

Longstanton Life

Volume 22 Issue No. 5

October - November 2022

Life in Your Locality



HM Queen Elizabeth II
1926 - 2022

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, Lucy Shaw, Beth Baker, Silke Scott-Mance, Victoria Stevens and Gosia Lelusz.



VILLAGE DIARY

SUNDAY	11.00	Tennis Club Sessions	The Pavilion	Sarah Ballard	07985 938959
MONDAY	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	09.00-10.30	Mini JAFFAs (pre-schoolers)	All Saints' Church	Diane Herrington	
	10.00-12.00	Coffee morning (over 55's)	The Dale Comm. Hall	Please just turn up	
	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	09.30-10.30	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					
FRIDAY	09.30-11.00	Little Leprechauns playgroup (0-4yrs)	Village Institute*	Felicity Timpanist	07870588777
	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	rkbjenkins@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. Email: 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



READERS' LETTERS

Dear LL,

I was very interested to see that in your last edition (Aug-Sep 2022) the report from Dan delaMare-Lyon, LPC Chairman, mentioned parking problems in the village. This has been a problem for many years, and I have a copy of the Longstanton Parish Plan 2005-2015 that mentions this! Why, some 17 years since this was printed, are we still having the same problems? What has been done since 2005 to try and stop it? The report, printed in 2006, lists 'congestion from school traffic; bad parking; speeding - by through and local traffic - in most areas of the village; blind bends; cars parked on the pavement'. Does this sound familiar? The details are on page 14 under section 5.2 'Identified risks from traffic', if anybody wants to check.

With regards to parking, of course it is a big problem, but I must say that I have a degree of sympathy for some of those people living in the newer homes in the village where garages are often inadequate and street parking is the norm. Nevertheless, the way in which many cars are parked on pavements shows a lack of consideration for pedestrians trying to get past. Parking on the pavement and double yellow lines at the Co-op remains a problem, and the early efforts by LPC to address this with signs seems to have been forgotten. Whatever happened to the signs and the Councillor who promised to monitor the situation? LPC meeting minutes clearly identify the Councillor in question.

Speeding is also a long-term problem in the village. I am sure most villagers have heard the 'boy racers' on motorcycles and cars using the Bypass, Home Farm Road and even the High Street at speeds dangerous to themselves and others. The engine noise gives a clear

indication of the speed involved. I refer to these as 'boy racers', but in fact they are all old enough to hold a license and so are classed as adults. Dare I say 'idiots' would be a more appropriate description?

A Speedwatch team is doing its best to try and educate the significant number involved and at the time of writing has asked LPC, SCDC and CCC representatives for help in recruiting more members. Whilst the village is being used as a 'rat run' by many, it is somewhat galling to note that many of the offenders are village residents. I find it hard to understand how these people can have such little respect for fellow villagers.

A final point to make is that a number of Longstanton residents have acquired e-scooters and are using them on the roads and footpaths in the village. As these are privately owned, they are being ridden illegally. These individuals are not only breaking the law, but also posing a real threat to other road users and pedestrians, as well as themselves. I would urge them all to stop before a serious accident happens.

Anyway, you always ask for details to be sent to you, so I do hope you accept this in the good faith in which it is written. I've lived in Longstanton for 40 years and I am gradually getting to the point where I am accepted as a 'local', although I fear I have some way to go yet. Since making Longstanton my home, I have come to care very deeply about the village and the way in which we all look after it. Sorting out bad parking and speeding would be a massive step in the right direction.

*Royston Rose,
Ladywalk*

LONGSTANTON LIFE EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

Longstanton Life joins with people across the country and Commonwealth in paying tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, following the sad news of her death. Please read our memorial piece on page 5.

This issue features the inaugural update from LEGG - Longstanton Environmental and Groundwater Group. As the dewatering issue in the village continues to gain attention, find out about the group's objectives and how you can support it. Go to page 7 for more info.

If you run any regular events in the village, please let us know, so we can include them in our Village Diary on page 2. We will need the event's location, time and your contact details.

Two pumpkins can be won in our competition, just in time for Halloween! Go to page 14 for the crossword, and test your knowledge of horror movie villains. Our young readers have some pumpkin counting to do.

Enjoy the autumn, and Happy Halloween!

The Editorial Team

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- Twitter account: @LongstantonLife
- find us on Facebook – Longstanton Life Magazine

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Please note that the **copy deadline** for the December 2022 - January 2023 edition of Longstanton Life is:

Tuesday, 15th November 2022

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

Longstanton Life Advertising Rates 2022

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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

Longstanton Parish Council

Dan delaMare-Lyon



Whilst we would normally have a full update for you, the Parish Council has not met in August (which is normal, as it is the month where most people are on holiday), and at the time of writing, we have just started the period of national mourning following the death of Her Majesty the Queen. Out of respect for this, we have suspended all meetings and committees until the period of national mourning comes to an end.

An ever-present figure in most people's lives, the loss of Her Majesty to our nation, the Commonwealth and those around the world is significant and will be felt globally. It is heart-warming to see so many people paying their respects, leaving flowers, writing entries in the Book of Condolence, and leaving memories of the longest serving monarch in British history.

We thank Her Majesty for the 70 years of unfaltering service to our country, for the leadership she demonstrated, and for the friendships she forged between the UK and the many countries of the Commonwealth and around the world. We would also like to thank her for her leadership and role as Commander-in-Chief of the UK Armed Forces, something which our community has had a strong connection with over many decades.



Although we shared our sympathy and condolences with you all via Facebook, we also wrote to His Majesty the King on behalf of our community to express our sadness at the death of Her Majesty, and expressed our condolences and sympathy to all members of the Royal Family and household.

We welcome His Majesty to his new role as King of our country and wish him every success as he takes forward the monarchy into a new generation, representing the UK on the global stage.

By the time this issue is delivered, we will probably be at the end of the period of mourning, and we will all still be a little confused saying "The King" instead of "The Queen" after so many years. It is hard to adjust to a change to something that has been so constant, but given time, we will adjust.

Those of you that took the time to lay flowers at the village sign at The Dale, thank you. Those that wrote an entry in the Book of Condolence at All Saints' Church, your record will remain in the parish archive, safely stored as part of our country's history, and will be recorded in the National Archives.

Normal Parish Council operation will resume once the period of national mourning has concluded, and I look forward to delivering an update in the next issue.

*Dan delaMare-Lyon
Chairman, LPC*

MP for South Cambs

Anthony Browne

Tribute to HRH Queen Elizabeth II



Words cannot express the sorrow at the passing of Britain's longest-ever serving monarch, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. As Queen, she has been part of almost all our lives since we were born. We have been cheered, consoled, directed, and protected by her words through the years.

A stateswoman without equal around the world, she steered Britain for over seventy years with decency, resolve, and a commitment to public service. Exemplifying the greatest traits of our nation, Her Majesty guided, advised and scrutinised every Prime Minister since Winston Churchill. There was not a day in her reign when she was not working for our nation. She appointed the new Prime Minister just days before she died.

The world will be a different, and worse, place without Her Majesty in it. Everyone in the British Isles, the Commonwealth, and around the world will mourn her loss.

Petition to stop Cambridge congestion charge

I have started a petition calling on the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) to drop their plans for a Cambridge City congestion charge. The proposition of a £5 charge for entering Cambridge City, part of the GCP's Public Transport and City Access Strategy, has been met with outrage by residents and representatives across Cambridgeshire.

