

LymeLiving

THE LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL MAGAZINE

FREE

Stories behind the Trail

Comfort in company

Beach hut booking days

From lattes to letters

Quintessentially British

100,000 voices of support



- UPDATES ON COUNCIL PROJECTS
- BUSINESS OF THE MONTH
- WHAT'S ON IN LYME REGIS

OCTOBER 2025
EDITION 005

www.lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk

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Welcome

EDITOR'S NOTE

WITH the sunny days of summer already feeling like a distant memory, it feels like the town is settling in for the 'Ber' months of autumn.

It feels like Lyme Regis is starting to exhale – the chaos of the summer is over and in this issue, we embrace the shift in mood.

There's something very grounding about this time of year in Lyme Regis, with a return to routine, to community, and quieter days.

While the council's dedicated seafront staff are breathing a sigh of relief that another successful season is over, the office staff look ahead to their busiest time of the year, with budgets to prepare, beach huts to manage, and projects to get on with. The gardening team will also be working hard, preparing our grounds and gardens for the winter ahead and always thinking ahead to the coming seasons (see page 6).

Dare I say it, but there's already been talk of Christmas (too soon?), but first we're looking forward to our regular autumn events, such as fireworks and Remembrancetide, as well as a brand-new event for Halloween, 'Mini Ghouls' (see page 40).

Don't forget, residents get a 10% discount at the mini golf with a Gateway Card!

This edition also features details about three really important consultations happening right now, affecting our local housing, transport and future development (see pages 14, 15 and 17). It may seem tedious, but if we're not prepared to give our views, how can we expect change?

Adrienne Mulling

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

PEW! What a summer. By far the most enjoyable thing about being the mayor is being invited to all the events which makes Lyme such a popular holiday destination.

From May right through to September, Lyme plays host to thousands of visitors who enjoy the many attractions which make our town such an ideal holiday destination for family entertainment.

The season kicks off with the Fossil Festival which highlights our resort as a must for the earth sciences aficionados, made possible by grant funding from the town council.

Next comes the Somers Day event when we can welcome our friends from Bermuda, which was discovered by former Lyme mayor, Admiral Sir George Somers.

Early July sees the ever-popular Sausage and Cider Festival at Lyme Regis Football Club, followed by the Lyme Morris Day when hundreds of Morris dancers from all over the country descend on Lyme for a weekend of dancing merriment.

With the schools on holiday, Lyme sees a massive increase in the number of visitors descending on our town for the two big events of the summer – the Regatta and Carnival and Lifeboat week. The season finishes with the folk festival which attracts musicians from far and wide.

So much effort goes into these summer events and on behalf of the town council I would like to pay tribute to those who put in hundreds of hours to make Lyme a must for those who want a traditional season holiday.

Alr Philip Evans MBE

Photograph by Jenny Guest



Photograph of the month

THIS beautiful shot of the full moon rising over the harbour was captured by local resident Jenny Guest. It was taken on carnival evening after Lyme Morris had just finished dancing.

In a place like Lyme Regis, there will be no shortage of views to capture.

Send us your submissions and you may be featured next time!

Email enquiries@lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk



LymeLiving

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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

THE next meeting of the Full Council will be held on Wednesday 29 October 2025, at 7pm in the Guildhall, Bridge Street, Lyme Regis.

Residents are welcome to attend and raise items in the public forum, or just listen to the debate.

CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'S EVENT

A CHRISTMAS event to rehome children's clothing, toys, books and DVDs will be supported with a small grant from the town council.

Little Green Change has been awarded £350 to support the event, which last year directly benefitted over 200 children and rehomed almost 300kg of goods.

Visit littlegreenchange.com for more details about the 2025 event.

WINTER BUS TIMETABLE

THE town council has urged First Bus to reconsider its new winter timetable amid concerns vital local public transport connections will be lost.

The X51/53 timetable makes it impossible for people in Lyme Regis to connect with the morning commuter train at Axminster.

The council is also concerned the new timetable appears to have been approved without any local consultation taking place. A letter has been written to First Bus, Dorset Council and local MP Edward Morello to express the council's concerns and urge a re-think.

LARGE CAPITAL GRANTS

ARE you a local organisation in need of funding for a capital project?

Round two of the town council's large capital grants is now open for applications for funding between £1,000 and £12,500.

Grants can be used for the purchase of materials and equipment, or the one-off provision of a service that makes Lyme Regis a better place to live, work and play.

For more information and to download an application pack, visit

www.lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk/grants

You have until midday on Monday 6 October to get your applications in.

MEET WITH THE MAYOR

DO you have an issue you would like to discuss with the mayor, ideas to make the town a better place, or want to know more about the council?

You can meet with the mayor, Cllr Philip Evans, at his monthly surgery on the third Saturday of the month in the Mayor's Parlour at the Guildhall.

The next surgery is on Saturday 18 October from 10am to midday.

To book an appointment, contact anne-marie.shepherd@lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk or 01297 445175.

Major investment to improve water quality in Lyme Regis



MAJOR works to improve water quality in the river and sea in Lyme Regis will take place this autumn.

South West Water has confirmed that Lyme Regis will benefit from significant upgrades to its drainage and storage systems, as part of its £760 million Turning the Tide programme.

The works are designed to cut sewage discharges into the River Lim and Lyme Bay, improving water quality in both the river and the sea.

The news has been welcomed by River Lim Action, which has been campaigning for urgent improvements.

Vicki Elcoate, of River Lim Action, said: "We urgently need more storage so that rainfall is slowed down when it enters the system, and better separation of rain water and sewage.

"There were over 800 hours of permitted sewage discharges into the river last year. We're pleased that investment is being made to reduce this, but disappointed that no date has yet been given for the essential upgrade to Uplyme Sewage Treatment Works."

South West Water has acknowledged that the works will cause some traffic disruption while trenches are dug and new infrastructure is installed.

However, campaigners and the council stress that the long-term gains will be worth it.

Ms Elcoate said: "This is about cleaner water in the River Lim, protecting our bathing beaches, and safeguarding the environment for future generations.

"We also want to see urgent action on leaks, misconnections and broken pipes, which are still contributing to high bacteria levels."

The project forms part of South West Water's wider commitment to reduce reliance on storm overflows across the region.

Storm overflows act as 'safety valves' when the sewer system is overwhelmed by heavy rain, preventing sewage from backing up into homes, but at the cost of discharging into rivers and the sea.

By increasing storage capacity and separating rainwater from sewage, the Lyme Regis scheme aims to ensure more waste water can be captured and treated properly, rather than being released into the environment.



Buddle Bridge



Construction of storm tank



The river at Gosling Bridge



The programme of works is as follows:

September – November 2025

- Trial holes and investigations begin

November 2025- October 2026

- Surface water separation works

March 2026 – March 2027

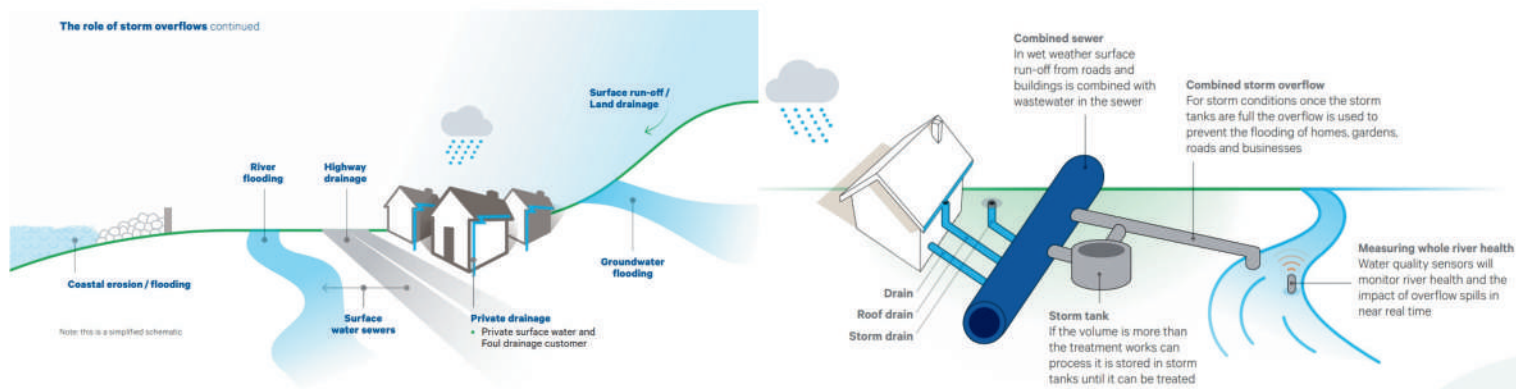
- Storm tank construction

Dates TBC

- Uplyme Sewage Treatment Works upgrades.



SCAN ME



South West Water will begin initial investigations this autumn, with major work starting in November 2025.

The project includes:

- Surface water separation: new drainage trenches and pipes will be laid in key areas of Lyme Regis, including Colway Lane, Clappentail Lane, Sidmouth Road, West Hill Road, and Hays Close. This will help stop rainwater from overwhelming the sewer system.
- Storm tank storage: five new storm tanks will be built at Cobb Gate, Gosling Bridge, Jericho, Horn Bridge and Mill Lane. These tanks will store excess rainwater before it is treated, reducing the need for storm overflows.

The full schedule is expected to run until March 2027, with further upgrades to Uplyme Sewage Treatment Works still awaiting confirmation.



Autumn in the gardens...

AS the vibrant colours of summer give way to autumn's golden tones, the Lyme Regis Town Council's external works team are rolling up their sleeves to prepare our gardens for the seasons ahead.

The next few months will see a hive of activity, with a mixture of planting, path repairs, and environmental improvements designed to ensure the gardens remain a welcoming, accessible space.

From splitting and dividing herbaceous perennials to planting thousands of daffodil and crocus bulbs, the team are working hard to make sure the gardens burst back into life with a flourish of colour come springtime.

