

# Longstanton Life

## & Northstowe

Volume 18, Issue No. 2

April - May 2018

Life in Your Locality



Longstanton Football Club in action (Trumpington)! Photos by Neil Ross, edited and sent by Ben Lee.

In this issue: Village Hero 2017, NEW! Science Zone, Longstanton Litter Pick, Northstowe Update. Our regular features, including Sports News, Community Concerns, LDHS Update, Hatton Park News, Letters and Photos From Our Readers, Memory Lane, Surgery Update and many more. Picture Competition - make sure you don't miss it!

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, Tony Cowley, Manjeet Bolla, Beth Jones, Pia Spry-Marqués and John Pratt.

# VILLAGE DIARY

<b>SUNDAY</b>	0930-1030	Sunday School	The Rectory, High St.	Susan Meah	01954 781258
	1100	Tennis Club Sessions	The Pavilion	Sarah Ballard	07985 938959
3rd of month	1600-1800	Messy Church	Village Institute*	Susan Meah	01954 781258
<b>MONDAY</b>	1100-1200	Zumba Gold	Village Institute*	Davina Mee	07779 244250
	1800-2000	Bowls Club	The Pavilion	Marion Edwards	01954 780118
	17.30-18.30	Judo (5-7yrs)	Hatton Park School	Szandra Szogedi	
	18.30-19.30	Judo (8+ yrs)	Hatton Park School	Szandra Szogedi	
	1930-2030	Jazzercise	Hatton Park School	Tina Chasse	01487 841811
2nd of month	1930	Parish Council	Village Institute*	(Open meeting)	
3rd of month	1945	W.I.	Village Institute*	Patrizia Peters	01954 781283
<b>TUESDAY</b>	1000-1200	Coffee morning (over 55's)	The Dale Comm. Hall	Please just turn up	
	1030-1115	Mini JAFFAs (pre-schoolers)	All Saints' Church	Susan Meah	01954 781258
	1700-2000	Tennis - Junior and adult coaching	The Pavilion		coaching@longstantontennis.co.uk
	1830-2000	Adult Cricket training	Recreation Ground	Please just turn up	
	1845-1930	BodyMod Bootcamp	Recreation Ground	Danny Williams	07946 286068
	1900-2100	Cambridge Freestyle Martial Arts	Village Institute*	Rory / Martin	07523 854251 / 07535 646234
	1900-2130	ATC (Air Training Corps)	Cadet Centre		
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	1000-1100	Music Madness (0-5yrs)	Village Institute*	Sharon Sennitt	07762 206320
	16.30-17.30	Judo (5-7yrs)	Hatton Park School	Szandra Szogedi	
	17.30-18.30	Judo (8+ yrs)	Hatton Park School	Szandra Szogedi	
	1800	Tennis Club Night	The Pavilion	Sarah Ballard	07985 938959
	1910-2130	Army Cadet Force (12-18yrs)	Cadet Centre	Sgt. Rudderham	07759 056154
	1900-2100	Bell ringers practice	All Saints' Church	Mike Cartwright	01954 781275
	1930-2030	Jazzercise	Hatton Park School	Tina Chasse	01487 841811
<b>THURSDAY</b>	0630-0715	BodyMod Bootcamp	Recreation Ground	Danny Williams	07946 286068
	1000-1100	Rainbow Club (bump-1yr)	Village Institute*	Susan Meah	01954 781258
	1700-2000	Junior coaching and team play	The Pavilion		coaching@longstantontennis.co.uk
	1845-1930	BodyMod Bootcamp	Recreation Ground	Danny Williams	07946 286068
	1900	Football training	Recreation Ground	Luke McAvoy	07795 321494
	1900-2000	Ballroom Dancers, beginners	Hatton Park School	Mike Cartwright	01954 781275
	2000-2100	Ballroom Dancer, advanced	Hatton Park School	Mike Cartwright	01954 781275
<b>FRIDAY</b>	0930-1130	Little Leprechauns playgroup (0-4yrs)	Village Institute*	Alice Burrell	07779 363990
	1400-1600	Afternoon tea (over 55's)	The Dale Comm. Hall	Please just turn up	
	16.30-18.00	Judo (8+ yrs sparing sessions)	Hatton Park School	Szandra Szogedi	
	17.30-18.30	Judo (Adult Session/Beginner+Experienced)	Hatton Park School	Szandra Szogedi	
	1800	Tennis Club Night	The Pavilion	Sarah Ballard	07985 938959
	1900-2130	ATC (Air Training Corps)	Cadet Centre		01954 781180
	1800-2000	Junior Cricket training	Recreation Ground	Janet Hill	01954 261009
<b>SATURDAY</b>	0915-1000	BodyMod Bootcamp	Recreation Ground	Danny Williams	07946 286068
	9.45-10.30	Judo (5-7yrs)	Hatton Park School	Szandra Szogedi	
	1000-1100	Longstanton Colts Football Club (6-12yrs)	Recreation Ground	Louise Gamon	07429 317803
	10.30-11.30	Judo (8-12yrs)	Hatton Park School	Szandra Szogedi	
	11.30-12.30	Judo (12+ & family session)	Hatton Park School	Szandra Szogedi	

\* It should be noted that the Village Institute is available for hiring for a variety of functions; provisional bookings can be made via <http://community.longstantonvillage.org/village-institute/>. 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)

## Memory Lane, Who, Where, When and Why?



Photo LDHS via Tom Eaton

### Answers to Feb/ Mar's W,W, W & W?

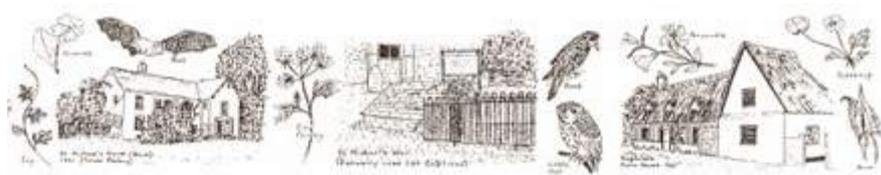
**Where:** The last few days of the grand old three arch brick bridge over the twin track railway that originally ran between Cambridge in the south and March in the north. Located on Over Road between the windmill and the Gravel Bridge.



Photo LDHS via Sylvia Hicks

**Why:** Demolished to be replaced by a modern single span bridge that accommodates the height of double decker guided buses passing underneath.

**When:** Photo taken on a Christmas time dog walk, 29/12/2007.



## LONGSTANTON LIFE EDITORIAL

### Dear Readers,

We hope you had a lovely Easter break and are now enjoying longer and warmer days. Gardening and BBQs are only a short way away! If you would like a clean car for the spring, then don't miss our Picture Competition for a chance to win a car valet at the New Marque garage (p.15).

Also in this issue — we would like to congratulate Susan Meah for winning the Village Hero 2017 award. Go to page 5 for more details and join us in saying a big thank you to her for all the work she is doing for our village community.

For those of you who like science, there is a treat for you in this issue from our scientist-editor Manjeet. Science Zone, our new column on page 14. Enjoy!

Another successful village litter pick behind us - thank you to Libby for organising and thank you to all volunteers who have helped. Read more on page 6.

As usual we would like to ask you for your letters, pictures, stories and suggestions. Maggie and Yukie, many thanks for sending us some great photos (p.12). We always love to hear from our readers!

We are also looking for another person or two to join our editorial team; if you have a little spare time on your hands check p. 10 for the details and come back to us!

*The Editorial Team*

Our contact details:

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- correspondence address: Longstanton Life, c/o The Village Institute, 24 High Street, Longstanton CB24 3BS
- Twitter account: @LongstantonLife

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Please note that the copy deadline for the June - July 2018 edition of Longstanton Life is:  
**Thursday, 3rd May 2018**  
 Contributions for the next issue: by email to [longstantonlife@hotmail.com](mailto:longstantonlife@hotmail.com) or drop off at the Village Institute

### Longstanton Life Advertising Rates 2018

If you are interested in advertising in our magazine, please contact **John** on **01954 780527** or email [longstantonlife@hotmail.com](mailto:longstantonlife@hotmail.com) with 'advertising' in the subject line. New advertisements and advert changes are reviewed twice yearly:

Adverts Start Date	Adverts Accepted Until
February/March Edition	1st December
August/September Edition	1st June

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# COMMUNITY CONCERNS

MP for South Cambs

Heidi Allen



Well, the Beast from the East certainly visited us in South Cambs at the end of February. I'm ashamed to say I couldn't actually get my car off the drive one particularly icy day...no lady driver comments please!