I, along with South Cambridgeshire Conservatives and many of my constituents, have long opposed a congestion charge. I have a simple message for the GCP: Stop it now. Stop this driving tax before you create a two-tier system for our residents, separating those who can afford a charge from those who can't. Stop it before people feel they can't afford a visit to the hospital, to take their kids to school, to drive to the local shop, or simply to move their car to a new parking spot. Stop it before businesses, commuters, and visitors turn their backs on our thriving city because you've made it too expensive for them. Stop it before you increase the traffic in the villages around Cambridge.

You can sign the petition at www.anthonybrowne.org

Visit to new transformational Cambridge heart and lung facility

I recently visited the new Heart and Lung Research Institute (HLRI). The institute, a joint project between Royal Papworth Hospital and the University of Cambridge, was officially opened last month by HRH The Duchess of Gloucester and will bring together the highest concentration of heart and lung researchers from academia, healthcare and industry in Europe. Those working at the site will be looking to combat cardiovascular and respiratory diseases - some of the world's biggest killers.

In addition to financial support from the University of Cambridge, the HLRI has been made possible by £30m in funding from the UK Research Partnership Investment Fund, £10m from the British Heart Foundation and additional contributions from the Wolfson Foundation, Royal Papworth Hospital Charity and the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

This institute will be transformational for South Cambs, and hopefully the world.

To contact me about any issue:
anthony.browne.mp@parliament.uk
01223 603677

Anthony Browne

*Anthony Browne
MP for South Cambs*

LONSTANTON LIFE STORIES OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II



Stories of Queen Elizabeth

The 8th of September 2022 marked the sad passing of Britain's longest reigning monarch, Queen Elizabeth II. For many, this was a moment of profound impact. The last few weeks have shown how beloved her Majesty was world-wide and in honour of her late

majesty, I wanted to take a moment to share some stories from her reign.

Prince Philip

The Queen's husband, Prince Philip, was the one to break the news to her that her father, King George VI had died. Lieutenant Commander John Michael Avison Parker, private secretary to the Duke of Edinburgh, heard of the news from the Princess's private secretary and once he had tuned the radio to BBC news to confirm it, was the first to report the event to the Prince, who after a moment of shock, went and informed the Queen. The couple walked the grounds of the lodge at which they were staying, the Queen having a brief moment of privacy to mourn the loss of her father before returning to begin her new role.

At her coronation in 1953, Prince Philip swore allegiance to her, vowing to be her 'liege man of life and limb'. A promise he would keep for just over 67 years.

Modern Royalty

Though the second of her name to reign over this country, Queen Elizabeth will also be remembered as the first British Royal to have her coronation broadcast live (2nd June 1953). Over 27 million people in the UK watched the coronation on television. A vast number considering there were a registered 36 million people living in the UK at that time.

In 1969, the Queen also took part in a controversial documentary about the British Royal family. Although heavily criticised and now locked within the royal archives, the intention was to show a more human side to the Royals and recorded the Queen carrying out her duties and herself and members of the family enjoying some leisure time. Footage of the future King Charles studying in his room at Trinity College in Cambridge was also captured, though sadly not the moment when he is said to have served her steak and kidney pie with mashed potatoes and peas.

In 1970, during a tour of Australia and New Zealand, the Queen took part in the first 'walkabout' in which she took a stroll to greet members of the public in person rather than wave to them from a protected distance. This has since become a standard practice for members of the Royal Family at home and abroad.

Sense of Humour

In 2012, who could forget the sight of the Queen, strapped to James Bond as he parachuted into the opening ceremony of the London Olympics. It's been said that the Queen loved all of the earlier James Bond films, 'before they got so loud', and had watched the entire James Bond franchise up to the latest release. When planning her debut alongside 007, she apparently asked director Danny Boyle if she could deliver a line.

This beloved aspect of her character was again shown in the recent Platinum Jubilee sketch in which she shared the

screen, and a love of marmalade sandwiches, with Paddington Bear.

My favourite story of the Queen's 70th Jubilee Celebrations has to be when she asked to cut a celebration cake with a ceremonial sword. When informed there was a knife available, she responded, "I know there is. This is something that is more unusual".

Another story of hers, shared by Former Royal Protection Officer Richard Griffin, told of her playing a prank on two American tourists visiting Scotland.

The Queen was having a picnic near her castle at Balmoral when the two hikers approached and asked where she'd come from and where she lived. She told them London and that she had 'a holiday home over there' pointing in the direction of Balmoral.



When asked if she had ever met Queen Elizabeth, she responded that she hadn't but that 'Dick here, meets her regularly'. The tourists asked for a photo with the royal protection officer, handing their camera to the Queen, who took the photo and stood with them for another taken by Richard - without revealing her identity. After the tourists left, she told him that she would love to be a 'fly on the wall' when they showed those photos to their friends.

Visits to Cambridge

Queen Elizabeth's first visit to Cambridge was in 1955 when she opened the School of Veterinary Medicine and also visited Newnham, Girton and Trinity Colleges. In an attempt to replay the purported actions of Sir Walter Raleigh, some university students attempted to remove their gowns to lay them in front of her feet.



In 2013, when the Queen opened the extension of the Rosie Maternity Hospital, she met various members of staff including my sister. Her memories of the visit were that the Queen and Prince Philip took time to talk to the volunteers at the WRVS café and were insistent about meeting members of staff not commonly recognised within ceremonies. The Queen asked what she did for a living and was very gracious in her approach to meeting everyone. The Queen visited Cambridge many times over her reign and perhaps someone reading this might have some stories of their own to share within the next issue.

Vicky Stevens

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

County Councillor

Firouz Thompson



Dear residents,
I would like to start my report by expressing my deep sorrow following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and my deepest sympathy goes to our King Charles III and the Royal Family.

We're now well into autumn, with wonderful colours but fading light at either end of the day. Please take care with changing road and path conditions and

set out to travel safely wherever you go.

Here is my summary of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) matters at the time of writing in early September.

Cost of living crisis: CCC has been working with partners including district councils and the Fire Authority on the help that needs to be made available to local residents facing huge cost of living challenges in the months ahead.

Advice and information can be found on a single webpage. This includes information about schemes the Council is running or administering, as well as schemes run by others. More information will be added as it becomes available: <https://tinyurl.com/39mjghwa>.

Household Support Fund: CCC is reminding residents of the household support fund, to increase uptake from eligible people of pensionable age. The Council is producing a leaflet on this fund for distribution through faith and community groups and at foodbanks: <https://tinyurl.com/49fvr2dd>.

Warm hubs: Cambridgeshire ACRE is working with East and South Cambridgeshire District Councils on the provision of a network of 'warm hubs' to enable people to stay safe and warm over what is likely to be a very challenging winter of fuel and food poverty for many: <https://tinyurl.com/4543845k>.

CCC budget gap widens: Galloping inflation is a problem for households and businesses but also for the Council. It has significantly widened the Council's budget gap, as well as leaving more residents in need of serious financial help from the Council as energy bills soar and the cost of living continues to rise.

Highways & Transport: Greater Cambridge 'Public Transport & City Access' consultation: The Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly is being asked to consider proposals for a consultation on improved public transport and active travel into and around Cambridge, with a Sustainable Travel Zone including a road user charging scheme. The consultation proposals will then be considered by the Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board on 28 September.

The Partnership has been considering for some years how to improve poor public transport provision and solve car traffic congestion and pollution in Cambridge. This is important, when even the inadequate bus services we have are under threat from uncertain central government funding, but it's also difficult.

We need a plan that reduces carbon emissions, improves air quality, and makes Cambridgeshire's roads safer and less congested, while at the same time providing affordable, reliable and convenient options for travel. However, I am not convinced that these proposals achieve that or offer the right balance for South Cambridgeshire residents. My colleagues and I will be working with local people and with politicians in Greater Cambridge to draw up ideas we think will serve South Cambridgeshire residents better.

