St Martin-by-Looe News



Winter 2026

Published and funded by

St Martin by Looe Parish Council.

Delivered FREE throughout the Parish and published in colour online.

clerk@stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk

www.stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk

St Martin By Looe Parish Councillors Contact Numbers.



- **Chair:** Robert Henly 01503 240336
- **Vice Chair:** Roberta Powley 01503 240650
- **Parish Councillors**
- Barbara Reynolds 01503 240520
- David Keeble 07936 101672
- Paul Matthews 07355 13659
- Simon Lawes 07399 605069
- Louise Western 07789 558191

Parish Clerk & Magazine Editor Charles Hyde 07763 364809
clerk@stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk

County Councillor Mark Gibbons 07342 530644
cllr.mark.gibbons@cornwall.gov.uk

If you would like to include an advertisement in the next edition please contact The Clerk, Charles Hyde on 07763 364809 or by email clerk@stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk Costs: £20 for a full page, £10 for a ½ page, £5 for 1/3 page: Contract discounts are available. The magazine is printed quarterly and has a circulation of 350 printed copies delivered throughout the Parish and is also available in colour online on our website and Facebook page.

Contributions and Statutory Disclaimer
We always welcome contributions from people living in the Parish. If you would like to air your views on a particular subject or have a photograph or piece of artwork for the front cover please get in touch with The Clerk, **ALL IMAGES SUPPLIED MUST BE FREE OF COPYRIGHT, we cannot be held responsi**ble **for copyright breaches and any fines will be passed on.**

All articles and advertisements are published in good faith, St Martin By Looe Parish Council cannot check all details in the articles and any views expressed may not necessarily reflect those of the Parish Council. Neither can we be held responsible for the actions of any advertisers now or in the future.

Parish Council Update

Welcome to the Winter Edition

Well here we are again! another winter which lets hope is not as violent as last winter, at least we have the fun and joy of the festive season to look forward too, beautiful lights and trees in peoples windows, once again the Light Up St Martins Parish Team have organised a fabulous tree light up event for 2026, with food and entertainment in the hall after, for all of our parishioners to enjoy. 6pm on November 28th.

This edition of the parish magazine contains all the usual articles, from our team of contributors who make this publication possible, I couldn't do it without them, so thank you. Please support the advertisers, again without them this publication would not be financially viable.

The Parish Council would like to wish all of our parishioners a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, see you all in 2027.



Parish Council Update

Trerulefoot to Liskeard Safety Improvement Scheme

The National Highways Agency a drop in session at Liskeard Town Hall in October was extremely well attended by local people, councillors, Parish Councillors and business people, in short the proposed scheme would close all right turns on the A38, which would lead to increased journey times, congestion on local roads and would have a detrimental effect on local businesses and access to public transport. Hopefully National Highways will listen to the response of the locals and rethink this proposed scheme. Overwhelmingly it is opposed locally, we await news and will keep you informed.

Buses

The Parish Council have again appealed to Go Bus to reconsider the withdrawal of the Liskeard bus service, so far the response has been negative, claiming negligible patronage, saying the service was financially unsustainable, we will continue to fight on to try to get some sort of bus reinstated, sadly SE Cornwall is generally badly served.

NO MAN'S LAND VILLAGE HALL

HIRE THIS HALL

GROUPS 'PARTIES' CLUBS ETC

GOOD SIZE HALL WITH KITCHEN

& TOILET FACILITIES

A STAGE, BILLIARD/SNOOKER ROOM

WITH A DARTBOARD

REASONABLE RATES

CONTACT MRS R. POWLEY 01503 240650

Parish Council Update

Parish Council Monthly Meetings

They take place at the Memorial Hall, No Man's Land at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of each month, but this may vary, so please check our noticeboard, Facebook page, and website for dates.

Requests to speak during Public Participation need to be made to the Clerk, 48 hours in advance by email: clerk@stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk



No Man's Land Hall News

The Hall has had another successful year with many events and with groups using the Hall.

The Garden Matters discussion group has been cancelled for this year but will be re-instated in the New Year.

There has recently been a spate of dog fouling on the path leading to the car park, the car park itself and even on the allotments. Please pick up after your dog. It is an offence not to do so.

The Jumble Sale that was cancelled on 24th October will now take place on 27th February 2027. We have loads of clothes, bric-a-brac, toys, books and much much more. Not to be missed!!.

