

# Longstanton Life

Volume 21 Issue No. 4

August - September 2021

Life in Your Locality



*Photo: Harvest Mouse by Maggie O'Moore, Swavesey Camera Club*

The information in The Longstanton Life is provided in good faith and we have tried to ensure that it is accurate and correct. However, neither the editorial team nor the contributors can be held responsible for any inaccuracies or omissions or any consequential losses of any form whatsoever arising therefrom.

The editorial team for this edition were: Anna Rudd, Beth Baker, Lucy Shaw and Victoria Stevens.

# VILLAGE DIARY

DUE TO CORONAVIRUS, PLEASE CHECK WITH THE ORGANISER FIRST

SUNDAY	09.30-10.30	Sunday School	Village Institute*	Susan Meah	01954 781258
	11.00	Tennis Club Sessions	The Pavilion	Sarah Ballard	07985 938959
MONDAY	11.00-12.00	Zumba Gold	Village Institute*	Davina Mee	07779 244250
	18.00-20.00	Bowls Club	The Pavilion	Marion Edwards	01954 780118
	19.00-20.00	Jazzercise	Hatton Park School	Tina Chasse	01487 841811
2nd of month	19.30	Parish Council	Village Institute*	(Open meeting)	
3rd of month	19.45	W.I.	Village Institute*	Patrizia Peters	01954 781283
TUESDAY	10.00-12.00	Coffee morning (over 55's)	The Dale Comm. Hall	Please just turn up	
	10.30-11.15	Mini JAFFAs (pre-schoolers)	All Saints' Church	Susan Meah	01954 781258
	18.00	Tennis Club Night	The Pavilion	Sarah Ballard	07985 938959
	18.30-20.00	Adult Cricket Training (May-August)	Recreation Ground	Wayne Markillie	07737 313225
	19.00-21.00	Cambridge Freestyle Martial Arts	Village Institute*	Rory/Martin	07523 854251/07535 646234
	19.00-21.30	ATC (Air Training Corps)	Cadet Centre		
WEDNESDAY	10.00-11.00	Music Madness (0-5yrs)	Village Institute*	Sharon Sennitt	07762 206320
	19.10-21.30	Army Cadet Force (12-18yrs)	Cadet Centre	Sgt. Rudderham	07759 056154
	19.00-20.00	Jazzercise	Hatton Park School	Tina Chasse	01487 841811
THURSDAY	10.00-11.30	Rainbow Club (bump-1yr)	Village Institute*	Susan Meah	01954 781258
FRIDAY	09.30-11.00	Little Leprechauns playgroup (0-4yrs)	Village Institute*	Jane Hordern	07960952182
	14.00-16.00	Afternoon tea (over 55s)	The Dale Comm. Hall	Please just turn up	
	18.00	Tennis Club Night	The Pavilion	Sarah Ballard	07985 938959
	19.00-21.30	ATC (Air Training Corps)	Cadet Centre		
	18.00-20.00	Longstanton Juniors Cricket (5-16yrs) includes	Recreation Ground	Richard Jenkins	rbjenkins@gmail.com
SATURDAY	10.00-11.00	*Longstanton Colts Football Club (6-12yrs)	Recreation Ground	Louise Gamon	07429 317803

\*Mid week football training available, please contact Louise Gamon (Tel: 07429 317803).

\*It should be noted that the Village Institute is available for hiring for a variety of functions; provisional bookings can be made via [www.longstanton-pc.gov.uk/Longstanton\\_Village\\_Institute\\_Hall\\_23070.aspx](http://www.longstanton-pc.gov.uk/Longstanton_Village_Institute_Hall_23070.aspx). Email: [villageinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:villageinstitute@gmail.com) or telephone **01954 782323**. The Pavilion also offers private party function facilities; discuss your requirements for any family & friends gatherings - e.g.: weddings, birthdays, funerals, with **Michael Binks** on **01954 782233** or email [longstantonpav@btinternet.com](mailto:longstantonpav@btinternet.com)

## Longstanton and District Heritage Society Memory Lane

The LDHS Archives have a number of photos of Longstanton village children attending the village school. For those of you who know Longstanton well you will be familiar with the Old School and School House that are sited on School Lane, near to All Saints' Church. The old school was built in 1844 to benefit the two parishes of Longstanton. With the onset of war the school struggled with the influx of new children and in 1954, a new school

opened on what used to be the parkland associated with the Hatton Mansion House.

Detailed logbooks were kept recording many fascinating aspects of the children's life including absenteeism, punishment and even death. Bob Jopling, LDHS member and former teacher at Hatton Park School, has transcribed many of these logbooks and kindly donated copies of his work to the LDHS Archives.

*Hilary Stroude*



*Longstanton village children at the Old School 1932.  
Photo LDHS via Sylvia Skinner.*



*Children at the new Hatton Park School site in the 1950s.  
Photo LDHS via George Rainsford.*

# LONGSTANTON LIFE EDITORIAL

*Dear Readers,*

Summer is in progress, with very variable weather. Many of us took time off work without much of a holiday travel plan again this year so we have more time to discover local walks, cycle routes and perhaps even go for a swim in the nearby river. Share with us your local finds – we are always happy to receive contributions from our readers. We hope you will find time to read this issue; as usual we have plenty of interesting community, schools and clubs news. Don't miss the sports crossword on page 17!

We are still looking for new members to join our friendly editorial team. Please see our advert on page 19. Drop us an email if you would like to find out more, one of us will be happy to tell you what we do so you can decide whether you want to give it a try. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

*The Editorial Team*

## Contact Us:

- e-mail: longstantonlife@hotmail.com
- correspondence address: Longstanton Life, c/o The Village Institute, 24 High Street, Longstanton CB24 3BS
- Twitter account: @LongstantonLife
- find us on Facebook – Longstanton Life Magazine

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### Sports Crossword!!

17

Please note that the **copy deadline** for the October - November 2021 edition of Longstanton Life is:

**Thursday, 9th September 2021**

Contributions for the next issue: by email to longstantonlife@hotmail.com or drop off at the Village Institute

## Longstanton Life Advertising Rates 2021

If you are interested in advertising in our magazine, please email [longstantonlife@hotmail.com](mailto:longstantonlife@hotmail.com) with 'advertising' in the subject line.

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Line	N/A	£15	£30		

Issue 1: February/March

Issue 4: August/September

Issue 2: April/May

Issue 5: October/November

Issue 3: June/July

Issue 6: December/January

# COMMUNITY CONCERNS

## County Councillor

## Firouz Thompson



Happy summer everyone. Whether you are going away, staying at home with family or catching up with friends, I hope you get to have a break.

As we move into the summer season, our businesses who rely heavily on the tourist economy are hoping for some good times ahead to help their recovery from the pandemic. The sunshine always helps, and we can help by supporting our local businesses all year round.

**COVID-19 RECOVERY:** Residents in Cambridgeshire are being urged to continue to do the right thing and play their part to tackle Covid-19 by getting double vaccinated, taking a Covid test if they have virus symptoms and self-isolating if they test positive. At the time of writing, there is an increase of 33% in infection rates, highest in under 30s, and approx. 40% of our population are yet to be fully vaccinated.

Following the announcement of easing of restrictions, helping to prevent the virus spreading remains vital, especially with more people likely to be out and about.

For the latest information on walk-in clinics, visit Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group's website:

[www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk](http://www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk)

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE:** The latest government funding grant for free school meals during the summer holidays didn't cover the demand across the County. At the first meeting of the County Council Children and Young People Committee, members voted to provide £537k in additional funding to provide both supermarket vouchers and 4 weeks free holiday childcare for all eligible families.

**ENVIRONMENT:** The County Council's Environment & Green Investment Committee has agreed to review the Council's climate and environment strategies by December 2021 with a view to bringing forward its net-zero target towards 2030. The Committee will develop a Route Map to Net-Zero and Doubling Nature Programme by March 2022.

**HIGHWAYS:** A problem area for the Council is road maintenance, especially potholes and blocked road gullies. I am sure you are painfully aware of the short-term nature of much of the work; there is a backlog and, as the new administration, we are not able to rectify problems overnight, but the new team is going to look critically at contracts and quality of work and drive improvements as soon as they can. At the last quarterly highways meeting on 18 June, all of the Parishes within my division - Longstanton, Northstowe, Oakington & Westwick and Over, met at Longstanton Village Hall. Present were two Local Highway Officers (LHO), Parish Chairs/Vice Chairs and Clerks. All back-dated and current issues were discussed and prioritised where possible. Going forward I will meet with LHOs fortnightly and the next quarterly meeting will be in September. I have also put in place a collaborative highways document with the Parishes to update on all issues raised.

Residents are kindly reminded to report any problems on Highways Reporting: on the following website: <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk>, as it will then be picked up by the LHOs to bring to these meetings.