Flower beds are being cleared and replanted back to their original designs, while edging boards are being replaced to keep everything neat and well defined.

Major hedge work will also take place to reduce height and improve the overall structure of the gardens.

Significant investment is being made into path improvements this autumn, with repair works starting from October.

Visitors to the gardens should expect some temporary disruption while the works to replace worn tarmac paths with a natural gravel surface and carry out patch repairs to incline paths take place.

These upgrades will improve safety, durability, and the overall look of the gardens for the long term.

Essential improvement works are being carried out along the Stile Lane footpath to ensure it remains safe and accessible.

The path will be fully redesigned in the section between the two sets of steps.

For safety reasons, the footpath will be fully closed while these works take place, and the council thanks residents and visitors for their patience during this time.

Alongside these essential works, the team is also looking to the environment.



Newly installed flower bed

Rainwater harvesting butts, with a capacity of 1,000 litres each, have been installed at the Garden Pavilion and mini golf area to help water the community garden sustainably.

Six new bird boxes and six bat roosting boxes have also been added to the Woodland Walk, expanding habitats for local wildlife and adding to the existing bird boxes, and we eagerly anticipate the installation of two new owl boxes in the cemetery.

After the Garden Pavilion was painted by Woodroffe School GCSE art students earlier this year, new benches will be placed inside the pavilion, restoring the space to a peaceful spot for everyone to enjoy.

Alongside these works, the seafront railings are receiving a fresh coat of paint, to ensure the seafront continues looking its best.

These improvements are part of the council's continued commitment to maintaining and enhancing our much-loved green spaces.



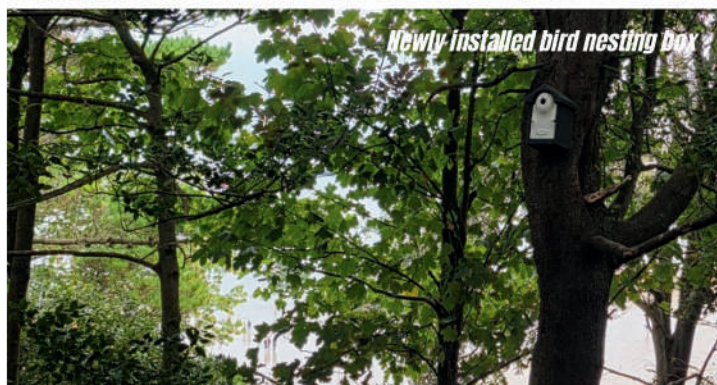
Cracks in tarmac paths



Footpath at Stile Lane



New section of path



Newly installed bird nesting box



TIPS AND TRICKS FROM UPLYME AND LYME REGIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Autumn is a busy time for the gardener. Here are some essential tasks to tackle.

START CUTTING BACK PERENNIALS

The modern trend is to leave perennials in place until the spring and then to cut back. This is great for plants that provide food for the birds and insects or have structure that looks interesting throughout winter. Not everything does however, so it's worth starting to cut back the stuff that's going floppy and/or rotten. You'll also be able to find the brambles and other weeds hiding beneath these plants and remove them, not to mention the smaller plants that have been swamped and need rescuing!

PROTECT PLANTS FROM THE COLD AND WET

Move tender plants into the greenhouse or polytunnel towards the end of the month if cold nights are expected. 5°C is a common cut-off point below which plants might suffer damage so keep an eye on those weather forecasts. Also, there are some plants that might be hardy in terms of temperature but which will rot in the wet if left in the open so lift those into a pot and put under cover too.

LOVE YOUR LAWN

After the harsh heat of the summer, it's nice to see our lawns springing back into life. If it remains mild you might need to mow for a little while yet but typically mowing stops around early to mid-October. And if some of your lawn needs renovating after the rigours of the summer, now is the time to lay turf and you can probably just about get away with sowing seed too.

FOCUS ON OVER-WINTERING VEGETABLES

Now is the time to be sowing veg for next year, or to set out small plants to over-winter and be ready for the spring. Examples of veg you should be sowing or planting out are broad beans, some varieties of pea, spring cabbage, onion sets and garlic cloves. You'll be all set for a delicious spring!

Stories behind the Trail

THE Langmoor and Lister Gardens provide a perfect outdoor gallery for a range of contemporary sculptures by local artists, enhancing the surrounding natural beauty.

Each month in Lyme Living we will focus on one of the sculptures in the trail, talking to the artists about what inspired them, starting with *Ripple*, by Michael Fairfax.

THE ripples of the sand as the tide washes in and out inspired sculptor and environmental and sound artist Michael Fairfax to create an installation for Lyme Regis.

Ripple, nestled in the top corner of the Lister Gardens next to the mini golf, was made in 2002 in bronze.

Originally loaned to the town council to feature as part of the sculpture trail, which was established in 2015, Michael has now gifted *Ripple* to the town.

"It kind of belongs here now," said Michael. "I would rather it was seen than in my studio or at home doing nothing. It would be nice to give it to Lyme Regis."

Michael has been a public artist for around 40 years and has been commissioned to make almost 160 sculptures around the world.

He made two similar ripple-effect sculptures in 2002, the other of which is on display in Exmouth.

Michael said: "Other than being a public artist and site-specific artist, I try to make things relevant. This shows the marks on the sand as the tide goes out and that's why it's called *Ripple*."

"I thought it would be nice to make a sculpture that echoes those marks, not an exact depiction, because the joy of making a sculpture, the tool and the material and the intuitive nature of making it defines it.

"In Exmouth it's in the middle of the café quarter and you don't have that reference so it's really nice that you have that reference of the tides in Lyme Regis."



Michael Fairfax, next to Ripple

The sculpture is made of bronze, but from afar, it can look like wood.

"I originally made it in wood and I was really pleased with the casting," said Michael. "If you tap it, you hear the metallic sound and obviously it will last forever."

Michael hopes people who see his sculpture will appreciate the relevance it has to its surroundings.

He said: "Because you are making something for a public space you always have to consider the people that are in that space and how that sculpture is going to react to the space, it's their environment.

"Particularly with the sea being just there, it has that relevance because you get the ripples on the sea too."

Driving change towards Net Zero

THE TOWN council is committed to playing its part in tackling climate change and working towards the UK's net zero targets.

While funding and national policy can present challenges, the council is determined to lead by example and implement meaningful changes that make a real difference to our community.

Recent steps forward include the installation of photovoltaic solar panels on new build roofs, such as the beach store and amenities' hut, helping to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and generate renewable energy.

On the roads, the council has introduced biodiesel across its fleet, now powering the town tractor, gardener's vehicles, lengthsman's vehicles, and the new Lyme Link minibus.

This change is already cutting emissions and demonstrates how practical solutions can lower our carbon footprint without compromising on the essential services our team provides.

These initiatives complement other green projects already in place, such as the installation of electric vehicle charging points in car parks for public use and the ongoing replacement of older diesel vehicles with electric alternatives.

By working alongside local organisations and the wider community, the council is helping to build a more sustainable, cleaner, greener and carbon-neutral future for Lyme Regis.



FROM LATTES TO LETTERS



A VITAL local service has returned to Lyme Regis with the opening of a Post Office counter at Waffle Lyme Regis.

The service has been launched with the financial backing of Lyme Regis Town Council, which has provided both start-up funding and ongoing subsidy to support the Post Office over the next five years.

The counter has popped up in a discreet corner of the community café in Broad Street and has been welcomed by local residents and businesses following the closure of the Post Office in the same building in 2022.

The provision of a Post Office was high among residents' priorities when the town council last consulted on its objectives, also in 2022, and it has since been looking for opportunities to deliver on this.

When Waffle took on its premises, the team saw an opportunity to combine their café space with an essential local service.

Director of Waffle, Matt Smith said: "We had no idea what we were getting into at first but the more we spoke with residents, the clearer it became that having a Post Office in the town really mattered to people.

"That kept us going, even when it looked like it might not happen."

The project nearly stalled when Post Office funding for set-up costs was withdrawn mid-application.

Lyme Regis Town Council stepped in with a grant to cover the initial outlay, in addition to the five-year funding to help with running costs.

Without this backing, Matt said the project would not have been possible.

He hopes the counter will become more than a place to post parcels.

Matt said: "We want the Post Office to be a hub that connects people to other forms of community support, whether that's IT help, financial advice, or simply a space to bump into a neighbour.



"Community infrastructure like this creates opportunities for connection, which are vital for our wellbeing.

"The Post Office itself won't make a profit, but it's a community investment. Every coffee or slice of cake bought alongside a stamp helps keep the lights on and ensures Lyme continues to have this essential service."

The new Post Office combi counter will offer everyday services such as posting letters and parcels, buying stamps, collecting and returning pre-paid items, paying bills, topping up utilities, and basic banking.

It will be open Tuesday to Saturday, 9am to 5pm, alongside Waffle's café hours.

Lyme Regis Civic Day



MAYORS from across Dorset gathered at Lyme Regis for the town's annual Civic Day, hosted by the mayor, Cllr Philip Evans MBE, and the mayoress, Jackie Evans.

The town councils present at the event, known as 'The Chain Gang', were Chickerell, Dorchester, Ferndown, Gillingham, Lytchett Minster and Upton, Portland, Verwood, Wareham and Weymouth.

Yeovil Town Council were represented by their mayor, Cllr Tony Lock.

Also present were Cllr Stella Jones MBE, chairman of Dorset Council, accompanied by her husband, Trevor Jones OBE.

Special guests were the Honourable Charlotte Townsend, Vice-Lieutenant of Dorset, and Callum Bremner JP, the High Sheriff of Dorset, accompanied by Jane Bremner, chairman of Charmouth Parish Council.

The civic leaders gathered for refreshments at the Power Boat Club where they were welcomed by Cllr Evans, who gave a short review of Lyme's summer activities before they received a presentation by Jon Lloyd Davies, from the internationally recognised Boat Building Academy.