We are looking forward to the **Christmas Bingo** again this year on Friday 11th December, with some super prizes and a cash flyer. There is no need to book a seat, we have plenty of room. A great fun evening for all.

If you wish to book the Hall or attend an event, the car park is free to people using the Hall, there is a well equipped kitchen, a snooker/billiard room, toilets and disabled access, 01503 240650.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank Andrew, Mike and Steve for all their help with the Hall.

The Remembrance Sunday Service was well attended.

The Service was taken by Priest in Charge Esther Ward.

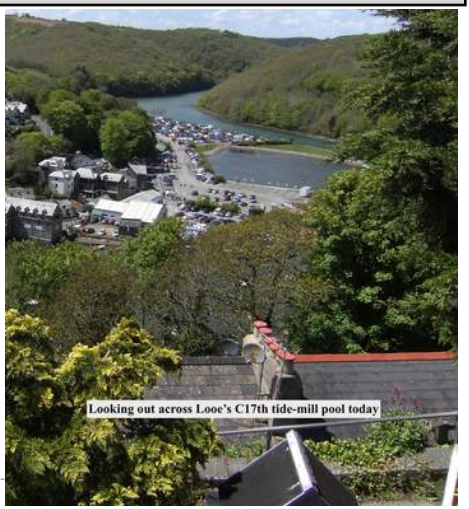
Wreaths were laid by Mr. Paul Matthews on behalf of the St Martins-by-Looe Parish Council, Miss. Bethany Southall on behalf of No Man's Land Village Hall and Mr. Armand Toms.

The Committee would also like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
See you in 2027.

History Snippet - Time for Tide Mills

The mill on the beach (Millendreath in Cornish) would have been a tide mill powered by the tide. Romans brought the technology to our shores. Two **working** tide mills remain at Eling in Hampshire and Woodbridge, Suffolk. Carew in his Survey of Cornwall, 1602, described the technology:-

"*……...by thwarting a bank from side to side, in which a flood-gate is placed, with two leaves.*



Looking out across Looe's C17th tide-mill pool today

These the flowing tide openeth, and after full sea, the waight of the ebb closest fast…….the imprisoned water driving an undershot wheel."

This described Looe's C17th tide-mill built By Thomas Arundell in the

PIANO & KEYBOARD TUITION IN LOOE

Lessons to suit all ages.
You are never too young or old to learn.
All styles including Classical, Pop, Rock & Blues.



Contact Samantha on: 07977166572

Email: Samantha.meades@ntlworld.com

www.pianokeyboardlessonslooe.co.uk

History Snippet - Time for Tide Mills

time of James I. The Mayor and Burgesses of West Looe granted a "*parcel of land, oze and water*" for a tide-mill with houses, four grist mills and a retaining wall. The Millpool is now a car park - but the lease expires in 2114!

Millendreath tide-mill would have been in a Celtic estuary which drained to the west and joined the Looe River. It was in royal Pendrym manor, showing Looe's early importance in Cornish history. When the tide broke through to create Looe Island, the tide-mill would have been overwhelmed. By 1214 Pendrym had built an inland water-mill, channelling spring water. In 1220 Henry de Bodrugan Lord of Pendrym, is petitioning Launceston Priory for a share in their water-mill at one mark of silver per annum. Presumably the tide-mill had by now ground to a halt!

Cont: page 9



Indoors

Hanging Pictures, Blinds, Curtains and Shelves, Flatpack Furniture Assembly, Minor Plumbing Work.

Outdoors

Patio Pressure Washing, Grass Cutting, Hedge Trimming, Garden Clearance, Small Collections and Deliveries.

Call - DarrenReynolds
07800 579144

Email: djrhandymanservices@gmail.com

All work considered, no job too small.If you cannot see your job listed please make contact with your requirements for a free quote.

History Snippet - Time for Tide Mills

Priory records show that by 1268 Pendrym manor gave up on the water-mills after trying to gain more waterpower. This must have been when they embraced the latest technology and built a windmill on the Wooldown.

Tide mills had substantial walls around their ponds. Somewhere beyond the Plaidy shore must be a trace of it.

Oh! I have found 5 coastal sites with Cornish mill names. Treesmill near St Austell was *Melyntrait* in 1150. The estuary silted up and it is now inland - so the mill won't work!.

