



# LONGDON LIFE

Volume 3 Issue 53

[www.longdon-staffs.info/council](http://www.longdon-staffs.info/council)

April 2015

From Richard Clarke  
Chairman Longdon Parish Council

*Getting the right balance* – the aim in Parish Council decisions and actions. Applying the right level of caution without diminishing excitement, enjoying continuity yet accommodating the vitality of change, budgeting the wishes and costs, or tending to lanes whilst keeping their surprise, are examples.

Neighbour vigilance, without intrusion, is encouraged so that problem signs are noticed early and support offered. With a significantly higher than average population age profile this is particularly valuable and rewarding. Parish cohesion greatly assists and in this the Longdon Community Group is congratulated in its organising social events (Sing-a-Long, Summer Fayre, etc.); integrating children as well.

It is clear that prevention is a sight better than hospitalisation for everyone; the patient, families, friends and the tax man. To help prevent accidents and falls the Parish Council is paying attention to the surfaces of footpaths and pavements, and to the visibility at the junction of lanes. It is also programmed to make safe a pedestrian link between High St. and Brook End, and to review parking near the schools..

Longdon Life does not venture into politics, and rightly so, but a four yearly event deserves mention. And balance again is sought. A new Parish Council will be elected and formed in May. It will be better if it has a balance of gender and age: its business must be "*Parishioner Generated Content*" from wide interests. For anyone wishing to contribute to local affairs at grass roots now is the time to apply to be a candidate. It's fundamental: it's worthwhile: it's fun.

*On behalf of the Parish Council I wish all readers a happy Easter and a wonderful summer.*

Now it is time to turn our attention to the  
Best Kept Village Competition.

Longdon with The Green and Upper Longdon  
are entered in the Large and Small Village  
categories respectively.

It is a pity that there isn't a best Daffodil display  
prize, we would certainly win !!

I know the enormous efforts that many of you have  
put in over the past years and hope that you will do  
a sterling job again. The Parish Council will ensure  
that flower tubs, benches etc. are maintained, but  
please let us know if more wants doing.  
Remember that community effort is one aspect that  
is considered in the marking.

We for some reason always seem to get the first  
judges visit in May so time is short.  
Dog fouling still remains an issue, as does roadside  
litter. Please can we all try to pick up discarded  
Beer cans, pop bottles etc. and put them in the  
Blue Bins. If you would like a litter picker please  
ask one of your Councillors.

The articles and comments published in  
Longdon Life do not necessarily represent the  
views of the Parish Council.  
Editor Allen Juxon published by Longdon Parish

The Royal British Legion  
Longdon Branch. Founded 4<sup>th</sup> December 1933

It is with regret that I have to report the closure of the Branch after some 82 years, following an extraordinary general meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015. This unfortunately is due to a dwindling membership, such that the Branch was unable to fill committee posts. Other changes put in place by the Legion's HQ Nationally, removed responsibility for welfare cases from Branches to a Regional team based in Birmingham.

This meant that the Branch existed purely for the Poppy Appeal which was always successful, but the untimely death of Mrs. Bev Billings our Poppy Appeal Organiser and the death of the Branch President the Rev'd Robert Bellamy reinforced the Closure decision.

The Past Officers of the Branch wish to record their grateful thanks to all the Poppy Appeal collectors in Longdon for their dedication and success in raising annually some £1,500 for the work of the Legion. It is hoped that many collectors will continue with their rounds in Longdon, but the appeal will be run by the Armitage Branch Chairman Mrs. Elaine Moore, who will be contacting you all in due time. Thank you also to our Standard bearer, ex-Royal Marine Dave Tyler. It is hoped that the Standard will be laid up in St. James' Church with a suitable ceremony.

All the surrounding Branches such as Armitage, Brereton, Lichfield etc. Stress that all ex-Longdon members are very welcome to join them. The same sentiment is expressed by all Branches in our area. It is hoped that there will still be a Remembrance Sunday Service in Longdon Village Church, but of course there will be no Legion involvement.

The Longdon Branch was formed at the Swan with Two Necks on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 1933 by veterans of the first World War. There were 25 members at the time including Colonel Seckham, Major Negus and Captain Stokes.

