



# THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

May 2017 – July 2017

Published  
bi-monthly by the  
Long Itchington  
Parish Council  
(Phone: ~ 815216)  
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## Diary Dates

The next LI Diary will  
run from:

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July –  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>  
September inclusive

Please send any  
contributions by:

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

to:

**Anne Fessi:**

[annefessi@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:annefessi@yahoo.co.uk)

or

**Barbara Atkins:**

[batkins5691@googlemail.  
com](mailto:batkins5691@googlemail.com)

or

Contact the Parish Office

## LI Carnival

The Carnival will take place on the late May Bank Holiday – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

Church Road will be closed to traffic to the junction of Thorn Way (including The Square) from 11.30am.

The procession will form up from 12noon and judging will take place at 12.30pm. The processions will follow the usual route:

Church Road, Short Lane, Leamington Road, A423, Stockton Road to the Community Centre.

At 2.00pm Carnival Queen Emily Griffin will open the Fete, with entertainment to 5.00pm. The Grand Draw is at 3.45pm.

Attractions include a climbing wall, circus skills, balloon modelling, a children's corner, Karate and Zumba displays.

All profits go to support local clubs, societies and organisations. We are a non-profit making organisation.

## HS2 update

A public meeting arranged for June 10<sup>th</sup> is cancelled owing to government advice to HS2 regarding conflict with the General Election.

The alternative date will hopefully be 8<sup>th</sup> July at the Community Centre. This will be an opportunity for residents to speak to the HS2 team and their contractors.

More information will follow on posters, by email and on the LI website.

## Swans arrive – and leave!

On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April the village received two swans from a rescue centre in Windsor. Sadly they both decided to fly the nest on the Monday. The rescue centre said this could happen while they get their bearings and they may return in a few days. If they don't return we will try to get some more rescue swans in the future.

The Parish Council would like to thank: John Davies and his team; Chris Hancock and Paul Shepherd for the float refurbishment along with Colecraft; Barry Tuckey; and Rosie and Richard Reeve for help and advice. Also thanks to David Wilson Homes who supplied ground insulation to give the raft stability.

## Thank you to Cllr Briggs

After six years as Chair of the Long Itchington Parish Council, and a total of 20 years serving as a councillor, Ian Briggs has decided to step down from the position of Chair and return to the 'back benches' to serve as a councillor.

His tenure as Chair has been during a period of unprecedented work and pressure from housing proposals and we thank him very sincerely for steering the village through such difficult times.

Councillor Atkins will take over as Chair for 2017-2018.

## Village buys two defibrillators

The Parish Council has overseen the purchase of two external defibrillators to be positioned outside both The Shop in Leigh Crescent and the Harvester pub in The Square. They are for public use for anyone whose friend or relative might be having a heart-related emergency. Once 999 is dialled further information will be given for their use.

## Copper Beech tree felling

As mentioned in the last LI Diary, the Copper Beech tree by the pond is diseased and could possibly fall in windy conditions.

To ensure we have a lasting record of this splendid tree we are currently recording the tree in all its glory using photographs and other media. If the bole of the tree is disease free we aim to use it to make a lasting memorial.

The aim is to fell the tree during the last week in May and, at some time in the future, replace it with another great tree of a different species.

## Annual Parish Meeting

There was a good turn-out at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. Items discussed included the **Neighbourhood Plan** and the recent Emergency Planning exercise. Thanks to everyone who attended or presented. A summary of the presentations is on the website.

In the next Diary there will be some more detailed information about the Neighbourhood Plan based on information YOU (the village) gave us in the questionnaire. The survey results will soon be on the website.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### May

- Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Long Itchington WI meeting, Prior Hall, Priors Marston, 7.30pm  
 Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Long Itchington Carnival – see front page for details  
 Wed 31<sup>st</sup> Evening Farm Walk at Newfields Farm, meet by The Pond, 6.00pm

### June

- Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Parish Council meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm  
 Sat 10<sup>th</sup> 'worldwideknitnpublicday', the Green Man, 2.00pm-5.00pm  
 Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Long Itchington WI group meeting, Napton Village Hall, 7.30pm  
 Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Club, Community Centre, 2.30pm  
 History Group, Community Centre, 7.30pm  
 Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Coffee morning in aid of WARMLI, 6 Thorn Way, 10.00am-12.30pm  
 Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Long Itchington WI meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm  
 Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Vintage and Craft Fayre, Community Centre, 1.00pm

### July

- Tue 4<sup>th</sup> Charity Clay Pigeon Shoot for Galanos, Weddington Farm, 6.00pm  
 Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm  
 Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Club, Community Centre, 2.30pm  
 History Group, Community Centre, 7.30pm  
 Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Long Itchington WI meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm  
 Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Barbecue in aid of WARMLI at Four Farthings, 1.00pm-5.00pm.  
 £35.00 per ticket (children free). Contact Jenny on: ~ 814147.