We need power! We had power! We have tides and estuaries! Why not embrace the cutting-edge technology of yesteryear and re-create history?

Article by Jenny Wallis



DOES YOUR HOUSE LOOK LIKE THIS?





DOES IT NEED SOME TLC?

WHY PAINT THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME?

- Boosts kerb appeal and makes your home look its best
- Protects exterior surfaces from weather, moisture & UV damage
- Helps prevent cracking, peeling and costly repairs
- Enhances value and creates a great first impression
- A fresh new look you'll love coming home to!

A FRESH NEW LOOK
LASTING PROTECTION

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTATION

REVAMP YOUR HOME!

THE ROOFING COMPANY LOOE LTD

— ALL ASPECTS OF ROOFING UNDERTAKEN —

Google ★★★★★ 5.0 Based on customer reviews

★★★★★ 5.0 Based on customer reviews

OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE

- Roof Cleaning
- Roof Repairs
- Guttering & Fascias
- Moss Removal
- Exterior Painting
- Driveway Cleaning
- Patio & Decking Cleaning
- General Home Maintenance

CALL | 01503 613094 07943 772863

10 YEARS GUARANTEE

FOR YOUR FREE QUOTATION

Quality Workmanship You Can Rely On

🐾 POLRUAN PUPS PET SERVICES

EXCITING NEWS – WE'RE GROWING AND EXPANDING! 🎉

A new name, new services and even more happy tails!

Hello everyone!

We have some exciting news to share with all our lovely customers!

Our business is growing, and with that comes a few exciting changes. In the new Year we will be trading under a new name.

🐶 **INTRODUCING OUR NEW SERVICES!**

Alongside our existing services, we're excited to expand what we can offer:

ü Puppy Visits **ü** Pet Sitting **ü** Drop-In Visits **ü** Small Animal Care

NEW SERVICE ADDITION

ü Half Day Adventure Walks: Extra opportunities for dogs who love exploring and discovering new places. **ü** Buddy Walks

We're looking forward to offering more flexibility and choice to suit different pets and their owners.

Please get in touch to find out more about availability and our new services.

❤️ **THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR JOURNEY!**

We wouldn't be where we are today without our wonderful customers and their gorgeous pets.

Thank you for your continued loyalty, support and trust as we move into this exciting new chapter!




The Goat Barn & Christmas Emporium – Horse Rugs
Your Local Christmas Gift Shop
Open All Winter
A wonderful range of gifts, local produce and equestrian supplies, perfect for Christmas and throughout the winter months.
Christmas Gifts for Everyone
Children's Toys
Gift Hampers
Wine, Ciders & Beers
Local Gins, Whisky & Vodka
Jam & Honey
Local Goats Skincare & Care Products
Farm Fresh Eggs
Bacon & Sausages
Local Cheeses
Equestrian Horse Turnout Rugs
Pop in and see what's new this December, January and February!
The Goat Barn, Pendrym Barton,
St Martins, Looe, Cornwall, PL13 1NX
Telephone: 07930078857

Great Trethew Manor Hotel & Riding School



A Little Something Special, Right on Your Doorstep...

Good food, great company, happy horses and memories waiting to be made.

AT THE MANOR



SUNDAY CARVERY

Gather your family and friends and enjoy our delicious Sunday Carvery – wonderful food and a welcoming atmosphere.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Live music from **BLU-SOULE!**

Let's celebrate the New Year in style! Join us for a fantastic evening of live music, great company and a warm welcome.

BAR & RESTAURANT

Open to non-residents, 7 days a week. Pop in for a drink, enjoy a meal with friends or celebrate a special occasion with us.

AT THE RIDING SCHOOL

KIDS' PONY CLUB

All year round! Fun, friendship, ponies and outdoor adventures for young horse lovers.

HORSE RIDING

Experience the joy of riding and discover our beautiful countryside from the saddle.

ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

Opportunities for young people to learn, connect and develop through meaningful, horse-centred experiences in an outdoor environment.

Make More Memories at Great Trethew

Whether it's a Sunday lunch, a special celebration, a pony adventure or a little time out in the countryside...

THERE'S ALWAYS A REASON TO VISIT, AND WE'D LOVE TO WELCOME YOU!