The party then made their way to the Lyme Regis Lifeboat Station where RNLI stalwarts Nick Marks and Richard Horobin gave a presentation of the Lyme lifeboat, which next year celebrates its 200th anniversary.

The party was then transported in the town's new community bus, the Lyme Link, to the Hotel Alexandra for a two-course lunch before lining up for a photograph of those present in the hotel's gardens.

After lunch the civic guests were given a presentation entitled 'Our Mission - Our Town' at the Guildhall by town clerk John Wright and assistant town clerk Adrienne Mullins.

"It was a very enjoyable day and we were honoured to have had the Vice-Lieutenant and High Sheriff as our guests, It was a glorious day and they saw Lyme at its best."

- Cllr Philip Evans MBE



NEWS IN

A WIN FOR THE COMMUNITY: MUGA IS OPEN

A VIBRANT new multi-sport facility has been officially opened in Lyme Regis.

The multi-use games area (MUGA) at Anning Road Playing Field is now open for use, a project which Lyme Regis Town Council has invested over £100,000 in.

The project has included the building of the games area, a new path from the playing field gate to the MUGA entrance, and the moving and levelling of the main pitch.

Cllr Michaela Ellis, chairman of the council's Town Management and Highways Committee, performed the official opening, joined by council staff and members, representatives from Lyme Regis Pickleball Club and Lyme Regis Youth Football, and local families.

Cllr Ellis said: "It's been a long time and a lot of hard work for the council to get this going. It's cost us £100k and over to get it and I'm hoping it's going to be well used."

"It came out of the community consultation we did and a lot of the children, when we went to St Michael's, were keen for us



to have this, so it's a really great facility for the town."

The MUGA features line markings and nets for football, basketball, netball and pickleball, but any ball sports can be played there.

Mark Duerden, chairman of Lyme Regis Youth Football, said: "I think it's a real benefit for the young people of this town, and the older generation. It's up to them to look after it."



ONE HUNDRED AND FIVE YEARS YOUNG

LYME Regis resident Jeanne Allen has lived through the turn of two centuries, two world wars, the Great Depression, the Space Race, women's suffrage, the fall of the Berlin Wall, and countless other historical events.

Jeanne has certainly led an interesting life and has now celebrated her 105th birthday.

When one of Jeanne's neighbours contacted the town council to ask if there was anything we could do to mark the occasion, the mayor and mayoress were only too happy to visit her personally.

Cllr Evans and wife Jackie presented Jeanne with a bouquet of flowers and a card on behalf of the council and the town of Lyme Regis to celebrate the extraordinary milestone.

PICTURES

SAILING THE SEAS

SAILING will continue to be as accessible as possible for children and adults in Lyme Regis thanks in part to funding from the town council.

The Lyme Regis Sea School Trust was awarded a total of £2,000 by the council to put towards two new Fusion dinghies in 2024 and a further two in 2025.

Town councillors were invited to the harbour to meet with members of the sea school and see the new dinghies.

Lyme Regis Sea School chairman Jo Law said: "These dinghies are for both children and adults to sail in and maintains the sea school's aim of providing safe dinghies.

"The volunteer-run sea school teaches young and mature students to sail, with around 250 pupils a year. The vast majority of our instructors are local to the Lyme Regis area.

"The dinghies are also used by local junior sailors at Lyme Regis Sailing Club, for youth race training, regattas and other events, and by Woodroffe School students. We try to make sailing as accessible as possible to those who wish to learn to sail.

"We will be closed by the time this reaches Lyme Living, but keep an eye out for our Open Days in 2026 and our summer weeks for next year, which will be announced as soon as possible on our website <https://lrss.uk/>

"Thank you Lyme Regis Town Council!"



VISIBLE POLICE ON OUR STREET

DORSET Police has officially launched its brand-new Mobile Police Stations (MPS), bringing policing directly into our towns, villages and rural communities.

In Lyme Regis, the MPS will be based at Marine Parade Shelters on the second Thursday of each month, 11am to 1pm (times are subject to change).

The MPS is a community hub where residents can report a crime, anti-social behaviour or nuisance, get advice on a range of matters, make a complaint or discuss a civil dispute, find out who your local officer is and how to contact them, share information or intelligence to help investigations, or report missing persons or lost/stolen property.

The MPS will be staffed by trained PCSOs, fully linked with operational teams to make policing more visible, accessible, and community focussed.





Funded by
UK Government

SCAN ME



ARE you struggling to find suitable housing in Lyme Regis? Are you a young person unable to move out of your family home? Are you a family living in an overcrowded situation? Are you an older person unable to access housing to meet your needs?

If any of these apply to you, now is your chance to give your opinion on what kind of housing Lyme Regis really needs.

The Lyme Regis Community Land Trust, Dorset Council and Dorset Community Action have launched an important Housing Needs Survey to help shape the future of housing in our town.

Running until midnight on Sunday 12 October 2025, the survey is designed to give residents, families, and workers with local connections the chance to share their views on housing in Lyme Regis.

By completing this anonymous survey, you will provide vital evidence to help plan for affordable homes in Lyme Regis, homes that truly reflect the needs of local people.

Your feedback will also support conversations with decision-makers about the kind of housing developments our town should prioritise.

The survey is not just open to those with housing needs, it is open to anyone with a local connection, whether through living, working, or having family in Lyme Regis.

It only takes a few minutes to complete, but the impact could last for generations.

Remember, the deadline to complete the survey is Sunday 12 October 2025.

TALK TO US

Jacqui Cuff, Rural Housing Enabler:
jacqui.cuff@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk
07421994590



Photograph by Max Redwood



Complete the survey online at
<https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/>

Completed paper copies of the survey can be left at Waffle Lyme Regis in a sealed envelope.

If you would like to be sent a paper copy of the survey or have any questions, please contact Dorset Council's housing enabling team at housingenabling@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk or 01305 252443, or rural housing enabler Jacqui Cuff at jacqui.cuff@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk or 07421 994590.

Make sure the future of housing in Lyme Regis is shaped by the people who know and love it best.

DORSET 2043: WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE?



DORSET Council has launched a major consultation on the future growth and development of our county and your views matter.

The Dorset Local Plan will shape where new homes, jobs, and infrastructure are created over the next 17 years, while ensuring planning decisions protect and enhance our natural environment. It's Dorset's response to some of the biggest challenges we face:

- Tackling the shortage of housing
- Enabling economic growth
- Delivering essential infrastructure
- Addressing climate change and conserving the environment

For Lyme Regis residents, this is an important opportunity to influence the decisions that will affect our town and surrounding area.

An exhibition is open at the Jubilee Pavilion on Marine Parade, with displays showing the key details for Lyme and Charmouth, alongside proposals for road safety, better traffic management and a more sociable and accessible town centre for everyone.

The Visitor Hub at the Jubilee Pavilion is dependent on volunteers being available so please take a look if it is open.

All the current public consultations are on www.consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk and the libraries can help you go online or provide paper copies.

The consultation invites feedback on proposed development opportunities, from housing and employment sites to renewable energy projects and provision for gypsies, travellers, and travelling showpeople.

Interactive maps allow you to explore potential sites in detail, or you can use the text and PDF versions if you prefer.

The consultation also provides landowners with the chance to confirm whether their land should remain under consideration for development or be withdrawn.

 **The consultation is open until 13 October 2025.**

To take part, visit Dorset Council's Local Plan Consultation page, <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/dorset-council-local-plan-options-consultation-2025>

Dorset is changing - help us shape it



We want them to have a home they can afford

The online survey is quick to complete and helps Dorset Council analyse responses more effectively.

Lyme Regis Town Council encourages all residents, businesses, and community groups to get involved.

By contributing your views, you can help ensure future housing and infrastructure meets the real needs of local people while protecting the character of our town.



KNOW YOUR COUNCIL

This brand-new feature is your chance to get to know the people representing you at Lyme Regis Town Council. Each edition, we will be introducing you to one of your local councillors, sharing their stories, their roles on the council, and the work they do in our community.

We begin with the mayor and the deputy mayor, two long-standing and dedicated voices for Lyme Regis.



MAYOR

CLLR PHILIP EVANS MBE

I WAS born and educated here in Lyme Regis, and I've always been proud to call this town my home. Many people know me as Pip, and some may

remember that I first joined the town council back in the early 1980s. In 1985, I became the youngest mayor of Lyme Regis, an honour I'll never forget.

My professional life was in journalism. I worked as a journalist and editor for several west country newspapers before moving to London in the late 1980s to work for an international media company. My career in the media spanned over 60 years, before I returned to Lyme Regis to run my own media business, which I continued until retiring in 2024.

It felt right to come back to the council in 2024, and I am currently serving as mayor once again. I also chair the Tourism, Community and Publicity Committee, and sit on the Town Management and Highways and the Strategy and Finance Committees. These roles allow me to help guide the council in its work for both residents and visitors.

Community service has always been close to my heart. I am proud to serve as president of the Lyme Regis branch of the Royal British Legion, president of Lyme Regis Football Club, and chairman of the Lyme branch of Cancer Research UK.

In 2018, I was awarded an MBE for services to the community, something that meant a great deal to me. My passion for this town and its people has never faded, and I remain committed to doing everything I can for Lyme Regis.

I feel honoured to serve the town of Lyme.



DEPUTY MAYOR

CLLR MICHAELA ELLIS

I 'VE lived in Lyme Regis all my life, the daughter of Michael and Gloria Emmett. I was educated here, and my whole working life has been spent

in the town, mostly in retail trades. Lyme Regis is very much part of who I am, which is why I decided many years ago to stand for the town council. Since then, I've served five years as mayor and four as deputy mayor, and I've been involved in most of the council's committees over the years.

