

An operation devised by Loughton's Local Policing Team is helping to reduce car crime across Epping Forest district. The area's proximity to London and Hertfordshire, its transport links and relative affluence have made it a target for car criminals.

Sergeant Josh Stephens created Operation Bagpipes after analysing how his team

could proactively tackle the problem and get better outcomes for victims following a spike in offending. When the operation began in April 2024, the police had ideas about who the offenders were, but they wanted to improve the intelligence picture, work out patterns of offending and target the organised criminal gangs involved.

In the past year, vehicle crime in the district is down by 26% with 405 fewer offences reported. Vehicle theft is down by 9.8%, thefts from vehicles has fallen by 37% (250 fewer offences) and reports of vehicle interference have dropped by 38%. [More](#)



Loughton Fire Station Car Wash

Next Thursday 16 October, Loughton Fire Station is hosting a charity car wash, from 10am until 3pm.

All donations will go to a local charity to be able to give food parcels and presents to those less fortunate this Christmas. [More](#)

Pension fraud

Scammers are targeting those with pension savings. They do this by persuading you to cash out your pension and put the money into fraudulent and unregulated investments with the promise of high returns.

Scammers are often convincingly professional, with credible websites, testimonials and materials that are hard to distinguish from the real thing. Their aim is to persuade pension savers to either transfer their entire pension savings, or release funds from it. This is often to a scheme the scammer controls. [More](#)

More from the police

[Read more](#) from the police for our local area including other news and crime statistics. The data is updated to August 2025.

Some items we report on come from the Dispatch Newsletter from Essex Police. You can [subscribe here for free](#) (choose the Epping Forest edition)



Council News

Loughton Day

Loughton once again shone brightly as residents, visitors, and local organisations came together for the third Loughton Community Day. There was something for everyone – from a wide range of community and charity stalls to delicious food options that kept everyone well-fed and happy. The Scouts served up a delicious



BBQ, the Loughton Methodist church offered a delightful tea tent, and Nanno Pizza and Punch & Judy were major crowd-pleasers.

The Town Council thanks Loughton Wombles who kept the cricket ground clean and litter-free throughout the day, and Daniel Robinson & Sons and Madison Fox Estate Agents for their generous donations and sponsorship, which helped make

the event possible.

Our Town Cllrs added a sweet touch to the day with a strawberries and cream stall, raising funds for the Town Mayor's chosen charity – St Clare Hospice.

The true aim of the event – to bring our community together, to raise awareness of the incredible work done by local groups, and to inspire greater engagement and membership – was clearly achieved. The atmosphere was warm, welcoming, and full of the community spirit that defines Loughton.

[More \(with photos\)](#) and [more photos on Facebook](#)

Image: Town Council

Kingsley Hall

After some 40 years Kingsley Nursery vacated the premises in July and it is now closed.

The Town Council has now agreed that Fyfield Nursery is the preferred new nursery provider. Local residents living in the immediate vicinity of Kingsley Hall would be informed in due course.

Oak Processionary Moth nests removed

Nests have been removed from three trees behind the row of houses in River Way and one tree close to Loughton Brook. All oak trees within 50 metres of these trees have also been inspected.

Oak Processionary Moth is an invasive pest which can cause unpleasant skin, eye and throat irritations in people and animals although when they are left alone they pose little threat to humans. OPM can be identified through the processions of caterpillars, silk trails and silk nests on the trunks or branches of oak trees. However large populations can strip whole oak trees bare, leaving them more vulnerable to other pests and diseases, and to other stresses, such as drought. [Report any sightings here](#).



New bench

A new bench in memory of Mr Alan Askew was installed in July on the Roding Valley Recreation Ground near to Charlie Moull's bridge.

Image: Town Council



Loughton Station Approach litter

We've reported previously on the Town Council's efforts to remove the rubbish dropped in the land adjacent to Loughton Station Approach and next to the Roding Valley High School football pitches, which was attracting rat infestations.

The Council has pursued the problem for some time, and has now got the District Council to clear litter along Station Approach on a weekly basis. The Town Council will continue to monitor this.

Christmas Lights

The Town Council will again this year have Christmas lights in the usual locations, with additional warm static LED lights to be placed higher and wider on the Kings Green tree to enhance its appearance.

Cemetery tree of grief

The dead tree at the entrance to the Town Council cemetery is to be recognised as a tree to symbolise of sorrow and grief. The tree has been inspected and there are no health and safety concerns. Pollarding work will be carried out and an appropriate description board will be added.

Crossing along Rectory Lane requested

A group of residents have been asking for a safe crossing on Rectory Lane by Newmans Lane, given the proximity to nearby schools, the Newmans Lane Children's Playground, and that there is no crossing between Church Hill and The Broadway on this busy road.