**B1050:** You be pleased to know that the major flooding on B1050 just by the roundabout has been resolved and the new drains worked perfectly in the downpour in early July.

**B1050 BAR HILL TO NORTHSTOWE:** Several potholes have been marked up between the first stretch of B1050 approaching from the Bar Hill junction and they should be filled within 21 days. The section where the new junction road finishes and the existing B1050 meet has been problematic for some time and the maintenance team, after several attempts of patching up that section, have been unsuccessful in finding a solution. We do ask residents to ensure they slow down upon approach to this part of the road as a few cars have damaged their tyres. We are looking at ways of troubleshooting this problem and are continuing to push for the new Southern Access Road West to be opened.

**THATCHER'S WOOD:** A surface dressing treatment 'Micro/Gripfibre' is scheduled starting 14 September for three days. The road will be closed whilst the work is in progress with a diversion, unless stated otherwise. Please note, dates may change at short notice as surface dressing is dependent on the weather.

Do join the local Longstanton, Northstowe & Oakington Facebook page for County and District news.

*Firouz Thompson  
County Councillor*

*Longstanton, Northstowe, Over, Oakington and Westwick*



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# COMMUNITY CONCERNS

## Longstanton Parish Council

Dan delaMare-Lyon



Hello Longstanton!

I hope everyone is well and continuing to slowly adapt to our environment opening up. While the Parish Council has now handed over our local support to the more formalised regional and national groups, we are still monitoring the situation closely and will adapt as local guidelines change.

**We are hiring** As Libby White has stepped down from her post as Parish Clerk (thank you again Libby for all that you did for your community), in the coming weeks we will be hiring for a Parish Clerk. More details will be posted on the Parish Council website, on social media, on National Council job boards and doubtless elsewhere. Ideally we will be looking for someone with Clerk experience, but for the right candidate we will be offering relevant training to attain the required certification and qualification. Local applicants are of course welcome as who knows our community better than someone from it?! Watch out for more information. If you'd like to find out more, please email [clerk@longstanton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@longstanton-pc.gov.uk) or call the parish office.

In addition, at the same time as Libby stood down, our trusty village litter-picker-and-handyman also moved into retirement. I'd like to say thank you to Glenn Lovell for all the time that he has devoted to helping the village and the Parish Council over the years. Many of you have noted that some of the bins aren't being emptied as frequently and litter isn't being collected and this is the reason, so we are putting temporary measures in place for this. We will need to appoint someone going forward for the longer term. It's not all about the litter picking though, and it also encompasses general maintenance activities to the village facilities and assets. If you'd be interested in taking up this challenge please email (address above) or call. We will publish more information shortly.

**Kingfisher Pond** The analysis of the phase-3 report from HR Wallingford is ongoing. We are waiting for feedback from South Cambs District Council on their proposed actions from the report and will report back on this to the community in due course.

**Wilsons Road Bridleway** Many may now be aware of plans to change the bridleway surface in Wilsons Road on the track to the new bridge on the Northstowe southern access road. We all found out about the plans at the last minute, however thanks to various interested parties including the Parish Council, work is on hold until a suitable plan to meet the needs of all potential users can be agreed with Cambridgeshire County Council. We will continue to work with all the user groups to ensure that the right result is delivered and we do all we can to maintain the access without losing the historic tree-lined route.

**Community Engagement** At the annual meeting of the Parish we elected to form a Community Engagement working group. The purpose of the working group is to extend our day-to-day activity and communication with the community to help better understand the desires of the Parish for the projects we should undertake by engaging, listening and mapping that into a plan for our community for the coming 12-36 months. This will form part of our Community Plan, but

more importantly will build a forum outside of the monthly Parish Council meetings to engage with the community. Watch for more information on this in the coming weeks. We want to hear from you, and importantly we want to involve as many of our residents in the future of our community as possible.

As always, if there's anything your Parish Council can help with, don't hesitate to contact us via e-mail, phone or drop a note in the mailbox at the Village Hall. Alternatively, contact any of your Parish Councillors - their details are on the website.

Until next time, stay safe and well,

*Dan delaMare-Lyon  
Chairman, LPC*

## MP for South Cambs

Anthony Browne

There's a better way than busways



Local infrastructure has dominated my month, ending in a disappointing announcement from the GCP that they will progress plans for two huge concrete busways through the Cambridge greenbelt. We need fast

action to fix our transport system in South Cambs, but not with poor value and damaging projects such as these. I will continue working alongside the residents, representatives, environment groups, and transport leaders opposing these schemes, and I am confident there are better long-term transport solutions to be explored.

This month, I have also been working on:

- Launching my latest East West Rail (EWR) survey with a posted update on my actions to over 21,000 homes.
- Meeting the Prime Minister to discuss the levelling up agenda and push back against massive housebuilding in our area.
- Securing millions of pounds in funding for improvements to the A10.
- Discussing the impact of the new Planning Bill on South Cambridgeshire, and my thoughts on how it can be improved.
- Holding my latest Constituency Environment Forum, where over 100 people signed up to discuss environmental policy and biodiversity.

Find more information on my website:

<https://www.anthonybrowne.org>

To contact me about any issue:

[anthony.browne.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:anthony.browne.mp@parliament.uk)

01223 603677

*Anthony Browne*

*Anthony Browne  
MP for South Cambs*

# COMMUNITY CONCERNS

## District Councillors' Notes



We hope that, as national lockdown restrictions are relaxed, you are keeping safe and well. Covid-19 cases remain very high locally and so we encourage everyone to remain cautious, particularly when inside or in crowded spaces. If you have not had your vaccination yet, you can still book online via [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/) or by calling 119. There have also been walk-in clinics running locally; details can be found on the Cambs and Peterborough CCG website:

[www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/covid-19-national-vaccination-programme/information-regarding-walk-in-clinics/](http://www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/covid-19-national-vaccination-programme/information-regarding-walk-in-clinics/)

### The Local Plan Call for Sites

We have written before about something called the 'call for sites', but have seen some concerns raised about this recently, so wanted to share the information again.

In the call for sites, developers and landowners were invited to put forward sites

where they want to build houses across South Cambs District. This is part of the process of developing something called a Local Plan, which will set out how and where development should happen across the area. We are set targets by central government for housebuilding which we must meet. If we do not, then the government can take away the powers of the local councils as the planning authority and with that the power of local people to be involved in making

decisions about what is built in their area. When we previously had no Local Plan in South Cambs we saw lots of speculative developments approved in local villages despite residents' objections - for example 500 houses in Cottenham. Since we were elected in 2018 and the new LibDem administration finally approved a Local Plan for South Cambs, we have had zero speculative developments approved. We are now in the process of developing the next Local Plan, which this time will be a joint plan with Cambridge City.

Over 600 sites were put forward across the District in this call for sites, including sites in Longstanton. The easiest way to view these is via the online interactive map which you can find by following the link below. Search via postcode to see sites near you and click on the map to see further details of what is being proposed. We have also pro-

vided a screenshot of the map showing the sites in the village. It is important to note that none of these sites have been assessed or filtered and none of them have any planning status. As in the previous plan it is likely that only a fraction of the over 600 sites put forward will be chosen - only 10% of submitted sites were ultimately included in the last Local Plan.

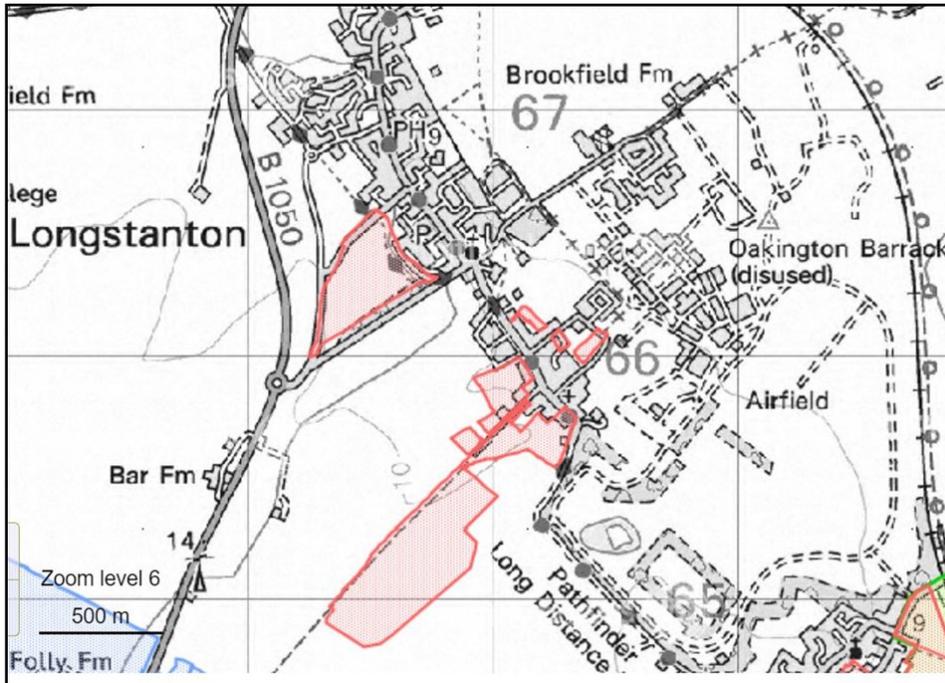
As District Councillors we would oppose the inclusion of these sites in Longstanton in the new Local Plan as we believe the demand locally for housing, particularly affordable housing which we know we desperately need locally, is being more than adequately met by Northstowe.