Back at work, the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) is seeking your views on a number of options for improvements along the A11 and A1307. One option could include a "Mass Rapid Transport" route from the A11 via Sawston to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, incorporating the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro which you may have read about. Another option is a dedicated public transport link between the existing Babraham Road Park and Ride and the Biomedical Campus, and an inbound bus lane from Babraham Research Campus to the Park and Ride site. All options would involve a new Park and Ride near the A11/A505 junction. Please have a look and add your views by 9<sup>th</sup> April at <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/>; I am keen for the GCP to hear from as many local residents as possible. Part of the challenge with such initiatives is to enable infrastructure improvements whilst retaining the uniqueness of South Cambridgeshire as such a special place to live.

I continue to focus on promoting all infrastructure improvements, including the new railway station at Addenbrooke's, the A428 expressway (including the Girton interchange) and the East-West Rail link. I am determined to ensure these improvements are brought about as quickly as possible, and talk regularly to both local and national stakeholders. Such projects are vital to ensure South Cambridgeshire continues to thrive.

As we know from the ongoing A14 improvements, major projects take time to deliver. For example, residents may be wondering what is happening with the A428 upgrade. Please be assured that this project is alive and well, and just delayed by a few months through engineering design complexities at the A1 Black Cat end. Updates will be on my website as I learn more: <https://www.heidisouthcambs.co.uk/a428-black-cat-caxton-gibbet>

In other news, I was pleased to present a petition about the removal of the post box from Cottenham High Street, signed by 610 concerned residents, to the House of Commons. Thank you to Audrey Brownlow and Councillor Frank Morris for their campaign. I hope the Department for Housing, Communities and Local Government and Royal Mail will show they are listening.

Also in Parliament, I have recently introduced a Bill which aims to improve how the Child Maintenance Service (CMS) works, so on 20<sup>th</sup> February, I met the responsible Minister, Kit Malthouse MP. The CMS replaced the Child Support Agency a few years ago and, following meetings with constituents, it became clear that improvements were needed. At my request, the Work and Pensions Select Committee, of which I am a member, conducted an investigation into the way the CMS was working for children and their parents.

My Bill seeks to close legislative loopholes that allow a minority of parents to avoid paying child maintenance, and to provide the CMS with stronger enforcement powers. Please see my website for more details. The Bill will have its Second Reading on the 27<sup>th</sup> April and I am encouraged by the Minister's willingness to work with me.

Sadly, the bad weather meant my last surgery in Caldecote was cancelled. The next will take place at my Sawston constituency office on 29<sup>th</sup> March between 3 and 5pm. This will be an "appointment only" surgery to allow for discussion of more sensitive matters. Book by calling 01223 830087.

I will also be holding a standard drop-in surgery, with no appointment necessary, at Caldecote Primary School, Highfields Caldecote on the 21<sup>st</sup> April between 10am and 12 midday. Details of all upcoming surgeries can be found on my website: [www.heidisouthcambs.co.uk](http://www.heidisouthcambs.co.uk).

To contact me, please email [heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk). You can also phone my Westminster office on 020 7219 5091 about national issues or my constituency office on 01223 830037 for local concerns.

See you next time!

Heidi

## District Councillor Notes

Alex Riley



**Airfield Road** At the Northstowe Community Forum of 17 January, a representative of Sisk's, the company responsible for the infrastructure of Northstowe's Phase 2 explained their intentions to install a traffic light crossing across the Airfield Road, entailing closure of the road from early summer. This statement was in conflict with residents' previous understanding that the closure of the Airfield Road would only take

place upon completion of the local A14 upgrade, which is to include a road for local traffic.

I therefore met with Homes England (formerly the HCA) to clarify the situation, and they have explained that any permanent closure of the Airfield Road could not take place until a public notice has been advertised. This notice will set out the proposed details of the stopping up order and will be subject to a 28-day public consultation process run by the County Council. I am very relieved to hear this; in my view it would be a serious mistake to shut the Airfield Road with the A14 in its current state. Nonetheless, rumours persist that the road is in imminent danger of being closed. The cancellation of this year's Yesterday Road Run, due to take place on 22 April, was in my view completely unnecessary. I will email interested residents again once I have the details of this public consultation. If you do not currently receive my emails, email me at [cllr.riley@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.riley@scambs.gov.uk) to ask to be kept informed.

**Northstowe Community Forum** This is the best place to find out about Northstowe developments. The next meeting is on Wednesday 18 April in the Northstowe Pathfinder School.

**Elections** On Thursday 3 May – in just less than ten weeks – every District Council seat and every Parish Council seat within South Cambridgeshire will be up for re-election. For the District Council, this will be coupled with considerable changes. The council will reduce from 57 to 45 elected members, and all seats will be up for re-election every 4 years. Longstanton will now be in a new ward with Oakington and Northstowe, with two elected councillors. We can probably expect another re-organisation within a decade, simply to accommodate the growing size of Northstowe.

After much thought I have decided not to stand for re-election as your District Councillor. I will have served the village for 16 years, having been Chair of the Parish Council from May 2002 to December 2006, and District Councillor since May 2004. I think it is time to make way for someone else with the energy for the role that I used to have! I would like to thank the many of you who have voted for me on the four occasions I have stood for election.

The role of District Councillor does not need to take up very much time but it can be challenging and requires commitment. I would be happy to discuss the role with any interested local resident. You have until 6 April to return election Nomination Forms to either the Parish or District Council.

Alex Riley

# COMMUNITY CONCERNS

County Councillor

Peter Hudson



## County Council Budget

In early February, the council unanimously agreed to raise the basic County Council Tax for the first time in three years. The tax will increase by 2.99% in addition to the previously ringfenced 2% Adult Social Care mandate. Unlike many County Councils in the news recently, Cambridgeshire has maintained or improved front line services whilst balancing the budget. Over 75% of this budget is spent on vulnerable adults and children in care.

This year, an unprecedented demand has led to a predicted budget shortfall of £4.3 million. For example, as of January 2018, the county has 62 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in care. The tax increase will cover this £4.3 million shortfall and will provide a £3 million reserve for extra demands on essential services over the next year.

## New look for Cambridgeshire's Child and Family Centres

The County Council will launch its redesigned Child and Family Centres in April 2018. These are intended to better meet the needs of our growing county population with activities and events in a range of new locations, delivered by staff working in new district-based teams, with an extended focus on families with children of all ages. Work has been going on behind the scenes to ensure that the redesigned service is more responsive to our county's rapidly-changing needs whilst delivering the agreed £900,000 of savings without cutting frontline budgets.

For the first time, activities will be run from new communities such as Northstowe, and there will be outreach in other new locations across the county. Buildings that will no longer operate as Children's Centres will instead be used to boost childcare provision, with up to 325 new places provided for under-5s, as well as allowing much-needed school expansions.

The summer term event programmes will launch in April with additional online information and new district Facebook pages. The programmes will further develop throughout the summer term with additional activities in new outreach locations, including more for older children.

Seeing this great new service for our community actually happening makes all my work, debate and lobbying on behalf of Longstanton over the past 12 months feel very worthwhile.

## Update on Primary Care for Northstowe

The County Council's Public Health Committee received an update from The NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) regarding the planning and engagement that was taking place to secure primary care medical services for the anticipated Northstowe population. The committee learnt that the new care model would only start to be developed after a meeting with GPs at the end of January.

Committee members emphasised the importance of integrating preventive care and other services into a model, and I questioned the provision for dentistry and a pharmacy. Officers explained that such services are population-dependent; I expressed astonishment that a new town was being built with a population of approximately 30,000 without any plans for such services.

The officers explained that there would only be dedicated health provision once 1,500 houses had been constructed, with Longstanton and Willingham GP surgeries catering for the residents that moved to Northstowe during phase 1. I expressed my grave concern that Longstanton residents have already reported increased difficulty in obtaining appointments despite only 50 new houses so far being occupied.

