



About Town

A Newsletter for Lydney

Spring Issue—March 2021

TOWN CENTRE AND COVID RECOVERY PROJECT LAUNCHED

Lydney Town Council is pleased to announce that Place Studio of Bristol has been awarded the contract to lead on a Regeneration and Covid Recovery Project for our town.

Lydney Town Council has allocated £42,000 in its Budget for this project, the whole of which should be considered as our 'pump priming' contribution towards delivery of the Regeneration Strategy. While this includes the consultant's fees we will be looking for the majority of the budget to be spent on actual projects. Place Studio has been asked to identify promising incoming streams and partner organisations for work in the remainder of 2021/22.



The objective is to work with the Town Council and other public, private and voluntary sector bodies as well as local residents to develop an effective working regeneration partnership.

With no clear end date for the pandemic, Place Studio will put in place arrangements for community engagement in a Covid-safe way. Inevitably this will mean more online consultation and less face-to-face discussion with residents and businesses, but with no alternative, plans need to be made before the Pandemic ends, in order for whatever proposals come about to be made ready.



Vaughan Thompson of Place Studio says: "We are ready to start work immediately and intend to start making contact with residents and businesses in March."

The Mayor of Lydney, Councillor Walter Leach said: "Place Studio were selected by the Council after a series of presentations by hopeful bidders all of whom brought a strong case to the table. Place Studio stood out by offering a wealth of experience and a track record of success in similar circumstances to those here in Lydney. I am particularly excited by this engagement as it has been a long-term goal to see the Council seriously investing in developing an exciting future for Lydney. The Town Council cannot do this alone and we need to work with all the key partners including other Councils and agencies, the business community and of course our residents, who will be a key influence in whatever we do."

Message from Lydney Town Mayor



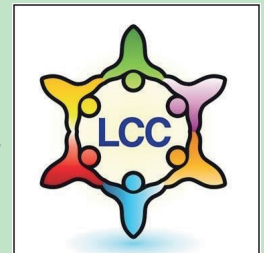
Welcome to the first edition of an expanded Newsletter for Lydney. This format provides space for the many organisations in Lydney to share their news with you alongside the Town Council. In this edition we cover items from the Christmas Lights prizes to Dementia Care and hope you will find something of interest to help you engage with your local community.

Our headline news is that following a major budgeting exercise, we have frozen the precept for 21/22 and been able to allocate funds for various local projects in Lydney such as the Town Centre Regeneration project. As lockdown now finally starts to lift, we will be seeking views from across the town and local area on how we can develop Lydney and create a thriving place that residents are proud to call home, for business and for visitors. Whilst this is a long-term project we are looking for 'quick-wins' along the way and hope you will join us with a sense of enthusiasm and creativity to make this a whole-town project.

Flood defence, Health Care and Environmental matters remain high on our agenda and we will bring more news on those in following editions.

There are currently 5 vacancies on the Town Council and if you believe you can help with these and other exciting projects in this growing town, contact us to get details of what being a Councillor involves. You will need to submit a nomination paper by 26th March .

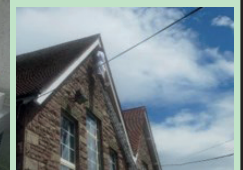
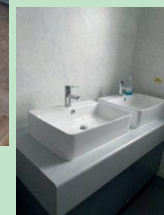
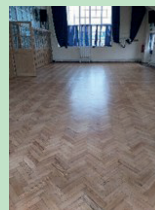
Lydney Community Centre, Naas Lane



March 2020 lockdown, while a dreadful blow to the many users of the Centre, gave the Committee time to make the building Covid secure, by installing hand sanitisers, a one-way system, fogging sanitiser as part of the increased cleaning routine, 'QR' code signs and other signage.

Other work included:

- ⇒ Sanding and resealing the lovely wooden floor in the hall
- ⇒ Painting and decorating the corridor
- ⇒ Painting the outside, with help from Enovert Entrust
- ⇒ Replacing the sinks and toilets in the ladies and disabled toilet, thanks to the Barnwood Trust.