There will be opportunity for further public consultation on this in the Autumn and we will keep residents updated on how they can feed back and give their views. You can also find more details on the Greater Cambridge Planning website - [www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/emerging-plans-and-guidance/greater-cambridge-local-plan/document-library/site-submissions/](http://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/emerging-plans-and-guidance/greater-cambridge-local-plan/document-library/site-submissions/)

### Out-Of-Hours Working at Northstowe

There have been a number of reports of work continuing outside of the permitted hours on the Northstowe site again. After the initial warnings issued to the contractors

were not followed, we have asked for the planning enforcement team to act on this as we believe this is unacceptable. With our support they have now issued a Breach of Condition Notice, which tells the developers and their contractors that they must cease working outside of permitted hours or they will be committing an offence and face further enforcement action.



Please do continue to report out-of-hours working to us via email and to planning enforcement via the SCDC website ([www.scams.gov.uk/report](http://www.scams.gov.uk/report)), providing dates, times, what activity was happening and if possible, photos or videos. As a reminder, the permitted working hours on site are Mon -Fri 08.00-18.00 Sat 08.00-13.00. No work is permitted on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about these, or any other matters.

Sarah Cheung Johson: [cldr.cheungjohnson@scams.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.cheungjohnson@scams.gov.uk)  
Alex Malyon: [cldr.malyon@scams.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.malyon@scams.gov.uk)

*Alex Malyon and Sarah Cheung Johnson  
District Councillors for Longstanton,  
Oakington and Northstowe*

# HATTON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Hello to all of Longstanton!

At this time of writing, there are only four days left of what has been a rather unusual year for Hatton Park, along with the rest of the world! We continued to adapt throughout the year to rapidly and frequently changing expectations of schools. We couldn't be prouder of our children, their families and our staff for the sheer commitment to education that they have shown. On top of providing both on site and remote teaching, our school community has worked tirelessly to keep everyone as safe as they could over the year. Thank you to everyone who did their bit – cleaning, road marshalling, food deliveries and just being tolerant of the changes we had to face.

Despite the global pandemic, our prime responsibility of teaching and learning has remained the focus. In addition to our usual classroom learning, we provided effective, recorded lessons throughout the spring term that enabled families to access these at times suitable to them. Adaptability was the key! During the summer term, with all children learning back on site, there have been lots of

highlights. Our oldest children have thoroughly got into their Eco-Warriors unit of work, thinking deeply about the impact that they can have on the shaping of our future. This followed on beautifully from our involvement in planting trees in Mozambique. Some of our year 5 children had the opportunity to visit Northstowe Secondary College and use their amazing arts facilities. It was planned beautifully – safety was paramount in these times – and the children benefitted hugely. We look forward to other 'cross phase' projects in the future!

Our lower key stage two children really got to grips with the favourite Roald Dahl story, Charlie and Chocolate Factory. They wrote wonderful 'missing chapters' in the same style. It was lovely to be able to welcome singing back into school too. Such a simple thing, but sorely missed during the pandemic. It has been a joy to hear younger children singing together with smiles on their faces. They were able to link this to some performance poetry on the theme of Caribbean Carnival, complete with instrumental accompaniment. We are really looking forward to expanding our music



curriculum next year alongside the Cambridgeshire Music Hub. We already have a set of guitars, gratefully funded by our PTA, ready to be used. We were also gifted an amazing new piano by Millers Music. It has been well used already!

This year, we will be saying goodbye to another cracking set of year 6 children. They have worked incredibly hard in unusual circumstances, and we couldn't be prouder. Most of our children will be transferring to Northstowe Secondary College, with a couple going further afield. NSC is lucky to have them and we wish them every success. We also say goodbye to Miss Hixson. She has worked as Hatton Park's Early Years Leader for the last three years and has set so many children off on their primary school journey. She will be embarking on a new challenge, working for the Local Authority as an Early Years Advisor. Good luck, Miss Hixson.

Hatton Park is a great place to teach and learn. We hope that you are proud of the efforts that have been made this year and we look forward to seeing what September brings! Have a lovely summer, stay safe and keep well.

*Mr Aguda and the Hatton Park Team*



## Hatton Park Primary School Needs You!

Hatton Park's School Advisory Board (SAB), the governance of the school, is looking for you!

Are you interested in becoming involved in our school? We are looking for Trust appointed and parent SAB members. We are hoping for individuals who will have a combination of skills, ages and experiences in order to strengthen the collective skills of the current team. SAB members' primary responsibilities are ensuring that the school provides a safe environment for everyone as well as supporting and challenging the headteacher and his team to ensure that the school provides the best possible education for all its pupils.

Hatton Park is also a member of the Cambridge Primary Education Trust (CPET).

For more information, please contact our clerk, Graham Whiting at [gwhiting@cmatrust.net](mailto:gwhiting@cmatrust.net)

*Debbie Lienau - Hatton Park SAB Chair*

## FRIENDS OF HATTON PARK SCHOOL (FOHPS)a

Friends of Hatton Park School (FOHPS) are delighted to be able to deliver ice creams and lollies to treat the children at school on their last day of term!

We are hoping to arrange some fun events for the children when they start back after the summer holidays as they have missed out on so much over the past year or so. We are also hoping to get some projects underway to benefit the children in their learning journey.

We are continually looking for ways to fundraise for our school and we are always on the lookout for help and support from local people who may have the skills or equipment to assist us with projects. If you feel you may be able to help us, then please do get in touch: [Fohpchair@gmail.com](mailto:Fohpchair@gmail.com).

*FOHPS Team*

# NORTHSTOWE SECONDARY COLLEGE (NSC) NEWS

As we come to the end of term, it gives us the chance to reflect on the academic year. There has been a great deal of change: a global pandemic, bubbles, LFT, but we have also welcomed 18 new students across years 7 and 8 to our school. We have also said goodbye to two students who have moved back to homes outside of the UK. We have recruited 15 new members of staff to our team to welcome the 125 students joining us in September. Year 8 have chosen their GCSE options and are excited to delve deeper into their favourite subjects. We have also started to think about trips and visits for next year, hoping to bring some enrichment to their learning in the classroom.

Students have been working on their pledges with almost 50 children achieving their bronze badge since January and 4 achieving their silver, by taking part in projects in 7 different categories. These include diversity, giving, environment, leadership, participation, excellence and service. Our students have also been involved in the school council, Anti-Bullying Ambassador programme and been subject ambassadors, proving that your age shouldn't define what you are able to achieve. 10 students also joined in with the 'Curiosity Club' and have been researching individual projects ranging from Anime and Japanese culture to writing a story based on the real family called the XXXX



who lived in Willingham. Our creative writing club have been developing a story, hoping to get their work published in September. They are a dedicated group, full of ideas that will wow you!

Towards the end of term, careful to maintain our bubbles, we have managed to hold a sports day and charity stalls. The sports were highly competitive with Attenborough coming out on top, and our charity days have raised over £500 so far towards our minibus appeal. The children were very creative in their stalls, from a giant kerplunk to guess the baby photos! We have also been involved in a Trust wide art competition where one of our Year 8 students was chosen as a finalist.



In our celebration assemblies at the end of the year, over 120 children received an



award for their hard work, kindness and curiosity, our three school values. 50 children were recognised for developing their reading, exceeding age related expectations. So, whilst the media talks about children's 'lost learning', our young people have proved that they are resilient and determined to make a difference despite the circumstances. We are so very proud of them, and it is only with the dedication and support of their families that we can help our children to excel, and we are grateful to have that too!

*Carole Moss, Headteacher*

## PLASTIC FREE UPDATE

Did you know we're taking part in a national audit of litter and plastic? As part of a collaboration between Surfers Against Sewage and National Geographic, a 200m stretch of Longstanton High Street is being litter picked once a month using a GPS-based app to identify the type of litter that is found and where it is. So far, the most frequent items include cigarette butts; plastic, of all types and sizes, and food and drink wrappers. Collecting this data over a whole year across the whole country will provide vital information and insight into how to tackle packaging and littering issues. It's been amazing, and slightly alarming, to see how much litter can be

collected from such a small area.