In exasperation, I proposed that NHS England attend future meetings of the County Council Public Health Committee to explain their plans, and this was unanimously agreed. I will update the Parish Council with when NHS England is due to appear before the and plan to report on the meeting in the next issue of Longstanton Life.

## Libraries set to deliver more at the heart of communities

Our residents won't have far to go to access a whole range of tailored services under a new set of proposals to transform libraries. The plans, discussed at the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee, put the county's 32 libraries and three mobile library vans, at the very heart of local communities.

If agreed, these changes will reinforce libraries as the 'front door' of the council, offering improved access to a better and wider range of services, including children and family services, public health and council services. For the people of Cambridgeshire this will mean more reasons for them to use their local library. It will also help the council meet its priorities around keeping vulnerable and elderly people more independent.

Through a range of initiatives libraries are set to generate new income and progress towards financial self-sufficiency, with recommendations including a special membership, paid-for events such as author talks, and maximised use of meeting rooms. This will allow the council to invest £230,000 in books in 2018/19.

## County Council wins £3.2million to develop one of the first autonomous shuttle services in the UK

Cambridge is on track to be the UK's first city to have a ground-breaking self-driving shuttle service, after a successful bid for £3.2million of government funding to develop trial vehicles. The autonomous vehicles will be developed by Coventry-based engineering firm Aurrigo, which ran a trial with an autonomous four-seater 'pod' in Cambridge last year.

The funding will be used to build and trial six 10-15-seater self-driving shuttles to operate on the southern section of the guided busway. As the guided busway is segregated from general traffic, it offers a unique opportunity to trial autonomous vehicles around major residential and employment sites.

The vehicles will initially operate as an out-of-hours service when ordinary buses aren't running. This will pave the way for an autonomous shuttle service that will run in the early mornings, late evenings and during the weekends, filling the current void for shift workers, revellers and weekend shoppers. The project is due to get underway later this year, with the prototype vehicles being tested in late summer, 2019, and the first passengers stepping on board in the summer of 2020.

## Thank you

A big thank you to all the residents who have contacted me over the past few weeks expressing their support, and also to those of you asking for help on County Council issues. It's great to meet you, and very satisfying when solutions are found. I look forward to catching up with you over the next few weeks.

Peter Hudson  
County Councillor

## VILLAGE HERO 2017



Two residents of Longstanton, **Louise Gamon** and **Susan Meah**, were both nominated for a South Cambridgeshire District Council Community Award in the category 'Village Hero' for their extensive community contribution. Louise was nominated by Longstanton Parish Council and Susan was nominated by no less than 52 residents of the village.

At a ceremony held at South Cambs Chamber on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March, Susan Meah was awarded the Village Hero first prize, with judges recognising all the work she has put into the village including: local church, primary school, baby and toddler groups, music sessions, fundraising, volunteering and support of young families. Some of the nominations described Susan as 'an outstanding member of the community', 'the heart and soul of Longstanton', 'supporting families and children in a variety of ways' to name but a few.

Congratulations to both ladies, and thank you for everything you do for our community.

Libby White, Parish Clerk  
Longstanton Parish Council

# COMMUNITY CONCERNS

## Longstanton Parish Council



### Village Hero 2018

We congratulate both Louise Gamon and Susan Meah on their nominations for the South Cambridgeshire District Council Community Award 'Village Hero'. Further congratulations must go to Susan on being awarded first place in the category!

### Summer Event 2018

We are pleased to confirm that we will be holding an Open Air Cinema on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2018 and will be showing 'The Greatest Showman' with a four piece band playing before the film. This will be a ticket-only event; please contact the parish office or visit the website and Facebook pages for further details.

### Northstowe and the Airfield Road

Homes England have confirmed that their contractors will be applying to Cambridgeshire County Council for a 'temporary' road closure of the Airfield Road, during construction of the southern access roads into Northstowe. They will then apply to the Department of Transport for permanent closure. Communication notices will be put up when the temporary closure application is made, and closure is anticipated to take effect 12 weeks from the date of the application. The County Council may impose restrictions during the temporary road closure, and Longstanton Parish Council will ask that they ensure there is access for pedestrians, horses and cyclists.

Meanwhile, the new Northstowe Community Development Officer, Jon London, is now in situ and can be contacted by email: [jon.london@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:jon.london@scambs.gov.uk). We wish him well in his role.

### Ongoing Council Work

In addition to normal Council business, we have been:

- Continuing liaison with various bodies in respect to Northstowe.
- Working with Oakington Parish Council on a joint Local Highways Application for mobile speed signs (see below), and continuing to support Speedwatch in their activities.
- Corresponding with the County Council over reinstatement of the bulbs and verge along School Lane following work completed there.
- Working with developers and landowners to enable the parish council to adopt the Central Open Space within the Home Farm development, and six further areas of land within Home Farm Phase 3a.
- Liaising with developers on the adoption of Home Farm roads, including the roads in Phase 2 which have been outstanding for 10 years.
- Holding an open meeting with village community groups to start looking at a Community-Led Plan.

### Mobile Speed Sign

Over a two-week period, Longstanton trialled a mobile speed sign on Woodside. Though this was not our first-choice location, the trial proved very informative. The camera operated in an unobtrusive 'stealth mode' during the first week, and in the second week displayed smiley or sad faces to reflect the speed of oncoming traffic. During the trial, 15,299 vehicles were recorded as travelling from Oakington to Longstanton.

If Local Highways Initiative funding is successfully obtained, the signs will be shared between the two villages and moved around to ensure that the data gathered is village-wide and can inform any future highways development.

### Youth Council

The Youth Council has now launched their new club for secondary school-aged children. @The HindOut meets at the Village Institute every Tuesday afternoon between 4pm and 5.30pm (doors open at 3.30pm). They are planning this term's activities, which will include unihoc, dodgeball, Xbox games, and crafts as well as a tuck shop. They need adults to attend for safety reasons: if you can spare some time on a Tuesday afternoon, please contact the Parish Clerk at [parish.clerk@longstantonvillage.org](mailto:parish.clerk@longstantonvillage.org).

The Youth Council will also be holding their second 'Picnic in the Park' on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Please join them for some family fun.

*John Street  
Chairman, LPC*

## Longstanton Spring Clean 2018



Following a postponement due to snow, the Longstanton Spring Clean for 2018 got underway on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Over forty volunteers, including district and county councillors from Longstanton and Oakington, turned out to spend two hours collecting litter village-wide. Longstanton Parish Council generously supplied new litter pickers, hi vis vests and Handihoops which made the job much easier with enough kit for everyone taking part.

After the two hours was up, many of the pickers met up to share news of the spoils over bacon butties and chips at the Pavilion - it was lovely to meet some new people. Nick and I spent the afternoon driving around the parish in a tipper truck kindly loaned by Brookfield Groundcare, picking up the mass of bags and junk the pickers had left for us. It was great fun tipping the four van loads into a huge pile in the Pavilion car park for South Cambs District Council to collect.

Having missed a year really showed, despite all the picking we know a number of residents do throughout the year. With over 140 bags collected in addition to lots of bulky items, the volume was much higher than our first pick in 2013.

Thanks again to all the lovely people that helped, both on the day and in advance.

*Libby*

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# ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH



Photo: Anna Rudd

Last year saw the launch of efforts to get St Michael's church involved in village life as a community space. Reaction to this has been overwhelmingly positive. Any concern that it detracts from its original spiritual purpose has hopefully been allayed; it remains consecrated and available for religious services. The Churches Conservation Trust, who oversee churches such as ours, welcome any suggestions of possible use as a means to help

maintain these historic buildings. Any enquiries should be directed to the Friend's group or the CCT directly.

The Christingle service was a very atmospheric occasion and we must thank the Co-op for supplying the oranges, and Oakington Garden Centre for donating the Christmas tree which served as decoration and a 'memory tree'. We will definitely be holding the service again this year. All money raised went to The Children's Society, who were very grateful.