Peak membership was 96 in 1948. Meetings were held at the Swan until 1949 then various other refreshment houses :- The Crown in Longdon, The Gate and the Chetwynd Arms in Upper Longdon until finally settling at the WI Hall.

All the old Branch records have now been deposited in the Records Office in Lichfield.

A.J.Juxon

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## \*\*Action Briefs\*\*

### **\* To show the way**

New sign posts have been installed at the top and bottom of Church Hollow to show visitors the way between St. James Church and Longdon village. This completes the refurbishment of Church Hollow, a popular part of the walk, carried out earlier.

### **\*Traffic calming in Upper Longdon**

Discussions are in progress with SCC to install traffic calming measures to combat the troublesome and increasing volume of traffic using Upper Longdon as a "rat run".

### **\*Donations**

Since the last issue of Longdon Life the Parish Council was pleased to give grants to:  
St. James Church  
St. James Primary School for much needed infant play area upgrade.

### **\*Diary**

Meetings with other organisations attended by Councillors:  
SCC – Infrastructure Briefing  
CW & G Village Hall Management  
Beaudesert & G Field Management  
Staffs. Playing Fields Association  
St James Primary School Governors  
Gentleshaw Primary School Governors  
Cannock Chase AONB Management

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### ***Our Neighbourhood Plan – to 2030***

Contrary to suspicion the Longdon Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Working Group is not in hibernation. Rather in the recent weeks it has been distilling the tremendous input of issues and guidance received from parishioners and everyone with an interest in the future of the Longdon settlements, Gentleshaw and outlying homesteads. These inputs form the basis and substance of the first draft of the NP which the Group is currently compiling and writing.

Integrating the clear message of the aspirations from the parishioners into the parish as it is today – its character, its dwellings and facilities, and its way of life – is the function of the NP.

It will contain the objectives as gathered from the inputs, the policies to meet them and the means to fulfil the policies. The NP Group will also ensure that the plan complies with the National Planning Policy Framework and the LDC Local Plan.

When the first draft is finished the various consultations begin for every parishioner to have its opportunity to comment on any aspect. The final act of the process will be a parish wide referendum leading to adoption and enjoying the future.

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### **Parish Annual Assembly**

This year's Annual Parish Assembly will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 in the St. James Primary School Hall in Longdon, commencing at 7.30pm.

Everyone is invited to come and hear the report on the year passed and, most importantly, hear and discuss what is proposed for the coming year. It is in open forum style enabling free exchange of views and questions. It is a chance to make a point or clarify any confusion.

There will be a comprehensive presentation by SCC on the current position and programme for Broadband service in the area.

### **Please consider standing for the Parish Council**

At the Forthcoming elections on the 7<sup>th</sup>, May you will be electing your National Government but also locally you will be electing your District and Parish Councils.

The Parish Council which is your first tier of local government is becoming more important in deciding local issues as Central Government is determined to devolve more powers to local communities.

It is vital that the Parish Council has a good representative cross section of the community.

Why not stand yourself?

Longdon Parish elects a total of 11 Councillors, 8 for the Longdon Ward and 3 for the Gentleshaw Ward. Nomination papers may be obtained from the District Council Offices in Frog Lane between 10am and 4pm. These must be returned by Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April. They must be countersigned by 2 voters in the Parish.

Times are changing rapidly so don't be left behind, become a Councillor and support your local Community and environment.





### **Welcome**

A warm welcome is extended to all members, past, present and future. There is always an open invitation to anyone to come along to a Club meeting and sample an evening with us. It costs £2 for an occasional visit, or annual membership cost currently £12 will be reduced to £10 per person per annum after the Annual General Meeting. Club members benefit from a discount at three garden centres on production of a valid membership card. We meet on the second Tuesday in the month in the Village Hall, Buds Road, Cannock Wood. Meetings start at 7.30pm and tea or coffee with biscuits is served at the end of meetings, after our speakers have finished their talks.

### **Christmas Social Evening**

The Gardening Club's Christmas Social Evening on Tuesday 9th December was a most enjoyable event. A delicious buffet, including desserts, was organised by the Committee, and the entertainment was provided by 'Kate's Party'. It was a wonderfully social evening of good food, good company, and good entertainment.