Meanwhile, we strongly encourage residents to read the proposals and respond to the consultation when it opens. Please see <https://tinyurl.com/yc7edjan>, highlighting key facts on <https://twitter.com/GreaterCambs>.

Some articles that explain the details:

Hi Hub: <https://tinyurl.com/55da3yex>

Camcycle: <https://tinyurl.com/29kdxuut>

Local Highways Improvement reporting: The County Council will shortly be launching a public web page showing progress on current Local Highways Improvement schemes. This will enable parish councils and residents to track their local LHI projects online.

Northstowe Running Festival: I would like to take this opportunity to thank Marcin Lis, Lizz Mayers and an army of volunteers for organising the second year of this community event. It has been an amazing weekend bringing together local businesses, Radio DJ, musicians, food trucks, community groups, residents and not forgetting the great runners over two days. We are already looking forward to next year. Please do not hesitate to contact me, if you have any questions: firouz.thompson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Longstanton, Oakington & Northstowe Facebook group: www.facebook.com/longstantonoakingtonnorthstowe



*Firouz Thompson, County Councillor
Longstanton, Northstowe, Over,
Oakington and Westwick*

Northstowe Community Development Officer

As the summer is behind us, I look forward to events which will lead up to the festive season. The Community Forum will take place on 12th October at Northstowe Secondary College. This will start with a drop-in session from 6 p.m., where multi agencies and organisations involved in the development at Northstowe will be available to answer residents' questions.

Our community groups have been very busy organising the Running Festival and the Great Big Green Week this autumn. The Northstowe Running Festival group managed to bring the community together on 3rd/4th September on a weekend packed with fun activities for the whole family, live music, food vans and more. With 40+ participating partners and 80+ volunteers, the event was a success. If you'd like to view photos from the day, these are available via their page: www.facebook.com/northstowerunfest.

Equally, Sustainable Northstowe are preparing to celebrate a week of action against climate change, kicking off with a community action day on 24th September, which will concentrate on cleaning up and recycling, followed by various other events on the theme of sustainability throughout the last week of September.

A new Neighbourhood Watch group is being set up by residents of Northstowe; please get in touch if you'd like to get involved. Also, a couple of new faith groups are being established: Northstowe Muslims and Hindu Samaj Northstowe. As a way of bringing the community together, I would like to start promoting festivals of all faith groups. Please let me know if this is something you'd like support with.

Lastly, if you're new to the area or just want to get to know your neighbours, join me once a month to deliver welcome packs in Northstowe as a way of welcoming the new residents. A quick reminder, as well, that I am at Northstowe Secondary College every Wednesday 9:30 am – 3:00 pm. Pop in and say hi!

*Northstowe Community Development Officer
Mihaela Stan*

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

District Councillors' Notes



Local Water Issues: In our article in the last issue, we provided an update on what is being done to address the local water issues. We recognised that there is ongoing concern about this, and we are grateful to residents who are continuing to campaign for action. The Council has now published information online to function as a 'frequently asked questions' document to help residents understand the issues involved. This is updated regularly, and you can find links to documents including the independent hydrology report and the District Council's Action Plan to address these issues. See www.scams.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/northstowe/northstowe-groundwater-investigations/

New Scheme for Recycling Small Electrical Items: Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service, a partnership between Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, has now placed eight new pink collection banks for small electrical items at recycling points, with more locations planned.

In the Greater Cambridge area, figures from the RECAP waste partnership show that an average of 450 tonnes of small electrical equipment is disposed of in black bins every year, ending up in landfill.

Acceptable small electrical items are anything up to 29cm in its largest dimension, which has a plug, battery or cable. If batteries are removable, take these out and recycle them separately. Examples of suitable items include kettles, toasters, sandwich toasters, games consoles, DVD players, mobile phones, tablets and smart devices, cables and headphones.

Locations for the new bins include Tesco car park in Bar Hill. Full details of what you can recycle and a list of other locations for the new bins can be found via the South Cambridgeshire District Council website, or visit www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk

Employment Zone Survey: The Northstowe Employment Zone survey has now been launched. The survey will run for six weeks until Monday, 24 October. The aim is to gather a range of ideas and views to ensure a thriving business community and employment is created.

If you would like to share your views on what would make Northstowe an attractive location for businesses and a great place for people to work, then you can share these online: <https://placebuilder.io/northstoweone>.

Northstowe Community Forum: It was good to see the Northstowe Forum returning to a face-to-face meeting in July. These meetings are not just for Northstowe residents; we would really encourage Longstanton residents to attend, as they provide an opportunity to find out about issues affecting the communities surrounding Northstowe.

During July's meeting, there were updates from developers L&Q, Homes England, South Cambs District Council and the Willingham GP practice. Presentations and notes from the meeting are all available online via the Northstowe Community Forum page: www.scams.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/community-forums/northstowe-community-forum.

You will also find a link there to Frequently Asked Questions. It is worth having a look at these to find answers to questions like when will the first shops and cafés open at Northstowe or when will Northstowe get its own GP surgery? If you have a question or answer that you would like added to the page, you can email the communications team at SCDC: www.scams.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/northstowe/your-common-northstowe-questions-answered.

The next Northstowe Forum will be held on 12 October with drop-in from 6pm and presentations at 7pm. Venue: Northstowe Secondary College.

If you would like to ask a question or would like a specific topic or theme discussed, please email this request to northstowe.community@scams.gov.uk.

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

S. Cheung Johnson: cldr.cheungjohnson@scams.gov.uk
A. Malyon: cldr.malyon@scams.gov.uk

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

FRIENDS OF HATTON PARK SCHOOL (FOHPS)

Friends of Hatton Park managed to raise enough funds to buy a long-awaited outdoor classroom for Hatton Park School. The classroom is a wooden eco classroom and is large enough to house a whole class of children at a time. This should enrich the children's learning, and, as ever, we thank the parents for their support with the fundraising for this project.

*Becky Varey & Clare Braybrook
FOHPS Co-Chairs*



GROUNDWATER CONCERNS

It's all about the Kingfisher Pond... isn't it?

What's all the fuss about one pond – a pond that's not even in Longstanton anymore?

In fact, it's not just about the Kingfisher Pond. The Kingfisher Pond is the tip of an iceberg. Longstanton has a looming emergency and it's about water – the water that keeps your garden healthy and stops the subsoil your house is built on from drying up and shrinking.

Longstanton has a complicated relationship with water. Underlying much of Longstanton and Northstowe is a layer of gravel, the remnants of an ancient river. Water moves freely through this layer, known as an aquifer. Water also reaches us from the direction of Bar Hill. In the past, when it rained in Bar Hill, Longstanton had a flood. Nowadays, this water is intercepted and held in the balancing ponds alongside the B1050. And then there is rainwater; where it falls over the gravel layer, it is quickly absorbed, but where it falls outside the limits of the gravel, it accumulates.

Many of the village's existing ponds were dug directly into the underlying gravel; the level of the water in these reflects the level in the aquifer, but normally the aquifer is very stable, and the level varies little with the seasons. Ponds dug into the clay surrounding or overlaying the aquifer are more variable: the level rises after rain and falls due to evaporation during hot, dry periods.

For complicated reasons, Northstowe Phase 1 was built on low-lying land, parts of which flooded in the winter. In order to build, two measures were adopted. Firstly, large amounts of water were pumped out of the gravels, into the surrounding drainage systems and into the rivers. This is what is known as 'dewatering'.

Secondly, the land was built up with imported soil to a level of five metres above mean sea level. For Longstanton residents, the combined consequences of these two measures were little short of catastrophic.