We re-opened in September with relief and delight from those users who were able to return, and lots of interest from new groups. So, if everyone is able to return after the latest lockdown, we will have the Memory Club, Charlie's Cancer Support Group, Coffee Morning for Seniors, Art class, Line-dancing, Tai Chi, Keep Fit, Zumba, Dance Fit, Strength/Balance Class, Jumps, Kickboxing, Yoga, Baby Messy Play, Baby Sing and Sign, Chill Cherubs, Baby Sling Library, 2 football clubs for pre-schoolers, Come and Play After School Club, Computer Club, Singing for Health, and Kings Arms Church.

Further information and contact details are on our website

www.lydneycommunitycentre.co.uk or contact **07504 565 153**

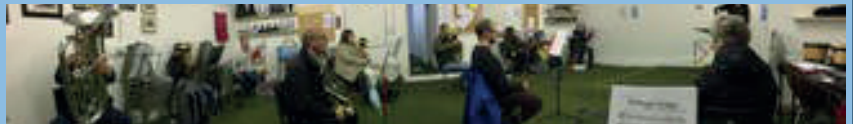


With the challenges of the 2020 lockdowns and restrictions Lydney Town & Training Band has been busy at securing their future. We have found new ways to get our members playing together and staying motivated - running online events, competitions, master-classes, team-based renovations to the band-room, socially distanced rehearsals and a weekly 'Open Mic' watch party on Facebook for our members.



Our band room has had its most extensive **renovation** in twenty years including insulation being fitted, redecorating and the installation of a new security fence. We even managed three socially distanced outdoor and three socially distanced indoor rehearsals before the second lockdown started in November. This really gave our players a much-needed boost to their morale.

With more projects on the way we will continue to provide a focus for our players and a service to our community, whilst staying safe.



For more information about Lydney Town and Training Band see website:

www.lydneyband.co.uk or contact Band Secretary and Youth Development Officer Kerry Ford on: **07554 540 469** and kerryford19@gmail.com



Well what a year 2020 turned out to be. Due to the pandemic The Forest Foodbank team had to adapt to a new process to enable us to still reach those in crisis, we went from being able to meet those needing our services face to face to having a socially distanced food parcel delivery system.

During 2020 we fed 745 adults and 476 children in and around Lydney.

The local community of Lydney stepped up to the challenge of donating during 2020 by using the Tesco, Lydney in store cage. This giving was 24% of our donated total into our warehouse.

That is an incredible 8.6 tonnes (around the weight of 14 highland cows)



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Tesco, Lydney also donated an extra 4.6 tonnes of their Basics range during lockdown. So far in 2021 we have fed 35 adults and 31 children.



We would like to thank Lydney's communities for all their support big or small we can't operate without you.

THANK YOU!

For more information see our website:

theforest.foodbank.org.uk and a food donate point is near the tills at Lydney Tesco

Shopping List

- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned fish
- Tins of rice pudding
- Sponge puddings
- Instant mash
- UHT milk

Can you help with these items we currently need?

Lydney Dial a Ride wheels keep turning

Even in the depths of a pandemic local Charity, Lydney Dial a Ride continues its journey. From the first lockdown in March 2020 Lydney Dial a Ride was classed as an essential service, ensuring people could still access essential shops and medical appointments. In this current lockdown we are taking key worker children to school each day and operating the six rural bus routes linking villages and hamlets to their local town.



Most importantly we are making sure that people can access the local Covid Vaccination Hub in Dockham Road, Cinderford to get those vital inoculations.

If anyone struggles to access public transport or do not have their own vehicle they can very quickly join Lydney Dial a Ride. A telephone conversation is all it takes to join the Charity and we want as many people as possible to know we are still here, waiting to help.

Lydney Dial a Ride is a registered Community Transport Charity with a mix of wheelchair accessible vehicles and volunteer drivers, covering Lydney, Coleford, Cinderford and the surrounding areas.

