



THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

November 2015 - January 2016

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Long Itchington
Parish Council
Clerk: Liz Bonney
(Phone: ~ 815216)

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Diary Dates

The next LI Diary will
run from:

Sunday 17th January –
Saturday 12th March
inclusive

Please send any
contributions by:

Monday 4th January

Barbara Atkins:

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Anne Fessi:

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

Or phone:
~ 814921



Housing and Solar update - still much to be concerned about

Two housing developments are definitely going ahead – Marton Road Farm (58) and Stockton Road (150) next to the school. Building for the latter is to start in February/March 2016.

An appeal by Cemex against the refusal to build 85 houses on the Stockton Road is to be heard starting December 1st. (See LOVA article below).

- The Allen Ford site – a decision is imminent.
- The Solar Farm at Bascote – a decision is imminent.
- Collingham Lane – Gladman's have lodged an appeal against this refusal.

Keep up to date by signing up to receive emails from the Parish Council. Email: batkins5691@googlemail.com.

Leave Our Village Alone

Thank you to everyone who is still displaying a 'Leave Our Village Alone' poster to show your support.

At a recent meeting with Jeremy Wright MP, he agreed that Long Itchington has taken its fair share of new housing and that we shouldn't be expected to accept more. Until the core strategy is signed, sealed and delivered planning permission for more housing could still be granted, so please keep monitoring latest developments.

There is to be an Appeal Tribunal (December 1st – 4th) as Cemex has appealed the decision to refuse the development of 85 houses on Stockton Road opposite the Rosconn site where 150 new houses will be built. If you wish to speak at the appeal please contact Liz Bonney on: ~ 815216.

It's important to report crimes

However small or large it is important that all incidents of anti-social behaviour and crimes are reported to the Police as it helps them to build up a picture. If the incident has already happened then dial 101. If a crime is in progress or if it's an emergency dial 999.

Christmas Tree Lights Switch On

The Christmas tree lights will be switched on at 6.00pm on Saturday 5th December on The Green. [Carols at 5.30pm](#) and children are invited to come along in Christmassy fancy dress. Singing around the tree and general jollity all round!

Parish Accessibility

To improve accessibility in the village for people with mobility issues a new "accessibility" group is being formed. We believe that mobility scooter, wheelchair and walking stick users (and, indeed, those with pushchairs) should be able to have the same access across the parish as other residents.

The aim of the group is to ensure all residents are aware of pavement and footpath issues affecting movement around the parish. The group could also bring pressure to bear on developers to try and ensure new developments take account of our needs.

If you are interested in ensuring access is available for all within the parish, please contact Linda Clark on: ~ 814255 or at: linda.wulfstan@btinternet.com.

Long Itchington Guides

We are open to any girls aged between 10 and 14 years and meet every Thursday term time between 7.00 and 8:30 pm at The Harvester, Church Road, Long Itchington. Contact Claire Anderson on: ~ 812495 or email longitchingtonguides@outlook.com.

Neighbourhood Watch

Anyone interested in helping with this very worthwhile endeavour should ring Allan and Wendy Charles on: ~ 812751. Did you know that being a member of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme can reduce your house insurance premium?

2016 LI Calendars

The 2016 LI calendars are ready and available to purchase for £6. Previously unseen black and white photos of old Long Itchington makes this a wonderful present. Contact Barbara on: ~ 814921 to buy a copy – or several!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Wed 18th WI: Annual General Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Fri 27th Carnival Social Evening, The Green Man, 7.30pm start

DECEMBER

1st to 4th Cemex Appeal Tribunal – phone: ~ 815216 to find out more
Wed 2nd Parish Council meeting Community Centre, 7.30pm
5th and 6th Christmas Tree Festival, Holy Trinity Church
Sat 5th Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On – Village Green, from 5.30pm
Wed 9th History Group, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Fri 11th Film Night, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Mon 14th Carols at the Green Man, 7.30pm
Thu 17th WI: Christmas meeting – details to be confirmed
Santa visits Long Itchington
Fri 18th Cricket Club Christmas Quiz, Community Centre, 7.00pm start

JANUARY

Fri 1st New Years' Day Walk – meet at the Green Man at 11.00am.
Wed 6th Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Wed 13th History Group, 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
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

CHURCH AND CHAPEL EVENTS

Regular events at Holy Trinity Church

1st Sunday Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am
2nd Sunday Family Service, Holy Trinity, 9:30am
3rd Sunday Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am
4th Sunday Morning Worship, Holy Trinity, 9:30am
Mon 14th Christingle Service, 6.00pm
Sun 20th Carols by Candlelight, 6.00pm
Thu 24th Christmas Eve Crib service at 5.00pm and Communion at 11.00pm
Fri 25th Christmas Day Communion, 10.00am

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

Regular events at the Chapel

Evening Worship – 6.15pm every Sunday (except: November 29th Christingle Service at 3.30pm; December 20th Carol Service at 3.30pm; and December 27th Carols around the tree at 3.30pm)

Fri 20th December – Quiz and Supper, 7.00pm
Fri 25th Christmas Day Service, 10.00am

Bible Study and Time for Prayer – 10.45am on Thu 19th, 26th Nov and Thu 10th Dec
Women's Hour – 2.30pm on Tues 17th Nov, Tues 1st Dec (Bring & Buy), Tues 15th Dec (Carol Service) and Tues 5th Jan.
Café Church – 10.00am on Sun 22nd Nov, Sun 13th Dec and Sun 10th Jan.
Pilots for children aged 4+ meets each Wednesday at 6.15pm in term time
Coffee Drop-In – 10.30am on Thu 3rd Dec and Thurs 7th January

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

Festive fun



Santa is on his way!