There are plenty of tips on how to make some simple, easy changes to reduce your use of plastic on our Facebook page as part of Plastic Free July. Have a look and see if you can make a change... Get in touch through our Facebook page if you want to get involved or would like more information!

Enjoy the sunshine and please use a refillable bottle to stay hydrated!

*Chris Poultney*

## LITTLE LEPRECHAUNS PLAYGROUP

We were really pleased to hold some outdoor playgroup meet-ups in July at the Recreation Ground playground. It was lovely to see all the familiar families again (with the children looking a lot bigger!), as well as meet some new friends. We plan to continue meeting informally over the summer on Friday mornings; it's a great chance to talk to other parents and let the little ones play together.

We hope to be able to start Little Leprechauns Playgroup again in September, but this will depend on the pandemic status and guidelines at the time. We will be reviewing this over the summer, so please check our Facebook page for updates and more information:

@littleleprechaunslongstanton

When we do start again, we are looking for some new committee members; any parents/carers who plan to attend the group and would like to help out, please let us know via our Facebook page.

Little Leprechauns Playgroup usually meet every Friday morning during term time from 9.30am to 11am in the Village Institute. Ages 0-4 welcome. We have free play followed by a fruit snack, a story and a craft. Baby area available for little ones. Tea, coffee and biscuits for adults. Only £1 per family. Just drop-in!

*Felicity, Jane, Jenny and Liz  
Little Leprechauns Committee*

# VILLAGE SPORTING ACTIVITIES



We've seen some fantastic weather over the last few weeks, and the courts have been very popular. We're still seeing plenty of new members joining, so do please get in touch or visit our website ([www.longstantontennis.co.uk](http://www.longstantontennis.co.uk)) if you'd like to find out more. Quite a few of our new members are joining us in the social sessions, which is great to see. Practice makes perfect!

Our LTA summer league matches are now completed, with our 1st team finishing 3rd place in Division VII, and the 2nd and 3rd teams finishing 2nd and 4th place respectively in Division XI. A hearty well done to all our players taking part this year, and we look forward to seeing your progress in the future. We will be entering the LTA winter league again, with the addition of a mixed team this year. We are very much hoping to enter a ladies' team too!

We recently completed a 6-week coaching course set up specifically for mums with new babies to help ease them back into some physical activity in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. This was a great success, so we will look to see if we can run another one at some point this year. Thanks to all those who took part. We expect to have news on more regular coaching courses very soon, so keep an eye out for more information.

Our club social nights are Tuesdays and Fridays from 6pm and Sunday mornings from 11am and are popular in almost any weather. You can book a court any time outside of these sessions; members book for free or you can simply book to use the courts on a 'pay and play' basis. Full details are on our website.

Happy playing and we hope to see you on the courts soon!

*Damian Kramer, Club Chair*



Well, as I write this, we are preparing to return to pre-season training on 14th July. We played our last games of the 2020/21 season as a club on 15th/16th May. These were both quarter finals of the Covid Cup. As a way of completing a very broken season, due to numerous lockdowns, the Cambs

FA arranged a mini league/knockout cup for clubs to play in as a way of having some football in April & May, before a summer break.

For both teams to reach the quarter final stage is a sign of how we are developing and improving as a club. This isn't just at senior level as some of our Colts sides have been league and cup winners this season in their respective age groups. The men's first team, that play their football on Saturdays, have also been promoted to Division II off the back of an impressive league (cut short due to Covid) and cup performance. This, coupled with some

outstanding wins against good opposition, is very well deserved. It continues to show the progress seen at Longstanton since senior football returned to the village four years ago.

Next season is hopefully going to see a return to normality for amateur football after two disrupted seasons. As a group, we look forward to playing regularly on Saturdays and Sundays, with training on a Wednesday evening. Currently this is at the Recreation Ground in Longstanton but will move to Northstowe VC 3G in September. We are always keen to attract new players and would like to invite those interested to come along to training on a Wednesday evening at 6pm.

We have a busy schedule of pre-season matches lined up playing on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings from the end of July.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to seeing you at the Rec soon.

*Ben Lee*

## Northstowe Basketball Club



We are excited to report that we have had a very successful start to our basketball sessions in Northstowe since April 2021. Our sessions have been suitable for children as young as 8 to adults as mature as 53 years old!

Our Adult sessions normally start with a few fitness focused drills so that you can raise your fitness level gradually. It also includes a number of fun and interesting drills and games. We do run various sessions which will suit everyone including outdoor, indoor, women-only and mixed sessions. Our indoor sessions are held in the Northstowe Secondary College. We do encourage you to try one of our sessions to



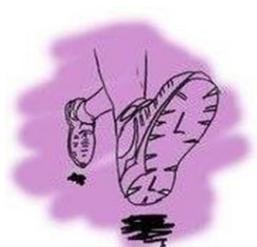
see how you can become fitter and healthier and have fun at the same time!

Equally, we do recommend to all parents to consider Basketball as an alternative way to teach a number of life skills to their children. Basketball is a complete sport in that it not only helps kids to be active and healthy physically but it will also help them to improve their self-confidence, decision-making, self-discipline, friendship. Unlike any other sports it uses all parts of the body equally.

Why not try one of our adult sessions or sending your children to one of our upcoming sessions in Northstowe? We have planned sessions indoors for U10, U12, U14 and U16 age groups as well as sessions for women-only or mixed adult both indoors and outdoors. Please send an email to [northstowe@fastbreakbasketball.co.uk](mailto:northstowe@fastbreakbasketball.co.uk) for more information.



# VILLAGE SPORTING ACTIVITIES



## LONGSTANTON LIMPERS

It's been a busy time as we've been working towards a return to activity and making plans for the summer. We've restarted our social runs, for our members first and now open for everyone, in a Covid-safe way. We've tried a new meeting point on the western sport field in between Longstanton and Northstowe (near the Kingfisher Pond), which has been working well. We're there on Monday nights at 7:30pm if you want some company on a run or just want to say hello! They're free to come to, but you still need to register in advance.

We've also managed to put on a Couch to 5k course and have welcomed some new people to the club. Our membership is on a voluntary donation basis until the end of March 2022 so if you want to join, get in touch! We've been able to increase the number of our run leaders with a view to putting on more sessions. We'll see what we can do – watch this space..

We've worked hard on our Summer Challenge. We wanted to follow up our successful Winter Warmers events, to try and help people stay active over the summer break, and have put on something bigger and better. The results have improved too - we've had over 100 entries and have raised almost £1000 for our local schools. We have been holding weekly prize draws, which are supporting local businesses. We have some vouchers for Advance Performance and Decathlon as our grand prizes for the end of summer. All prizes have been funded by the Limpers or grant funding we've secured, with a few extra contributions from some of our collaborators...it is exciting announcing a winner every week!

Thanks so much to everyone that's already taking part. We've had a wonderful response from the community to our aim of helping people stay active over the summer period and raising some money as well.

Give us a wave if you see us out and about, hopefully enjoying some sunshine. As always, all the details are on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/LandNLimpers](http://www.facebook.com/LandNLimpers).

*Chris Poultney*

## LONGSTANTON WI

### Lockdown is a square matter!



When it was suggested to me in February last year that I ask members of the Federation to help make knitted squares for charity blankets, I thought what a wonderful idea. We all have oddments of wool lying around the house – and how appropriate to use them to help others. I anticipated 200 - 300 might be produced.

Of course, I had not anticipated that a yearlong lockdown would ensue and our social lives would become a distant memory. What to do in those evenings in front of the TV? Suddenly a pair of 4mm needles and a ball of wool became

the thing for many of us. It was good to feel useful in some way when so much of our lives was proscribed by the government.

At this time, I have finished forty blankets, to add to the five that I have made myself. This has used 2400 of the squares that have been made for me! My spare bedroom is looking more and more like a bedding shop.



And here is the last of the squares – now what shall I do in the evenings?!

*Margaret Sanderson*  
President, Longstanton WI

## The Pavilion

Tel: 01954 782233, Over Road, Longstanton  
[longstantonpavilion@gmail.com](mailto:longstantonpavilion@gmail.com)  
[www.longstantonpavilion.weebly.com](http://www.longstantonpavilion.weebly.com)  
Find us on Facebook

At the time of writing this, we are still not sure what the new measures will be. Let's hope we are now all able to sit together and party. We have started to take bookings to hire the conservatory for private functions and for party catering. Please contact us via our email address: [longstantonpavilion@gmail.com](mailto:longstantonpavilion@gmail.com), or via our web page:

[longstantonpavilion.weebly.com](http://longstantonpavilion.weebly.com).