Horningtops, near Liskeard, Cornwall | Hotel: 01503 261181 | Riding: 07714 099127

greattrethewmanorhotel@outlook.com | greattrethewtrekking@gmail.com

Curried Parsnip Soup *(from Delicious magazine)*

Main Ingredients

- 750 g parsnips
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- ¼ tsp ground cumin, 1 tsp ground coriander, ¼ tsp turmeric, 1½ tsp ginger, ½ tsp chilli powder
- 1 large onion, 2 garlic cloves, 2 bay leaves
- 1.3 L fresh vegetable stock
- Fresh coriander leaves to garnish

Method:

1. Slice 100 g parsnips thin, toss with oil, cumin, salt & pepper, bake 20–25 min until crisp (for garnish).
2. Toast remaining spices in a pan, then sauté onion, garlic, spices, bay leaves, chopped parsnips & stock.
3. Simmer 30 min until tender, blend until smooth, season, garnish with crisps, chilli & coriander.

THE CORNISH HOMESTEAD

Hand crafted soaps, salves, balms, lotions and more!

Telephone: 07503 072894

www.cornishhomestead.com

Facebook: cornishhomestead

Local Bank Services

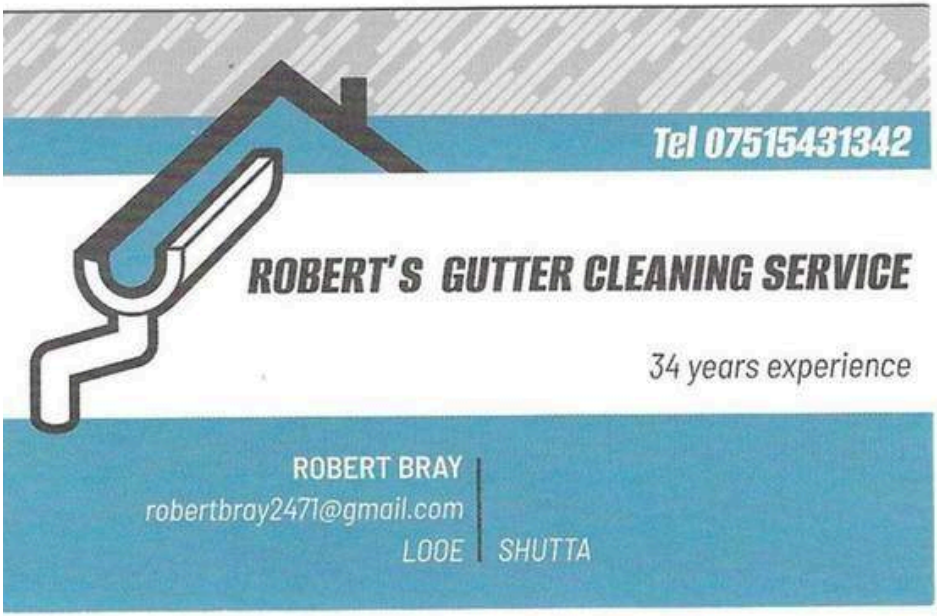
Looe Banking Hub

At the Sardine Factory next to the Heritage Centre, West Looe

Opening Hours/ Bank.

Monday - Natwest, 9am to 5pm.
Tuesday - Barclays, 9am to 5pm.
Wednesday - Lloyds, 10am to 3pm.
Thursday - HSBC, 9am to 1pm.
Friday - Santander, 1pm to 5pm.

You can get cash and pay money in any day.
Any specific question for your bank you will need to speak to their advisor on the appropriate day



SCOTT PARRY

- ASSOCIATES -

SELLING HOMES THAT FULFIL YOUR LIFESTYLE

COASTAL SOUTH EAST CORNWALL IS AN OFTEN OVERLOOKED PART OF THE CORNISH RIVIERA, KNOWN TO SOME AS"THE FORGOTTEN CORNER". COME AND DISCOVER YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF OUR WONDERFULLY IDYLLIC COASTLINE.

