



Longstanton & District Heritage Society

The Manor, Woodside,
Longstanton, Cambridge.
CB24 3BU

ANNUAL REPORT

No. 11 (1 April, 2017 - 31 March, 2018)

LDHS is an independent society, launched at an inaugural meeting held at Longstanton Village Institute on 11th May, 2007. Governed by our constitutional obligations, LDHS is run by a committee elected by society members. 50% of the committee must stand for election at the society's AGM, held each September.

Membership prior to renewals on 1 April 2018 stood at **70** although this number does not reflect individual family members. This represents a slight decrease in membership over the last year as sadly some of our older members have passed away. Going forward it is imperative that younger generations join the society so that our work in protecting and promoting the heritage of Longstanton, Oakington, Westwick and Northstowe can continue for generations to come.

Once again our primary objectives have been met, with the **LDHS Archives** continuing to be both expanded and protected. We have responded to requests for help which has resulted in greater knowledge of various aspects of Longstanton heritage; including the last train to pass through the station (*Britannia*) and the remains of the ancient wall associated with the former Hatton Mansion House, located where Hatton Park School now lies. A **Northstowe Heritage Guide** was written by the society, with some assistance from others, detailing a summary of our joint histories and this has been circulated to residents of Longstanton, Oakington and Westwick and is being included in the Northstowe Welcome Packs.

The society has yet again hosted a program of **Talks**, open to members and non-members, has covered a wide range of topics. It is hoped that residents of the existing villages and Northstowe will come to these talks, thus enabling them to get to know their neighbours within the new and existing communities.

Heritage Core Group (HCG)

Over the last year a Heritage Core Group (as required under the Section 106 agreement for Northstowe Phase 2) has been set up. This group includes representatives of CCC Archaeology Team (Quinton Carroll); South Cambridgeshire District Council and Homes England. LDHS has been invited to join the Heritage Core Group but in an advisory capacity only. LDHS does not have a decision making role within this group and we understand that any decision made by the group regarding a Heritage Strategy for Northstowe, will be consulted upon in due course. In the meantime HCG is consulting with the **A14 Project Team** regarding the possibility of a joint venture so that the heritage of Northstowe and the A14, along with the LDHS archives can be displayed within a **Heritage Annex** located on the former RAF Oakington site.

Longstanton Ponds & Wells

Local residents and members will be aware that amongst the definition of heritage assets within our Constitution are *landscape features*. We have spent a considerable amount of time this year lobbying and responding to various threats



*Kingfisher pond on NS Phase 1
on Boxing Day 2017*

to Longstanton's conservation area and our historic ponds and wells. Longstanton is losing much of our parish land to the new town of Northstowe and it is simply not acceptable that the remaining heritage assets of this ancient village should be destroyed by indiscriminate and inconsiderate development activity. LDHS has been supported by Longstanton Parish Council and village residents in this endeavour and we will continue to work tirelessly over the next year to safeguard this village's heritage in all its forms.

Hilary Stroude (LDHS Secretary)