We have had cricket matches most weekends since the start of the season, and these will go on for a while longer, so come down and support them. We hope they have a brilliant season. Then, of course, the football season starts in August, assuming we still have a Saturday and Sunday team. We also wish them a great season. We now have a bigger TV screen in the main bar (thanks for installing Ed

### NEW OPENING HOURS!

Monday - Thursday: 17.00 until 22.00  
Friday: 14.30 until 23.00  
Saturday: 12.00 until 23.00  
Sunday: 12.00 until 20.00



and Mark) to show the matches on either Sky Sports or BT Sport. If there is any interest in us showing the forthcoming boxing, then let us know and we can sort out a ticket only event.

There are new members of staff joining our team over the summer so come and meet them. Remember that we are NOT a member's bar so everyone is welcome.

Let's hope that the next Pavilion post is packed with events that are being held in the Recreation Ground or in The Pavilion.

*The Pavilion Team*

The UK is in a nature crisis with over 40% of all species suffering declines since the 1970s. In fact, many of these species are now threatened with extinction and for some it is already too late. With over 70% of land in the UK being used for agriculture, nature reserves, such as Fen Drayton Lakes, are of vital importance to halt and reverse these declines by offering safe havens for species of all kinds.

The primary purpose of a nature reserve is to provide habitat for wildlife. By a combination of non-intervention and by carrying out targeted management work in different habitats around the reserve, from open water and reedbed to scrub and woodland, we work to ensure that there is space for plants and creatures of all sizes to breed, feed and over-winter. To date, almost 1700 different species of organism have been recorded at Fen Drayton Lakes and there will be many more (particularly invertebrates) that have not been formally identified and recorded.

Of course, nature reserves are not just wonderful for wildlife; nature reserves and the countryside in general are special spaces for us all to get closer to nature, to relax and to forget, for a short time, the troubles affecting us all.

Unfortunately, where there are people there is disturbance to wildlife and so it behoves all visitors to minimise their impact and respect the countryside code when visiting the reserve. Disturbing nesting birds and other breeding wildlife can have significant consequences with nests or young being abandoned.

We know that the water is very inviting, but swimming and boating are not allowed on the lakes as these both cause significant disturbance. Fires and barbecues are also prohibited because of the damage they can cause. Wonderful, open meadows, which often look empty, host numerous nesting birds and other life like deer fawns hidden away amongst the vegetation. Allowing dogs into these areas can seriously harm the wildlife using them, and in some cases, constitutes a criminal offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.



Sunrise over Ferry Lagoon - Simon Freedman

Like elsewhere, we have seen a significant increase in these types of antisocial behaviour over the past year, with the increase in littering that comes with them. We would be really grateful if everybody could help by ensuring that those around you are aware of the harm these activities can cause to our wonderful nature reserve, and, to please discourage such behaviour where you can exert influence in your section of our community.

We thank you for your cooperation and hope you continue to enjoy your visits to Fen Drayton Lakes.

Email: [fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk](mailto:fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk)  
Phone: 01954 233260

Visit [rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes](https://www.rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes)

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity: England and Wales no. 207076, Scotland no. SC037654

## Pioneer Café: a new adventure for Northstowe

A group of residents from Northstowe and the surrounding villages are coming together to transform the Northstowe Community Wing into a lively café for this growing community. Pioneer Café will be open 10am – 12.30pm on Wednesdays from 21st July and we're looking forward to seeing you there!

Whether you bring your laptop and enjoy working in the company of others, bring the kids and play with the toys or arts activities, or bring your knitting and sit down for a chat – we'll be at the Wing (that's at Pathfinder Primary School, just follow the railings round to the left from the main entrance of the school). We're also doing takeaway – so if you're heading to the playground at Pioneer Park over the holidays, pop in for a coffee, cold drink or snack to keep you going while you make those sandcastles or push that swing!

Would you like to volunteer your time and support this new adventure? We'd love to hear from you: sign up at <https://bit.ly/pioneercafevolunteers>, get in touch at [friendsofthewing@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthewing@gmail.com) or pop in to the Wing for a chat.



Northstowe Community Wing,  
Pathfinder Way, Northstowe,  
CB24 1AA

Friends of The Wing

## WILLINGHAM & LONGSTANTON SURGERIES

Reception Tel: Willingham 01954 260230 Longstanton 207600 Dispensary: 207602 District Nurse Team: 01223 726469 Option 2  
Health Visitors: 0300 029 50 50 Out of hours cover: Ring 111 Website: [www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk](http://www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk)

**National Data Opt out** NHS Digital collect data daily from GP systems that support vital health and care planning and research. NHS Digital have developed a new way to collect this data from GP records, called the General Practice Data for Planning and Research Data (GPPDR)

You can choose to opt out of the data sharing with NHS Digital. To do so you must complete the opt out by **1st September 2021**. Details regarding the National Data Opt out (opting out of NHS Digital sharing your data) and information about the usage of your data can be found on the **NHS Digital Patient Information** page. Links to the relevant information are on our website and facebook page. Opt out forms are also available from the surgery.

**Staffing and GPs** We are delighted to welcome Dr Serena Vickers to the surgery at the end of August, as a permanent new GP at the surgery. We have now expanded our staffing and have 7 permanent GPs working across Willingham and Longstanton Surgeries. We have at least 3 GPs working every session at Willingham, and have 2 GPs at our branch surgery in Longstanton on a Monday morning.

We are welcoming an extra Practice Nurse, Donna Brown, to the surgery from mid August. Donna is a very experienced nurse who previously worked in the community as a district nurse, so may be a familiar face to some patients.

We were also sad to say goodbye to Susan Craft and Pip Westwood who retired from the practice in the middle of July. We wish them all the best as they enjoy more time with their families.

**Vaccination Programme** This is the biggest vaccination programme the NHS has ever undertaken. For more information about the vaccine, or if you have questions about how the programme is being delivered in our area, including our most local walk in clinics, please visit:

[www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughhccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/covid-19-national-vaccination-programme](http://www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughhccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/covid-19-national-vaccination-programme)

You can choose to attend a walk-in clinic for your second dose after at least 8 weeks have passed since you had your first dose. To book your appointment, please visit [NHS.uk](http://NHS.uk) or call the national booking line on 119.

**Zero tolerance** Since lockdown restrictions have eased, the practice has been under incredible pressure due to an unprecedented surge in patients requiring GP appointments.

Unfortunately, the wait for routine appointments has now extended beyond 3 – 4 weeks and we are working hard to reduce waiting times.

Our receptionists are trained to signpost patients to the most appropriate clinician, and assess the urgency of your medical need. Whilst we understand there is a lot of frustration amongst the community due to the waiting times and queues to get through on the phone, please be mindful that all of our staff really are working at capacity. Any form of abuse to our staff will not be tolerated.

**Travelling abroad** From 17 May 2021, people in England who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 can demonstrate their vaccination status for international travel. A full course is currently two doses of any approved vaccine. Vaccine status will be available from:

the NHS App which you can download from app stores  
the NHS website (from 17 May 2021)

It may take more than a week for your identity to be checked and verified so you can use these services.

If you cannot access these online services, and you have had 2 vaccines, you can request a paper letter from the NHS by calling 119. Only call 119 if you had your second dose more than 5 working days ago. It may take 7 working days for the letter to arrive.

When you're planning your travel, check the latest information on demonstrating your COVID-19 status when travelling abroad on the [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) website. Make sure there is time to get proof of your vaccination status before you leave.

**Please note:** We are not able to provide you with a letter that shows you your COVID-19 vaccination status. If you require such a letter, please do not contact the GP practice and use the routes above instead.

**Carers Meeting** Due to the pandemic, the carer's meetings are still cancelled until further notice. They will be reinstated as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we would like to continue to support carers in our local community in any way possible. If you are a carer for someone and need advice and financial or emotional support, please contact Sue Lawson at [susan.lawson7@nhs.net](mailto:susan.lawson7@nhs.net) or 01954 260230.

*Lisa Smith*

*Assistant Practice Manager - August 2021*



## Holland-ish

If you ever find yourself with time to spare on the weekend, can I recommend treating yourself to a poached egg on crumpets? Maybe with some salmon or bacon, some grilled tomatoes and garlic butter fried mushrooms on the side? And definitely with this sauce which came about because my body doesn't appreciate milk.

### Hollandaise inspired sauce

Quantities subject to taste. Combine 3 tbsp of mayo (I use full fat), 1tsp of mustard, 1tsp lemon juice, 1tsp of white wine vinegar, a sprinkle of sugar, 1tsp of dill or lemon pepper with 1tsp of olive oil.

