



THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

January 2016 – March 2016

Published
bi-monthly by the
Long Itchington
Parish Council
Clerk: Liz Bonney
(Phone: ~ 815216)

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Diary Dates

The next LI Diary will
run from:

Sunday 13th March –
Saturday 14th May
inclusive

Please send any
contributions by:

Monday 29th February

Barbara Atkins:
[barbara@bjatkins.demon.
co.uk](mailto:barbara@bjatkins.demon.co.uk)

Anne Fessi:
annefessi@yahoo.co.uk

Liz Bonney:
[liparishcouncil@btconnect.
com](mailto:liparishcouncil@btconnect.com)

Or phone:
~ 814921

Housing update

Latest news on housing developments:

Cemex Appeal for 85 houses opposite the primary school – decision is imminent.

Collingham Lane development – Gladman have lodged an appeal against the refusal to build 100 houses to be heard in February.

Allen Ford – there has been no recent news on this application.

Marton Road Farm – 58 houses to be built in the near future.

Lower Farm, Southam Road, Stoneythorpe – 800 dwellings. Comments must be lodged with Stratford District Council by 21st January – search for 15/03618.

David Wilson Homes

The new housing development next to the school will be starting very soon. The Parish Council is in talks with David Wilson Homes in order to ensure that residents of the new homes there have the best possible accommodation and living space. So far, talks have been very fruitful and we look forward to working together throughout the building process. In the next few weeks the name of the development and some of the road names will be decided.

Please remember to register with Home Choice Plus by phoning: 01789 260861/2/4 or by sending an email to: housingadviceteam@stratford-dc.gov.uk if you would like to be considered for the affordable housing units. More information is on the Stratford District Council website.

Keep up to date by signing up to receive emails from the Parish Council – contact news@longitchingtonparishcouncil.org.

Impending Post Office Closure

As you will see from the enclosed flyer the Post Office counter is due to close on 25th February. If this matters to you **please** read the flyer carefully and contact: mnpoclosure@gmail.com to offer any help you can. Residents without email should phone Liz on: ~ 815216.

A meeting to discuss the closure and possible action that can be taken is being held in the Community Centre on the 23rd January at 10.30 – 11.30 am.

Keep your possessions safe

After a spate of burglaries late in December the advice from police is to keep windows and doors locked and do not display valuable items in cars.

Tradesmen who tend to leave their tools in a van overnight are advised to take them indoors.

Please dial 101 to report a crime or email: jamie.cramp@warwickshirepnn.police.uk if you need particular advice.

Grateful thanks to Richard and Rosie Reeve

The parish would like to thank Richard and Rosie Reeve for their kind donation of a Christmas tree, which adorned the Green so well throughout Christmas.

War Memorial Meeting

A group (led by Dave Berry) has been formed to explore whether Long Itchington should have its own dedicated war memorial to formally commemorate the 43 men from the parish who gave their lives fighting in two world wars.

The next meeting to discuss this will take place at **8.00pm on Wednesday 27th January** in the Green Man.

Public meeting to organise the parish emergency response

The recent wet weather conditions and risk of flooding have highlighted the need to have a robust emergency plan in place for the parish. As part of that, we need helpers who can respond in an emergency. A public meeting is being held to review the plan and to recruit volunteers – **the meeting will be held immediately after the Post Office closure meeting at the Community Centre on 23rd January at 11.30 am.**

If you feel you have the skills to help please ring Liz on: ~ 815216.