At present, I'm chairman of the Town Management and Highways Committee, vice-chairman of the Strategy and Finance Committee, and also serve on the Tourism, Community and Publicity Committee. I enjoy the responsibility of these roles and the opportunity they give me to help shape the future of our town.

Beyond my council work, I've always played an active part in local life. I'm chairman of the Community Bingo Association and of the Woodmead Halls Management Committee. I also serve on the Over 70s Christmas Dinner Committee, the Marders Almshouses, Lyme Regis Cancer Research, and Lyme Regis Charities. I'm passionate about supporting a wide range of organisations and often lend a hand with fundraising efforts too.

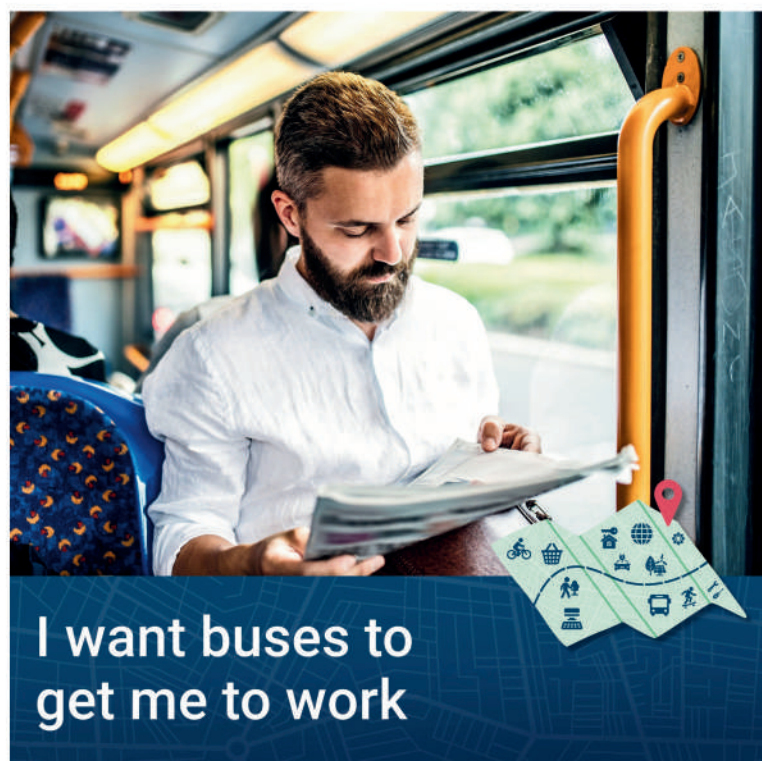
Family is very important to me. My husband, Alan, is a local plumber and firefighter, and together we have two daughters, Jarvia and Kelsey, and two grandsons, Reuben and Albert. Like me, they're all involved in the local community, and I couldn't be prouder of the part they play.

I feel very lucky to have been able to live, work, and serve in the town I love, and I look forward to continuing to do all I can for Lyme Regis.

THE ROAD AHEAD



This is where **your journey begins...**



I want buses to
get me to work

A NEW plan setting out a long-term vision to make travel across Dorset easier, safer, more inclusive and more sustainable is now out for consultation.

Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council are working together on a new Local Transport Plan (LTP) that will guide how people and goods move around our area from 2026 to 2041.

The plan looks at how we can improve everyday journeys, cut congestion, reduce pollution, and ensure everyone can access work, school, healthcare and leisure opportunities.

The Local Transport Plan will help:

- Support a growing population
- Respond to climate change and protect our environment
- Reflect how people live and work today
- Make journeys more reliable
- Ensure equal access to jobs, services and opportunities

Why your views matter

In 2024, thousands of people shared their ideas for the plan. This feedback helped shape the current draft, but now Dorset Council wants to know whether they have got it right?



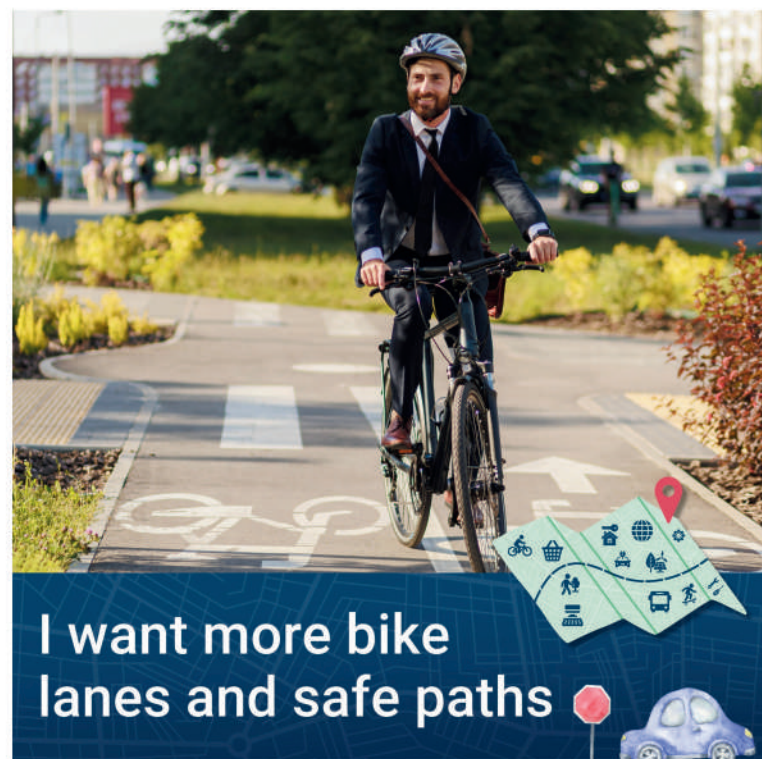
The consultation is open until Sunday 13 October 2025.

Your feedback will ensure the final plan reflects what matters most to residents, businesses and communities here in Lyme Regis and beyond.

Once adopted, the LTP will guide future funding decisions and help deliver real improvements on the ground.

Take a few minutes to complete the survey and share your views.

For more information and to access the consultation, visit <https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/transport-planning1/dorset-bcp-local-transport-plan-survey/>



I want more bike
lanes and safe paths



Changes to your bin schedule

THE bin collection day has changed in Lyme Regis to improve efficiency and reduce costs.

Dorset Council recently wrote to homes in Lyme Regis and Charmouth to confirm the collection day would switch from Mondays to Tuesdays from 21 September.

The changes are part of a county-wide effort to make waste services more efficient.

The updated service will continue to provide fortnightly rubbish and recycling collections, alongside weekly food waste collections.

These changes will allow crews to work more efficiently, reduce operational costs, and maintain high standards of service delivery.

What residents need to know:

- Only households that received a letter are affected. If you didn't get one, your collection day has stayed the same.
- Rubbish and recycling continue to be collected fortnightly, with weekly food waste collections.
- On your collection day, bins may be emptied at different times as crews work new routes.
- Separate compartments in collection vehicles mean waste types remain sorted, even if they're collected together.
- Crews may also use a larger 'service bin' to gather food waste types remain sorted, even if they're collected together.
- Garden waste and business collections remain mostly unchanged, though customers will be contacted separately if needed.

Cllr Jon Andrews, Dorset Council's Cabinet member for Place Services, said: "We're making these changes to ensure our waste collection service remains reliable, cost-effective and environmentally responsible."

"By optimising our routes and using our vehicles more efficiently, we can continue to deliver a high-quality service to residents across southwest Dorset. We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation as we roll out these improvements."

If you are unsure of your bin day, you can check online at: www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/bin-day



Digital support in Lyme Regis

FREE digital advice sessions are available in Lyme Regis with face-to-face sessions on offer.

Perhaps you or someone you know needs help with their digital device or a technical issue you'd like solved?

Or maybe you want to learn more about online services such as booking GP appointments or applying for benefits online.

Dorset Council's volunteer digital champions are ready to help in Lyme Regis Library.

They hold bookable face-to-face sessions at the library on Mondays from 10:30am to 12:45pm.

To book an appointment go into the library or call the Digital Hotline on 01305 221048.

Tech Support at your fingertips: Tech Wise

A NEW service offering free support with digital and technical queries is available at a community drop in session in Lyme Regis.

Lyme Regis Development Trust (LRDT) has introduced the service every other Thursday at The Old School House Café in Church Street, from 10am to 2pm, provided by Harry Pearce from Tech Wise.

Whether you are struggling with your mobile phone, computer, or tablet, or simply need a hand filling out an online form, Tech Wise can help.

The sessions provide a safe, supportive environment for everyone, no matter your level of experience with technology.

For more information, visit www.gettechwise.co.uk

Digital Dorset

Need digital help?

- Unsure how to operate your laptop/smartphone/tablet?
- Want to feel more confident using online services?
- Would you like help with shopping or banking online or making zoom calls?

Our Digital Champions are ready and waiting to help you at their **free** and weekly surgeries:

Where:
Lyme Regis Library

Digital Champion: Andy

Day: **Mondays**

Time: **10:30 - 12:45pm**



To book call the Digital Hotline on: **01305 221048**
(phoneline open Mon-Fri 10am to midday), or speak to library staff

 **TechWise**

Technology Trouble?

FREE
Digital Skills & IT Support

at The Old School House Café,
The Hub, Lyme Regis



Just drop in for free help with smart devices, emails, healthcare apps, online safety and more

There's no such thing as a silly question!

Every other
Thursday
10am - 12pm



- Visit us online: www.gettechwise.co.uk
- Call us to book your home visit: **07887 028 528**
- Email us at: info@gettechwise.co.uk

Time and Tide: History from Lyme Regis Museum

JANE AUSTEN: CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF A LITERARY ICON



IN 2025, literary enthusiasts around the world are celebrating the 250th anniversary of the birth of Jane Austen, one of the most beloved and influential writers in English literature. Her sharp wit, keen social observations and memorable characters continue to inspire and delight. Yet Austen's legacy is not confined to her novels alone; it also extends to the places she visited and immortalised in her fiction. One of the most significant of these is Lyme Regis - our town played a central role in her own life and in her final completed novel, *Persuasion*.