The Friends of St Michael's will continue to organise fundraising events throughout the year as our priority remains to have the thatch repaired to halt the ingress of water into the building. Cream teas will be held during the summer months, and the visit of a theatre company on 4th August has been booked. Tickets for the production of 'The Importance of Being Earnest' will soon be advertised.

Please continue to watch for notices of events at St Michael's church or just come and visit to show that this building does have special reason to be maintained and protected.

*The Friends of St Michael's Church*

## NORTHSTOWE UPDATE

Jon London

Hello! My name is Jon London, and I'm the new Northstowe Community Development Officer at South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC).

I joined SCDC in February and am excited about the new challenges ahead – how often do you get to build a community? In fact, more often than you may realise! Northstowe is the latest in a long line of new settlements to be built in East Anglia: from Cambourne and Bar Hill, stretching all the way back to Roman times and the *Novum Forum*, more familiar to most as "*New Market*".

Along the way we've learned lessons in how to not just build houses, but communities. These first few months and years are key in forming the new town's character, and in making sure that Northstowe is a good neighbour to its surrounding villages.

The Northstowe community orchard and allotments will be just south of the B1050, at the point where Longstanton and

Northstowe meet. We are working with developers to get these important facilities up and running for the community. I hope to form a working group with local residents to make the spaces somewhere we can grow (pun intended!) our new community.

We have also been working to bring the Northstowe Community Wing at the Pathfinder Primary School into full time use. Various organisations have already expressed an interest in being involved, and I am confident that this will become a real hub of activity in the future. If you're interested in the events that will be held there please look at the Northstowe Community Facebook page.

The Local Square, which will stand next to the B1050, still needs a name. We have received some great suggestions and hope to gather a few more before the community chooses the winner. The developer is currently appointing contractors to build the square, and we hope to announce the name in July.

Please contact me on [Northstowe.Community@scams.gov.uk](mailto:Northstowe.Community@scams.gov.uk)

## FRIENDS OF THE PATHFINDER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Pathfinder Church of England Primary School in Northstowe will be having a Fete on Saturday 23rd June, organised by the Friends of Pathfinder School (FOPS). If anyone is interested in having a stall at the fete please email me ([n@talie.co.uk](mailto:n@talie.co.uk)).

*Natalie Fuller*  
*FOPS Chairperson*

**1st Willingham Scout Group**

**SCOUTS**  
be prepared . . .

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May**  
**10.00am - 12 noon**

**CAR WASH FUNDRAISER**

**Ploughman's Hall, Willingham**  
Bacon butties fresh off the grill for sale - eat while you wait

100% of the takings go to the work of the scouts, cubs and beavers groups

# HATTON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Hello again to all of Longstanton!

I cannot believe that, at the time of writing, we are only a couple of weeks away from the Easter break, marking two thirds of the way through the school year. The time passes too quickly. As always your local village school is as busy as ever.

January saw us introduce our 'K-a-day' where all children and staff engage in a kilometre of exercise every day. It's never a race, just a great opportunity to live a healthier lifestyle and get a bit of extra fresh air! Children jog, skip or walk as a class and their feedback has been that they really enjoy it. We also launched our school's Facebook page in January and since then, we have been posting daily updates about the wonderful learning opportunities that happen at Hatton Park. If you are interested in seeing what goes on in your local school, search for us and like our page.

February came and brought an opportunity for our Year 5 and 6 children to display their dance talents at the Impington Village College Dance Share. They did their school proud and absolutely loved the opportunity to dance on a proper stage. We also got involved with Safer



Internet Day. All of our children thought about how they could do their bit to make the internet a happier and safer place to work and play. Once again, they came up with many wise words. Ruby has put it quite simply: "Be nice on-line. I've played my part and now it's time for you to play your part. It's as simple as that!" World Book Day arrived with a flurry of excited children in costumes. It was wonderful to see so many different books represented from old



favourites by Roald Dahl and Enid Blyton, to more recent ones by Rick Riordan and Julia Donaldson. I managed to turn an old sleeping bag into a passable Very Hungry Caterpillar. There was, however, a tense moment when the face paint wouldn't come off. Our Year 5 children had the opportunity to meet with Andy Daly, current Headteacher of SVC, and explore the designs of the new secondary school that will be built in Northstowe ready for them when they leave us at the end of 2019. They loved being able to ask questions and play with the 3D



model!

Most recently, we enjoyed the snow that arrived on our school grounds. It was great to be able to still have school as normal but with the added bonus of snowy breaks! There were even snowmen created. We also had a bit of a sad time saying goodbye to our lovely Rev. Julie Anderson. She has been a friend to the school for a long time and we will miss her dearly. The children presented her with a variety of cards and gifts at her goodbye assembly, accompanied by a rendition of Reach for the Stars. A few tears were shed.

Lastly, we have been working hard on our school's Travel Plan, where we encourage as many people as possible to walk, scoot or cycle to school rather than bring the car. Hatton's Park is not a great road for cars to access and so we have been trying our best to ensure our families travel in other ways wherever possible. We are also working with the County Council to improve the safety for all who live on and use the road. Thank you in advance for supporting us in our efforts!

*Anthony Aguda, Headteacher  
Hatton Park Primary School*

## FRIENDS OF HATTON PARK SCHOOL (PTA)

We are working hard towards obtaining a grant for a path around the field to help the pupils complete the daily K, this is an initiative to help improve health and fitness across the country. If all goes well we may be supported by Tesco and the Co-Op so if you see us appear in in-store fundraisers please do support us.

We recently set the date for the Summer fun day and in a change to our regular spot it will be on Friday 6th July straight after school. Hopefully you will all be able to attend, have a great time and help us raise loads of money for the children.

If you are able to help in any way please do get in touch, we can always use another pair of hands, either on the

day of an event or beforehand, selecting and booking events. We are also still hoping for a few more people to assist in planning some new events throughout the year which we would love to run, not only to raise money but because we feel they would be great fun for the whole village to get involved in.

One specific thing we are trying to get some help with is replacing the storage sheds in the school playground; they are well past their best so if anyone has any contacts at a company that could help us out please do let us know.

*Jonathan Fuller (fohpchair@gmail.com)*

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Longstanton Life,



Further to letter of frustrated Nelson Crescent resident may I also mention about people parking their vehicles on the grass verge at the bus stop on the High Street near to Ladywalk. There has been a white BMW parked right on the tarmac that was put down for residents to get on the bus without having to trample on the wet muddy grass. I find that this particular driver has a very selfish attitude on a very busy road. I have phoned the police but apparently as people can get by they don't want to know about it. Perhaps this car has been abandoned but no one seems to want to know. Children have to cross there to catch their school buses so it is putting their lives in danger .

*Pauline Leech*



As I walk round the village with my dog, I am very upset to see more and more cases of people not cleaning up behind their dog. This is very apparent on the field behind the recreation ground. Could you through your magazine highlight this, and ask dog owners to be more thoughtful. Not doing so can carry a considerable fine .

*Many thanks  
Maurice Badcock*

# 100 CLUB



A small lottery that has been set up to help raise money for the proposed re-ordering project in All Saints' Church, Longstanton. The Friends would like everyone to come and see what is afoot. A display with graphic impressions is in the church, which is open during daylight hours every day.

You can take part in the project's realisation. The '100 Club' is one way of doing that. If you like the idea of supporting the project and feel you have a small amount to give towards the funds then this could be a way for you to do so. It has the added benefit of the chance to win some money back. A donation of £2 per number per month (for a year) will buy you entry into the lottery. The lottery will be drawn monthly with a chance to win £50 (based on 100 members).

For more details and a full set of rules please contact: Louise Gamon - [louise.gamon@gmail.com](mailto:louise.gamon@gmail.com) or 07429 317803

Or details about our re-ordering project and the '100 Club' can be found on the Friend's website at: <http://friends-of-all-saints-church-longstanton.org.uk>

## 100 Club Winners since the last Longstanton Life:

January: 1st - No.4, 2nd - No.73

February: 1st - No.74, 2nd - No.60

March: 1st - No.31, 2nd - No.69

The Friends of All Saints' Church, Longstanton  
Charity Registration Number 1115069

# LONGSTANTON CROCHET AND KNITTING



*Shawl by Sarah*

Longstanton Knitting and Crochet Group is a friendly, informal group of crafters who love a good chat. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 8pm in the Black Bull Pub, Longstanton - just show up and get yourself a drink from the bar! We bring our projects to work on while we chat, and we love when our members bring a finished object or squishy new ball of yarn to show off. Please come and inspire us!