A new Councillor joins LI Parish Council

The Parish Council is delighted to welcome Anne Fessi as its newest councillor. Anne was co-opted on 6th January and we wish her every success in her new role.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

Wed 13 th	History Group, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Wed 20 th	Long Itchington WI meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Sat 23 rd	LI Post Office closure meeting, Community Centre, 10.30am
Sat 23 rd	Emergency Response meeting, Community Centre, 11.30 am
Weds 27 th	War Memorial Meeting, The Green Man, 8.00pm

FEBRUARY

Wed 3 rd	Parish Council meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Tues 9 th	Pop in for a Pancake. Holy Trinity Church, 11.00am – 4.30pm
Wed 10 th	History Group, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Wed 17 th	Long Itchington WI meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Sat 27 th	Rummage Sale, Galanos House, Banbury Road, Southam, 2.30pm

MARCH

Wed 2 nd	Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Sat 12 th	Jumble Sale, School Hall, 11.00am – 12.30pm
Wed 9 th	History Group, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Mon 14 th	Easter Bingo, Galanos House, Banbury Road, Southam, 7.30pm
Wed 16 th	Long Itchington WI meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm

Regular events:

Yoga – every Monday at the Primary School at 7.30pm
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
Baby and Toddler Group – every Wednesday at the Community Centre at 9.30am
Long Itchington Young Farmers – every Wednesday, the Green Man at 8.00pm
Pilates – every Wednesday at the Primary School at 7.30pm
Yoga – Thursday evenings at 7.30pm (term time) at the Community Centre

HOLD THE DATE...

Annual Parish Meeting – April 9th, Community Centre 10.00am – 12.00noon
Rotary Club Southam Annual Whist Drive – April 25th, Harbury Village Hall, 2.30pm

CHURCH AND CHAPEL EVENTS

Regular events at Holy Trinity Church

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

Changes to services:

10 th	February – Ash Wednesday service at 10.00am
6 th	March – All-age service for Mothering Sunday
13 th	March – Communion
20 th	March – Family Service for Palm Sunday
27 th	March – Communion for Easter

For other events see: <http://www.thefeldongroup.org.uk/longitchington.html#services>

Regular events at the Chapel

Evening Worship – 6.15pm every Sunday (Communion on 6th March and 7th Feb)
Bible Study and Prayer Time – 10.45am on Thu 11th Feb, 25th Feb and Thu 10th Mar
Women's Hour – 2.30pm on Tues 19th Jan, 2nd Feb, 16th Feb and 1st Mar
Café Church – 10.00am on Sun 24th Jan, 14th Feb and 28th Feb.
Pilots for children aged 4+ meets each Wednesday at 6.15pm in **term time only**
Coffee Drop-In – 10.30am on Thu 4th Feb (and NEW4U) and 3rd Mar

Praise, Prayer and Puddings – Sunday 17th January at 3.30pm
Pilots visit the panto – Saturday 23rd January
Church meeting – Tuesday 9th Feb at 2.00pm

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

Meeting to discuss Post Office Closure

Saturday 23rd January at the
Community Centre – 10.30 am

Jumble sale

**At the School Hall on Saturday
12th March 2016
11.00am – 12.30pm**

If you have any jumble after that post-Christmas sort-out, please be sure to keep it for the annual Long Itchington Primary School Association Jumble Sale which is due to be held on Saturday 12th March in the School Hall.

Please drop any jumble to the school from 9.00am on the morning of the sale.

The Jumble Sale will take place 11.00am to 12.30pm on the day... come and pick up some bargains!

Film Night

Next film night will be on either Saturday February 27th or Friday March 18th. We are hoping the film will be "The Lady in the Van" starring Maggie Smith – TBC.

Updates by emailing:
batkins5691@googlemail.com for more information.

Events at Galanos House Banbury Road, Southam

Rummage Sale – Saturday 27th
February, doors open at 2.30pm.
Donations needed.

Easter Bingo – Monday 14th
March, eyes down at 7.30pm.

Yoga

Yoga continues every Thursday evening at the community centre, 7.30pm until 9.00pm. British Wheel of Yoga qualified teacher.

An easy-going class aimed at relaxing body and mind. Call Loraine on: 07710 271596 for more information.

Zumba

Zumba class every Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Community Centre – only £4.00.

The 'busyness' of Christmas is over and we look ahead to a new year.