Jane Austen in Lyme Regis

Austen visited Lyme Regis twice, first in 1803 and again in 1804. Above the blue door of Pyne House on Broad Street the plaque reads "This is the most likely lodging of Jane Austen, whose visits to Lyme in 1803 and 1804 gave birth to her novel *Persuasion*". The building isn't open to the public, but it makes a nice photo opportunity for Austen fans.

The experience left a strong impression on Jane, as Lyme was then a growing resort town, smaller and less fashionable than Bath, but with a striking natural beauty that set it apart. The combination of sweeping views, bracing sea air and the rugged coastline gave Austen rich material to draw upon. Jane made reference in letters to visiting the town's Assembly Room and also to bathing in Lyme Bay - a practice which had become fashionable in the 18th century for its health benefits.



Jane Austen

Her time in Lyme was not simply recreational. The town became a place of observation and inspiration, a setting in which she could reflect on both the genteel visitors and the working seafaring community. It is easy to imagine Austen walking the cliff paths or standing on the Cobb, noting the contrasts and the energy of this small but distinctive port town.

Lyme in *Persuasion*

It is in *Persuasion* (1817) that Lyme Regis takes centre stage in Austen's fiction. The heroine, Anne Elliot, visits Lyme with her companions, and Austen gives one of her most vivid and affectionate descriptions of place: "a very strange stranger it must be, who does not see charms in the immediate environs of Lyme, to make him wish to know it better."

For Anne, Lyme represents renewal. In contrast to Bath, where society's restrictions and expectations dominate, Lyme offers authenticity, sincerity and the restorative power of nature. The Cobb, in particular, becomes central to the narrative and is



An example of the Jane Austen exhibit at Lyme Regis Museum

where Persuasion's Anne Elliot, Captain Wentworth and their party take a stroll out to sea. The steps connecting the upper part of the Cobb to the lower part, made from protruding stones, are known locally as 'Granny's Teeth'. It is this location that best fits the description where Louisa Musgrove falls and suffers a concussion while being helped down steps by Captain Wentworth.

In choosing Lyme Regis, Austen created one of the most famous literary associations with the Dorset coast. Visitors today still walk along the Cobb, reliving the scenes from Persuasion and experiencing the landscape much as Austen once did.

Lyme Regis Museum and Austen's legacy

Lyme Regis Museum, built on the site of Mary Anning's childhood home, is best known for its fossil collections and its celebration of Anning's remarkable contributions to science. Yet the museum also proudly highlights Austen's connection with the town, recognising her as another figure who placed Lyme firmly on the cultural map.



Granny's teeth, steps on the Cobb

JANE AUSTEN: REGENCY STYLE & COLOUR

Illustration Workshop

SAT 6TH DEC 10AM-12.30PM & 1.30-4PM



DATE: 6TH DECEMBER
TIME: 10AM-12.30PM
& 1.30-4PM
PRICE: £45 (10 SPACES)

Art materials and refreshments will be provided.

A Jane Austen inspired, Regency Style & Colour Illustration Workshop for all abilities with Artist Alison Bowskill

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, PLEASE VISIT www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk/workshops

WWW.LYMEREGISMUSEUM.CO.UK



Plaque on Pyne House

In the Writers' Gallery of the museum, visitors can explore their Jane Austen exhibition, including several items in the collection which have been handed down or loaned from the Austen family themselves. Standing in the Learning Space with its sweeping views of Lyme Bay, it is easy to understand why Austen found the landscape so inspiring.

As we mark 250 years since Austen's birth, Lyme Regis Museum provides a place where her literary heritage can be celebrated alongside the town's scientific and historical significance. Just as Anning and Austen represent different facets of Lyme's extraordinary contribution to global culture, one in science, the other in literature, the museum offers a setting in which their legacies converge.

A lasting connection

Jane Austen's bond with Lyme Regis demonstrates her remarkable ability to transform place into literature. Her experiences here enriched her final novel, offering readers one of her most dramatic and enduring settings. Two hundred years later, that connection continues to resonate, drawing visitors from across the world.

In 2025, as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth, Lyme Regis Museum is proud to share in commemorating her enduring legacy. For those who come to walk in her footsteps, stand on the Cobb and reflect on the landscapes she so vividly described, Lyme remains not just a seaside town, but a living part of Austen's story.



Pyne House, Broad Street, Lyme Regis

DRUMHEAD CEREMONY FOR VJ DAY 80

VICTORY over Japan, which brought the Second World War to a close, was marked in Lyme Regis with a drumhead ceremony on the seafront.

The event was staged jointly by the Lyme branch of the Royal British Legion and Lyme Regis Town Council.

Three men of Lyme – Alfred Joseph Douglass, Frank Arthur Moore and Dennis Charles Wells – lost their lives fighting the Japanese in Burma and a number of local men were captured and spent the latter part of the war in the Far East in prisoner of war camps where they were treated appallingly.

A drumhead ceremony is a traditional religious service where neatly stacked drums are draped with regimental colours to form a makeshift altar for prayers and reflection in the field or during times of conflict and remembrance.

The service was led by Daniel Buckley, chairman of the Lyme Regis branch of the Royal British Legion, who opened proceedings with a resume of the battles in the Far East in which 70,000 British and Commonwealth soldiers were killed, 27,000 of which had no known grave.

The Mayor of Lyme Regis, Cllr Philip Evans MBE, read the roll call of those from Lyme who never returned from the battle fields and those who served in the Far East.

The Vicar of Lyme Regis, the Rev Fi Budden, led the large crowd in prayers.

Also taking part in the ceremony were Lyme Regis Town Band, Lyme Bay Chorale and the Power Monkeys Explorer Sea Scouts Unit, who helped construct the drumhead.

Also present were the standard bearers, Jon Hunt from the Royal British Legion and John Bird from Lyme Regis RNLI Lifeboat.

One man from Lyme, the late Dave Tappin, was serving on HMS Northumberland in Japan Bay and witnessed the signing of the peace treaty when the Japanese Generals surrendered.

His grandson, Mike Tappin, accompanied by his grandmother, Eileen Tappin, recounted how his grandfather witnessed a piece of history which he never forgot.

The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks from Cllr Evans, who said the town would never forget the men of Lyme who lost their lives and those who served with such gallantry.



After the event, the mayor said: "It was a very solemn but emotional ceremony watched by a large crowd. I am very proud of those who participated in such a brilliant event and those who worked so hard to make it such a success."



THE ROLE OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



YOUR local branch is based in Lyme Regis but the branch area encompasses Birdsmoor gate to the north, Morcambelake to the east and Uplyme to the west and all the surrounding villages and hamlets.

Although the branch is centred on Lyme Regis, each area will have their own unique ways in which they celebrate Remembrancetide. However, support and updates can be provided through the branch by contacting chairman Daniel Buckley at lymeregis.chairman@rbl.community.

For many, the RBL is synonymous with promoting Remembrance, especially in November annually. The RBL is always looking for volunteer poppy street collectors so if you can spare a couple of hours, please contact Daniel by email.

However, the RBL are here for its beneficiaries 365 days a year!

One of the organisation's immediate aims is to try and identify a volunteer in each of the localities who could assist veterans in the community via the branch community services. If this is something you feel you could help with, please contact Ian Marshall at i.marshall@btinternet.

The branch is particularly looking for volunteer to take on the role of branch community support co-ordinator and to join the team of branch community supporters who undertake home visits and care home visits to those who may need support and advice.

SUPPORTING VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Royal British Legion (RBL) is a distinguished charity organisation in the United Kingdom, dedicated to supporting members of the British Armed Forces, veterans, and their families. Established in 1921, the RBL has continually advocated for the welfare of those who have served and continue to serve in the military.

VETERAN SUPPORT SERVICES

One of the primary roles of the RBL is to provide comprehensive support services for veterans, including assistance with housing, employment, financial aid, and healthcare. The RBL works tirelessly to ensure veterans receive the necessary support to transition smoothly into civilian life. It offers a variety of programs aimed at enhancing the mental and physical well-being of former service members and also runs three dedicated care homes, each with a specialised dementia wing.



From left, Mayor Cllr Philip Evans MBE, Jon Hunt, Anita Driver, Kelsey Ellis, Daniel Buckley, Ian Marshall



REMEMBRANCE AND COMMEMORATION

The RBL is also synonymous with remembrance and commemoration of those who have sacrificed their lives in service to their country. Each year, the organisation leads the Poppy Appeal, which culminates in Remembrance Day ceremonies.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

Beyond individual support, the RBL plays a significant role in community engagement and advocacy. It actively lobbies the government on behalf of veterans to ensure policies reflect their needs and contributions. The RBL also organises community events, educational programs, and awareness campaigns to highlight the importance of supporting veterans.

REMEMBRANCE TIDE 2025

KEY DATES

FRIDAY, 24 OCTOBER – POPPY
APPEAL LAUNCH

SATURDAY, 8 NOVEMBER
10:00 HMS Formidable
10:30 Polish Memorial

SUNDAY, 9 NOVEMBER –
REMEMBRANCE DAY

TUESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER –
ARMISTICE DAY

LEST WE FORGET

Serving, remembering supporting: Daniel Buckley and the Royal British Legion in Lyme Regis



Chairman of the Royal British Legion,
Lyme Regis Branch - Daniel Buckley

AS we look ahead to Remembrance events during November in Lyme Regis and nationally, we turn the spotlight on former soldier Daniel Buckley, now the chairman of the Lyme Regis branch of the Royal British Legion.

FOR Daniel Buckley, military service was a natural calling. Raised in a family with RAF connections and inspired by his time in the Combined Cadet Force at the Woodroffe School, he signed up at just 16.

"I'd always been interested," said Daniel. "There was no work in Cornwall after I left school, so I walked into a recruitment office, and that was it."