### Regular events:

- Youth Club – every Monday (term time), 7.30pm at the Community Centre  
 Knit & Natter – every Monday at 7.30pm in the Green Man – all welcome  
 LI Brownies – every Tuesday at 6.15pm (term time) in the Community Centre  
 Zumba Fitness – every Tuesday at the Primary School at 7.30pm  
 Long Itchington Young Farmers – every Wednesday, the Green Man at 8.00pm  
 Yoga – Thursday evenings at 7.30pm (term time) at the Community Centre  
 Guided walks (1 hour) – every Friday, meet at The Pond at 9.00am

## HOLD THE DATE...

- August 14<sup>th</sup>** – Cricket Club Vice President's Day, Cricket Ground, Stonebridge Lane  
**September 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>** – Long Itchington Scarecrow Festival  
**September 10<sup>th</sup>** – Fruit and Veg Show at the Green Man

## CHURCH AND CHAPEL EVENTS

### Regular events at Holy Trinity Church

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Family Service, Holy Trinity, 9:30am  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am  
 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Morning Worship, Holy Trinity, 9:30am

### Special dates and services:

- Sun 14<sup>th</sup> May-Sat 20<sup>th</sup> May – Christian Aid Week  
 Thu 25<sup>th</sup> May – Ascension Day Holy Communion, 8.00pm  
 Sun 4<sup>th</sup> June – joint Pentecost service at St Esprit, Marton, 10.30am  
 Sun 11<sup>th</sup> June – joint service for Trinity Sunday at Holy Trinity, 9.30am  
 Sun 25<sup>th</sup> June – Messy Church

### Regular events at the Chapel

- Evening Worship – 6.15pm every Sunday (Communion on 4<sup>th</sup> June and 2<sup>nd</sup> July)  
 Bible Study and Prayer Time – 10.45am on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June and 13<sup>th</sup> July  
 Women's Hour – 2.30pm on Tues 16<sup>th</sup> May, 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June, and 4<sup>th</sup> July  
 Café Church – 10.00am Sun 28<sup>th</sup> May, 11<sup>th</sup> June (Communion), 25<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> July  
 Pilots for children aged 4+ meets each Wednesday at 6.15pm in **term time only**  
 Coffee Drop-In and NEW4U – 10.00am-12noon on Thu 1<sup>st</sup> June and Thu 6<sup>th</sup> July  
 Services at Galanos House – 2.30pm on Wed 17<sup>th</sup> May and 14<sup>th</sup> June  
 Scrabble and lunch – Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> May (time TBC)

For other events see: <http://www.longitchingtoncongregationalchurch.org.uk>

## Cricket Fixtures

### SATURDAY 1ST XI PREMIER DIVISION COTSWOLD HILLS LEAGUE (HOME GAMES)

- 13 May - 1sts v Wellesbourne  
 20 May - 2nds v Shipston on Stour  
 27 May – 1sts v Catherine de Barnes  
 3 June – 2nds v Stanway  
 10 June – 1sts v Leek Wootton  
 17 June – 2nds v Dorridge & Hockley Heath  
 24 June – 1sts v Leamington 3rds  
 1st July – 2nds v Earlswood 3rds  
 8 July – 1sts v Exhall & Wixford  
 15 July – 2nds v Exhall & Wixford  
 2nds

All fixtures start at 1.30pm – see: [www.cotswold-hills-league.org](http://www.cotswold-hills-league.org) for details of Sunday fixtures.

## LI Film Club

The Film Group is very sorry to announce that "Skyfall" will not be showing on May19<sup>th</sup> due to very low ticket sales. Apologies to those of you who have bought tickets.

The film provider we use, "Live & Local", has recently lost its WCC funding, so there will be a break while we look for another provider.

## Vintage and craft fayre Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 1.00pm, Community Centre

Children's activities from 2.00pm and cream teas from 2.30pm. Many varied stalls to buy from including cards, jewellery, pens, plants, antiques and much more.

For more information phone Safi on: ~ 819056. To volunteer to help on the day, please call: ~ 814921.

## Scarecrow Festival - September

Get your thinking caps on for our exciting new Scarecrow Festival over the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> September. It's £3.00 to enter your scarecrow and there will be prizes for the best scarecrow and for the person who spots the most scarecrows. All proceeds to the Community Centre.