We sometimes meet for an additional meeting on the 4th Monday of the month to knit or crochet items for charity. Check our Face-

book page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/longstantonknitandcrochet/>) for details of our next meeting times. We also use this page to chat, share knitting-related news, swap yarn and place joint yarn orders. (Who likes saving on postage to buy more yarn instead? We do!)

We hope that if you're a committed crafter, or even just thinking of starting out for the first time then you'll come and join us.

We continue to be grateful to the Black Bull for hosting us.

*Alice, Sarah & Samanta*



*Egg apron by Mel*

# LONGSTANTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Everyone remembers a good puppet show. Well, Longstanton WI had our own, and great fun it was too. We hosted a comical speaker with fantastic puppets we could all get hands on with. We also enjoyed terrific tales about the real Punch and Judy as well as Rosie and Jim's adventure with the Welsh police!



April sees our AGM, which always includes plenty of tea and cake, so why not join us?

*Debbie Lienau*

# VILLAGE SPORTING ACTIVITIES

## LONGSTANTON FOOTBALL CLUB



With our maiden season fast approaching the closing stages we find ourselves second in the league with 8 fixtures left to play, this is a fantastic achievement for our team and shows the great progress we have made as a team and a group of mates enjoying their football together, the team spirit and bond that has developed has been key to a lot of

our success so far this season. As promised in the last issue I would update you of our progress in the cup, well we played our Quarter final tie of the Reg Haigh/Arthur Peck Cup on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb away to Barrington, where we put in one of our best performances of the season so far and came away winners with a 4-0 victory, this now sets up a Semi-final match away v Harston on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April!!!! This is also a brilliant achievement for the lads and again shows the progress we are making as a team. It would be really good if we can get as much support as possible for the Semi-final match to help cheer the lads on and progress on into the Final. We return to Longstanton on the 14<sup>th</sup> April for our next home match where it is always great to see so many coming down to the rec to support the lads, we very much appreciate it and with your extra support this can help push us towards what could turn

out to be a fantastic maiden season. Don't forget you can show your support by purchasing a club pin badge at £3 each and a club beanie hat at £8 each, available for sale behind the bar at the Pavilion.

Our fixtures can be found on our website: [www.pitchero.com/clubs/longstantonfc](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/longstantonfc), Facebook and Twitter pages or on posters at the Pavilion.

*Ben Lee - Longstanton FC Manager*

### Mead Plant & Grab 5A

League Table							
POS		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Histon Hornets First	16	11	3	2	29	36
2	Longstanton FC Mens Senior Team	16	10	3	3	26	33
3	Barrington 1st	15	10	1	4	28	31
4	Oakington Vikings Saturday 1st	15	9	3	3	10	30
5	Orwell Reserves	17	8	4	5	0	28
6	Clare Town F.C. Reserves	17	9	1	7	-4	28
7	Barton Mills F.C. First	19	6	1	12	-17	19
8	Thaxted Rangers Reserves	18	6	3	9	1	18*
9	Milton B Team	17	5	2	10	-23	17
10	Hardwick FC Reserves	12	5	1	6	0	16
11	Harston Bostocks Reserves	17	4	3	10	-23	15
12	Mott MacDonald Reserves	15	3	3	9	-17	12
13	Steeple Bumpstead Reserves	16	4	2	10	-10	11*
14	Bottisham Men	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table detail!

\* adjustment made



## LONGSTANTON TENNIS CLUB

We have recently swapped tennis balls for snow balls during our coaching sessions and strangely some of our games are improving!

February is a great time of year, the temperature starts to improve, spring is around the corner and it's during this month that most of the preparation for the forthcoming season starts. As well as our AGM on 22nd March (8:30 in the Pavilion) we have a great family event called the 'Quorn Cup' to organize (see website for more information and to book). This is a new event for us in conjunction with the LTA, and something we hope to host each year. It's something a little bit different based on a small tennis court. To take part you need a parent who's willing and child under 10 years old. This is an opportunity for families to work as a team, learn new skills and play like they do at Wimbledon!

Longstanton tennis club has a mix of competitive and friendly tennis. We are all very encouraging of each other to learn and improve our game either through coaching or playing matches. The adult coaching class runs every Thursday 6:00 -7:00 during term time and new players are very welcome. The coaching class is open to members and non members, however members receive a discount. The membership runs from April 2018 to March 2019 so this is a really good time to join.

Junior coaching runs on Tuesday 5:00-6:00 for beginners and improvers and Thursday 5:00-6:00 for improvers and intermediates (term time) at the moment but may change depending on demand during the summer. We have very good links with Hatton Park PS which is where most of our juniors come from - we see ourselves as a community club not an Academy.

Easter is a great time for juniors to try tennis in a relaxed atmosphere. I will be running tennis camps on Wednesday 11th to Friday 13th April 12:20-2:00 each day. The cost is £7 for members or £9 for non members per day.

Further details on membership and coaching, including the cost of each course, can be found on our website [www.longstantontennis.co.uk](http://www.longstantontennis.co.uk) or contact me, David Nation, on [davidnation@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:davidnation@hotmail.co.uk) for coaching.

You can also find out more about the club by popping down to one of the club sessions and meeting some of the members. Club nights are Tuesdays and Fridays from 6pm, Sunday mornings from 11am and Thursday evenings from 7pm for more competitive play. Alternatively, the tennis courts are available to all on a 'pay and play' basis (£5 per hour). Simply book a court via our website [www.longstantontennis.co.uk/courts/](http://www.longstantontennis.co.uk/courts/). You will be sent instructions on how to access the courts with your booking confirmation.

*David Nation - Club coach*

# VILLAGE SPORTING ACTIVITIES

## LONGSTANTON BOWLS CLUB



Spring is here at last with the longer evenings and warmer weather, and as usual at this time of year Longstanton Bowls Club is recruiting new members. Do you fancy some gentle exercise on a summer's evening? It doesn't matter if you haven't played Lawn Bowls before as we have plenty of members always willing to provide help and guidance. Everyone is welcome and our membership ranges from juniors to retirees and novices to experienced players.

We have many members from surrounding villages, including Swavesey, Over, Willingham, Oakington, Bar Hill and Cottenham. Don't worry about equipment, as the club can assist with this – just wear flat shoes. We pride ourselves on being a friendly club where the enjoyment comes from taking part. The game of bowls provides an opportunity to make new friends, take gentle exercise and socialise over a "bowls tea" at the end of the match. Our bowls green is located on the recreation ground, between the Longstanton Pavilion and the tennis courts, Over Road, Longstanton.

Monday evenings are club roll-up nights, reserved for informal practice in a mildly competitive environment, ideal for begin-

ners. We also have a fun league on Thursday afternoons where you get points just for turning up! Teams are drawn on the day and you get extra points if your team wins any of the short games.

The club plays in a number of inter-club leagues, some of which are more competitive than others. Away matches give members an opportunity to experience other club's greens and facilities in the Cambridge area. Most of our league matches are on the light summer evenings, starting at 6:30pm. There is also an afternoon league with matches starting at 2pm with a break for tea and biscuits halfway through, so it is all very sociable!

There is plenty of bowls to suit everyone – over 110 matches this season, plus our regular club nights and internal club competitions – so why not come along and give it a try? The outdoor season runs from late April to September. If you're tempted, please come along to our open day on Saturday, 14th April 2018 (from 2pm) or alternatively, on any Monday evening (from 6pm) to meet some of the members and possibly try your hand. If you just want to watch, then that's fine too.

For more information visit contact Marion Edwards on 01954 780118 or email to [marionedwards1@btinternet.com](mailto:marionedwards1@btinternet.com). Also visit our web site [www.longstanton-bowls-club.co.uk](http://www.longstanton-bowls-club.co.uk).