His military career spanned more than a decade and took him to some of the world's most dangerous environments. His first post was in Northern Ireland, followed by time in Kent, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kosovo.

He served with the Explosive Ordnance Disposal regiment, carrying out high-risk searches for explosive devices. He said: "It was enjoyable but highly stressful."

Later, he trained soldiers heading to Afghanistan, transforming raw recruits into soldiers prepared for the realities of war.

After leaving the forces, Daniel continued to share his skills overseas, from Afghanistan to West Africa, working with the UN and European Defence Agency.

But his heart was always in Lyme Regis.

"I'd always said I wanted to come back here," he said. "Eventually I set up my own businesses and focused on family life."

Back home, Daniel threw his energy into supporting the Royal British Legion (RBL).

When he joined, membership of the Lyme Regis branch was dwindling but he knew it couldn't be allowed to fade.

"The RBL is about so much more than remembrance," he said. "Our committee members visit care homes, support veterans with mobility issues, deliver food, and offer emotional support to those facing loneliness."

"Anyone can join, not just those with a military background."

The branch has played a leading role in keeping remembrance traditions alive in Lyme Regis, from socially distanced services during Covid to the hugely successful VJ Day Drumhead Ceremony earlier this year, which drew hundreds.

"It's about remembering not just the World Wars, but all conflicts, and honouring friends who aren't with us today," said Daniel.

"We have to keep learning from history, so the same mistakes aren't repeated."

Looking ahead, his hope is simple: that more people step forward to become members and keep the branch alive.

He said: "For the sake of £20 a year, you're supporting an organisation that's a lifeline for so many. Even if you don't want to take an active role, just signing up makes a difference."

As the RBL in Lyme Regis approaches its 100th anniversary in a few years' time, Daniel hopes to see it thriving, not just surviving, a lasting tribute to those who served, and a vital source of support for today's community.



100,000 voices for Parkinson's Support



THE PARKY
CHARTER

SCAN ME



A LOCAL Parkinson's support group has welcomed the success of a nationwide campaign to raise awareness of the condition and encourage parliamentary debate.

The mayor, Cllr Philip Evans and mayoress Jackie Evans recently attended the Lyme Regis District Parkinson's Support Group's summer social, when an update was given on the campaign.

Hosted by group organiser Stephanie Colston and her team of volunteers, the afternoon also featured live music by local harpist, Carmel Wray.

Stephanie spoke about the 'Parky Charter', aimed at encouraging a parliamentary debate into broader, more effective support for everyone living with the condition.

To trigger the debate in Parliament, 100,000 signatures were needed, a target which was reached in July, with a debate in Westminster on the cards later in the year.

In the meantime, the Parkinson's community continues to grow both locally and nationally, delivering much needed friendship, information and support to all.

In Lyme Regis, the local support group meets regularly on the second Tuesday of every month at Lyme Regis Powerboat Club.



Anyone living with Parkinson's or caring for someone living with Parkinson's is invited to go along to share anecdotes, ideas and wisdom in an informal, relaxed environment.

Guest speakers, complimentary refreshments and friendship is always available.

If you would like to know more about your local Parkinson's Support Group, email lymepdhelp@gmail.com.

To find out more about the Parkinson's parliamentary debate visit www.parkycharter.com.



From left, mayoress Jackie Evans, mayor Cllr Philip Evans MBE, Stephanie Colston, and Tony Colston

COMFORT IN COMPANY

A NEW Bereavement Café has been launched in Lyme Regis, providing a vital local support network for anyone experiencing grief.

The café will be hosted by Weldmar Hospicecare at Waffle on Broad Street and everyone is welcome, regardless of whether their loved one was cared for by Weldmar or not.

The Bereavement Café will run from 10am to 12pm on the first Wednesday of every month and a small tea or coffee is £2.

Jenny Wood, Weldmar's patient and family support lead, said: "We run successful bereavement drop-in groups at the hospice in Dorchester, and they're incredibly beneficial," says. People really appreciate the peer support.

"It will be a very relaxed drop-in with coffee and a chance to chat with others who truly understand the journey of grief."

Sophie Olszowski, a Weldmar patient and family support volunteer, highlights the need for the service in the town.

She said: "Lyme is at the very far western end of the area that Weldmar supports. My husband was cared for by Weldmar, which was fantastic, but now, four years later, I live in a town where there isn't any provision for people who have been bereaved.

"For those of us who could go into Dorchester for support sessions, it's a very long way. Having something out in the west of the county specifically for bereaved people feels really important."

Lu Worrall, a Weldmar community nurse specialist, added: "I'm deeply proud to work for Weldmar and to have us at Waffle, just across the road from our shop, is truly special."

Ruth Wright is the Community Coordinator at Waffle Lyme. She said: "The bereavement café provides people a chance to share their experiences, find comfort in mutual support and feel less isolated in their grief.

"We are delighted to be partnering with Weldmar and look forward to welcoming and supporting the community in this way."



Weldmar staff outside Waffle Lyme Regis

Bereavement drop in at the Waffle House café, Lyme Regis

1st Wednesday of every month, 10am — 12pm

A chance to connect with others who have lost a loved one, in a relaxed and supportive environment.

Whether you'd like to pop in, or stay for the duration, you are most welcome to join us. Facilitated by Weldmar Hospicecare but open to anyone who has been bereaved.



Waffle
37 Broad Street, Lyme Regis



weldmarhospicecare.org

The Chill course

A LOCAL cancer support charity is embracing the growing trend of cold-water swimming to help boost health and wellbeing.

In Lyme Regis, for many, a bracing dip in the sea has become more than just a pastime, it's a proven health benefit.

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support (ALCS) is running a Chill Programme, an eight-week course designed to help clients safely experience the benefits of cold-water swimming.

Sessions are held on the seafront in Lyme Regis and led by open water swimming coach John Hodgetts, alongside a dedicated team of ALCS-trained volunteers.

One recent participant said: "Little did I think that at the age of 67 I'd be able to feel comfortable and safe swimming in the English Channel in December!"

"The course gave a welcome boost to my confidence and mental health, and I've swum in the sea each week since it ended."

The health benefits of cold-water submersion are increasingly recognised.

Research shows it can reduce inflammation, a factor linked to conditions such as arthritis, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and even depression.

Regular exposure to cold water stimulates the parasympathetic nervous system, improving resilience and reducing stress.

For many, the mental health benefits are as transformative as the physical ones.

ALCS is now inviting anyone affected by cancer to an Introduction to Chill Talk on Wednesday 8 October, 12.30pm to 1.20pm at Cross Keys House, Chard Street, Axminster.

The next eight-week course begins on 14 October and is offered at no cost to clients.

As well as safety training and support, these sessions often finish with something just as restorative – homemade cake and friendship.

To register your interest, contact support@axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk or 01297 816559.



John Hodgetts at Lyme Regis beach



John Hodgetts cold water swimming

SCAN ME



Supported by

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

CHILL

Cold Water Swim Course

**14th, 21st, 28th
October
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
November &
2nd December
11am**

Lyme Regis Seafront

Axminster and Lyme
Cancer Support

Quintessentially British



THE Welcome Café enjoyed a quintessentially British afternoon with bonnets, strawberries, Morris dancers and an afternoon tea.

The café is normally held at Lyme Regis Football Club but for one week only, guests were treated to a social event at Uplyme Village Hall.

Guests enjoyed a memorable afternoon, joined by the mayor, Cllr Philip Evans.

Lyme Morris gave an introduction to the origins of Morris dancing, followed by a performance.

The cream tea was provided by Tesco as part of its Help Local Projects initiative.

The volunteers thanked everyone who attended the event and Tesco for its support in making the event so special.

Looking ahead, the Welcome Café will return to its usual home at Lyme Regis Football Club for the rest of the year, where it will continue to provide refreshments, entertainment, and most importantly, friendship to our local community.

The Welcome Café is held on the third Wednesday of the month from 2pm to 3.30pm.



Cllr Philip Evans MBE with Welcome Café members and members of Lyme Morris



Margaret Rose centre with Welcome Café volunteers Dolores, Gill and Lynnette



Welcome Café members



Lynnette Ravenscroft and Caroline Powley with Tesco staff



Cllr Philip Evans MBE with members of the Welcome Café



Lyme Morris dancers

BIN IT? NO WAY, MEND IT TODAY!



ALMOST 200 household items have been fixed and countless words of advice given since the Lyme Regis Repair Café was launched in March.

Repair Cafes will continue to be held this autumn and winter at the Boat Building Academy, as well as drop-in sessions at Waffle Lyme Regis.

Drop-ins at Waffle will be held on the following dates from 10.30am to 12.30pm:

- Wednesday 8 October
- Wednesday 5 November
- Wednesday 10 December

Small electrical items can be taken in for repair, volunteers will be available for informal advice, quick fixes and conversation, and small items will be on display and available in return for a donation to the café.

The monthly Repair Cafes at the Boat Building Academy are held on the following dates from 10am to 1pm:

- Saturday 18 October
- Saturday 15 November
- Saturday 20 December

Items of all kinds can be taken for repair, from electronics and small appliances to sewing and textiles, bicycles, wooden objects and furniture, jewellery, clocks and sharpening garden tools.

The public are invited to go along, watch repairs, learn a new skill or take an item for the volunteers to attempt to mend.

Since launching in March, the Repair Café has welcomed 193 items, of which 123 were repaired on the spot.

Other items received advice, referrals to specialists, or were logged to return once spare parts were sourced.

The café's volunteers, many retired skilled tradespeople or hobbyists, continue to pass on their experience and offer a welcoming community space.

A number of donated items, including small electrical appliances, jewellery, toys, a turntable and tape decks, will be on display at upcoming events and are available in return for a donation to the Repair Café.



These make great pre-Christmas presents and help the café continue its work of reducing waste and teaching repair skills locally.