The map shows water features in and around Longstanton and the effects of dewatering.

The first signs in Longstanton that the aquifer was suffering was when the ponds started drying up, soon after dewatering started. The cluster of red numbers denotes ponds and wells that directly access the aquifer.

- 1) The Kingfisher Pond
- 2) The Hatton House Pond
- 3) The Ladywalk Pond
- 4) A pond on private land
- 5) The old pond shown on maps as 'Fishponds'

- 6) The Holy Well at St Michael's Church
- 7) The pond behind St. Michael's Mount
- 8) The Larksfield Nursery well

All these deteriorated rapidly when dewatering started. The ponds are now virtually empty of water and mostly overgrown. They will require extensive remedial work, even if the flow of water through the aquifer returns to normal.

The orange numbers (9 to 11) show ponds that are based on clay or have been repaired in the past by having a layer of clay added to them. These sites are all somewhat depleted due to the summer drought, but all contain water and are basically healthy.

The green group are healthy, well-watered ponds. No. 16 is the balancing pond that receives its water from Bar Hill.

Nos. 13-15 are the Northstowe Lakes. These are still receiving water via the swales or greenways that cross the site from east to west. The greenway, shown as No. 12 on the map, is dry at its western end, the Longstanton end, but picks up water by the time it reaches the eastern end, next to the first Northstowe Lake.

Clearly, the gravel aquifer underlying Longstanton has been damaged by the groundworks done to make Northstowe a viable site for development. We can be fairly confident that if water remains in the aquifer, it is now flow-

ing one way – towards the Northstowe Lakes, not towards Longstanton.

But if the destroyed ponds are the tip of the iceberg, what lies beneath? We already see dying trees. Are those cracks now visible in the lintel above the entrance to All Saints' Church the first signs of subsidence? What further damage will Phases 2 and 3A do to the aquifer?

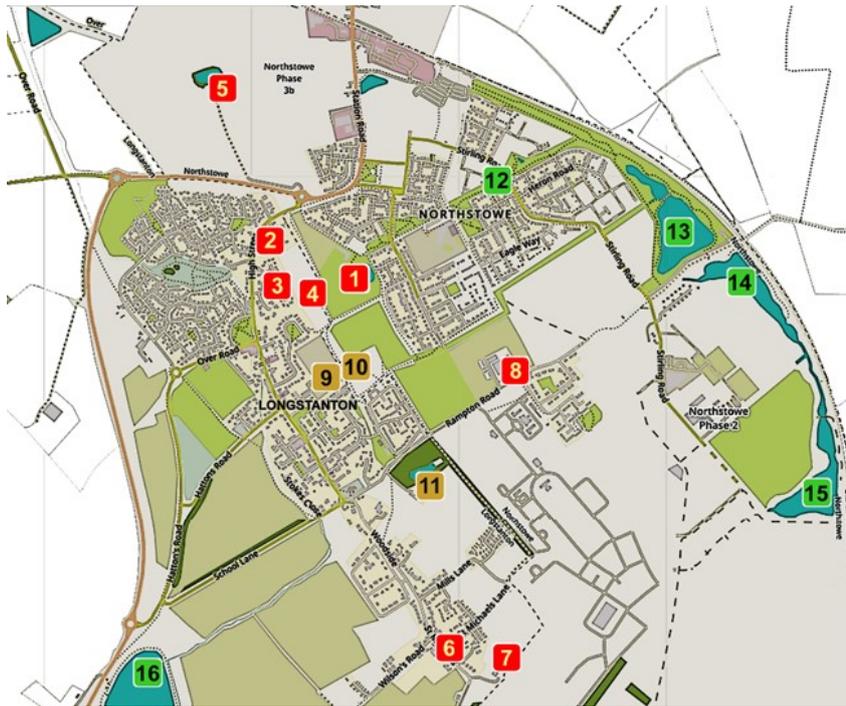
Above all, who is taking responsibility for all this and what can be done to restore the underlying health of the village of Longstanton? At this point, remedial action is not optional.

LEGG (Longstanton Environmental and Groundwater Group)

LEGG came into being this summer when a public meeting was held at the Dale and a group of concerned residents formed an action group to raise public awareness of this issue.

We have a website at www.legginfo.co.uk, which contains much more detailed information about water loss and where you can sign up for our newsletter.

We also have a Facebook group: 'Longstanton Environmental & Groundwater Group (LEGG)'.



INTRODUCING LEGG

The Longstanton Environmental and Groundwater Group (LEGG) was set up at a public meeting held on 28th July at The Dale.

Who are we and what are our objectives?

We are local residents who are not prepared to see our village's environment being destroyed. Our ponds and wells dried up shortly after construction of Northstowe commenced in 2015. Next thing will be our trees dying and our buildings subsiding. At that point, the damage will be irreversible.

The plans for the next phase (3A) of Northstowe will make these problems considerably worse and could impact other local communities such as Northstowe and Willingham.

Our objectives are:

1. to raise public awareness about the problems caused by the loss of Longstanton's groundwater and to press for action to reverse the damage caused.
2. to support the objectives of the Judicial Review being run by Daniel Fulton and the Few's Lane Consortium (whilst remaining completely independent of Mr Fulton and FLC).
3. to campaign for the protection of the environment of Longstanton and surrounding villages to be at the centre of future planning decisions.

We intend to work closely with Longstanton Parish Council and other bodies, such as South Cambridgeshire District Council and Homes England. We also intend to organise events, such as public meetings, to help keep you informed.

How we can let you know what's happening:

Local residents are a vital part of our campaign, so we want to send you our newsletters and other occasional relevant updates. Here's what to do:

1. Sign up for LEGG newsletters at: <https://legginform.co.uk/newsletter-signup/>

It's easy and painless! This will allow you to receive all future LEGG mailings. Of course, you will be able to unsubscribe at any time from this list by using the 'Unsubscribe' link in any mail we send you.

2. In the meantime, to find out what's going on, visit our website: www.legginform.co.uk

3. You can also join and check the LEGG Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/3184176625132228

4. Spread the word to friends and neighbours who might also like to follow the campaign — share our sign-up page link with them if you can, and we'll do the rest!

Your details will be kept safe and secure and will never be shared with anyone else. You'll be able to unsubscribe from our updates at any time by clicking the 'Unsubscribe' link at the bottom of any email you receive from us. Our privacy policy is available on the LEGG website.



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

Parents attending with young children Please be aware that young children may need to be brought in a pushchair, in order for them to be safe during clinical procedures and examinations. Young children should not be free to explore and run around clinical spaces whilst a parent is unable to supervise them.

Dispensary Requests When requesting your repeat medication via SystemOnline or our website, please check whether you have nominated to collect your medication from the dispensary at Longstanton (Longstanton and Northstowe patients ONLY), Tesco Bar Hill or The Willingham Pharmacy.

You can choose and change your nomination at any time. You may find your nomination changes automatically if you have decided to collect an acute prescription from a different place than you normally collect your repeats.

Please be reminded we currently need 3 days to process all requests for repeat medication.

Flu Clinics We are now offering Flu vaccinations at the surgery. Dedicated clinics have been set up on Saturday's and there are currently appointments available on **Sat 8th October and 22nd October**. Further dates will be released and advertised on the Willingham Medical Practice Facebook page and website.

Please support your surgery and contact our receptionists to book your appointment.

Over Day Centre *The Over Day Centre Association* is a charity that provides professional care catering to individual

needs, in an environment that is friendly, engaging and health & safety conscious.