*Corinne Walsham*

## JUDO NEWS

### HATTON PARK REGAINED JUDO TEAM TROPHY



On Saturday 17th March, SJ Judo Club hosted their second interclub tournament where almost 100 children (age 5-12) from 14 different schools battled it out. The children were not only competing for individual achievements but

also for the school trophy. Both Sancton Wood School as well as Cottenham Primary School finished in third place. Histon and Impington Junior School earned second place, whilst Hatton Park Primary School regained their winning title of the judo team trophy.

SJ Judo Club is run by 2016 Rio Olympian, Szandra Szogedi. Although the organisation only opened last September, they are radically growing. As well as their club sessions, they also run breakfast and afterschool activities across Cambridgeshire. Moreover, there is also opportunity for adults to join the club and train on a regular basis.

The Director of the Judo Club, Mr. Dwayne Barnett expressed his thoughts after the tournament:



"We are happy to conclude another successful interclub event. The club is thoroughly growing and it is great to see week in and week out how children benefit from judo and its' values. Judo is truly a unique



sport and as they say, a way of life. The children are progressing and the feedback we receive is very encouraging and overwhelming. We are excited about what the future brings and hope to continue growing. I also would like to say a huge thanks to all the parents and volunteers who helped us to run the event smoothly."

Fancy joining? Do not hesitate to contact the club via [talktous@sjjudo.co.uk](mailto:talktous@sjjudo.co.uk).

### Medal table for the top 4 schools:

1. Hatton Park Primary School: 6 Gold, 6 Silver, 3 Bronze
2. Histon and Impington Junior School: 6 Gold, 2 Silver, 4 Bronze
3. Sancton Wood School: 4 Gold, 3 Silver, 7 Bronze
3. Cottenham Primary School: 2 Gold, 2 Silver, 13 Bronze



## Spring into action at our nature reserves!

We are running the following activities at our reserves during Spring.

### RSPB Fen Drayton Lakes

#### Spring willow weaving workshop

Sunday 13 May, 10am-4pm

Make a garden obelisk about six feet high to grow climbing plants such as runner beans/sweet peas. **Booking is essential.** Please call on 01954 233260 or email [fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk](mailto:fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk) to reserve your place.

Non-member £25, RSPB member £20.

**Wild challenge:** Sun 29 April, Sun 6 May, Mon 28 May, 10am-4pm

Go lake dipping and bug hunting to discover the magnificent minibeasts that call our reserve home. **Non-member £2, RSPB member £1.50.**

#### Birds for beginners: Sunday 20 May

10am-2pm (including a stop for lunch)

Go wander around the reserve to find out how to identify, and learn about, different songbirds/passerines.

**Booking is essential.** Please call on 01954 233260 or email [fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk](mailto:fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk) to reserve your place.

Non-member £8, RSPB member £6.50.

Also, at RSPB Ouse Fen...

#### Reed bed safari

Saturday 21 April: 8am-10am

Friday 11 May: 6pm-8pm



Andy Hay (rspb-images.com)

Sunday 20 May: 7.30am-9.30am

Friday 22 June: 6.30pm-8.30pm

Join an Ouse Fen warden for an exclusive behind the scenes tour of the Hanson-RSPB wetland project. See how the reserve progresses from a hole in the ground to a thriving reed bed with marsh harriers, bitterns and bearded tits. To book please email:

[hannah.bernie@rspb.org.uk](mailto:hannah.bernie@rspb.org.uk) or phone 01954 233263 or 07590486015.

Non-member £30, RSPB member £24 per person.

#### How to contact us:

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

Website: [rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes](http://rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes)

Email: [ousefen@rspb.org.uk](mailto:ousefen@rspb.org.uk)

Website: [rspb.org.uk/ousefen](http://rspb.org.uk/ousefen)

Tel: 01954 233260

## Visit [rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes](http://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

## PHOTOS FROM OUR READERS



Maggie O'Moore from Ladywalk sent us these beautiful pictures of a fieldfare in her garden.



Who's been walking in my garden? Yukie Smith, a Longstanton resident of 17 years, was surprised to discover some wild animal tracks in her garden, revealed in the snow!

*Thank you Maggie and Yukie!*

## WILLINGHAM & LONGSTANTON SURGERIES

Reception Tel: Willingham 260230 Longstanton 207600 Dispensary: 207602 District Nurse Team: 01223 726469  
Option 2 Health Visitors: 01954 207612 Out of hours cover: Ring 111 Website: www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk

**Gluten Free Prescriptions** Following the Public Consultation on Gluten Free Prescribing, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG have decided to NOT adapt their position. Therefore gluten free foods are not recommended on the NHS for patients in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. For Further information please ask the surgery for the Patient Letter and the Gluten Free Information Leaflet issued from the CCG. A copy of these are also available on the Surgery website.

**Car Parking** Please can we remind Willingham residents that parking spaces at Willingham Surgery, including those on the surgery road, are reserved for patients that are attending appointments. Parents should not use these spaces when doing the school run. A large number of our patients travel from neighboring villages, so our parking spaces need to be respected and reserved for those using the surgery only.

**Test results** Please can our patients be reminded that it is your responsibility to contact the surgery for your results. This is for any swabs, urine or blood tests. Please allow at least 72 hours from the time the test was taken. Some results can take longer depending on the type of test. Please call 01954 260230 and select option 2, after 11am whenever possible. We will only release your results to you unless we have your consent confirming results can be released to a relative/carer/partner. We will only release results to parents/guardians of children under the age of 18.

**Travel Vaccinations** If you are travelling abroad this summer please remember to check if you need any travel vaccinations. You can book an appointment with one of our nurses who will be happy to check for you. If you need a Yellow fever vaccination this can be done at the surgery but there is a charge for this vaccine.

**The foot care clinic** at Willingham Surgery run by Mrs Casey Javed is every Monday and some Wednesday mornings. For appointments please call 01480 301337 or 07807 505534 or visit [www.stiveschirology.co.uk](http://www.stiveschirology.co.uk).

**Booking Appointments online** If you have not already done so, you can register for our online services with one of our receptionists. Please bring photographic ID to the surgery, and ask for an online password and login. You can not only book your appointments online, but you can also order repeat prescriptions through this service.

**Carers Support Meetings** Our next meetings are at Willingham Surgery on Weds 2nd May and Weds 6th June at 2pm. If you are a carer, please pop along and get some support from other people in the local community. Refreshments provided, no need to pre-book and completely FREE! Please contact Sue Lawson at the surgery for more information.

**Cambridgeshire Hearing Clinics 2018** The next Hearing Aid Clinics at Willingham Surgery are on Weds 18th April, Weds 16th May & Weds 20th June. No appointment necessary, just pop along for your free NHS hearing aid batteries and for help and advice regarding hearing loss.

**Helping your hospital to help you** Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust reported that this winter saw more patients than ever before enter the doors of A&E. Waiting times were reaching seven and a half hours in A&E. Patients can help the hospital by understanding the circumstances in which they should attend. A&E deals with life-threatening emergencies, such as:

- Loss of consciousness
- Acute confused state and fits that are not stopping
- Persistent, severe chest pain
- Breathing difficulties
- Severe bleeding that cannot be stopped
- Severe allergic reactions
- Severe burns or scalds

Less severe injuries can be treated in urgent care centres or minor injuries units (MIUs). Details are available on the Cambridge and Peterborough CCG 'choose well' web pages. Minor injury units can treat problems such as sprains and strains, broken bones, wound infections, minor burns and scalds, minor head injuries, insect and animal bites, minor eye injuries and injuries to the back shoulder and chest.

**Northstowe** As you are aware, we are now welcoming the first residents of Northstowe. We would like to reassure patients that we are equipped and prepared to register Northstowe residents at our practice. We are monitoring our patient numbers closely, and have plans in place to ensure we will continue to meet the clinical needs of our existing patients at Willingham and Longstanton Branch Surgery as the development grows. We always welcome your feedback about your experience at either surgery.

**Testing for Prostate Cancer** We have received a number of enquiries about screening and testing for Prostate Cancer. If this is something you are considering, please collect a leaflet from reception which explains the PSA test and the reliability of such testing. No national screening programme exists in the UK for prostate cancer and experts disagree on the reliability of the PSA test. If you wish to have the test, you need to discuss family history, symptoms and reasoning with a GP so they can assess whether the PSA test would be suitable for you.