The Town Council agrees that a safe crossing is needed at this location. The request was lodged many years ago with the Local Highways Panel (of County Cllrs) however the estimated cost of £127,700 has not been budgeted for. The Council will now write to the County Council Highways Portfolio holder, Tom Cunningham, and request the scheme to be implemented.

River Roding erosion

New timber post and rail fences have been installed at two adjacent locations parallel with the river and footpath at the junction of the Cranleigh Gardens field and lake field where erosion of the riverbank has taken place.

Image: Town Council



Local News

Local library events

[You can see upcoming events at Loughton and Debden libraries here.](#) More about the libraries at [Loughton](#) and [Debden](#). At Loughton Library there is:

- Every Saturday - board games event - drop in and play with family or make new friends. No booking required. [More](#)
- Every second Saturday - Storytime - listen to exciting stories. No booking required. [More](#)
- 14 October - dementia information drop-in sessions. No booking required. [More](#)
- 14 October - Fraud Awareness - The police will be there to discuss fraud awareness and give advice. No booking required. [More](#)



At Debden Library there is:

- Every Saturday 10am to 11:30am - Games Morning - board games inside and ping pong outdoors (bring your own ping pong bat and balls) self-supervised. No booking required. [More](#)

Help our library

You can volunteer to help at Loughton Library. Currently they have vacancies for a [Computer Support Volunteer](#) and [Baby and Toddler Rhyme Time Volunteer](#). [More](#)

Threat to Debden Centre and Campsite

We reported in December that Newham Council had agreed in principle to sell [Debden Centre and Campsite](#), and [it is now being advertised for sale](#).

This site on the edge of Loughton is important because it falls well within the Forest. It forms part of a small area which also contains some big houses and their grounds, not far from the deer sanctuary.

For many years, Debden House was used by Newham Council for staff training on weekdays, and as a registered Adult Education Centre in the evenings and at weekends for outsiders, including residential courses. Newham Council stopped using it for staff training and stopped supporting adult education there. Attempts to keep the latter aspect going failed because without the usual Government subsidies for adult education, residential courses became prohibitively expensive for most people.

The campsite is world-famous and a tourist attraction at Essex and national levels, but this is of course not relevant to Newham Council.

The Town Council has now decided apply to protect those assets as Assets of Community Value. ACV provisions give communities a right to identify a building or other land that they believe to be of importance to their community's social well-being, with the aim being that if the asset comes up for sale, then they will be given a fair chance to make a bid to buy it on the open market. [More](#). Although purchasing Debden Centre and Campsite is likely beyond the financial capacity of the Town Council to buy it, applying for ACV protection is a way to highlight the local importance of the site (the same was done for Loughton Library).

New City College funding to train construction workers

New City College has been confirmed as one of just 10 [Construction Technical Excellence Colleges](#) (CTECs) across the country and will receive part of a £100 million government investment to train construction workers.

Local aspiring builders, electricians, carpenters, bricklayers and roofers will be able to get training for skills that are in demand from employers and for jobs within the construction industry. [More](#)

Do you enjoy handicrafts?

The Woodlands Branch of the Essex Handicraft Association meet at the Loughton Methodist Church on the High Road, on the 4th Thursday of each month (except August and December).

Join the friendly group from 8pm to 10pm in the church hall at the rear of the building. As they try a different activity each month everyone is welcome whether you are a novice interested in trying handicrafts or already enjoy making things.

The AGM is held in September and the County AGM is held in October when all the Essex branches come together. Email Karen Myles the Secretary on ehawoodlandscrafts@gmail.com for more information. [More](#)

Loughton Athletic Club invite you to help Lift the Curfew

As the nights draw in it can feel harder to get out the door and enjoy our regular activities. [Lift the Curfew](#) is a national campaign aimed to support participation in sport by women right through the darker months.

[Loughton Athletic Club](#) are repeating their series of Lift the Curfew runs that are open to all over the age of 16.

Come along on the last Monday of the month, meeting outside Loughton Library shortly before 7pm. You will be accompanied on a 6.5km route (with some options

for shorter cut backs if required). The emphasis is running together and no one will be left behind. Hi Viz is highly recommended.

No need to sign up in advance but do [get in touch](#) with the club with any questions or keep an eye for Event pages on Facebook.

Health and Wellbeing

Making GP Appointments

From 1 October all [GP practices in England are required to keep online consultation tools open](#) from 8am to 6:30pm, Monday to Friday.

This means you can complete a online form at the website for your GP for non-urgent appointment requests, medication queries, and administrative requests. This can be particularly useful to those unable to get through on the phone at 8am to make an appointment. Some practices have had this available for a while.