Santa is preparing his sleigh and getting the reindeers fit and ready for the festive season.

He will be making his first appearance at the switch on of Southam's Christmas Lights on Friday 4th December.

The fun gets underway at 4.30pm with the fun fair and stalls open for business – the lights will be switched on at 6.00pm.

Santa will be visiting Long Itchington on 17th December between 5.30pm and 8.15pm.

Visit www.southamlions.org.uk for more details.

Christmas Quiz

Start your festive season off with the Cricket Club Christmas Quiz, Friday 18th December at the Community Centre

Doors open from 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. If you want to enter a team please contact Steve Mitchell at: mitchellasm@hotmail.co.uk or on: 07717 213182.

It's a popular event, so book your table before they all go!

Christmas carols at the Green Man

Carols at the Green Man Monday 14th December at 7.30pm
Come and sing your favourite carols and enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie.

Film Night

The next film night on Friday 11th December will show "The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel."

For tickets (£5) please call: ~ 814921 or ~ 812751. Film starts at 7.30pm. Mulled wine, beer, soft drinks and mince pies will be available from 6.45pm.

Transport can be provided for LI residents – book in advance.

CHAPEL NEWS *Revd. Marion Hartwell*

This is a busy time at the Chapel and we'd like to share our special Christmas events with you.

The special Sunday services are at the earlier time of 3.30pm. These are the Christingle Service on 29th November when children can make their own Christingles; the Carol Service on 20th December when we will be joined by the Windmill Singers and tea will be served after the service. On 17th January, which is the week of Prayer for Christian Unity, there will be **Praise, Prayer and Puddings**.

Other special events are the Women's Hour Bring & Buy Sale on 1st December at 2.30pm and the Women's Hour Carol Service on 15th December, also at 2.30pm.

Thank you for helping us to collect 90 gift-filled shoe boxes for children in poorer parts of the world. This year the boxes are for the refugee children who are travelling great distances and also for the children living in camps because their homes have been destroyed in the Syrian war.

Whether at home or away we wish you all the blessings of Christmas as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and also in the New Year.

Finally, we need help. We have a nice keyboard but need someone to play it from 10.00am to 11.15am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month and also on Christmas Day from 10.00am to 11.00am. If you or someone you know might be willing to help us call Marion on: 07812 804924.

War Memorial

Some parishioners may be aware that although the names of the 43 men who gave their lives fighting in two world wars are recorded on oak panels in Holy Trinity Church, there is no formal memorial in the village. There is a memorial at Bascote Heath, however, that commemorates people who worked for the Stoneythorpe estate, rather than people from the parish of Long Itchington as a whole.

A group (spear-headed by Dave Berry) has been formed with the aim of exploring whether Long Itchington should have its own dedicated war memorial. The first stage is to sound out what the community thinks, so we are seeking your views and opinions to gauge whether there is general support for the idea. We are particularly keen to hear from the families of those from the village who died serving their country.

If you have any views or ideas about the creation of a war memorial for the parish, then please feed your thoughts to the Parish Council (on behalf of Dave Berry) either by email to: batkins5691@googlemail.com or by phone to the Parish Office on: ~ 815216. **Please submit views and comments by the end of November.**

If there is support for the idea, then we will need to decide what the memorial should be and where it should be placed – after that there will need to be a fundraising exercise.

The aim would be to have the memorial completed and ready for the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War on 11th November 2018.

We will keep the community updated as we progress.

CHURCH NEWS & VIEWS

www.thefeldongroup.org.uk

Christmas celebrations

Advent Sunday, this year, is on 29th November, and we celebrate this start of our four weeks of preparation for Christmas by having a joint service with the Feldon Group at Holy Trinity. There will be a Messy Church on the Saturday.

We have our Christmas Tree Festival the first weekend in December, then the Christingle Service, in aid of The Children's Society, and Carols by Candlelight, before we get to Christmas Eve, when the knitted Mary and Joseph and the donkey will finish their journey around the village by arriving at the crib in the Crib Service. Look out for the splendid new Nativity costumes.

The Midnight Communion will start slightly earlier this year, at 11.00pm. See the church services list for times.

May God bless our Advent preparation and our Christmas celebration.

LI Educational Foundation grants

The Foundation supported 36 local young people with their academic and vocational studies this year with grants of £150 – so a sum of £5400 was awarded in total.

Financial help was also given to the Primary School for transport costs for a St Wulfstan trip to Worcester in the summer and to support the Manor Adventure.