*Lisa Smith – Willingham Surgery – April /May 2018*

**\*\*Please note the Surgery will be CLOSED on Bank holiday Monday 7th May and Bank Holiday Monday 28th May\*\***

### OPENING HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 17.00 until 23.00  
Friday: 17.00 until 23.30  
Saturday: 12.00 until 23.30  
Sunday: 12.00 until 22.30



## 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

Hopefully when you read this the snow will have gone, although with our weather nowadays you never know! The cricket club and bowls club are issuing their fixture lists so we look forward to as many people as possible joining us in supporting them through the summer.

The monthly quiz night is going well with the cash prize increasing as more teams enter, nice to see some of the sports teams entering teams.

We will be holding our annual Easter egg hunt on 1st April (assuming the heavens do not open). There will be two sessions with one for under 5 in the play ground at 11.30 and one at 12.00 for everyone else. Please get your Easter bag (two pounds) from the snug bar, there will be materials for decora-

tions to personalize and a prize for the girl and boy that collects the most – good hunting.

We have entered the pool league for the summer and would welcome new players for games on a Thursday. There is free pool on a Monday from 6-10 and happy hour is on between 6-7. The team is based on meeting new people and playing pool and although we would like to win it really is really just about taking part.

As we are getting to summer we will not be opening until 12.00 on a Saturday from the end of April when the football season is finished.

*Michael, Suzanne and The Pavilion team*



So in this issue we start a new feature looking at different areas in the vast topic of science, and focussing on the great scientific breakthroughs in our modern world.

In this first article, we pay tribute to a great British (and local) scientist Prof Stephen Hawking, who sadly died at his home in Cambridge on 14th March this year, aged 76. Stephen Hawking



*Prof Stephen Hawking (1942-2018)*

was a physicist and cosmologist (a person studying the science of the origin of the universe).

Hawking was born in Oxford, and, after doing his bachelor's degree at the University of Oxford, he came to Cambridge to study for his master's and PhD at the University of Cambridge.

As a scientist he worked on gravitational physics and provided proof for Einstein's theory of relativity. He also provided mathematical proof for the existence of black holes, and that the universe has no boundaries. He developed theories about the origins of the universe (redefining the Big Bang theory), and helped further our understanding of black holes, stars and the universe. Hawking worked extensively on black holes, providing theories for their behaviour, including the idea that they emit radiation. Hawking was always keen for his work to be accessible to everyone, not just scientists. He wrote books that explained his theories in simple terms for everyone to understand, including the bestseller 'A Brief History of Time'. He also appeared in many TV shows, including several different episodes of The Simpsons!

Whilst Hawking was studying in Oxford, and at the age of 21, he started having problems with walking and talking. He was diagnosed with a rare motor neurone disease called amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or ALS (also known as Lou Gehrig's disease). At the time of diagnosis, Hawking was told he only had about 2 years to live. The ALS caused his paralysis and loss of speech. He was able to communicate using a speech generating device that talked for him, which he controlled by moving a muscle in his cheek! He used an electric wheelchair for mobility and became notorious for driving it a little too fast around the streets of Cambridge and running over other students' toes!

ALS is a common neuromuscular disease and it affects people of all races and ethnic backgrounds. The disease is caused by the death of motor neurons which are nerve cells that extend from the brain to the spinal cord and to muscles throughout the body. These motor neurons initiate and provide vital communication links between the brain and the voluntary

muscles. In ALS, the motor neurons degenerate or die, and stop sending messages to the muscles. The muscles are unable to function and they gradually weaken, start to twitch (called fasciculations), and waste away (atrophy). Eventually, the brain loses its ability to initiate and control voluntary movements. Early symptoms of ALS usually include muscle weakness or stiffness. Gradually all muscles under voluntary control are affected, and individuals lose their strength and the ability to speak, eat, move, and even breathe.

The majority of ALS cases (90-95%) are considered sporadic. This means the disease seems to occur at random, with no clearly associated risk factors and no family history of the disease. Although family members of people with sporadic ALS are at an increased risk for the disease, the overall risk is very low and most will not develop ALS. About 5-10% of all ALS cases are familial, i.e. an individual inherits the disease from his or her parents. The familial form of ALS usually only requires one parent to carry the gene responsible for the disease. Mutations in more than a dozen genes have been found to cause familial ALS. Studies have also investigated other factors that may cause ALS such as environmental factors. For example researchers have looked at exposure to toxic or infectious agents, viruses, physical trauma, diet, and behavioural and occupational factors in causing ALS. However they have not found any conclusive association between environmental factors and the risk of developing ALS.

The disease can occur at any age, symptoms most commonly develop between the age range 55-75 years, and, at the lower end of the age range men are slightly more likely than women to develop ALS.

There is no cure for ALS and medication may extend life by about two to three months. Non-invasive ventilation may result in improved quality and length of life. Physical therapy plays a large role in rehabilitation for individuals with ALS by delaying loss of strength, maintaining endurance, limiting pain, improving speech and swallowing, and preventing complications.

Most people with ALS die from respiratory failure, usually within 3-5 years from when the symptoms first appear. However, about 10% of people with ALS survive for 10 or more years. Hawking survived an impressive 55 years after his diagnosis! Hawking had said in the past: "It is a waste of time to be angry about my disability. One has to get on with life and I haven't done badly. People won't have time for you if you are always angry or complaining." An outstanding scientist and human being, he taught us more than just science.

*Manjeet Bolla*

## Would you like to join the Longstanton Life editorial team?

We are looking for an extra person or two, who are enthusiastic about local issues and stories to help put the magazine together. If you are familiar with using Microsoft Publisher and could spare 2-3hrs every couple of months, we would be delighted to hear from you. Email us for more details; [longstantonlife@hotmail.com](mailto:longstantonlife@hotmail.com), we look forward to hearing back from you!

# PICTURE COMPETITION

In this issue we have a competition for motoring enthusiasts! Below are pictures of 10 motoring related celebrities past and present, but who are they?



To enter the competition, send the name of these celebrities to Longstanton Life either by (a) posting at the Village Institute, or (b) email to [longstantonlife@hotmail.com](mailto:longstantonlife@hotmail.com) before **Friday 18th May**. Remember to include your name and contact details.

The first person randomly selected from those with the correct answers will receive a Silver Valet (includes total exterior wash, tyre shine, interior vacuum, inside clean of windows, dashboard, doortrims, and air freshner provided), kindly donated by **New Marque Cars**.



The winner will be announced in the next issue.

**Good luck!**

# EASTER COMPETITION WINNERS

The winners of the Easter juniors competition were brother and sister Aaron and Imogen (aged 6 and 9). The winner of the seniors competition was Sarah Poultney. All are pictured here with their Lindt chocolate Easter bunny prizes. Congratulations to the winners!

The answers were:

Juniors competition: Happy Easter

Seniors competition: See grid below right.



Aaron (6) and Imogen (9)



Sarah Poultney

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# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, LONGSTANTON

We have just said goodbye to our Team Rector, Julie Anderson, who moves to Huddersfield; their gain is our loss and I know you will join me in wishing her all the very best in her new vocation. During the time of the vacancy business will continue as usual and if you have any queries, need to book a wedding, baptism, funeral or know of someone in need of a visit then please contact our administrator or one of the church Wardens, all the details are below.

Our ladies continue to run the **Parish Pantry** every Monday afternoon in the Dale between 2 and 4 pm, so come along and join them for a cup of tea and delicious cake. They will once again have a 'Tea Room' serving cream teas this year in the Pavilion conservatory at the **St George's Day Fete on 21<sup>st</sup> April**.

Our regular Sunday morning services are at 9.30am - do come along and join us. Check the notice board during the next few months as times may change. All Age worship is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday and starts with breakfast at 9am.

If you would like more information on any of the above or have questions about baptism, marriages or funerals, please don't hesitate to contact our Administrator, Gillian Beale 01954 203459 [admin@5folds.org.uk](mailto:admin@5folds.org.uk) Or one of the Church Wardens Roger Valentine 01954230519 [rvalen6199@aol.com](mailto:rvalen6199@aol.com) or Sue Gamon 01954 782371 [sgcoutures64@gmail.com](mailto:sgcoutures64@gmail.com).