Tip: This is best served with a poached egg. Make the sauce and bring a pan of hot water to the boil with a dash of white wine vinegar, crack your egg into the pan, and give it a quick swirl. Have your crumpet ready to go on a medium toasting level, push the lever down on the toaster right after you've added your egg(s) to the pan and by the time the toaster is done your egg will be ready too. Lift the egg out with a slotted spoon and rest over a paper towel or bowl to drain the water before placing onto the crumpet. Serve sauce on top, add oregano, coriander, chives, salt and pepper if you're trying to recreate this photo (the mushrooms are the layer between crumpet and bacon) or just love seasoning.

*Victoria Stevens*

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, LONGSTANTON



'We're all going on a summer holiday...'  
Or are we?

*'We're all goin' on a summer holiday,  
no more workin' for a week or two  
Fun and laughter on a summer holiday  
No more worries for me or you, for a  
week or two'*

So sang Cliff Richard for the first time in 1963. I wonder whether this is true for us this summer a few generations later? For some, it will be a question of the cost of quarantine associated with the traffic light system of red, amber and green holiday destinations. For others, the challenges of a busier pace of life and work post-lockdown means that having a break might get overlooked.

In a recent webinar for church leaders which I attended we were urged to 'slow the pace' this summer. Doing so was advocated as one way to survive and thrive in 2021. There was the encouragement to take a little more time out than usual, recognising the increased pressures and tensions endured this last year. How about a two-week summer holiday, not just seven days? Or perhaps fewer work meetings and events in the diary? Would it be possible to shorten the working day by

an hour or so? These were some of the suggestions offered. We could add others to the list of possibilities depending on our own situation.

Whatever your circumstances, is there scope this summer to carve out a few more sabbath rests – moments, hours, a day or a week, here and there? In doing so, we may be more able to work from rest, to reach out to others from a place of refreshment. Who knows, in the words of Cliff Richard, there might even be some 'fun and laughter' (instead of worries) for a week or two.

We hope the re-ordering project in All Saints' Church will be completed before the end of the summer. In the months and years ahead, we look forward to welcoming various groups and hosting different events in a new community space. Do visit the church once re-opened fully to take a look, or be in contact if you are interested in hiring a small group meeting room.

In the meantime, Sunday services continue to be held in All Saints Longstanton on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month at 9.30am.

*Rev'd Lucy Cleland, Team Vicar (Designate) in Longstanton,  
Over, Swavesey and Willingham.  
T: (01954) 277758 E: [lucy@5folds.org.uk](mailto:lucy@5folds.org.uk)*

## EMMANUEL CHURCH NORTHSTOWE

Would you be welcome at Emmanuel Church? Maybe you are curious about church but you feel like you are not the sort of person who would be welcome in a church.

At Emmanuel we aim to follow the example of Jesus. Jesus did not exclude people because they belonged to certain groups. Once he came to a tax collector called Levi at his post. Tax collectors then were not merely people who processed tax returns. They were collaborators with the colonial Roman overlords in Israel, and they were exploiters who overcharged their fellow countrymen in order to enrich themselves, even if it meant poor people being taken into slavery.

But Jesus didn't write Levi off for belonging to that group. Jesus called Levi to follow him, and then went and had a meal with Levi and his equally morally suspect friends. The religious leaders were shocked that Jesus would hang out with them. But Jesus said: "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but those

who are ill. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Whoever you think is worst and least likely to be welcome in a church - Jesus will welcome them if they admit they are sinners in need of Jesus the soul doctor. Jesus welcomes everyone who comes to him admitting they are soul sick not soul sorted.

So at Emmanuel Church we believe Jesus is inviting everyone to join him, whatever your age, race or class. We warmly invite and welcome everyone to come to our diverse Sunday gatherings (10:30am Northstowe Secondary College, except 15th August) and to explore Jesus, the soul doctor who welcomes all sorts of soul sick people.

*Pastor Josh Monteiro*  
[emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org](http://emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org)  
[contact@emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org](mailto:contact@emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org)

## THE FRIENDS OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

As you probably realise, the lockdowns last year and this have meant the Friends of St Michael's Church, Longstanton, have been unable to put on the usual social and cultural events.

This has prevented us fundraising in the usual ways, just as it has stopped so much else. As I write this, pretty much all Covid restrictions are to be lifted later in July, and so the Friends are planning to put on more social and cultural events for people to enjoy, and which will help us with needed fundraising.

The first is the annual CHCT "Ride and Stride" sponsored event, to be held this year on Saturday, 11th September.

An annual "Ride and Stride for Churches" has been held for many years by the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust, (CHCT), who are very relevant and helpful to us and our beautiful church. The "Ride and Stride" is a sponsored walk, cycle or even ride your horse or pony around the churches which are open to mark people's sponsor forms as having visited them. You choose which church you want to receive 50% of your sponsorship money. When you've gathered in your sponsorship money, you send it to the CHCT – there is a paying-

in slip you can download, and a sponsorship form to download – details below. This year the date is Saturday 11th September, from 10.00am – 6.00pm.

It is great fun – I've done it several times in the past, and greatly enjoyed it. Plan your route of churches which are taking part (details from the CHCT nearer the time – website details below). St Michael's church has not taken part in recent years, I believe, but this year we shall be open to Riders and Striders.

So, we're calling on people to be Welcomers to the good folk taking part. An hour or two is all we need, if several people volunteer, and of course we need people to Ride and Stride, and to make St Michael's their chosen church, to receive 50% of their sponsorship money, which CHCT will send out when they've received everyone's sponsorship money.

More details and forms to download from: [www.camhct.uk](http://www.camhct.uk)

*The Friends of St. Michael's Church  
Email: [fosm2017@gmail.com](mailto:fosm2017@gmail.com)*

# PATHFINDER CHURCH, NORTHSTOWE

What are you noticing?

In July, Pathfinder Church Northstowe took a day out together to Pause. We welcomed the award-winning photographer and founder of Soulful Vision, Steve Radley, to lead us in a day of praying, exploring, and sharing.

Here are just a few of the pictures captured by the adults and children on the day.

As you look at them, I wonder what you notice?



Steve encouraged us to listen to the images by allowing our eyes to move around each picture, taking in all its shapes, colours and textures. Is there a particular area that stirs something in you? Where does your imagination take you? What connections or feelings arise?

As we reflected, we made space to respond to God's call through these images, asking where we might be called to bring more colour, more mystery, more love.

Steve writes:

"I believe the pictures we take & share have the power to change how we see and experience life."

So this summer, why not get out your camera/phone, go out and explore, and see what you notice?

Praying, exploring, and sharing whether we're apart or together. Alongside our sister churches, whether we meet online or in person, we are still here to walk with and listen to those of all traditions, supporting each other practically (e.g., litter picks, food banks, friendship) as well as prayerfully.

Why not watch our "What Just Happened?" Vlogs on our YouTube channel to find out more? [bit.ly/PathfinderChurchYouTube](https://bit.ly/PathfinderChurchYouTube)

**Revd Dr Beth Cope**

*Revd Dr Beth Cope is the Pioneer Minister for Northstowe, working closely with Revds Lucy and Simon from the 5folds Family of Churches which includes All Saints' Longstanton. She is available to talk through the Big Questions of life, as well as for Northstowe's weddings, baptisms, and funerals whether you are a regular churchgoer or not. Contact her at Church House, 6 Woodpecker Close, Northstowe (01954 261 181) [contact@northstowe.church](mailto:contact@northstowe.church)*

**PATHFINDER CHURCH  
NORTHSTOWE**

*praying, exploring and sharing*



Your Church of England Church  
with an inclusive ecumenical welcome

[www.northstowe.church](http://www.northstowe.church) [fb.me/PathfinderChurch](https://fb.me/PathfinderChurch)  
[instagram.com/pathfinder\\_church\\_northstowe](https://instagram.com/pathfinder_church_northstowe)



## SUSTAINABLE SWAPS

Whether it's walking to the shop instead of driving or taking reusable bags to buy loose fruit or veg, we all play our part in trying to be more planet friendly.

In thinking about items we use everyday, there are potentially dozens of small swaps we could make to prevent waste and (in the long run) save a bit of money too. Small changes make big changes happen, here are five ideas that might be achievable — as always we invite you to write to us and share your own:

### 1) Face wipes for Washable Face Pads

Not an idea for everyone. Instead of taking off the day's make up with a throwaway wipe, try something a bit softer on your skin. Plenty of shops now sell washable / rinseable face pads as an alternative. You can also buy (or make) pads to remove nail polish, wasting less resources in production than single use cotton pads. Wet wipes can take up to 100 years to biodegrade, so your lasting legacy might well be the black smudgy imprint of your eyelashes.