Repairs are free but donations are welcome to help keep the café running, and most visitors stay for refreshments and conversation.

The café also welcomes volunteers and suggestions for short demo sessions – which repair skill would you like to see demonstrated?

For more information visit www.lymeregisrepaircafe.org.uk or email lymeregisrepaircafe@gmail.com



A splash of colour

LYME Regis Art Society is a thriving group that has been part of the town's cultural life since at least the early 1960s.

The group meets fortnightly from September to June at Woodmead Halls, where local and visiting artists give inspiring demonstrations.

These cover a wide range of media including oils, acrylics, watercolour, pastels, mixed-media, drawing, and textiles.

You don't need to be an artist to enjoy the society's events – members range from those who simply appreciate art, to enthusiastic beginners, to experienced and professional artists.

Visitors are always welcome for a small fee, while demonstrations are included in annual membership.

Each year the society holds its exhibition at The Malthouse Gallery at the Town Mill, presenting a vibrant and varied show that is warmly received by all who visit.

Among the members are Sue Wells, an honorary lifetime member recognised for her invaluable contribution to the society.

Sue said: "About 15 years ago, having picked up a paintbrush for the first time since leaving school and started art lessons, I saw an advert for the Lyme Regis Art Society and began attending demonstrations at The Woodmead Halls.

"Watching fascinating artists at work was inspiring, but more than that, the society became a place to make friends and connect with the local community.

"I was later invited onto the committee, first as programme organiser, and in 2015, following the sad death of our chair, Edna Dorrington, I stepped up to lead the society for the next seven years.

"With the support of a brilliant team, membership grew and the society remained vibrant and engaging. I'm delighted to see the current committee continuing to attract artists and members from far and wide."

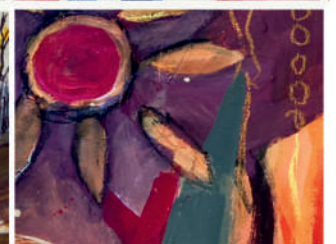
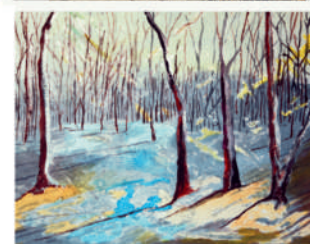
For more information about the society, visit www.lymeregisartsociety.org.uk or the Facebook page www.facebook.com/lymeregisartsociety/.



Sue Wells



Lyme Regis
ART SOCIETY



Artist demonstrations

2025
September 16th
September 30th
October 14th
November 4th
November 18th
December 2nd (AGM)

2026
January 6th
January 20th
February 3rd
February 17th
March 3rd
March 17th

CHEERS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS



Lisa and Neil Charleton



THE volunteers of the Old School House Community Café and Seaside Store were thanked for their efforts at a summer garden party.

Lisa and Neil Charleton from Lyme Regis Development Trust opened their home and garden to thank the many volunteers who support the café and store.

The Community Café runs twice a week at The Hub on Thursdays and Fridays from 9.30am to 2pm, providing people with the opportunity to meet with others while enjoying an affordable menu.

The Seaside Store gives residents access to fresh and nutritious food at affordable prices, running every Monday from 3pm to 5pm at The Hub.

The gathering of volunteers was a chance to celebrate the spirit of community that keeps the café and store running, and to recognise the dedication of those who help week in, week out.

The Community Café and Store continue to be a lifeline for many local residents, and events like this highlight just how important the volunteers are in making it all possible.



Photograph by Lynnette Ravenscroft



HELP KEEP THE WHEEL TURNING



THE TOWN MILL
LYME REGIS

THE volunteers at the Town Mill in Lyme Regis are essential in keeping this historic heritage site and visitor attraction open to the public.

Whether it's welcoming visitors in the mill and shop, milling the grain into flour, packing flour and keeping the grounds and gardens looking great, the Town Mill wouldn't survive without the volunteer community.

There are currently a number of volunteering roles available at the Town Mill, which offers a fantastic opportunity to be part of a friendly team of volunteers who give their time to keep the historic water wheel turning.

The mill is looking for help in the lovely shop, which sells milled wheat, spelt and rye flour and is also the entrance for welcoming visitors to the mill.

Volunteers are also needed to help pack the milled flour and ensure the shelves are stocked in the shop, including making up baking kits and gift packs.

Both roles are very flexible with the time and hours you can give and no experience is required.

If you would like to join The Town Mill volunteering team, please do contact the team for informal chat and they can arrange a visit and tour of the Town Mill for the opportunity to see what they offer and meet some of the volunteers.

Contact Jacky on 01297 444042 or jackytownmill@gmail.com.

Visit townmill.org.uk for more details about the Town Mill and what the team does.



Town Mill volunteers outside the mill



Town Mill volunteers taking part in this year's carnival parade



Town Mill volunteers with bags of flour ground on site



Flour ground by hand on site

A SUMMER OF SUCCESS FOR LYME REGIS BOWLING CLUB

FROM charity fundraisers and tournament successes, to county champions and school visits, it has been a busy couple of months at Lyme Regis Bowls Club.

The club welcomed Lyme Regis RNLI volunteers onto the green for the annual roll-up at the end of Lifeboat Week. Bowlers from under six to over 60 had a go, with bowling club members raising £200 for the RNLI.

The club recently hosted its 27th annual Ladies Triples Tournament, welcoming 22 teams from Dorset and Somerset to compete for the Lyme Plate.

Organised and hosted by ladies' captain Ann Allman, with prize money sponsored by long-term members Sue Rowe and Jim Moseley, the 66 competitors and guests had a full day's play, followed by lunch.

The final was played out between Gillingham BC and Durnovaria (the ancient town name of Dorchester) from Dorchester BC, with Gillingham coming out on top.

In an effort to get more young people interested in the sport, the club welcomed more than 20 year 7 students from Woodroffe School for a taster session.

Supported by volunteering members and Woodroffe teachers, the pupils had a competitive and fun afternoon. The event was such a success that headteacher Dan Watts is planning on taking more students to the green next season.

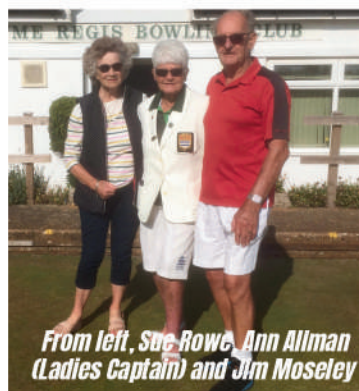
And finally, congratulations to the Lyme Regis men's fours team for becoming county champions and progressing to the National Finals in Leamington Spa.



RNLI volunteers



Bowling on a sunny afternoon in Lyme Regis



From left, Sue Rowe, Ann Allman (Ladies Captain) and Jim Moseley



County Men's Fours Champions



Woodroffe School visit

A sea of Light

Rotary
Club of Lyme Regis



RECORD crowds turned out for the most successful Candles on the Cobb event yet, raising more than £32,000 for local and national charities.

Organisers the Rotary Club of Lyme Regis have announced that the amount raised from the event in August is the highest amount ever raised by this iconic event.

The event took place on the August Bank Holiday weekend, when the Cobb was illuminated by 5,000 candles placed on the harbour walls.

The event, which is held every three years, is a special one in Lyme Regis and this year marked its 25th anniversary.

Thousands of people turned out to watch the emotional event, which allowed the public to sponsor candles in memory of loved ones.

The event, first staged in 2000 and led by local fundraising duo Phil Street and Mike Higgs, is a whole town affair, run by the Rotary Club of Lyme Regis but with support from a significant number of local organisations and volunteers and business sponsors.

The Rotary Club said: "Special thanks must go to our lighting parties who in difficult conditions managed to make it such a success.

These include The Sailing Club, The RNLI, The Gig Club, The Power Boat Club, The Lym Valley and Charmouth Scouts, Lyme Rib Rides and all the individual teams.

"Thanks also must go to those that helped with the marshalling, bucket collecting and all those behind the scene jobs including The Woodroffe School, Lyme Fire Service, Riding for

the Disabled, Axminster and Brit Valley Rotary Clubs, REMS Medical services and all the individual volunteers."

Using candles donated by the Quinell family of Natural and Welsh Candles and re-usable plastic cups, the 5,000 candles were laid out at regular intervals on the main Cobb and North Wall structures.

The first event in 2000 raised £7,200 and since then over £150,000 has been distributed to good causes.

This year, 50% of the money raised will go to good causes and youth projects in Lyme Regis, and 25% each to Prostate Cancer UK and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Special guests included the mayor and mayoress of Lyme Regis, Cllr Philip Evans and wife Jackie, The High Sheriff of Dorset Callum Bremner, Rotary District Governor Mike Kew, town clerk John Wright, event creators Phil Street and Mike Higgs, and town councillors and partners.

Pictures and videos of the event can be found at www.candlesonthecobb.com.

If you would like to use your spare time and skills to give something back to your community, consider joining the Rotary Club of Lyme Regis.

Visit www.lymeregisrotary.org or email info.lymeregisrotary@gmail.com for more information.