The Long Itchington Educational Foundation is a part of the history of our village and the number of requests that we receive is gradually increasing year on year - and with future likely village expansion this will only grow. So that the scheme can continue usefully giving financial awards to young people in the village, we are asking residents to think about medium to long-term ways that they might be able to support the charity – such as legacies, grants and donations from building developers, one-off payments, organising money raising events, etc.

At present the dividends from investments vary from about £5,000 to £6,000 per year.

If you think you might like to help or require more information, please contact Peter Myhill on: ~ 814443).

'Royal' visit raises funds for MS

Over 100 locals gathered at Holy Trinity church Long Itchington recently for a Freddie Mercury tribute night, raising the roof and over £2,000 for the Leamington Warwick and Kenilworth MS Society.

These local branches provide direct and much-needed support to families within their area affected by Multiple Sclerosis, including supporting the valuable carers. Thanks to all involved in this event.

For more information on the MS Society and/or to find the link to your local group visit: www.mssociety.org.uk or phone: ~ 730010.

Allotments available

Allotments available at Debdale – please contact Godfrey-Payton on: ~ 492511 for more information.

Winter Walks

Even with the shorter hours of daylight there is still much happening on the Rights of Way front in the parish. The last led walk of the year saw over 20 people take part in an enjoyable two hour midday ramble.

Three walks of different lengths are planned for New Year's Day (and there is the possibility of a cycle ride using Rights of Way). We will meet at the Green Man at 11.00am. After the walks we will return to the pub for soup and a roll. Over the next year we are planning to devote half a day each month to various maintenance tasks – all volunteers welcome. For all events it would be useful to let us know in advance that you intend to take part – especially the cycle ride. There are plans to offer led walks during 2016 following the positive response to the ones that have been organised this year.

Further details of events both past and present, along with other useful information, can be found on the village website and on www.longitchingtonwalks.co.uk.

Alternatively, you can email longitchingtonpaths@gmail.com or phone: ~ 815119 if you would like further information.

If you are interested in coming along contact Brian Smith on: ~ 815119 or email: longitchingtonpaths@gmail.com.

Long Itchington Pre-school

Spooky boogie – a BIG thank you to all who volunteered their time and those who donated items to the raffle and tombola. It was a great evening. We are still adding up, but it looks like we raised just over a £1000, which is a fantastic achievement. The funds will be used to improve the outside play area at the pre-school, which is shared with reception class.

Church Fayre – look out for us at the Church Fayre on 5th December, between 12noon and 2.00pm where we will be looking after Santa's Grotto – hope to see you there! Volunteers are needed for Father Christmas and his helpers and to sell tickets on the Tombola stall.

Volunteers – without having a dedicated team of volunteers, events like Spooky Boogie and Santa's Grotto, which are great fun for all the village, just wouldn't happen. Please consider contacting us if you have a little free time you would like to give towards the village and preschool.

Contact Suzanne Glanville on: 07801 534834 or email: preschoollongitchington@gmail.com.

Pre-school places – places are available in pre-school for children aged 2 years 9 months up to school age. Please register now for places in 2015/16 school year. Contact pre-school for more information on: ~ 811400 or email: preschoollongitchington@gmail.com.

To find out more about the school and our activities visit our website at: www.longitchingtonpreschool.org.

Farming notes

The weather this autumn has been pretty kind and has allowed us to be reasonably up to date with our arable work. This year we have had a large 'crop' of swallows and house martins. The swallows nest in some of the old farm buildings. Where the house martins nest we are unsure, but they collect around the farmhouse before they fly off to Africa.

My neighbours Jim and Richard Reeve have seen up to nine herons standing in one of their arable fields, possibly feeding on worms. The nearest heronry is about seven miles away. Herons will travel up to 12 miles to feed. Their normal diet would be fish, water-voles, beetles, frogs, moles and rats. Jim and Richard have also seen up to 13 buzzards together on their farm, extremely bad news if you're a small hare. Adult hares have no problems. The buzzards' diet consists of small mammals, especially rabbits, fairly rare in this area, sheep carrion, sometimes birds, earth worms, caterpillars, lizards, beetles and occasionally berries.

It seems to have been a very poor year for butterflies. I have seen quite a number of Tortoiseshells, a few Meadow Browns and Peacocks, but also a large number of Cabbage Whites, which you don't want to see in your vegetable garden.

Carnival Social Evening

Friday 27th November in the back room of the Green Man.
7.00pm for 7.30pm start

The Long Itchington Carnival is delighted to once again be able to contribute to our village clubs and organisations, helping to keep this a great place to live.

Come along to the Carnival social evening – it's a great opportunity to meet the Carnival committee and see the presentation of donations. Nibbles will be available.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Moving the Youth Shelter

In the last Diary we let you know that we intended to move the Youth Shelter to a different spot at Green End.

When we started this exercise we realised that it would not be straightforward due to its extremely firm position in the concrete.

We intend to meet with all the nearest residents to discuss further steps. All residents of Green End and whose houses back onto the field will be contacted.

Brownies Bingo Evening success

The Brownies raised £120.00 for the Macmillan Charity by running a Bingo Evening, which was great fun – thank you to all those who supported us.

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