Over Day Centre supports individuals in their desire to maintain social interaction and to stay as independent and active as possible with opportunities to make new friends and participate in enjoyable activities. The service provides much needed support and respite for families caring for a loved one. Currently it costs £26 per day to attend including a hot 2-course lunch and all drinks and morning & afternoon snacks. The minibus will collect from home, and has a wheelchair lift (there is **no** extra charge to use the bus)

For further information please contact the The Over Day Centre Association on 01954 231807 or email care@overdaycentre.co.uk

Carers Meeting If you are a carer for someone and need advice and financial or emotional support, please come along to our carers support meeting **on Weds 5th October** at Willingham Surgery, where we will be holding a drop in meeting **between 2pm and 4pm**. Please come along and get some support from other people in the local community. Refreshments provided, no need to pre-book and completely **FREE!**

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at Willingham Surgery. Please contact Sue Lawson at the surgery or email her at susan.lawson7@nhs.net for more information.

Lisa Smith
Assistant Practice Manager

VILLAGE SPORTING ACTIVITIES

LONGSTANTON FOOTBALL CLUB



With the season just getting started in September, both teams kicked off with the first team at home v West Wrattling on Saturday, 17th September, and the Sunday team away v Rathmore Rovers on Sunday, 18th September.

The squad has improved over pre-season, seeing five new players join us. This, coupled with everyone from last season's league winning squad re-signing, means we are in a strong place to chal-

lenge for more success in Cambs FA Division 1 on a Saturday and Division 2 on a Sunday.

Training moves to Northstowe from the Rec on Wednesday, 21st September, and we are always looking to have new players join our successful squad. Please visit our website to get in contact: www.longstantonfootballclub.co.uk

We look forward to seeing the village support at the Rec on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings.

Until next time, thank you for your support.

Ben Lee
1st Team Manager
Longstanton FC

LONGSTANTON BOWLS CLUB

As summer turns to autumn, the 2022 outdoor bowls season draws to a conclusion. What a fantastic summer it has been for bowling. Never before have we played in such heat, with afternoon games cancelled to avoid heat exhaustion. Despite the heat, the bowls green has looked good and bowled well all season, thanks entirely to the dedicated work of our green-keeping team. Around the green, Marion and Helen, our resident gardeners, have done a great job of tending the flower beds.

It's very encouraging that 13 new members joined Longstanton Bowls Club in 2022 and already a further 5 plan to join next season. However, we would still like to see some younger blood giving bowls a whirl. Maybe with our trendy shirts and fancy coloured bowls, the sport will start to appear "cool" to the younger generations?

The outdoor leagues programmes are now complete. A very enjoyable season was had by all, but our league results were somewhat disappointing. The C&D Division 2 team finished bottom and will be relegated to Division 3 next season. In Division 4, Longstanton "A" finished second to bottom but will remain in Division 4 next season. In the Ely and District afternoon league, we finished in the bottom half. Finally, our Cambridge Business House Men's and Mixed teams both finished in the lower half of their respective tables. Hopefully we'll do better next season.

In August, we were invited to host the semi-finals of the Cambridge and District mixed pairs competition. This is a real honour and shows how highly rated the Longstanton Bowls green is in local bowling circles.

A very fitting end of the season was the Willstanton Cup, an annual match played against Willingham. This year it was hosted and won by Willingham after a run of Longstanton victories. It was the ideal opportunity for many of our newer members to gain experience in a mildly competitive environment. The match was played on a Sunday morning in August and followed by some exceedingly good homemade cakes (so did we only go along for the cakes?)

The finals of our internal club competitions were held on 3rd September and produced some top-quality bowling. The winners were:

Club Open Pairs: Marion Edwards and David Thompson.

Club Triples: George Watts, John Hodson and Stuart Hunter.

Congratulations to Stuart Hunter for taking three titles. All our winners will be presented with their trophies at the presentation dinner in November. The green is now closed and will reopen in April 2023.

For more information about the Bowls Club, please visit our website www.longstanton-bowls-club.co.uk or ring Marion (Membership Secretary) on 01954 780118.

Happy Bowling, from "Rob the Bowler" Rob Page

COMBERTON RAMBLERS



Join our friendly group for wonderful walks! Walking is one of the easiest ways to get more active, become healthier and make new friends.

Comberton Ramblers walk alternate Sundays for between 5-7 miles. We are a friendly, informal group that enjoy exploring the varied countryside in this area. No dogs are allowed, except assistance dogs.

You are welcome to join us on any two of our walks to see if our group is for you. Then, once you have enjoyed the views, fun and exhilaration, it is just a case of becoming a member. The annual membership fee is £10.00 per person.

For further information, please contact me by emailing stella.hardwicke2274@hotmail.com or telephoning 01954 210049, mobile 07930951703.

Thank you.

Stella
Secretary of the Comberton Ramblers

HOCKEY AT NORTHSTOWE

If any supporters or future potential members would like to come and cheer us on, please see the table of our upcoming home matches on the right.

Push back for all home matches is at 10.30am, and the match venue is at Northstowe Secondary School. All supporters are very welcome!

Ros Hart
Secretary of Huntingdon Ladies' Hockey Club 2022-23

24 September 2022	Huntingdon 1	v	Wisbech Town 2
08 October 2022	Huntingdon 1	v	St Neots 2
29 October 2022	Huntingdon 1	v	Kettering 3
12 November 2022	Huntingdon 1	v	Pelicans 2
19 November 2022	Huntingdon 1	v	Kettering 2
03 December 2022	Huntingdon 1	v	Cambridge South 4

HATTON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Hello to all of Longstanton! We hope that you are all well.



At the end of last term, we enjoyed bringing back the Summer Fete and an end of year school disco. The Summer Fete was a great success, and everyone had a lovely time after school. Many thanks to our Friends of Hatton Park (FoHPS) for organising the event and to everyone who helped out or attended – it wouldn't have been a success without you!

At the time of writing, the Hatton Park family has returned to school and are all working hard. For the first

time, Hatton Park has 14 classes – two in each year group. We currently have 390 children on roll and have welcomed 51 Reception children and a further 16 across the year groups. The school feels lovely and busy with all the spaces being used! It has been wonderful to see books being chosen, learning undertaken and lots of teamwork happening.

We are lucky to continue to develop our outdoor spaces too. The FoHPS raised enough funds to purchase an outdoor classroom for

the children and staff to use. It is perfect for a class to fit into for a lesson or some story time, and it is just next to the forest area that we are continuing to develop.

Lots of our families took part in the second Northstowe Running Festival at the start of September. We even had a staff team representing the school too! It was a great event, and we are very grateful to have received a charitable donation from the event to help us provide more for our children.



It seems a bit crazy, but applications for September 2023's Reception cohort opened on the 12th September! If you would like to know more about our lovely school, do contact the school office and book a time to look around. There will also be an open event in October/November time so look out for it being advertised. It would be great to meet you and show you around.

We continue to be proud of our school family and are looking forward to seeing what this year will bring.

Anthony Aguda, Headteacher, and the Hatton Park Team

LITTLE LEPRECHAUNS PLAYGROUP

We're all delighted to be back after the long summer holiday. The committee spent some time cleaning the toys so they're ready for another term of fun.

In our first session, we welcomed our new committee members Stephanie and Kelly.

We also saw the return of our story and snack time, along with crafts related to the story.

We look forward to welcoming all families with children under 5 for free play, snacks and a story every Friday during term time, at 9.30 am in the Village Institute. There is no need to book, and we charge £1.50 per family.