### **Garden and Home Produce Show**

Our annual Garden and Home Produce Show in the Village Hall, Buds Road, Cannock Wood will be held on **Saturday 22nd August**. The Show, open to all amateur gardeners, bakers, flower arrangers etc was well supported last year with an increase in exhibitors and visitors. The Show, which is not restricted to just Club members and local villagers but is open for anyone to exhibit in any of the show classes, which will include some classes specifically for children in various age groups. It is a Show for amateurs only.

### **Village Open Gardens 2015**

Following on from the success of the Village Open Gardens event last year, the Open Gardens weekend this year is on Saturday and Sunday 27th and 28th June.

### **Speakers and Topics**

In January our speaker was Alan Williams. His talk 'Living with Nature' included a presentation about his nature reserve with many views from cameras inside owl boxes, their breeding and feeding and bird life in general. The speaker in February was Philip Aubury whose talk entitled 'No Plot - No Problem' covered the numerous alternatives for growing fruit and vegetables in pots. Edward Glew was our speaker in March who demonstrated the art of the fascinating subject of 'Willow Weaving'. We endeavour to book speakers on a wide range of garden related subjects in order to give items of interest to as many of our members as possible.

For further details of any of the above please contact the Secretary on 01543 682525

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As promised here is a brief summary of our activities since Christmas.

Our speaker in January was Judy Hubble who works at Shugborough Hall and her talk was 'The Life and Times of Patrick Lichfield'. It was a most entertaining talk and it was pleasant to recall the charismatic Earl of Lichfield and his love of his ancestral home. The ongoing work to his apartments that are now open to the public were fascinating and we will all be popping along to view the improvements.

In February we had a lively and fun evening when we learned about Big Knitting with Ingrid Wagner. She has a textile business at Milford and she showed us lots of examples of her work and the techniques she uses, before letting us loose with giant knitting needles and crochet hooks. The results were amazing but some of the larger metre long needles took a little getting used to. Happily there were no significant health and safety issues!

March was a talk by Patsie Jarman entitled The Ladies of the Close Lichfield. We knew about Dr Johnson, Garrick, Erasmus Darwin but hadn't realised quite how important Lichfield was as a cultural centre in 18th and 19th centuries. Details of life in the close opened a fascinating glimpse into another world which was not as prim and proper as we imagined!

We entered a team in the County Quiz in February. We have resumed our Ladies who Lunch and attended the Spring Council event at Stafford on the 17th March. On the 16th March we came to Longdon to a Rose and Shamrock Group Meeting hosted by Longdon WI. We had a very amusing and entertaining talk by a busker and enjoyed good refreshments and a warm welcome from the Longdon ladies.

We have been very involved in planning our Centenary activities for the year and are very pleased that we have a very busy time ahead. Our main event is to be a WI Country Fayre on Saturday 5th. September. We have been overwhelmed by the support we are receiving in our community and it is promising to be a really good day out. We hope that you will join us on the day to help us celebrate so are giving the date for you note. We will be giving out more details nearer the event and hope to see you at Cannock Wood and Gentleshaw Village Hall on the day.

#### Cannock Wood & Gentleshaw Whist Club

Whist Club Members meet at the Village Hall in Buds Road – post code WS15 4NB

We play on the first Monday and the third Tuesday of each month, arriving at 7.15pm for a prompt 7.30pm start and finish around 10pm.

£3 covers all costs, tea or coffee and cake at half-time, a raffle and cash prizes for the winners.

New Members are always welcome so if you would like to join us for a fun card evening no need to book, just come along on the night. Its always a friendly evening, and as you move from table to table you soon get to know everybody, and if you haven't played for some time no need to worry,

it soon comes back to you after a few hands.

After our very successful Party Night in December when we played Rainbow Whist we are now looking

forward to some interesting games of Semi-Partner Whist. There will be a Whist Evening on 6th April -

Easter Monday – to round off the Easter Festivities.

Any enquiries to Pat on 01543 683670.

Regards Pat Croxall.