From the rugged and romantic moorland of Bodmin Moor and the verdant valleys of the Rivers Tamar and Fowey to the beautiful coastline of the Cornish Riviera, our experience and depth of knowledge provides clients and buyers alike with an estate agency experience which breaks with tradition, we provide candid opinion and fresh-faced enthusiasm for our property stock and our location.

www.scottparry.co.uk

01752 858314

sales@scottparry.co.uk **@scottparry associates**

Autumn Events



At the risk of being boring I am starting off this piece with a mention of the latest weather we have been experiencing – I refer to Storms Austen and Boelo. Storm Austen blew through on the 23rd October, the noise we heard in the early hours of the morning was horrendous – listening to various objects being blown around outside made it seem a lot worse. The first sight we had of any damage was some debris on the driveway which turned out to be some slates off the garage roof – when we ventured outside it was still very windy and we started recovering various potted plants, replacing dustbins and benches to their original positions, but given the ferocity of the wind earlier we began to think that we had got away quite likely. On further inspection we discovered a large broken limb from our only Oak tree and another tree had fallen across the driveway, completely blocking our access – some arboreal work was definitely going to bequired.



required.

With some assistance from family members we cleared the driveway, made safe some other damage and replaced the lost tiles, all while battling the strong winds – then we waited for the next predicted storm – Storm Boelo was on the way.

Although the storm came as predicted, we in the South West were less affected, the worse conditions were felt in the North of the UK – with the threat of storms now gone, further clean up began. We can now return to some kind of normality.

It wasn't long before the birds returned looking for food – most notably small Passerines such as Robins, Dunnocks and House Sparrows, all of which are in good numbers. I haven't noted any Finches yet as I stopped putting seed in the feeders at the beginning of the Summer on the advice of the RSPB to stop the Trichomonosis disease – as of 1st November you can introduce seed again to the feeders.

Tredinnick Farm Shop and Cafe
Widegates, Near Looe, PL13 1QL. 01503 240992.



Fresh Fruit & Veg, Bread, Meats, Pet Food, Beer, Wine & Spirits.

Plus ALL your everyday staples.

Agents for:

PayPoint dpd ups amazon EVRi

PayPoint

Open 7 days a week
Mon - Sat8.30am - 6pm.Sun 9am - 5pm
Café Fri, Sat & Sun 9am - 2pm

Autumn Events

One other visitor to the feeders is a solitary Starling, large numbers of which will soon arrive from their Summer home in Scandinavia, Russia and Ukraine to swell their numbers in the UK. Another bird seen in the garden, which is always a pleasure, was a male Green Woodpecker – this bird often heard but rarely seen has local names, one of which is the Yaffle. This is an old British dialect name, especially in places like Kent, that mimics the distinct laughing cry (yaffling).

With the temperatures dropping, things in the garden will slow down, hopefully not many more lawn mowings will be required – lower air temperatures will encourage the remaining leaves to fall which means I can relegate the leaf blower to the shed.

We are almost ready for Winter in all its forms.

Article by David Keeble

PURELY CORNISH
The Farm shop & Dellicatessen

The Purely Cornish Farm Shop and Deli

The Cornish Hamper people making beautiful bespoke hampers in Looe

Established in 2005,
We have Cornish products from over 30 Suppliers
From Tarquins Gin and Camel Valley to Jo Downs Glass and St Eval Candles.

Open 7 days a week, 0900 1700hrs 18 Fore Street, East Looe, PL13 1DT

T: 01503 262680 **www.purelycornish.co.uk** ally@purelycornish.co.uk

THE ROOFING COMPANY LOOE LTD

ALL ASPECTS OF ROOFING UNDERTAKEN

- NEW ROOF ✓
- ROOF REPAIRS ✓
- RIDGES ✓
- VERGES ✓
- FACIAS / SOFFITS ✓
- FLAT ROOF ✓



10 YEARS GUARANTEE

FULLY INSURED | OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

FREE QUOTATIONS

07943 772863
01503 613094
www.theroofingcompany.org.uk

5 STAR REVIEW

roofinglooe2026@icloud.com | Quality Workmanship You Can Rely On

A Triffid Grows In No Man's Land

Not the 'Triffid' of John Wyndham fame but certainly an unusual looking alien, in this case from the Canary Islands. The plant in question is situated in the hedge on the right hand side just after the entrance to Springfield Park. It is *Echium pininana* which is commonly known as Giant Viper's bugloss, Tree Echium, Pine Echium or Tower of Jewels. In the wild it is native to the Canary Islands and more specifically the island of La Palma. The specific name of pininana means 'small pine' but it neither looks like a pine or is related to pines.