*Felicity, Jenny, Stephanie, and Kelly
Little Leprechauns Committee*



NORTHSTOWE SECONDARY COLLEGE (NSC) NEWS

As we return to school this September, we welcome 475 children to our school: 135 in Year 7 and 25 children joining us in years 8-10. We now only have five spaces left in school, so it is a good position to be in, with parental preference driving our numbers up. We have also welcomed 19 new staff to the NSC family as we grow to accommodate the numbers of students. It is wonderful to hear the buzz and chatter of young people again.

We had our first exam results this summer with 11 children in Year 9 taking exams. One of our students in Year 9 took her Spanish GCSE and achieved the highest grade, and 10 students sat the national HPQ qualification, equivalent to half a GCSE. The qualification involved students creating a question, researching, investigating, logging their work, writing up their findings and presenting to an audience. These projects ranged from designing and creating a 60s inspired dress, to the consideration of the impact of social media. All students, all aged only 13, got a C or

above with 7 students getting an A or B grade. It just shows what is possible when young people put their minds to achieving!

We are also coming towards the final stages of planning for our Sixth Form Block and our new general teaching classrooms. This third stage of our development is an exciting one, and we look forward to sharing these with you once they have been through the planning stages.

On October 13th, we will have our Open Evening for prospective Year 7 students starting in September 2023. It is a week later than normal, in a bid to avoid clashes with local schools. We look forward to welcoming prospective students to look around and get a feel for NSC so they can decide if it is the school for them.

Carole Moss, Headteacher

A small team of wardens, with a large team of volunteers, are responsible for looking after RSPB Fen Drayton Lakes. Every week on the reserve is different and the same is true for the wardens' work. Utilising our never-ending task list, jobs are planned based on the management priorities for the time of year and dealing with issues as they arise. Broadly speaking, autumn and winter are when we are busy with habitat management; spring and summer is when we carry out our breeding bird surveys and there is year-round infrastructure maintenance and office admin work. Here we share some of the goings-on from a week in the life of a warden in early September.

The first of September marks the start of our habitat management season when we start to go into the sensitive wildlife areas that are left disturbance-free during the spring and summer when birds and other wildlife are breeding. We always assume that there will be a flood during the winter months preventing access to parts of the reserve, so autumn is a busy time of planning and carrying out this work. To start the month off, we took out our drone to get up-to-date aerial photographs to see where we should be focussing with reedbed tree removal work and island cutting over the coming weeks. This was followed up by on-the-ground inspections and preparations before beginning the work in earnest with our volunteer team. To paraphrase a well-known proverb, look after the habitats and the wildlife will look after itself!

There are a lot of viewpoints around the reserve and most of these become rather overgrown during the summer. Around Elney Lake alone there are ten viewpoints. We don't cut them back during the summer as birds such as reed bunting, reed warbler, and whitethroat all benefit from the reeds and scrub. With the seasons changing, it is time to go in with brushcutters to open them up. Cutting reeds is tough going, even with machinery, but the results are rewarding and will last through to next summer.

Managing the reserve infrastructure to keep visitors safe is very important. We undertake regular checks year-round of the screens, hide, benches and anything else we have installed that could at some point fall over or fail. These checks recently revealed that a section of the ramp up to the hide on Moore Lake had gone rotten. A repair was prioritised and with the help of our skilled volunteers, the rotten section was removed and new timbers spliced into place to get it as sturdy as it was when first built.

Cattle grazing plays an important role in managing grassland around the lakes for breeding and wintering waterfowl and



Working with volunteers to repair the hide ramp

waders. With the water levels so low this summer, in some lakes the lowest we have seen since purchasing the site in 2007, cows have been walking around the wooden fencing 'wings' that protrude into the water to stop them leaving grazing areas. Herding cattle back into a field on a recent occasion didn't go quite to plan with the cows running off into a wooded area. A little later, with a lot of 'shooing', they were back in. If you ever find escaped cattle on the reserve, please let us know.

On top of this reserve-based work we have also been organising large-scale contractor works, planning upcoming events, writing reports and doing a host of other tasks on and off site. With all this variety in our day-to-day work, there is rarely a dull moment at Fen Drayton Lakes.

Wednesday Wander

Ever thought you'd like to know more about the reserve and its wildlife? Informal volunteer-led guided walks take place on the second Wednesday of the month. To see details and book, please visit: events.rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes

Email: fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk

Phone: 01954 233260

Visit 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

Come and join Histon's Choir2000 and be "Britten" by the singing bug!

Choir2000 are looking for new members to join them this Autumn term 2022. We'll sing Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols and rehearse Christmas favourites for our festive concerts on 9th and 10th December.

Rehearsals are every Wednesday 7.30 - 9.30 pm at Histon Baptist Church, Station Road, Histon starting 5th October.

Choir secretary Susie Savage said, "We are so thrilled to be back to full in-person rehearsals at long last with our amazing new Musical Director, Chloë Allison. We would love new singers to join our friendly supportive choir whilst having a great time learning amazing choral music. Singing in a choir is such a joyful experience and a chance to meet like-minded people."

There are no auditions and free taster sessions: all abilities and voices welcome: Why not give it a go! Or come along to our concerts to celebrate the Christmas spirit with us! To find out more please visit the choir's website www.choir2000.org or email us at info@choir2000.org

CHOIR  **2000**

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, LONGSTANTON



Happening in a church near you: This term, All Saints' Church Longstanton is delighted to host the following two activities: one on a weekly basis, the other as a special seasonal event. Do come along and join us, if you would like to.

Mini Jaffas pre-school group – Tuesdays at gam: Mini JAFFAs (Jesus A Friend For All) is a service for pre-school children and their parents/carers. We gather every Tuesday during term time in the Meeting Room at All Saints', after the school drop off.

We hold an informal service of worship, which includes songs, prayers, a bible story, collection, a craft activity and refreshments. During our service, we always ask the children if they have done anything special in the last week and encourage them talk about it. Often these revolve around toys, parties, family and friends. We thank God for the children's thoughts during our prayers.

Each half term, we follow a theme, and every week we try to link the bible story to the craft activity. At the moment, we are exploring the weather, farmers and harvest. We'll be contributing food bank gifts for the All-Age Harvest Festival on Sunday 2 October in All Saints' Church.

Advent Fayre – Saturday, 26 November at 10am: Has it really been three years since our last Advent Fayre? Yes, it has. We are delighted to tell you that we are back on Saturday, 26th November, opening at 10am. There will be stalls with seasonal items, homemade cakes for sale, along with other produce. There will also be an area with activities for young children and games to get you guessing, along with an Advent Calendar raffle and tombola. Not to mention the ever-popular Saturday coffee/tea and bacon butties, with other seasonal goodies to tempt you. Put the date in your diary and come and enjoy the start of this very special time of year. The money raised will be shared 50/50 with the DEC Ukraine Appeal and the church.

Reverend Lucy Cleland and Sue Gamon (Churchwarden)

Services take place in All Saints' Church Longstanton at 9.30am:

- 1st Sundays – All Age Worship
- 2nd and 4th Sundays - Communion
- 3rd Sundays – Morning Praise



EMMANUEL CHURCH, NORTHSTOWE

Sarah Phillips, Emmanuel Church member and Longstanton resident, writes:

My family and I moved to the village over a year ago, and it's definitely feeling like home now. We love the quietness, the wildlife, fields, blackberries, and the friendly local faces we are getting to know.

Joining Emmanuel Church has been a huge part of making us feel settled here. We felt instantly welcomed and involved. Our Sunday services and children's groups, midweek homegroups and plentiful formal and informal meet-ups really are the highlights of our time here, especially for our three boys.