Some of you might like somewhere to go to meet people so I am inviting you to join us for any of the activities we have in the Chapel.

For instance, did you know that Women's Hour is open to the men of the area as well as the ladies? We have many interesting speakers on the first and third Tuesdays each month at 2.30pm followed by light refreshments. So don't be put off by the name, we might have to think about changing it!

On the first Thursday of the month from 10.30am to 12noon there is the Coffee Drop-In, also open to all people. We usually have toasted tea-cakes and other homemade cakes and a Bric-a-Brac sale table. All are welcome to pop in and hopefully it is not too late to wish you all a healthy and happy 2016.

For more information contact Marion on: 07812 804924.

It may be winter outside...

Nearly fifty people turned out for the three walks on New Year's Day. The weather was very kind to us and it was not too muddy underfoot. Mark and Sharon at The Green Man did their usual excellent job of looking after everyone both before and after the walks.

During the winter months there are important tasks to complete – mainly vegetation clearance, but some kissing gates have had wood-chip put in and it is hoped to get more anti-slip treads on footbridges.

Please look at the village web site and www.longitchingtonwalks.co.uk for further information on past and future events along with useful information and links. If you have any suggestions for walks or want to report a problem (and then offer help to rectify the situation) please get in touch by phoning: ~ 815119 or emailing: longitchingtonpaths@gmail.com

LI Baby and Toddler Group

The LI and Toddler group is run voluntarily by parents to give mutual support and to provide fun activities for other parents and grandparents in the village.

Come and join our friendly group on a Wednesday morning 9:30am-11.00am at the Community Centre. First session is free, then £2.00 per family, which includes drinks, snack for the children and activities.

More information can be found on our Facebook page 'long itchington baby and toddler group' or contact Suzanne on: 07801 534834.

Re-vamp for Leigh Crescent Play Area

The LILAC group is looking for funding to re-vamp the Leigh Crescent play area. A questionnaire will be sent to people living close by to find out what residents want. If you would like to express your views please contact Jo Hill at: joanne-hill2@sky.com

Christmas Tree Festival winner

Congratulations to Model Village, who topped the voting in the Christmas Tree Festival. It was their first entry, so they are off to a flying start. Thanks to Stockton Beavers for decorating the main Christmas tree on The Green.

Plough Sunday Celebrations

There will be an opportunity to celebrate the farming year, and learn a little of the work of the Farming Community Network, when Plough Sunday is celebrated, complete with tractor and plough, at Kineton Methodist Church on 16th January at 2.00pm..

Pop in for a Pancake on Shrove Tuesday

Takes place on 9th February, followed by the morning service for Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of Lent.

Changes to services

The pattern of services for March will be changed, having an all-age service for Mothering Sunday (6th), Communion on 13th, Family Service for Palm Sunday (20th); Communion for Easter on 27th. We will be back to normal in April.

Winter Teas

These are on the last Thursday of every month January – March.

LI Brownie leaders wanted

After much thought Alison and Jenny will be standing down as leaders of Long Itchington Brownies in 2019.

If you think you would be able to run this thriving pack of 30 girls and would like information on how to become a leader and take it on, please contact Alison on: ~ 811857 or Jenny on: ~ 814147.

Long Itchington Pre-school

Places are available in pre-school for children aged 2 years 9 months up to school age. Please register now for places in this school year.

Your child is entitled to 15 free funded hours from the term after their third birthday. Please contact us to discuss on: 811400 or email: preschoollongitchington@gmail.com or at www.longitchingtonpreschool.org to find out more.

LILAC Planting Day Saturday March 12th - a call for Volunteers

All volunteers would be very welcome to help plant reeds, grasses and shrubs in the new Wetland Feature and new hedging plants to re-generate of the old hedge that separates the playing and LILAC fields.

The plan is to transform the existing drainage ditch into a wetland area, making it a central feature of the field.