## St James' Church of England Primary School

Headteacher Mrs. Claire Shaw

The Headteacher, Mrs Claire Shaw, teachers, pupils and parents are so grateful to Longdon Parish Council for their generous donation in helping us to raise the funds for phase one of our outdoor teaching and learning area.

At present the outside space is sometimes unusable by all our children especially those with disabilities as it becomes very muddy when the weather is wet. The remodelling will involve the removal of the existing two tier area in order to create a safe, free flow activity area that is environmentally friendly. This will include a sensory wild flower, herb garden, hedgehog and insect houses. There will also be a new vegetable plot, sand and water play also a seating area for teaching and learning activities.

This area, once completed, will facilitate learning and give a lot of pleasure for a great many years to come.

We are indeed fortunate to be part of such a caring community.

Pictured Headteacher Mrs Shaw Receiving a cheque for £1,800 from Mr. Chris Cherry Vice Chairman of Longdon Parish Council



### Pancake Day Celebrations

The children held their pancake day celebrations On Friday 13<sup>th</sup>. February due to Shrove Tuesday falling within the Half-term break.

Due to adverse weather conditions the usual Pancake races were cancelled. This did not stop the children trying their hand at making pancakes.

Stage 1 pupils made their way across to the W.I Hall, where they consumed a mountain of Pancakes !!





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## LONGDON GUIDES ARE OFF TO CANADA



Alice Worth and Katey Dawson have been selected from a group of over 50 girls to go on an International Girlguiding trip to Canada in June 2016. They will accompany 12 other girls and Leaders from all over Staffordshire.

After completing loads of challenges to get on to the trip their biggest challenge is ahead. They both now need to fundraise £2500 each for the trip. They will holding game and craft nights for all the different Brownie units in the area and with the help of the whole unit they will be running the Longdon Duck Races and other village events. Please support them over the next 15 months.

ALICE & KATEY – Just after they heard the news!!



Longdon Guides are busy as usual with lots of extra events planned. We have a fun night planned at the **SNOWDOME**, a **WILD NIGHT OUT** camping, a **SECERT EVENT** and a fun **WIPE OUT** or **WIN** event..... fingers crossed we WIN !!!

[longdonguides@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:longdonguides@hotmail.co.uk)

### Air Ambulance funds boosted by Festive Walk

This year's Festive Walk took place on Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> December, leaving the Swan With Two Necks in fine but threatening weather. Just over 50 people turned up to tackle the uphill and down dale trek. The happy throng followed the route over Hill Top, to Hanch, then crossed over the Seedy Mill Golf Course, walking up to Cleat Hill, admiring the wonderful views over Lysways Park as we went, eventually coming out where the footpath emerges on to the A51 just south of Longdon Green, before returning to our starting point. My estimation of the distance being approximately four and a half miles, was proved to be rather inaccurate by someone with GPS technology who told me it was about six miles – sorry! Maybe I should get up to date with measuring methods.

We were given a very warm welcome by our landlady Mary and all of her team who had prepared some delicious and very satisfying refreshments, which all went to swell the funds for the Midlands Air Ambulance. Thank you Mary for this very generous gesture and for your marvellous hospitality. The dark skies did then deliver their contents with some force, so once more we were blessed with a dry time in which to complete this fund raising event. I should like to mention Norman who helped me out enormously by doing the quiz for me this time. He managed to find questions which were seasonal and light hearted which I think everyone enjoyed. My very grateful thanks go to everyone who contributed in any way to raise the grand total of £375

Lynn Marshall



### LONGDON SHOW

**Sunday September 13th 2015** is this years date for the Longdon Show.

As spring is just around the corner and the earth is warming up it is time to get ready for sowing and planting with the show in mind, visits to the garden center for Vegetable and Flower seeds and also any plants you wish to acquire.

Lets hope most of the frosts have gone. Also keep an eye out for that winning photograph. Adults title is Transport Children under15 title is Day Out

Val Heseltine Secretary 01543 490419





# Longdon W.I.



The last few months have been very busy we held our Birthday Party in January at the Red Lion at Longdon Green and good time was had by all. It was a very pleasant evening that gave us the opportunity to sit and chat and catch up with everything that had gone on over the Christmas break.