Contact us on **01594 843809**



For the latest updates follow us on Facebook
Lydney Dial-A-& Community Transport



Lydney Town Hall Trust

The Town Hall similar to other community leisure and entertainment venues has remained closed throughout the Covid 19 restriction period from March 2020 to early 2021. A packed calendar of events for 2020 was decimated, taking away our main source of revenue used to maintain the grand Victorian building as one of Lydney's main landmarks.

The volunteers have, when Covid rules have allowed, been able to carry out minor repairs and ensured the Hall has virus precautions in place for when the venue is occupied, which has mainly been for NHS Blood collection service.

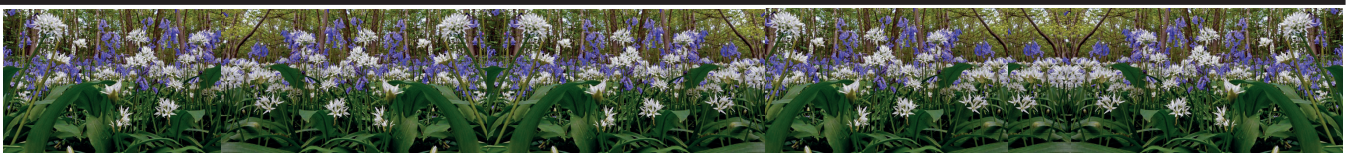
As to the future, we remain optimistic and have many of the postponed 2020 events rescheduled for 2021 and 2022. We expect a surge of interest from Lydney and the surrounding area who have had few options to support local community, leisure and entertainment events.

We are grateful that the Government support grants have been available through the Forest of Dean District Council. This certainly has been a lifesaver for the Trust.



The main hall room with sprung wooden floor

All enquiries for future use of the Hall are welcomed. Initial enquiries during lockdown via bookings@lydneytownhall.com or by leaving a message on **01594 843 113**



The Coffee House at Bathurst Park Lydney



Happy New Year to you and here we are in 2021! We have been busy at The Coffee House getting ready for our fourth season due to open on March 26th.

The 2020 season was not what any of us could have expected, but as always, our fantastic customers supported us through difficult times, even though we could only offer takeaway, this was for the safety of the customers and the Coffee House staff following risk assessments.

The Coffee House is set in the beautifully maintained Bathurst Park which has something for all the family. A BIG thank you to the Park team who do a wonderful job keeping the Park looking so good.

Whilst you are relaxing come and try our freshly ground coffee, specialty hot chocolate, freshly made milkshakes and smoothies, homemade luxury cakes and freshly made toasties and various sandwiches.



The Coffee House has a 5 Star rating, toilet facilities for disabled and baby changing.

Why not let your children have fun whilst you enjoy a well-earned coffee and cake

A GREAT BIG THANK TO EVERYONE

Opening dates

From **March 26th** we will be open for takeaway coffee, cakes & Ice-cream (weather dependant).

From **April 12th** we hope to expand by putting the tables and chairs out on the patio.

10am till 4pm

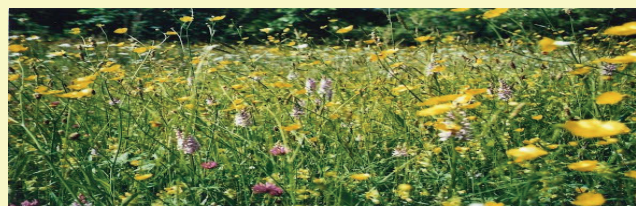
Lydney Town Council Environmental Working Party

As the evenings begin to draw out, and the first signs of spring appear in our gardens, we can look forward to the appearance of the first spring flowers. Over the winter, our ground staff team have been working hard planting bulbs, primroses and shrubs to give us a glorious show later in the year.



The environmental working party have been exploring ways in which wildflowers can be introduced into more areas, particularly on the roadside verges at the “gateways”, the entry and exits to the town. Wildflowers can enhance our enjoyment of our outdoor spaces, but they are not only appreciated by us human residents. Wildflowers attract important insect populations, which themselves help to sustain other wildlife. Birds and small mammals enjoy the seeds, and the wildflowers provide useful wildlife cover.