*Sue Gamon, Church Warden*

## COMMUNITY CAFE IN LONGSTANTON???

Yes, every Monday afternoon between 2 and 4 pm in the Dale Communal Rooms. The Parish Pantry run by the ladies from All Saints church, opens its doors to everyone, young and old. It is a comfortable space to enjoy delicious home made cake and a nice cup of tea or coffee. Pots of tea are served in pretty china pots with cups and saucers or a mug if you prefer. Meet with friends, come on your own and make new friends; there is always someone there to have a chat with. Toys for the toddlers and babies to play with on a warm floor and a comfy chair to sit on or tables to sit at whichever you prefer. Come and see for yourselves - there is a free pot of tea for everyone who presents this token before the end of May.

**TEA TOKEN  
THE PARISH PANTRY  
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**3rd Prize:** Dinner for 2

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The draw will take place on Sat 21st April at our St George's event, Longstanton Recreation Ground.

## Church Times

### All Saints' Church, Longstanton

For exact dates and details of activities being held please refer to the church notice board or go to the website:

[www.friends-of-all-saints-church-longstanton.org.uk](http://www.friends-of-all-saints-church-longstanton.org.uk)



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Please contact: Paul Joel (Minister) 07955071160  
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## All Saints' Bell Ringers



Not much to report on the All Saints' Bell Ringers however, we push forward to improve our musicality. This is very important to us to perform as a band and make sure we ring the bells in the right place. It is a misconception that you just pull the rope and hope for the best!

In May we will be sending ringers to the 'Ely and District Striking Competition'. As a band we are usually well placed, and it should be noted we actually won one of the categories last year.

If you would like to come along for a trial, please contact me on: [mikec321@btinternet.com](mailto:mikec321@btinternet.com) or tel. 07768 735910 .

*Mike Cartwright*

## Ball Room Dancing

It's good to be back in our village school for our weekly dance practice. Our dancing is improving all the time - they say practice makes perfect. We have been looking at more Latin American this term, especially the Pasodoble, alongside our old favourites the waltz, Fox Trot and Quick step.



We would welcome dancers who would like somewhere to practise on a Thursday evening.

It's very informal but, hey it beats trying to practise dance steps round the kitchen table!

We meet Thursday evenings at 7.30 for one hour - you would be made very welcome. Please feel free to contact me by e-mail on: [mikec321@btinternet.com](mailto:mikec321@btinternet.com) or tel. 07768 735910.

*Mike Cartwright*

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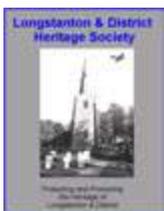
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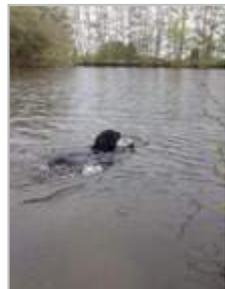
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**NORTHSTOWE: ECO-TOWN OR ECO-DISASTER?**



**An Update:** Since the publication of our article on the sorry state of the Kingfisher Pond in the Longstanton Life Feb/ Mar, Vol.18, No.1, it is clear to see that despite 'normalised' rainfall levels and considerable rainfall in the last two months the Kingfisher pond has not recovered sufficiently to have made a viable recovery. With the amount of rainfall that we have had, this pond should look similar to the image I took in April 2014 of my dog swimming in the pond. My

2014 photo was taken before the developers started work out on what was the golf course. It is clear from these latest photos (dated 18 March,



2018) that the Kingfisher pond is no longer a sustainable habitat nor is it an asset for Phase 1 of Northstowe. The water level over much of the pond is insufficient to cover the scrub that is taking over the floor of the pond and the depth of water is simply not of sufficient depth to be retained as we move into the summer months.

It was a requirement of the planning permission that this pond should be protected and maintained and it is now time for this to be enforced. There can no longer be any excuses! We were given an assurance in January 2018

that enforcement action would be taken if the pond was not FULLY NORMALISED by the end of April. We look forward to our 2 newly elected District Councillors (whoever they may be) honouring this position and taking action to ensure that SCDC officers implement enforcement action against the developers as we have been promised.



**Statement from SCDC Cllr Simon Edwards, January 2018.** *"I do not think we can address the cause until we give the developers the time they have asked for, for groundwater levels to recover to normality. So come April, (which after all, is not that far away) we then will have the data, and therefore evidence, to take enforcement action. Assuming the pond has not recovered by then of course. Even then, if it has, I would want to see some continual monitoring of groundwater levels to make sure it doesn't then dry out over summer. If it hasn't recovered though, I will lend all support I can to ensuring the developers treat the root cause in order to restore the pond to its pre-development condition."*

The April deadline was confirmed publicly by both the developers and SCDC officers at the Northstowe Community Forum held in January 2018; hence the time-scale mentioned by Cllr Edwards above.

My verdict on the question raised by the title of this and the previous article has to be **ECO-DISASTER!** Northstowe Phase 1 appears to have inflicted a level of environmental damage on Longstanton village and our natural ponds and wells that we could never have envisaged when this 'exemplar' eco-town was first proposed. Longstanton residents were given no choice in the decision that our rural village should be swallowed up by a new town but it was reasonable for us to assume that our heritage assets, including our ponds and wells, should not be destroyed in the process.

Many thanks for all the words and emails of support following my last article on this subject. Sadly, I had hoped this update would have contained some better news.

*Hilary Stroude, Secretary LDHS*

**WING COMMANDER NORMAN WILKINS RIP**



*Norman Wilkins with Joy Lofthouse, in Longstanton 2011. Photo by Tom Eaton*

Wing Commander Norman Wilkins, President of the No 7 Squadron Association and LDHS member has passed away. The Chairman of the Association, **Malcolm Reeves**, writes:

"Wg Cdr Norman Wilkins DFC, President of 7 Squadron Association passed away Tuesday 13th February. Norman Wilkins was a Navigator with No 7 Squadron PFF in 1943/44, at RAF Oakington, he was an exceptional Navigator who completed a tour as a Pathfinder Navigator on Lancasters during which time he participated in various operations including the notorious Nuremburg raid and was one of the few Navigators who recognised the significance of drift errors on the "night of the jet-stream" and managed to guide his pilot to successfully achieve the target and return to base with accurate Aiming Point photographs. He was awarded the DFC for his service on 7 Squadron..."

**Charles Patchett**, Secretary No 7 Squadron Association, remembers: "from my very limited experience of him, he was an exceptional and charismatic character and will be sadly missed by his family and us".

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER 2018**

Once again a new year means our membership reminders will soon be sent out and this seems like a good time to stress once again, now more than ever, we also need the strength of our



members when we consult with developers and local authorities on your behalf. LDHS also needs your support: to adapt to changing circumstances in order to protect the archive and the LDHS website and to allow us to continue to provide the six free talks a

year, together with the annual newsletter plus other benefits for our members.

**Haven't all ready joined LDHS?** Every member is vital - its our membership that provides the mandate for all the work we do.

If you are interested in joining the heritage society please email [ldhssec@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ldhssec@hotmail.co.uk) for a membership form, or visit our website on [www.ldhs.org](http://www.ldhs.org) If you do not have a computer, please ring **Hilary Stroude** on **01954 782560** to request a form. Please leave a message with your name, address and telephone number. A membership form will then be sent out to you.

**LDHS Public Talks for Spring 2018**



- Friday 6 April **'How Bill Tutte Won the War'** - Richard Fletcher. Bill Tutte broke the extremely complex Lorenz code without ever seeing a Lorenz machine.
- Friday 4 May **'Researching Local History - Eight Decades of Looking Back'**.- Mike Petty. Mike reflects over his many years of social archiving.

All talks/ AGM to be held at 7.in the Village Institute, High Street, Longstanton.

**Everyone welcome:** members free - non-members £2.00. Talks followed by tea, biscuits and chat.

**Hilary Stroude**, Secretary, Longstanton & District Heritage Society, The Manor, Woodside, Longstanton, Cambridge. CB24 3BU  
For more information on any of the above, please contact us on: Tel: **01954 782560** or e-mail [ldhssec@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ldhssec@hotmail.co.uk)