Meet at 10am by the Marton Road LILAC Field Car Park Please contact Richard Jackson through the Parish Office on: ~ 815216 for more information.

Neighbourhood Planning Update December 2015

Thank you to all of you who attended the launch in October – we gained lots of useful information from residents of all ages and local businesses.

We are in the process of contacting local organisations to make sure that they have an opportunity to feed in their views.

We have been pulling together all your feedback so far to create a draft vision that will define the issues that will be addressed in detail in our Neighbourhood Plan.

We aim to produce a first draft of the vision in early 2016 and will be asking for your comments on that.

If you have any queries or would like to get involved further, please contact the Parish Council office on: ~ 815216 or liparishcouncil@btconnect.com

Calendars still available

There are still many Long Itchington 2016 calendars available for sale at £6.00. Not only is this a useful household item, but it is also an historical document with previously unseen pictures of our past.

All profits go towards village organisations such as the Wednesday Club, the Film Group and the Youth Club. Phone: ~ 814921 to buy yours for posterity!

Calendar Group has funds to give to local organisations

All organisations within the parish of Long Itchington are invited to apply for financial support from the Calendar Group. Please write to Wendy Charles at acharles629@hotmail.com with details of how you would use the money to benefit the local community.

What is the UBus?

UBUS is the new community transport. The service is for all residents of any age, wherever they may live in the district, stuck for transport to travel locally on weekdays, between 9.30am and 2.30pm.

The scheme is for you where you have a general need for local transport and cannot access public transport because of mobility problems or other issues or live in an isolated location with no, or infrequent, levels of public transport.

To register for the service or to make a booking please call: 01789 264491 between 9.30am to 2.30pm Monday to Friday.

Great for shopping or sight-seeing in the District – your journey has to take place with Stratford District.

Farming notes

This was the sixth wettest December in 40 years (86mm). But, having said that, we have been very lucky compared with many parts of the country. Having been flooded four times in 76 years makes you very nervous.

I read in the paper that it was 1 degree above freezing at the North Pole over Christmas, which indicates climate change in a big way. Whatever the reason, it means more volatile weather patterns. Perhaps as a village we need to have another look at our flood defences, especially with so many more houses being built in the general area.

The winter ploughing has still not been done, but there is plenty of time yet; generally pretty quiet on the farm

I keep picking up little snippets of historical information about the village from a good friend of mine who is in his early nineties. He was telling me about the local football team. Before the Second World War they played on a field immediately to the left at the top of Bascote Hill. They then moved to another field between the Leamington Road and the main road to Coventry. After the war they played on what is now the cricket ground at White Hall farm, before moving to the present playing field.

Several people I know who feed small birds on a regular basis have reported through the early autumn to winter a dearth of small birds, which has been rather puzzling. At the farm we have had several sparrow hawks and kestrels together at the same time without a small bird in sight. In the last week we have seen a small rise in numbers.

Solar Farm Update

Following the deferral of a decision on this proposal we are currently awaiting advice from Stratford DC as to what the next steps will be. You can follow developments by searching for 15/01740/FUL on the planning portal.

Temporary appointment of clerk to cover maternity leave

If you are interested in applying for the temporary post of Parish Clerk to cover a period of maternity leave in the spring, please contact Liz Bonney: ~ 815216 by February 1st 2016.

Keep your bank details safe

Remember not to give anyone, especially on the phone, any bank details. No bank or reputable company will request these details. Never try to ring your bank on the same phone following such a call, as the caller will keep the line open – use a separate phone line to make checks and if you are worried by a suspicious call put the phone down.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LONG ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL:

The address for Long Itchington Parish Council is The Community Centre, Stockton Road, Long Itchington, Southam CV47 9QP. The office is open **Monday to Thursday between 9.00am – 11.00am** and all planning applications relating to the village can be viewed there, although making an appointment is advisable to ensure the plans are on site.

Phone: ~ 815216

email: liparishcouncil@btconnect.com

Website: www.longitchington.org.uk