Over the next few years, Lydney Town Council will be looking at the green spaces we manage, both large and small, seeing if we are making the most of them and if they can be managed in a more environmentally friendly way. This could mean reducing the use of weed killers, especially glyphosate, mowing some areas less and encouraging diverse wildlife habitats. It could even involve converting some of our spaces into mini community orchards or growing spaces.

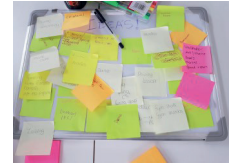


So look out for changes in our roadside verges and in our large and small green spaces. If something looks a bit neglected, it could be that we are trialling a new mowing schedule, or a different method of controlling weeds. Look out for signs, as we will try and tell you what we are up to as much as we can.

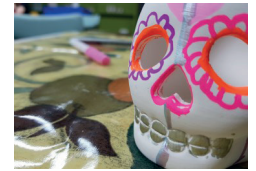


After a tumultuous 2020 for everyone Lydney Hub are looking towards 2021 with wide eyed anticipation, the culmination of a years worth of fundraising is taking shape and the next stage of the Hub building is within sight.

Last year saw Lydney Youth Hub move its service into the new building for the first time, while operating at reduced numbers due to guideline restrictions we received overwhelming interest in our sessions with evenings being fully booked within hours of being advertised.



One of our first priorities in developing the Hub building will be the completion of the Art studio and Media suite, this will provide new and exciting opportunities for the Young People attending our sessions as well as giving us the ability to expand our service as guideline's allow.



Moving forward into this year we hope that we can resume our live Youth sessions as soon as possible, we have already begun planning for a free meals event and started preparations for available activities.

We are always looking for new voices, so if you feel you would like to volunteer at Lydney Hub or Lydney Youth Hub please contact us at lydneyhub@gmail.com www.lydneyhub.org



[@lydneyhub](https://www.facebook.com/lydneyhub)

Lydney Town Council Grants

Every year Lydney Town Council sets aside money in the budget for the Grants Fund, to benefit people and projects local to Lydney Parish.



Applications are considered for financial assistance towards a specific project, item or activity from sporting, charitable organisations, cultural, educational, and community associations, whose membership and field of activities are located within the Parish. Grant applications are considered twice a year and the next tranche deadline for funding applications is the June 2021.

To find more details about the Town Council grants, and to get an application form go to the website www.lydeytowncouncil.co.uk/finance or phone 01594 842234

2020 Lydney Town Council Christmas Shop Window Winners

Each year Lydney retailers take part in the Christmas shop window display competition and decorate their windows on a set theme. This year the theme was "Words of Hope at Christmas"

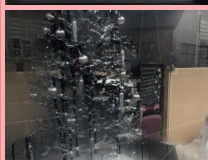
This year the prizes were given to these winners:



1st - Halo For their bold and courageous words that stood out and engendered hope in the community.



2nd - Beauty Within For including Stars and words of Hope combined.



3rd-Waggy Tails Grooming For creative use of an acronym for words of hope

THANK YOU to all who took part in the shop window competition at Christmas. It was lovely to see all of the wonderful shop displays as you walked through town.

The Forest of Dean Dementia Action Alliance

“What is good for people with dementia is good for everybody”

From ‘Creating a dementia friendly York’ (Dean, Crampton and Eley for Joseph Rowntree Foundation 2012)

The Forest of Dean Dementia Action Alliance is an informal partnership which brings together organisations, groups and individuals; we have over 90 members and are always looking for more people to work with us so if you would like to get involved we would love to hear from you!

We have a steering group who meets monthly so if you have anything you would like to ask or inform us, any thoughts or suggestions please do get in touch by email foddc.daa@fdean.gov.uk

Examples of the type of things we do:

- ⇒ free online awareness sessions each month
- ⇒ a weekly newsletter which signposts you to information and support
- ⇒ free online accessibility workshops with a focus on ageing, dementia and frailty
- ⇒ Forest of Dean chance to chat cards available free
- ⇒ Dementia and domestic abuse – inform available to raise awareness and highlight available support



For more information visit our website:

www.foddementiaactionalliance.org.uk or email foddc.daa@fdean.gov.uk

census 2021 Ready, steady, census

The decennial census is almost upon us.