If you see my magazine you will have read that I challenge those who suggest that being a Christian is boring. If that is you, I invite you to join us at the Chapel at 10.00am on the second and fourth Sundays when we have a different way of worshipping. All ages are welcome to come and to stay together throughout the Service.

During the period covered by this diary the dates of Café Church, called that because we have a refreshment time, are 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of May, the 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June and the 9<sup>th</sup> July.

We look forward to seeing you, but if you prefer an evening Service we hold a traditional Service each Sunday at 6.15pm.

For more information about the Chapel services and events phone Marion on: 07812 804924.

## **Walk right back**

The next led walk is on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May when we have been invited to Newfields Farm.

We will meet at The Pond at 6.00pm and then drive to the farm. After the walk we will return to Long Itchington by foot although we will provide transport for those who would prefer.

Our informal Friday one-hour walks are now a regular feature. Just turn up at The Pond on a Friday at 9.00am.

With the help of a dedicated volunteer footpaths team and supportive landowners we do not often face problems walking the paths in the village. If you do see a problem please report it. If you find your way is obstructed you are allowed to take the shortest diversion to get around it.

For further details about the farm visit, report a problem or find out more information about Rights of Way, phone: ~ 815119 or email: [longitchingtonpaths@gmail.com](mailto:longitchingtonpaths@gmail.com) or visit the website at: [www.longitchingtonwalks.co.uk](http://www.longitchingtonwalks.co.uk).

## **Long Itchington Pre-school**

Spring is well and truly here and our pre-schoolers who are making the move to Reception Class in September have started their Thursday morning transition sessions at Long Itchington Primary School.

Now is a great time to think about your childcare needs for the new academic year and our team of pre-school teachers would be glad to give you more details. Come and see what a day at pre-school looks like for yourselves by contacting the team directly.

Places are available in pre-school for children aged 2 years 9 months up to school age.

Please register now to secure your child's place.

Don't forget your child is entitled to 15 free funded hours from the term after their third birthday. Please feel free to contact us to discuss on: ~ 811400 or email: [preschoollongitchington@gmail.com](mailto:preschoollongitchington@gmail.com).

For further information about LI pre-school, visit our website at [www.longitchingtonpreschool.org](http://www.longitchingtonpreschool.org).

We called our Good Friday service, this year, "A Good Friday Journey", and we walked around the village, stopping at various nominated 'stations of the cross' to remember Jesus' journey from being condemned to being crucified at Calvary, and being laid in the stone tomb. People were able to join in or drop out at any point in the journey, and we finished in church for the last station for tea and hot cross buns.

We then celebrated Jesus' resurrection on the Sunday morning in a packed church, with a large number of Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies and Beavers. Thanks are due to John Macintosh, The Long Itch Scratch Band and Simon Mills for the lively Ceilidh, complete with sword dancing, in the church during the Beer Festival.

Thursday Teas are now back on their summer schedule, with one every week at 2.00pm. The BBQ this year is on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July in the churchyard at 5.00pm. It is open to all, and you can get tickets from the Church Wardens.

## **Brownies annual Teas at Church**

Long Itchington Brownies annual Teas at Church will be on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2017 from 2.00pm – 5.00pm at Holy Trinity Church.

This year we will be raising money for WARMLI. Any donations of cakes would be welcome, but please do come along and support us with our fundraising.

We have also been busy raising money for Acorns Children's Hospices this year and will let you have a full total for the next LI Diary.

We currently have vacancies so if there are any girls aged 7-10 years would like to get involved in the Community and just have a great time, please do get in touch.

## **War memorial – £15,000 raised**

Over £15,000 has now been raised for the Long Itchington War Memorial, and the WARMLI Group would like to give a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed with donations and help.

The project is currently trying to find photographs of the men from our village who died serving their country during the First and Second World Wars.

If you have any photos (or general information) about any of these men that you would be prepared to share please contact Russ Mansfield on: 07716 700 486 or email: [russm27@btinternet.com](mailto:russm27@btinternet.com)).

The full list of names will be made available on the LI website and will be circulated round on the village email.

Forthcoming fundraising events include; a Golf Day on 11<sup>th</sup> May, a Farm Ride on 14<sup>th</sup> May, a talk on World War I on 9<sup>th</sup> June, Brownie Teas in the church on 17<sup>th</sup> June (see above) and a barbecue on 16<sup>th</sup> July.