February was our members evening when members take the meeting and our theme for the evening was to write and illustrate a short story and create a for children.

The school decided to hold their Pancake Day celebrations on Friday 13 February with the usual format as Shrove Tuesday actually fell in half term. Unfortunately due to adverse weather the races did not take place however Key Stage 1 pupils still came across to the WI Hall for Pancakes (its amazing how many pancakes young children can eat!!)

On March 16<sup>th</sup> Longdon W.I. hosted the annual meeting for all the Institutes in our local Group The Rose and Shamrock Group, when we had a very good evening at the Village Hall with over 60 people attending.

April starts a new year for our programme of events and speakers and in the forthcoming months we have some very interesting speakers and events to look forward to including a visit to a local open garden, hearing and visiting the "Back to Back" houses in Birmingham, another month we will be finding out what its like to be a Lady Mayoress to name but a few. Our monthly lunch club is continuing with a variety of different pubs and restaurants being visited.

***Why not come and join us?  
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***For further information contact: 01543 493623 - Wendy***

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Longdon Cricket Club

David La Trobe President

Since the last issue of Longdon Life, the activities of the Cricket Club are somewhat limited as the new season does not start until our first fixture on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Until then however, we will be looking after the ground and working on pavilion maintenance. The Club will meet for a working party on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>. April when all will be put right for the season.

The Club AGM was held on 10<sup>th</sup>. February, when a number of the Committee were re-elected, including Gina Duckett as Treasurer (having given an excellent report on the Club's finances), Shawn Miller presenting a very comprehensive Secretary's report and Billy Maritza as our Social Secretary, who has already organised a ten pin bowling and supper evening in Walsall and is organising a new Club Shirt.

An important item following the retirement of the Captain Aidrian Yates was the election of a new Captain Tom Bonser who had been Vice Captain, and Billy Maritza as the new Vice Captain, who took on this role in addition to the work he already does. We wish them both every success.

Chris Gibbons fills an important role as Fixture Secretary. Chris circulated a fixture list, confirming so far 24 weekend matches and 6 midweek matches, with probably more to come. The "Village" match which is now a valued part of the season, is fixed for Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>. June and an anticipated tour over the weekend of the 12& 13<sup>th</sup> of September.

Aide Yates Also stays on the Committee as ex-Captain.

Nets have now already started on March 1<sup>st</sup>. in Rugeley and of course anyone interested in joining the Club is most welcome to attend or telephone me on 01543 491155.

We now await the opening of the season with great anticipation and hope that the weather will be kind to us.

Longdon Friends of St. Giles

The Longdon Friends have had another successful year of fundraising. Our final event of 2014 was the annual Christmas coffee morning which generated £700 and was a most enjoyable social event. In total, thanks to the support and generosity of our Friends, almost £8,000 was raised during the year.

I would now like to appeal for further help with our fund raising efforts. Some of our Committee and loyal supporters have been helping the Hospice for over 30 years but we would love to welcome New Friends and Supporters. We especially need new ideas and venues for social events. Can anyone out there help - hold a fundraising morning/afternoon/evening? Past events have included coffee mornings, afternoon tea, cheese & wine evening or just an informal get together with a few friends to raise funds. We would welcome new ideas/suggestions. If you are able to help/host an event then please do get in touch with me or any Committee Member to discuss further.

Our first fund raising event of 2015 (date to be confirmed) will be a illustrated talk with the ever popular George Lamb. Those of you who attended last year will remember how enjoyable his previous talk "The Long Road East" was.

The Must India Restaurant Event will be held in October this year

Please help us fill our fundraising calendar with enjoyable, entertaining and fun events throughout the year.

Thank you all for your continuing support.

Mrs Gladys Crowe  
Telephone 01543 491760  
Email [gcoaklodge@gmail.com](mailto:gcoaklodge@gmail.com)



## LONGDON BROWNIES GO CAMPING



Longdon Brownies have been camping this month and we took 12 girls to Beaudesert camp site in Cannock Chase. Our theme was **"Design it your way"**. The theme involved many crafts and a fashion parade. The girls even tried their hand at Circus skills, plate spinning and balloon modelling. I don't think we will be running off to join the circus just yet!!! We designed our own headbands, made fashion items from rubbish sacks but our favourite craft by far was our **Tie dye rainbow shirts** – modelled so beautifully by the girls.