Households across Lydney will be asked to take part in the nationwide survey of housing and the population. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Information from the digital-first census will help decide how services are planned and funded in your local area. This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, housing or new bus routes.

Households will receive a letter with a unique access code in the post, allowing them to complete their questionnaire online. Paper questionnaires on request.

March 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Census day is:
21 March 2021

For more info:
www.census.gov.uk

Sunday 21st Mar 2021

Accessibility with a focus on ageing, dementia and frailty

This online presentation discusses the effects of ageing and dementia on hearing, vision and mobility; explaining key design and acoustic principles that aid or hamper accessibility.

In the session we will cover:

- How ageing and dementia affect our sensory perception
- How building design and furnishings can impact use of a space
- Working through examples of what may help and what may cause challenges.

Presentations should be approx. 1 hour online using Microsoft Teams

Workshops delivered by Andrea Harman from:
A member of the Forest of Dean and Gloucestershire
Dementia Action Alliance supporting and enabling
this area of work.

Ecophon[®]
SAINT-GOBAIN
A SOUND EFFECT ON PEOPLE



If you would like a session for your team or community group and you are unable to make the dates listed below please email us and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Thursday	10th	March 2021	10.30am
Tuesday	11th	May 2021	2pm
Wednesday	21st	July 2021	6.30 pm

To book on to one of these sessions please email : foddc.daa@fdean.gov.uk



About Town

A Newsletter for Lydney

Have your say!

Although your Town Councillors may be contacted at any time should you have any form of concern, this Newsletter is an excellent way to bring your views, ideas, concerns and comments to a wider audience - in other words, to everyone within our community!

Any subject is permitted; You may wish to ask a question (*replies printed in the same edition wherever possible*), you may like to 'air' a concern or just generally pass comment.

Your views matter to us!

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS



Police: 101
 Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111
 NHS Direct: 111
 Samaritans: 116 123
 National Drugs Helpline—
 Frank: 0300 123 6600
 Dilke Hospital 0300 4218640
 Lydney Hospital 0300
 4218722
 Gloucestershire Dental
 Helpline: 0300 421 6440
 Pregnancy Advisory Team:
 0300 421 6532
 NSPCC Child Protection:
 0800 800500
 Alcoholics Anonymous:
 0800 9177 650
 Al-Anon friends & relatives
 of alcoholics: 0800 0086 811

Victoria Centre: 01594
 843418
 Forest of Dean District
 Council: 01594 810000
 Cinderford Town Council:
 01594 822599
 Coleford Town Council:
 01594 832103
 Lydney Town Council:
 01594 842234
 Newent Town Council:
 01531 820638
 Injured sheep and sheep
 nuisance: Commoners
 Association 01594 827485
 or Forestry Commission
 0300 067 4800 (9.00am—
 3.00pm Monday to Friday)
 Gloucestershire County
 Council: 01452 425000
 County Council Highways
 Dept: 08000 514514

Newsletter by;

Lydney Town Council, Council Chambers, Claremont House,
 High Street, Lydney, GL15 5DX

Phone—01594 842234 Email—info@lydneytowncouncil.co.uk



Lydney Town Councillors

Jane Carr— 01594 780284
 James Greenwood - 01594 842454
 Anne Harley—01594 842614
 Roger Holmes—01594 840316
 Susan Holmes—01594 840316
 Richard Kemsley—01594 840314
 Walter Leach - 01594 842732
 Peter Macklin—0740 1067377
 Alan Preest - 01594 564668
 Steve Stockham—01594 845769

(5 Vacant seats)

County Councillor

Alan Preest - 01594 564668

District Councillors

James Bevan - 01594 842146
 Harry Ives—07443 343395
 Alan Preest - 01594 564668
 Mark Topping—01594 840086
 Claire Vaughan—01595 843946