Of course, church is more than just a way of making firm friends. The Bible tells us about Jesus: "in him all things hold together... he is the head of the body, the church". What we love most about Emmanuel Church is being united in following Jesus and doing life together as a family of believers, whether that's meeting as a group of men for cooked breakfast and prayer, or on our big jolly day trip in August to enjoy God's creation at the seaside! For our growing and increasingly diverse congregation, Jesus is "the head" who holds "all things...together."

You can read plenty more of my ramblings on church and village life on my blog: <https://sarahhadfi.wixsite.com/website>, and I've been asked to share my stories at a 'Real Lives' event on 11th November (gulp!)

Emmanuel Church meets at 10.30 am at Northstowe Secondary College, and I'm sure you'll be made just as welcome as we were!

Website: emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org

Contact: Josh Monteiro

josh.monteiro@emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org

Postal: Address 45 Eaton Way, Longstanton, CB24 3ET

Emmanuel Church Northstowe gathers for our main weekly meeting 10:30am every Sunday at Northstowe Secondary College. Everyone is welcome. Crêche and children's groups (primary age) run during the second part of the service. There are refreshments after the service.

For more information, please go our website: emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org
Contact via email: contact@emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org or post:
45 Eaton Way, Longstanton, CB24 3ET

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, LONGSTANTON

St. Michael's Baptismal Well – where has all the water gone?



The existence of the baptismal well in the churchyard of St. Michael's is an extra attraction for visitors coming to see this special little thatched church. The well is believed to date back to pagan times and has been a unique feature of the churchyard here in Longstanton for centuries. It is said that Christian churches are located on the site of pagan worship. As the well pre-dates the church, it would mean it is at least eight hundred years old. Historically the well has never

been known to run dry – until now.

So why is there no water in the well?

The current issue of dewatering in the Longstanton and surrounding villages is gathering considerable support from concerned residents, who have seen natural water courses and ponds run dry and the Kingfisher Pond completely depleted of water: all this

whilst the nearby lake at the Phase 2 site is replenished from groundwater engineered for the new development.

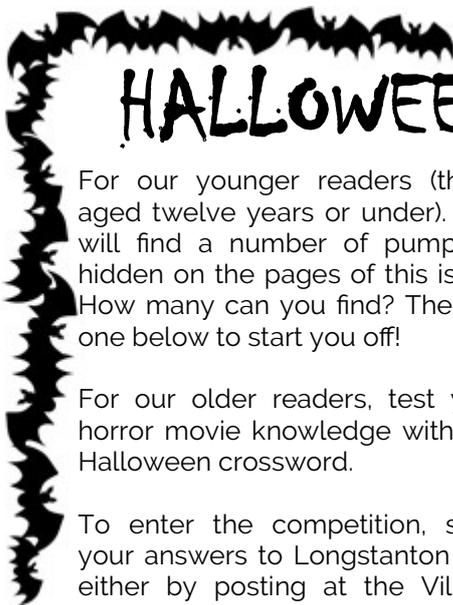
Why does it matter?

Beyond the obvious impacts on several water features and longstanding horticultural businesses in the village, there are also the environmental effects on local nature and our visible landscape; this cannot be underestimated. With a considerable reduction of groundwater deposits, what will happen to the established trees, the hedgerows and green spaces of Longstanton, its associated wildlife, and the foundations of our traditionally built cottages and churches? The proximity of all the aforementioned add to the overall living environment for residents of Northstowe, as well as those in Longstanton. It makes no sense to be artificially creating 'natural' habitats and in the process damaging the existing natural environment.

To find out more about this issue, visit the Longstanton Environmental Groundwater Group (LEGG: <https://legginfo.co.uk>).

For the benefit of the wider community, we need to see action from the SCDC, the Environment Agency and most importantly, the developers, before it is too late.

The Friends of St. Michael's Church



HALLOWEEN CROSSWORD COMPETITION!

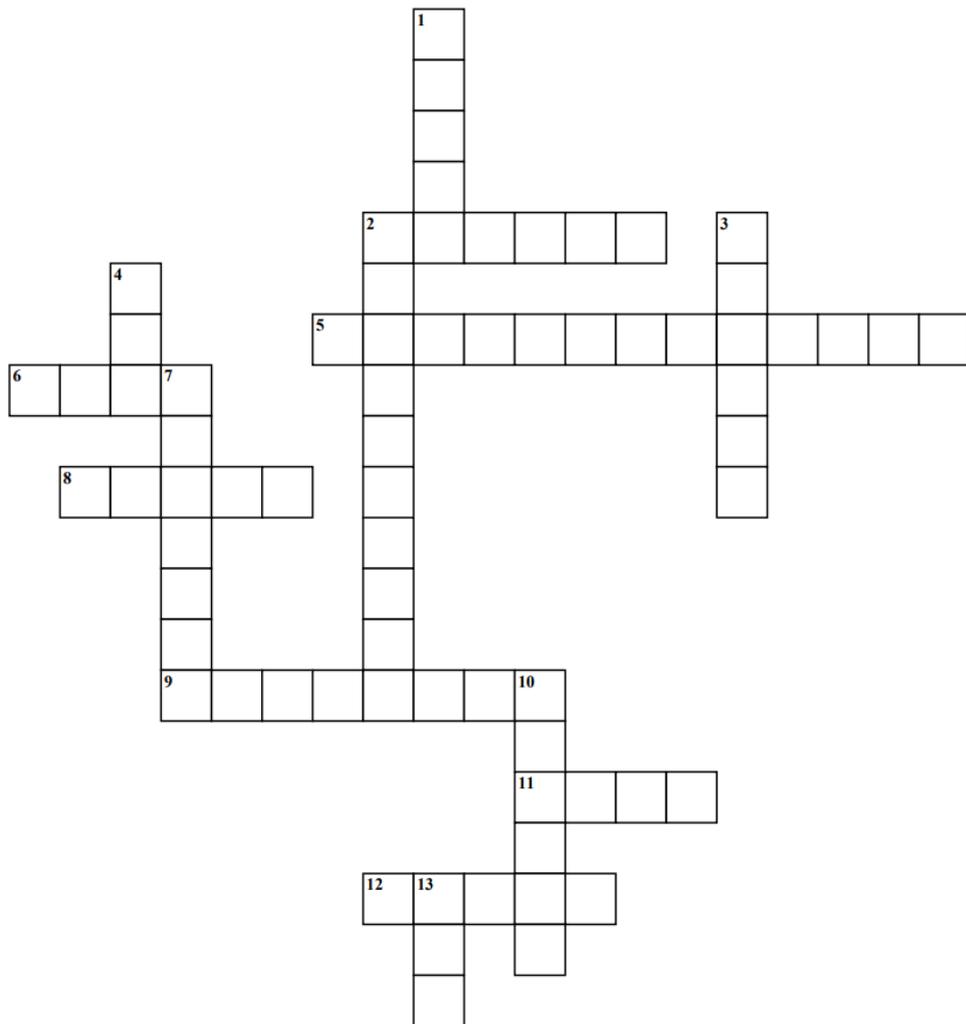
For our younger readers (those aged twelve years or under). You will find a number of pumpkins hidden on the pages of this issue. How many can you find? There is one below to start you off!

For our older readers, test your horror movie knowledge with our Halloween crossword.

To enter the competition, send your answers to Longstanton Life either by posting at the Village Institute, or by emailing to: longstantonlife@hotmail.com before 26th October. Remember to include your name and phone number with your entry.

The first person randomly selected from those with the correct answers (one younger reader and one older reader) will receive a pumpkin kindly donated by Larksfield Nursery. The winner will be announced in the next issue.

Good luck!