### 2) Liquid Soap for Hand Soap

Thorough hand washing with soap and water for a least 20 seconds counts for more than all the plastic and energy used in producing liquid soap (20 times more energy expended in production than a traditional bar). What's more, the friction of your hand coming into contact with the bar should be more effective at removing visible dirt. A spritz of white wine vinegar in your sink should cut through any residue.

### 3) Coffee Cup for Keep Cup

Restrictions are being lifted and that means a lot of your favourite suppliers of caffeine will soon start to accept (and perhaps offer a discount for) supplying your own keep cup. 2.5 billion takeaway cups go to landfill each year in the UK, so think of the space that could be saved at Milton if you brought your own.

### 4) Plastic Forks for Bamboo Sporks

It's a short life for a bamboo spork. Decomposing in just 3 months, outlived by its plastic counterpart for 36,410 days (or a 100 years to be less dramatic). Buy these in preparation for your next picnic, or treat your home cutlery to a day out.

### 5) General Waste Bin for Recycle Bin

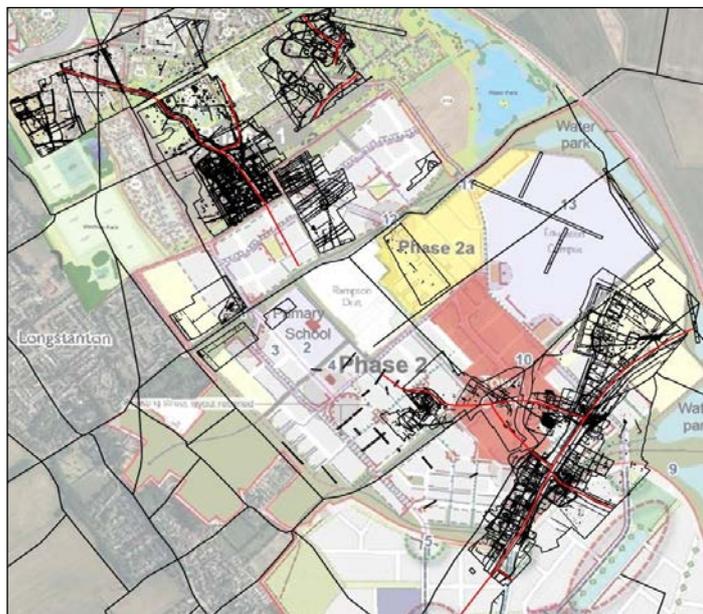
Maybe you've already got a compost, recycling and general waste bin set up in your kitchen. Or maybe you don't have enough room. Making your recycling bin bigger than your general waste might alter your perspective of the things you buy, and the things you throw away.

**Victoria Stevens**



# LONGSTANTON AND NORTHSTOWE'S LOCAL TRACKWAYS

In 1991, modern archaeological excavations started on Hatton Farm Longstanton, prior to the farm's conversion to a golf course. This area was later identified for the development of the new town of 'Northstowe'. Excavations on the Northstowe Phases 1 and 2 sites (stretching from the former golf course site and spanning part of the airfield area) started in 2014 and ended in 2019. The main findings from the excavations were the identification of the first settlements in the area: a number of small dispersed Iron Age settlements distributed across the development area. However, the biggest group of sites were associated with the Roman period, with several large Roman settlements (derived from Iron Age ones) being linked by a series of trackways. Settlements, burial grounds, ditched trackways, wells, cisterns and other features were found, as well as hints of a surrounding field system. Some of the sites show an unbroken occupation from Middle Iron Age to Late Anglo-Saxon period before merging into the Medieval village and the present day village of Longstanton.



Northstowe Masterplan with the archaeology from Phases 1 and 2 overlaid. Image courtesy of Homes England and Cambridge Archaeology Unit (CAU)

The excavations showed a complex settlement structure which, by the early Roman period, had become more permanent and was expanding with defined areas of settlement and farming activities, such as the enclosing of animals. Amongst these settlement arrangements, ditches and trackways dating to the Late Iron Age were formalised. In one location (Phase 2 large Late Iron Age / Roman settlement) the ditches and trackways formed an important crossroads. Probably associated with the Roman period crossroad was an outdoor shrine, associated with a stone altar that was found during the excavations.

The importance of the trackways and the crossroads to the settlement cannot be underestimated and it is clear that the large Phase 2 site was a hub in the Roman period; with movement of people, livestock and animals an important feature of the settlement. Pottery found on the site featured local, regional and imported wares from the continent. The Quern-stones used for milling were sourced from across Roman Britain and the Roman Empire. Mobility and trade can also be seen in objects used for looking after animals and the processing of agricultural produce. Soil samples indicate that people were foraging plants from the landscape around them and the close proximity of the Fen provided an important agricultural resource; with wet meadows providing good grazing for cattle and other wild resources. The presence of nearby rivers is also likely to have influenced the settlement and it is probably true to say that the natural resources and proximity of the site to the Fen Edge and

the nearby gravel terrace were influential factors that led to this Roman settlement taking on local significance.



Depiction of a Romano-British Settlement by Andrew Hall. Image courtesy of Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU)

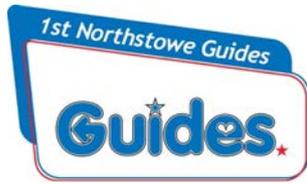
Movement in and out of the crossroad settlement would have relied on the trackways directly associated with the site, but also those further afield. Nearby, there was the Via Devana (along a similar line as the old A14) to Godmanchester and Cambridge. What places were connected to the crossroad settlement – where were people coming from and going to? Post excavation work by archaeologists may be able to answer these questions in the next few years.

How the ancient crossroads links to the trackways and routes that remain to this day is hard to say without additional and extensive archaeological excavations; but it is highly likely that the Iron Age and Roman settlements on Northstowe and the later Anglo-Saxon and Medieval villages of Longstanton and Oakington were in part a product of the local gravel terrace and the network of trackways which linked other places to them. The gravel terrace that runs across Longstanton and Oakington is linked to Arbury and King Hedges in Cambridge, via Girton and Histon. This was not just a topographic link, but also one that was based on social relationships and kinship which connected the local tribal groups centred on the Late Iron Age univallate fort Arbury Camp, and later the Roman villa estate in Kings Hedges, with those communities in Longstanton and Oakington. It is possible that the routes from Girton and Histon to Belsar's Hill (Willingham) via Rampton and the route from Girton to Oakington and Longstanton, via Woodside, were ancient prehistoric routes that have survived in part today. If this is the case, then it is possible that they formed part of a network of routes which may have led to the crossroads found during the Phase 2 excavations. Clearly during the Late Iron Age to Roman period these routes were of significance and would have been pivotal to the development of the community at this time. At the end of the Roman period the settlements found on Northstowe Phases 1 and 2 was eventually abandoned, though occupied to some extent during the 5th to 7th Centuries. By the 9th to 10th Centuries the site had become integrated into the field systems of Longstanton and Oakington. However, the outlying trackways and routes that connected this Roman settlement to Arbury Camp/King Hedges, Longstanton, Westwick and the Fens could still remain within the roads and trackways that exist around Northstowe today.

*Hilary Stroude*

with the kind assistance of Dean Harris  
(Homes England) and Dr Oscar Aldred (CAU)

## GIRLGUIDING IS STARTING UP IN NORTHSTOWE!



Girlguiding is the leading charity for girls and young women in the UK, with over 320,000 members. Thanks to the dedication and support of over 80,000 amazing volunteers, we are active in every part of the UK and we are now in the

process of starting up various units for girls in and around Northstowe – starting with Guides.

Guides is aimed at girls aged 10-14 and aims to give girls and young women a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive difference to their lives and their communities. Through a range of activities, trips and residentials we give them a space to have fun whilst also building their confidence and raising their aspirations.

If your daughter is interested in being part of the first Guide unit in Northstowe, use the Girlguiding "Join us" website at <https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-member> to register your interest. There are already a number of girls from Northstowe and Longstanton signed up and raring to go, and over time we'll be looking to introduce Rainbows and Brownies for younger children as well.

*Jill Hay*  
Unit Leader  
1<sup>st</sup> Northstowe Guides

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## READERS' LETTERS

Having read the Local Folklore article by Victoria Stevens, my memory has compelled me to write on my personal experience with the Fenland Panther.