Currently it is a shaggy loose spike of rough leaves but this plant should shoot up next year, with a spike of pale blue flowers to an impressive height. These plants can reach a height of 5m but 3 - 4.5m is more common. They are not necessarily a biennial as they can take more than 2 years to reach flowering size depending on growing conditions. This is what botanists call monocarpic – having only one flowering. Subsequently the plants set a massive amount of seed and they then die.



Tree Echiums can grow in many parts of Britain and I have seen them flowering on the Wirral and in coastal Wales and in the milder west coast gardens of Scotland such as Logan Botanic Garden and Arduaine, but it very much depends on the severity of the winter weather as they are not hardy. They are well documented in coastal situations in Cornwall and one only has to go out to Hannafore to see some nice specimens. With the current shift in climate these plants have been expanding their

range and the plant at at No Man's Land appears to be self-sown but probably from gardens nearby.

In Britain we have our own native Echium, Viper's Bugloss, *E. vulgare* but it is a very much smaller plant, 30 – 80cm bearing blue spikes of flowers in summer and it is frequently seen along the coast and on rough ground.

Giant Echiums have been reported growing in Britain since 1779, largely as a garden plants. It is listed as an endangered plant in the wild (La Palma) but with the changing climate and milder winters it is becoming much more prominent here, in coastal Britain and I'm sure we are going to see a lot more of them.
Next summer No Man's Land should have a flowering Giant Echium.

Article by Paul Matthews.

STEVE WILLS HAULAGE

We can supply Dumpy Bags/25kg bags of

Decorative Chippings

Sand and aggregates

Cement and Blocks

Tipper & Grab Hire

Delivery or collection available

Fast and efficient service

Tel: 01503 220641

Professional Footcare Services

Happy Feet Foot Health

Tel: 07769605361

MOBILE & HOME VISITS



SHALLAN CARLOSS
FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER SC86199 DipRFHP S.A.C

COMPLETE FOOTCARE TREATMENT

- Nail trimming & thick nails
- Corns
- Callous & hard skin
- Cracked heels
- Fungal nails
- Verruca
- Diabetics treated



Happy feet foot health

Happyfeetfoothealth23@gmail.com

Areas covered Rame peninsular, Looe, Pensilva and anywhere in between.

Rob Stead

Chimney Sweep

- Traditional & rotary power sweep
- Chimney unblocking
- Stove maintenance
- CCTV inspections & surveys
- Insurance company approved certificates issued
- Fully insured & trained by The National Association of Chimney Sweeps (NACS)

CLEAN, TIDY & EFFICIENT SERVICE

CALL & BOOK YOUR LOCAL SWEEP TODAY!

CALL US NOW

07547 346 318

RS.ChimneySweep@gmail.com

Useful Telephone Numbers

Police
Looe Police Station 01503 266193
Or 101 Emergency 999

Coastguard (Emergency 999)
HM Falmouth 01326 310800
Brixham 01803 884002

Home Emergency
Gas 0800 371787
Water 0800 169 1144
Electricity 0800 111999
Floodline 08459 881188

Hospitals
Truro 01872 250000
Liskeard 01579 335600
Derriford 0845 1558155

Doctors
Looe Surgery 01503 266960
Liskeard. Oaktree 01579 335320
Liskeard. Rosedean 01579 343133
Quay Lane, St Germans &
Downderry 01503 230088

Councils
Cornwall 0300 1234 100
Looe Town Council 01503 262255

Buses
CityBus 01752 662271

Airports
Exeter 01392 367433
Newquay 01637 860600
Bristol 0870 121 2747
Heathrow 0871 472 5125
Gatwick 0844 335 1802

Railway
Enquiries 08457 484950

Taxis
Looe Taxis 01503 262405
Sarah's Taxis 01503 265688
Liskeard, Anytime 01579 346007

Vets
Looe, Calweton 01503 253773
Liskeard Luxstowe 01579 342120
Liskeard DJ Ellis 01579 342602

R J REYNOLDS
PLUMBING & HEATING LTD
Phone 01503 240520
Mobile 07843 565852

All types of plumbing and heating,
Oil, Natural gas LPG. lead work Underfloor
heating, landlords certificates/ Gas safety
checks, Boiler servicing.

1 Bucklawren Road, St Martins, Looe,
Cornwall, PL13 1QS