Across

- (2) Alfred Hitchcock directed this film with the infamous shower scene
- (5) Horror movie character known for his iconic striped sweater
- (6) This film gave sharks a bad name
- (8) Don't make a sound... 'The ___ Place'
- (9) These are great pets, until you give them water or food after midnight
- (11) A piece of jewellery or a cursed video tape? 'The ___'
- (12) You can't visit this state without thinking of 'chainsaws'

Down

- (1) Three witches cause a stir 'Hocus ___'
- (2) The type of 'activity' you wouldn't like in your own home '___ Activity'
- (3) The little doll with a dark side 'Chucky'
- (4) The movie franchise famous for the phrase, "I want to play a game"
- (7) Jack Torrance probably wished he'd never taken the job 'The _____'
- (10) It all goes wrong when Sidney picks up the phone
- (13) Living on this street turned out to be a 'nightmare' '___ Street'

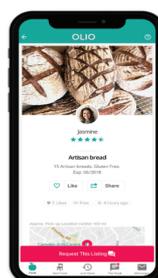
TENNIS COMPETITION WINNER!

Carl Platt is our Wimbledon Competition winner, congratulations! The winning answers were: Andy Murray - 2013, Pete Sampras - 1998, Venus Williams - 2007, Billie Jean King - 1973, Björn Borg - 1980, Ashleigh Barty - 2021, Lleyton Hewitt - 2002, Serena Williams - 2010, Martina Navratilova- 1990.

The prize was funded by Bushel Box farm shop in Willingham.



The Community Pantry is now ONLINE!



OLIO is a free app connecting neighbours, community organisations and shops so surplus food can be shared instead of thrown away.

Volunteers are collecting food from the Coop's in Longstanton and Willingham 7 days a week and will be distributing the food via Olio.

Sign up today and join the food sharing revolution today!

SUSTAINABLE NORTHSTOWE



Advertisements

CORNFLOWER CLINIC
Dental and Facial Aesthetics

ADDRESS:
Unit 9 Hazelwell Close
Bar Road, Lolworth
Cambridge, CB23 8DS

T: 01954 781981
E: contact@cornflowerclinic.co.uk



www.cornflowerclinic.co.uk




COUNSELLING
with Marie Edgar

Counselling Psychotherapist (MBACP)

T: 01954 781741
M: 07761 334321
W: www.cmecounselling.co.uk
E: marie.edgar@cmecounselling.co.uk




About Us...

Bella's Childcare is a privately run nursery offering first class childcare in Longstanton. We have a modern, purpose built, well administered and well managed childcare facility. We thrive to create a safe, caring and stimulating environment where each child can develop their social, emotional and educational skills whilst fulfilling their potential to become independent and active long term learners.



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The Farmhouse, Gladeside, Bar Hill, Cambridge CB23 8DY
Email: total.relaxation@ntlworld.com
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LDHS 2022 AGM AND TALK

LDHS was deeply saddened to hear the news of the death of Her Majesty The Queen. We share our deepest sympathies and condolences with all of the members of the Royal Family at this sad time. For this reason, LDHS has decided to postpone the 2022 AGM and talk until after the period of mourning and the funeral. We are grateful to Selwyn Richardson for his understanding and we look forward to welcoming him to Longstanton later in the year. Full details of the new date of the AGM and Selwyn's talk will be circulated shortly, but here is a taster to illustrate what his talk will be about.

Many years ago, LDHS had the pleasure of hosting talks presented by Swavesey resident and local history enthusiast, John Shepperson. Selwyn is ensuring that the history so brilliantly communicated by John is not forgotten. In view of the postponement of our AGM, Selwyn has kindly provided an introduction to the subject of the 1947 floods, and we hope that this will encourage people to come along to hear the talk in due course. The 1947 floods were a really important historical event for this local area, and this talk helps to remind us that the fens remain dry to this day because of the network of ditches, pumps and man-made drains that carry water off the fields and out towards the sea. All that infrastructure takes a lot of time, money and expertise to maintain and without that effort, water would begin to reclaim the land very quickly.

The 1947 floods in Over and Swavesey

WWII had come to an end little more than 18 months earlier and the country was desperately short of food, when on 23 January 1947, severe frost set in which persisted for just over six weeks. Blizzards and heavy falls of snow occurred frequently until 10 March when a rapid thaw began. The melted, deep snow ran across frozen ground and entered the rivers, which simply could not move it away to the sea quickly enough.

On the evening of Sunday 16 March, a terrible gale was rushing in from the west, blowing down trees, demolishing telegraph poles, blowing the roofs off farm buildings and knocking over chimney stacks on numerous houses. Average wind speed,



Looking down Over Hill towards Swavesey and Fen Drayton with the railway station in the centre and St Andrew's church on an island slightly above at right.

measured at nearby Oakington airfield, was 67 miles per hour, with one gust recorded at 98 miles per hour. A four mile stretch of the river Great Ouse runs north from Covell's Bridge Sluice at

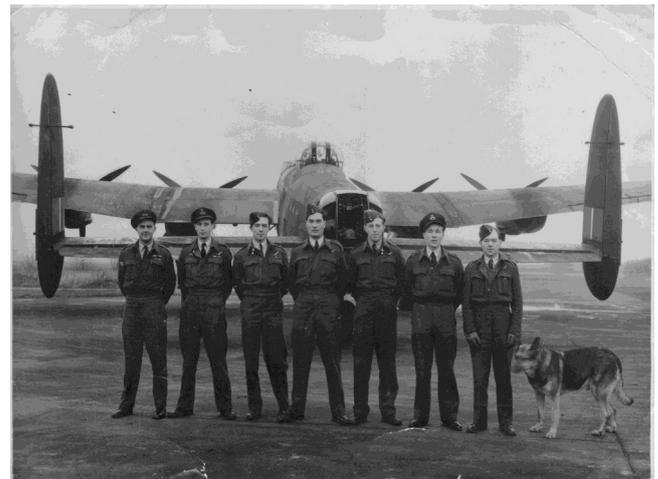
the north western end of Swavesey Parish to Hermitage Marina at Earith.

Since midday on that Sunday, two gangs of workmen, each assisted by German prisoners of war, some fifty men in all, had been working strenuously along this bank, strengthening the places where waves were overtopping. They filled sacks with soil from the fen below then two men dragged each sack to the top of the steep slope. It was bitterly cold. The noise of the water and wind was thunderous. Men could only stay up on the bank by clinging to fences or the occasional small bush.

Just as darkness fell, one man set out against the wind to move from one gang to the other. On the way, he came upon a wire fence with a wooden stile crossing the bank where he noticed a serious breach was starting, with water already pouring through. He rushed to summon both gangs of workers to deal with the breach.

On the other side of the river on the southern edge of Bluntisham, villagers living adjacent to the flood plain noticed a sudden small drop in water level in their ground floor rooms just before midnight. At the wire fence and wooden stile, the water was roaring through the darkness into Over Fen below and this was the start of the widest bank breach and the most serious 20th century flooding of the East Anglian Fens.

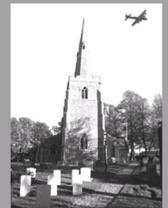
RAF OAKINGTON MEMORIES



Newly donated photograph to the LDHS Archives, showing a crew from 7 Squadron RAF Oakington

It is that time of year again when attention turns to Remembrance Sunday services and the return of 7 Squadron Association to Longstanton for their annual 7 Squadron Memorial Service. The service will be held at All Saints' church on Sunday 9th October. It was hoped that the new Heritage Facility would be open in time for their visit, but this has not been possible. We are hopeful that by the time the Association returns in 2023, they will have the new facility to add to their itinerary. In the meantime, additional RAF Oakington photographs and archives are being offered to the Heritage Society, and we will accept everything that we can, providing we are in a position to do so.

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