Recall fades but I think around the years 2001 to 2003 (perhaps later), with my Bosnian canine friend Bo, I was walking the perimeter of the golf course. It was close to dark but the light was still good. Our walk took us past the much missed pond, on the public footpath towards the gate at Crabtree Corner. At the gate we turned right and walked along the perimeter of the field adjacent to the golf course, through the gap in the hedge and onwards towards the old railway line. Suddenly I was alarmed and froze, as did my chum Bo, with his ears pricked. There, some fifty yards ahead was the big cat, which I subsequently thought was probably an escaped circus animal. We, the cat and I, stared at each other for a split second. I uttered to Bo "come on, boy" and we reversed our steps, running for home like the wind. The next day Bo and I encountered a farmer and his hand who had lost three sheep the night before. I think he lived in Ramp-ton Drift. The sheep had been mauled and decapitated, and I remember him ordering his worker to deploy with a rifle that night, I assume with the blessing of Mr Green (the golf course manager). I also recall the tale of the mauled to death muntjac deer found in the lower field opposite to the play park and isolated copse - it was the same time.

I have everlasting fond memories of the lake and of the golf course. The fragrant dog roses at the path dividing the course and the ducks/geese nesting in the small pond on the course itself. An ornithologist told me the geese had migrated from Scandinavia and were bound for Africa. The badger, hare, fox and owl also come to mind and it was the norm to hear the owl hoot each night, I think from the woodland adjacent to the road towards All Saints' Church and Grove Cottage. I also observed the muntjac in the Close in the early hours from my bedroom window. Truly magnificent! I can also hear the sound of the geese flying overhead throughout the light of day and darkness of night.

I fondly remember many a chat with Jeff Harrison, and his wonderful photographs of the kingfisher. His tent was pitched close to the lake. Thankfully I have his works, an abiding memory. Unfortunately, and to my mind regrettably, this is a bygone era and provokes the question: what have we done? Extinct is forever!

Praise and many thanks for an excellent read!

*Clive Stone*  
Magdalene Close, Longstanton

## STAYCATION COMPETITION WINNER!



Stephen Cowperthwaite won our Staycation Competition, congratulations! The winning answers were: Norfolk Broads, Cornwall, Salcombe, Margate, Lake District, Cotswolds, Brighton, Peak District, Northumberland, Cromer and Elveden Forest.

Stephen won two Mixed Bake boxes (with a selection of six different bakes in them), kindly donated by Cambridge Luxury Bakes.

## NEIGHBOURLY SHOUT OUT!

Send your thank you by sending us an email to [longstantonlife@hotmail.com](mailto:longstantonlife@hotmail.com), using "Thank you" as the subject line, and we'll print it here.

I would like to say a big thank you to our neighbours and friends in the village who have been so supportive to me and my daughters following the death of Alan on the 1st June. So many cards and flowers with words of kindness and love.

Gill, Lucinda, Nicky and Laura (Clarkson)

# SPORTS CROSSWORD!



Did you watch Euro 2020? Perhaps you preferred Wimbledon? With the summer full of sporting events, including the Olympics, we thought you might enjoy testing your sporting knowledge!

Crossword compiler: Lucy Shaw

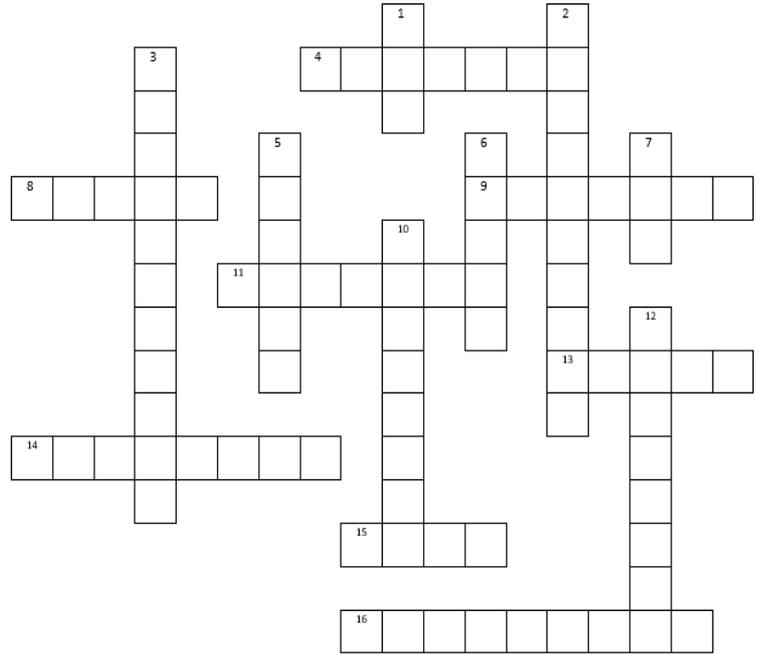
To enter the competition, send your answers to Longstanton Life either by posting at the Village Institute, or by emailing to: [longstantonlife@hotmail.com](mailto:longstantonlife@hotmail.com) before **Sunday 5th September**. Remember to include your name and phone number with your entry.

The first person randomly selected from those with the correct answers will receive coffee and cake for two **kindly donated by Rural Coffee Project**.

The winner will be announced in the next issue.



Good luck!



Across:

4. Triple jump world record holder (Jonathan \_\_\_\_\_)
8. 2021 Wimbledon Ladies' Singles champion (Ashleigh \_\_\_\_\_)
9. Water sport making its first Olympic debut in Tokyo
11. English racecourse that hosts the yearly Grand National horse race
13. 2020 Olympics host city
14. Lewis Hamilton won 2021 Formula One World Championship for this team
15. Paralympic gold medallist Rio 2016 in men's wheelchair singles tennis (Gordon \_\_\_\_\_)
16. Euro 2021 England captain

Down:

1. Mo Farah became double gold medallist in this many Olympic games
2. Sprinter and fastest British woman in recorded history (Dina \_\_\_\_\_)
3. British & Irish Lions play this team in three rugby Test matches
5. Sir Steve Redgrave is most associated with this sport
6. Test cricket series played between England and Australia
7. Points for a pink ball in snooker
10. Venue hosting Snooker World Championship 2021
12. GB's youngest Tokyo 2020 Olympian (skateboarder)



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Harvest mouse by Maggie O'Moore

Our first meeting of the new season 2021 / 2022 will be on Thursday 9th September 2021 at 7.30pm. We are hoping to provide a mixture of physical meetings when it is safe to do so, Zoom meetings and "hybrid" meetings (both physical and also

available via Zoom). Please check our website for updates on our meetings nearer the time. Our forthcoming season's programme is in development and will be available to view on our website soon. Our last season's programme is available to view to give you an insight into our club activities. We will be having expert guest speakers, internal competition evenings and also members evenings all of which are designed to inspire you.

If you would like to see for yourself the first evening is FREE to non-members and £4 per visit both online & in person on subsequent evenings.

Full membership for the season - Adult £50, Concessions £40, Youth £15.

Physical meetings would normally take place at Swavesey Village College when it is safe to do so.

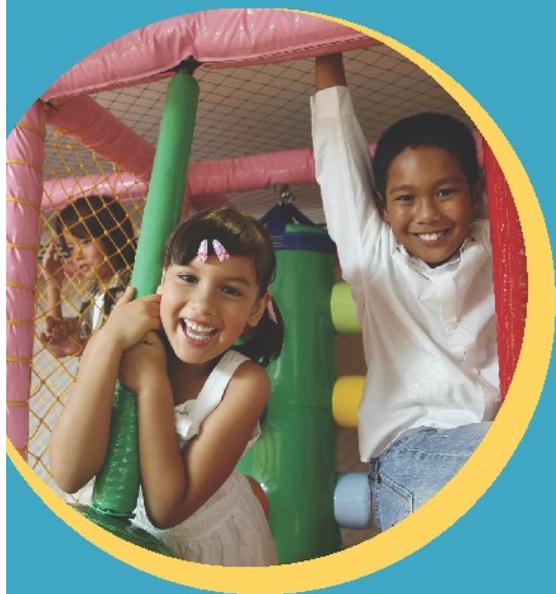
Go to the club website for more information. There is also a "CONTACT US" form to get further advice about joining the club.

[www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk](http://www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk)

Hope to see you there !

*Maggie O'Moore*  
Committee Member

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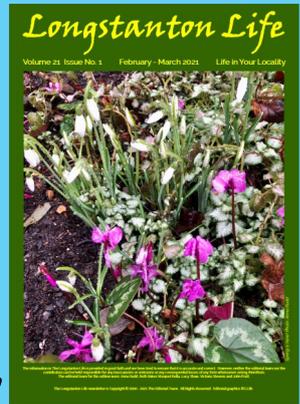
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Do you fancy getting more involved in village life, doing something useful for your community and maybe making some new friends? Come join our editorial team! We're a friendly bunch who meet for a (tea-fuelled!) magazine meeting every couple of months and also spend a couple of hours per issue editing from home. Volunteering is low commitment and requires no more than an interest in news stories.

We are looking for editors to help with writing or editing and a book-keeper with a good head for numbers to help with our accounts and adverts.

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*The Editorial Team*



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 Longstanton Life Advertising Rates 2021 are printed on page 3 of this issue.

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