Here are links to the forms for GP practices in our wider area:

[Kings Medical Centre](#)

[Loughton Health Centre](#)

[Palmerston Road Surgery](#)

[The Forest Practice](#)

[The Loughton Surgery](#)

[The River Surgery](#)

[Here's a guide](#) on filling in your GP's online form, including [a video that could help you](#).

[You and your general practice](#) (YYGP) has been developed to help patients understand what to expect from their general practice and how they can get the best from their GP team. YYGP also enables patient to provide feedback or raise concerns with their GP Practice, Healthwatch or the integrated care board (ICB). [More](#)

NHS Remote Monitoring - Have your say

Across the country, NHS services are making more use of 'remote monitoring' to support cancer patients who have completed treatment and no longer need regular hospital visits, but who would still benefit from long-term checks for signs of the illness returning. Remote monitoring often uses mobile applications on smart phones or tablet devices to provide patients with a range of information and support, and the ability to keep in contact with their clinical team.

The NHS wants to understand what would matter the most to you if you were offered this service and what would be helpful and have put together a survey to gather your views.

[Take part in the survey here](#) until 19 October.

Free Flu vaccinations for children

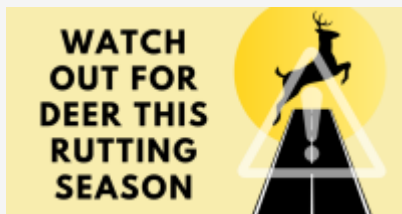


For the first time, parents can now get their 2 and 3 year olds vaccinated for free at local pharmacies. [More](#) and [find a local pharmacy](#) that provides the vaccine. [Here is detailed information on the flu vaccine.](#)

Epping Forest

Epping Forest Big Walk 2025

On 14th September, the Epping Forest Heritage Trust's Big Walk took place, welcoming many familiar and new faces to the annual celebration walk. Organised in partnership with the City of London Corporation, the walk started at Manor Park and went for 14 miles to Theydon Bois. There were also short talks to inspire the walkers about the wonders of the Forest and ongoing work to protect and preserve it. [Photos are here](#)



Be Deer Aware

The rut is underway in the Forest, with the roar of bucks echoing through the ancient wood-pasture & their scent filling the autumn air. At this time, bucks are especially active, bold & unpredictable. Drive carefully, keep your distance & never approach or block them.

Epping Forest 2026 calendar

The Epping Forest calendar for 2026 is available to purchase from the Epping Forest Visitor Centre at Chingford. The price is £10 for A4 size and £12 for the A3 size. It's the Christmas gift that keeps on giving, and supports Epping Forest charities.



Epping Forest Heritage Trust AGM

The EFHT AGM will be held on Saturday 11 October, at 10.15 am in the Murray Hall on Borders Lane.

The AGM is open for EFHT members only, free of charge. Non-members can join the Panel Discussions on 'Campaigning to Protect Epping Forest Over the Ages' on a donation basis at 11:45am. [More](#)

Forest Focus - September 2025

Some items here come from Forest Focus. The edition for [September](#) has lots more interesting articles. You can [subscribe here for free](#).



This month you can [read about the four of its most recognisable trees](#) (scroll down) to look out for on your next wander through the Forest, and what pollarding is all about.

And More

Keep Your Children Safe this Halloween

Halloween can be an exciting time of year for children, dressing up and going out after dark. The Child Accident Prevention Trust have [some tips for a safe Halloween](#) that cover Halloween costumes, fire protection, being visible on the evening, staying safe near roads, and carving the pumpkin.

*Thank you for supporting LRA. The next regular news email is planned for Friday 31 October.
Regular news emails are issued every 3-4 weeks and special news emails occasionally.*

To contact us, email contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

To update your membership details, email membership@loughtonresidents.co.uk

More from LRA at:

LRA's Website
www.loughtonresidents.org.uk

All our past issues of LRA's Loughton News emails, Loughton Life, and more

LRA on Facebook



LRA on X



1. If you find any links not working or anything else is wrong let us know at loughtonnews@loughtonresidents.co.uk. Links to other websites are beyond our control and may not work over time.
2. LRA gives no warranty about, and will take no responsibility for, items or services offered – purchasers/users should make their own enquiries, and will be acting at their own risk.

© 2025 Loughton Residents Association

Promoted by & on behalf of Independent Loughton Residents Association, 28 Brook Road, Loughton IG10 1BP

19/12/2025, 10:52

LRA's Loughton News

This email was sent to <<First Name>> <<Last Name>> at <<Email Address>>. You are receiving this email as a member of Loughton Residents Association and have subscribed to receiving emails from us.
[Unsubscribe from emails from LRA here](#)