For further information about events please see page 2 of this edition of the LI Diary, and keep an eye on the notice boards and village emails.

## Cricket Club celebrates

The Cricket Club intends to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the reformation of the junior section by Steve Mitchell with a game on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July from 2.00pm.

They are keen to contact and invite as many of the juniors who have passed through the junior section in the last 25 years (even if they no longer play) to either play or visit the ground and say hello, and have a look at the new pavilion.

Anyone interested – or their family members – are encouraged to contact Steve Mitchell on: 07717 213182 or at: [mitchellasm@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mitchellasm@hotmail.co.uk) to discuss plans for the day.

**For upcoming fixtures see Page 2 of this LI Diary.**

## Community Centre update

### 100 Club

Our 100 Club lottery is now in its fifth year and has been extremely successful. Its 180 members hold 193 numbers and over £5,000 has been raised to support Community Centre capital projects and rather more paid out in prizes.

Jeff Round and Chris Hancock are stepping down at the end of this year – so we are looking for someone to take over from Jeff as the lottery administrator. If you are interested, contact Jeff on: ~ 817734 or come along to one of the monthly 100 Club Draws to find out what is involved. Draw venues are posted on the LI website and noticeboards.

### Edna Watts retires after 38 years of service

Edna was one of the original members of the Community Centre Management Committee in May 1979 (even before the Centre opened!) She served as Lettings Secretary from that time until November 2009 when the system was computerised.

She became a very active member of the Show Sub-Committee from its formation until recently and always worked very hard on days of the Shows. She hardly missed a meeting over the years and her knowledge of the past was invaluable.

## Support Scouts with 'bags of help'

Tesco's 'Bags of Help' scheme is supporting Long Itchington Scout Group throughout May and June 2017.

Everyone who buys a plastic carrier bag for 5p will be given a token, which you can drop in one of three containers in store. Each token counts as a vote for that cause to receive a donation of £4,000, £2,000 or £1,000.

PLEASE support Long Itchington Scouts by dropping your token in our container and help us to expand and cater for more youngsters.

## Farming Notes

This has been the fourth driest April since 1976 with only 14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mm in total. The pond by the side of the drive down to the farm indicates how low the water table is after a very dry winter and spring. Water rationing? We hope not.

Talking with an old friend about his time working on the farm in the late thirties to early forties before he joined the Navy, you realise how farming has moved on. One of his first jobs was to take one of our sows to visit the boar who resided at Dowset's Farm at the bottom of Snowford Hill, approximately one and a half miles away.

I assumed she would have been loaded onto a horse drawn trailer, but no, she had to be walked there. There are two things you should know about pigs, (a) they don't like walking and (b) they don't like walking in a straight line. It would have taken two of you, one on each side, an hour or more to cover that distance. She might have been more co-operative if she had known she was visiting an admirer. The whole process would have been repeated in a couple of days' time to bring her home.

## Fruit and Veg Show

It's "back to basics" for a smaller Fruit and Veg Show to be held at the Green Man on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September. A full schedule, including categories to enter, will be included in the next LI Diary in July.

## Thanks to our speed watch volunteers

Thank you to all our speed camera operators who turn out week after week to serve their community – during 2016 our volunteers recorded 622 vehicles that were travelling at over 35mph, which were passed to the Police for action.

## Local election results

Conservative candidate Bob Stevens was re-elected as our representative on Warwickshire County Council for Feldon Ward in the recent local elections. You can get in touch with Councillor Stevens at: [cllrstevens@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllrstevens@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## Knit and Natter group news

Thanks to Les Tooby for donating a large amount of wool belonging to his late wife Jill. It has been knitted into squares to make blankets for the homeless and we are now knitting hats and scarves for the same charity.

Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> June is '**worldwideknitinpublic**' day (wwkip) and the blankets so far completed will be on display at the Green Man from 2.00pm – 5.00pm. All are welcome to drop in.

Our friendly group meets at The Green Man on Monday evenings (7.30pm onwards). We welcome anyone – beginner, improver or expert.

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR LONG ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL:

Community Centre, Stockton Road, Long Itchington, Southam CV47 9QP. The office is open every weekday morning from 9.30 am – 11.30 am. You can view relevant parish planning applications but it is wise to make an appointment.

Liz Bonney has made a welcome return from maternity leave and we also welcome Helen Stewart who is taking up a permanent post with us job-sharing with Liz.

Phone: ~ 815216

email: [liparishcouncil@btconnect.com](mailto:liparishcouncil@btconnect.com)

Website: [www.longitchington.org.uk](http://www.longitchington.org.uk)