Phil Street and Mike Higgs lighting the candle



Photography by Rob James

BEACH HUT BOOKING DAYS

RESIDENTS PRIORITY DAY: TUESDAY 7 OCTOBER

MAIN BOOKING DAY: WEDNESDAY 8 OCTOBER

SCAN ME



Photograph by Kate Newman

SVP

kindly join us for the first of its kind
WEDDING FAIR
at
THE GUILDHALL

JANUARY 24TH 2026
10AM - 2PM

The Guildhall, Bridge Street, Lyme Regis

*Glass of Buck's Fizz upon arrival & FREE
goodie bag for the first 30 couples!*

WHAT'S ON IN LYME REGIS



JUST MACBETH

Saturday 4 October,
7.30pm
Marine Theatre

SEAFOOD TAPAS CLASS AND LUNCH

Sunday 5 October, 11am
Strawberry Tree

EMMANUEL SONUBI: LIFE AFTER NEAR DEATH

Sunday 5 October, 7.30pm
Marine Theatre

COLOUR FUSIONS: SUE SWIECICKA

Monday 6 October -
Sunday 12 October, 10am,
Malthouse Gallery

COFFE MORNING IN AID OF GAZA

Monday 6 October,
11am, Alexandra Hotel &
Restaurant

THE SHANTY SESSIONS

Tuesday 7 October,
7.30pm
Marine Theatre

JANE EYRE: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Thursday 9 October,
7.30pm
Marine Theatre

LYME REGIS COMMUNITY BINGO

Thursday 9 October, 8pm
Woodmead Hall



UTAH SAINTS

Friday 10 October, 8pm
Marine Theatre

MYRA DUBOIS: COSMIC EMPATH

Saturday 11 October,
7.30pm
Marine Theatre

THE SUNDAY SESSIONS

Sunday 12 October, 2pm
Marine Theatre

JAZZ BY THE SEA - THE SOULFUL JASS OF CANNONBALL ADDERLEY

Sunday 12 October, 8pm
Marine Theatre

AN AFTERNOON OF SONG WITH SAMMY HURDEN

Monday 13 October, 1.15pm
Marine Theatre

LIVING SPIT PRESENTS TOO MANY GREEK MYTHS

Thursday 16 October,
7.30pm
Marine Theatre

LYME REGIS REPAIR CAFE

Sunday 18 October,
10.00am
Boat Building Academy



POLICE DOG HOGAN

Friday 19 October, 7.30pm
Marine Theatre

LYME REGIS COMMUNITY BINGO

Thursday 19 October, 8pm
Woodmead Hall

CLASSIC SPANISH TAPAS CLASS

Sunday 19 October, 11am
Strawberry Tree

STEVE RICHARDS ON TONY BLAIR

Wednesday 22 October,
7.30pm
Marine Theatre

LYME REGIS COMMUNITY BINGO

Thursday 23 October, 8pm
Woodmead Hall

THIS IS THE KIT

Thursday 23 October, 8pm
Marine Theatre

SCOTT MATTHEWS

Friday 24 October, 8pm
Marine Theatre

CHARITY COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 25 October, 9am
Bethany Chapel

LETZ ZEP

Saturday 25 October, 8pm
Marine Theatre



LADY NADE SINGS NINA SIMONE

Sunday 26 October,
7.30pm
Marine Theatre

PINTXOS EVENING

Monday 27 October, 6pm
Strawberry Tree

FOSSIL POLISHING

Tuesday 28 October,
10am
Lyme Regis Museum

LYME REGIS COMMUNITY BINGO

Thursday 30 October, 8pm

MINI MONSTER MILLERS

Thursday 30 October -
Friday 31 October,
10am
The Town Mill

THE UNDERCOVER HIPPIE

Friday 31 October, 8pm,
Marine Theatre

ASERE

Saturday 1 November, 7pm,
Marine Theatre

LYME REGIS FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Saturday 1 November,
6.30pm
The Cobb



MINI GHOULF

25 OCTOBER -
1 NOVEMBER
9AM - 8PM

A BRAND-NEW spooktacular experience is coming to Lyme Regis seafront this autumn, with the launch of 'Mini Ghoulf'.

This October half term, Lyme Regis Town Council is bringing you a spooky, illuminated twist on our much-loved mini golf.

For the very first time, families can enjoy the course after dark, transformed into a glowing playground of ghoulish fun.

For one week only, the mini golf course in Lister Gardens will be decked out in eerie lighting, mysterious shadows and Halloween-themed obstacles.

Players will be challenged to navigate their way past glowing pumpkins, ghostly figures and spooky surprises as they putt their way around the course.

The event is designed with families in mind, offering a safe, fun and affordable activity to enjoy together during the half term break.

Younger children will love the colourful lights and playful atmosphere, while older kids (and competitive parents!) can take on the challenge of sinking a hole-in-one under the glow of the lanterns.

Mayor of Lyme Regis Cllr Philip Evans MBE said: "We're always looking for creative ways to make the most of our wonderful seafront facilities, and Mini Ghoulf is something we hope will bring a smile to families this Halloween.

"It's a chance to enjoy the gardens and the mini golf in a completely new way, and we think it's going to be a lot of fun."

Whether you're dressing up in spooky costumes, grabbing a hot chocolate on your way through the gardens, or just enjoying the autumn evening air, this first-time event promises something special for everyone.



Dates: One week during October half-term

Location: Mini Golf, Lister Gardens, Lyme Regis

Top tip: Fancy dress is very welcome... ghosts, witches and mini vampires are all encouraged to take to the course!

So, gather your friends, round up the family, and head down to Lister Gardens this Halloween.

Mini Ghoulf is set to be a highlight of the season... a spooky, sparkly, and altogether unforgettable Lyme Regis first!



TWO special days of spooky activities for children are taking place at the Town Mill in October for Halloween.

The Mill will be open 11am to 3pm, with flour milling demonstrations to watch throughout the day and the huge water wheel will be turning for all to see.

Look out for the friendly Town Mill ghost, travelling through the mill on the ancient sack hoist!

Spot the Halloween Monsters as you look around the mill, and free activity sheets will be available for children to fill in during their visit.

- 11am – 1.30pm – A tasting table will be available for you to sample some ghostly Halloween bakes, made with the mill's wholemeal flour. Halloween baking kits will be available to purchase in the shop.
- 10am, 11.30am and 1.30pm – 'Mini Monster Miller' sessions (see below), which children can mill their own flour to take home and make Halloween biscuits.

Visitors are encouraged to go along in spooky Halloween costumes.

During your visit, you can upgrade to the Mini Monster Milling Experience for £12.50 per child.

Children will receive a bag of grain which they will hand mill, using a mini stone-ground milling machine to produce their own bag of wholemeal wheat flour to take away and make Halloween biscuits at home.

The experience will also include a visit to the mill to see the friendly Town Mill ghost and a mini monster cupcake to enjoy, made with Town Mill flour.

The Mini Miller Experience is suitable for school age children and they must be accompanied by an adult (no ticket required).

Please allow up to one hour for the session.

The experience includes: mini milling session, 300g wholemeal wheat flour, biscuit recipe and Halloween cookie cutter.

Sessions will run at 10am, 11.30am and 1.30pm over the two days and advance booking is advised to guarantee a place

No booking is required to visit the mill and entry is free of charge but please consider supporting the mill with a donation and shop purchase before you go.



A SPOOKTACULAR NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM



TICKETS:

Adults £6/
Children £4

FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER, 6-8.30^{PM}

**TORCHLIGHT TRAIL | CREEPY CRAFTS | SPOOKY STORIES
FREAKY FACE PAINTING | UNLUCKY DIP**

AN EVENING of eerie fun, spooky surprises and ghoulish giggles awaits you after dark at Lyme Regis Museum this Halloween.

A Spooktacular Night at the Museum returns on Thursday 31 October, promising a family-friendly fright fest like no other.

Step inside the historic museum and prepare for a night packed with Halloween thrills.

Families can enjoy spooky storytelling, get hands-on with creepy crafts, and brave the freaky face painting stations.

The bravest visitors can even try their luck with the unlucky dip, if they dare!

One of the highlights of the evening is the torchlit trail through 200 million years of history.

Wander among the fossils and exhibits by torchlight, as the museum is transformed into a shadowy world where the past comes to life.

Fancy dress is highly encouraged and don't forget to bring your torch to help guide your way.

With entry times at 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, and 7.30pm, this spine-tingling experience is perfect for families looking to celebrate Halloween in Lyme Regis in a safe and unforgettable way.

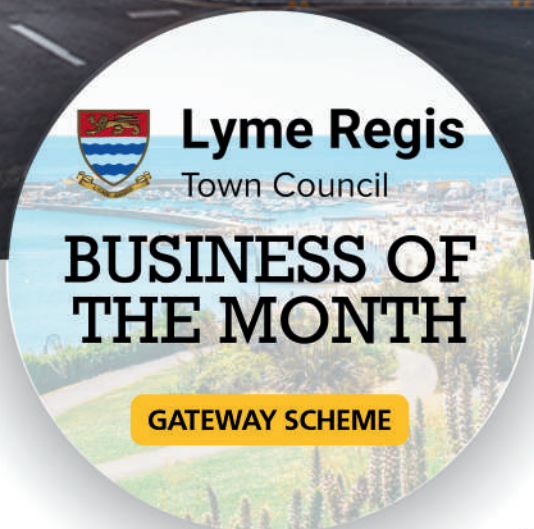
Tickets are now on sale at £6 for adults and £4 for children and spaces are limited, so booking early is recommended.

Book online at lymeregismuseum.co.uk/event/spooktacular.



SCAN ME





THE ROCK POINT INN

10% off
all food and drinks



SCAN



SCAN

The Gateway Card is a local discount scheme available to Lyme Regis residents. It provides residents with discounts, concessions and special offers from local participating businesses. The scheme helps to support the local economy and provides benefits to residents who support the town all-year-round. To obtain your Gateway Card, call into the council office with a recent council tax bill from Dorset Council. All full list of participating businesses can be found on the town council website.

October is here and one of the newest recruits to the scheme, **Rock Point** is also our Gateway Scheme "Business of the month". Rock Point offers your favourite pub classics, alongside some contemporary dishes.

There really is something for everyone on the menu! It's also a dog friendly venue!

Terms and conditions: Gateway cardholders receive 10% off all food and drink purchases. Discount applies to cardholders only - discount does not apply to wider group members unless all guests present a valid card. The discount is available seven days a week, it is not valid on accommodation, not to be used in conjunction with any other offer, and no cash alternatives are available.

Pop in, show your card, let's keep supporting local businesses.



Contact us:
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enquiries@lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk
www.lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk



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