We have also had 2 new Owls land at Longdon Brownies. **Snowie Owl** (Louise Cotter) and **Bostin Owl** (Sue Boston). They have settled in well and showed amazing skill when they breathed life into a Snowman poster we created when the brownies completed their Snowman challenge badge.

As the nights start to get lighter the Brownies will be out and about in the village, so please give us a wave if you see us around the village either playing games, singing or having a picnic on the grass with teddies.

**KOOKABURRA OWL** - Monique Worth

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*Since the last issue of Longdon Life we  
 welcome new babies...*

Jack  
 Imogen May  
 Isaac Henry Tom



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### LONGDON VILLAGES COMMUNITY GROUP

Once again the Group commenced its Christmas festivities with a Christmas Sing-a-long at St James C of E Primary School that proved to be a tremendous success; the children were in great voice and ably supported by the Church singers who entertained us with a variety of traditional and comic songs.

The programme which was introduced by Richard Clarke the Chairman of the Parish council included community singing, a raffle and very successful auction, with two members of the audience competing with each other for a three course meal for four with wine, donated by the 'Red Lion pub' in Longdon Green.

The children received presents from a visiting group of elves and the evening concluded with mince pies and coffee for the adults. The event was also supported by the Swan with Two Necks and the Chetwyn arms. So many thanks to everyone who helped to make it such a successful evening.

Continuing with the festive theme the Group provided mini Christmas puddings for all those who attended the 'Over sixties Christmas Lunch' we understand they were a great success and hopefully we can continue doing this in future years.

The aim of the Group is to bring about more community cohesion by supporting local organisations and its residents. The Group have organised a variety of events that have enable them to give a number of small donations to local organisations.

The Group has been in existence for approximately two years and is made up with members from local organisations and individuals who just want to get involved in Village life. There is no restriction on the number of its members and people are welcome to opt in or out depending on their individual preferences and the projects being developed.

Due to the generosity of the people who have supported the Groups events, donations have been made to Longdon Pre-school, St James JAM club, Longdon Guides and Brownies, the Longdon Poppy appeal, the Over Sixties and St James C of E Primary School.

The Group is now busy planning its future events which will include a Village summer party, Afternoon teas and drop in centre and a summer fayre in conjunction with St James Primary School PTFA.

We would love to hear from you...if you would like to be involved in the Group. All are welcome and we are sure you would have great fun helping to arrange events, raising funds and making small donations to organisations throughout the Villages, do please come along and join us at our next meeting:

***Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 7.00pm at The Red Lion Public House Longdon Green***



## Cannock Wood and Gentleshaw Village Hall Report March 2015-03-03

During the last few years a lot our energy has gone into the maintenance and improvement of the hall. Obviously on a day to day basis that has to continue, but with the exception of replacing the heating system, most of the major projects have hopefully been addressed.

Early in the year the dampness was cured in the snooker room. Since then it has been decorated. It is now a much more attractive and enjoyable environment to be in. However, we do need new members. Annual fees are very reasonable, and there is separate access to the room. Why not dust off the cue and try out one of the tables?

The emphasis for the past year has been on extending the usage of the facilities. We have tried to do this not only by increasing the outside bookings but also by having more 'in house' village events.

On June 6<sup>th</sup> last year we staged another successful Trek and Troff. This year the event will take place on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Keep an eye out for posters and more information on the website.

Another Wine and Cheese evening was held which was again a great success, some great wines and good company. Tickets are always limited so book early!

At Halloween we had a fantastic, well attended and thoroughly enjoyable dance for families. This year we hope to do the same. There will also be a dance on May 16<sup>th</sup>. An Abba Evening on June 20<sup>th</sup> and a dance pre Christmas.

Before Christmas 2014 we held a 'Kids Disco' which was a big success. We also staged the usual and very popular Mulled Wine and Mince Pies evening, which includes the lighting of the village Christmas tree. Just before the holiday Whittington Players entertained us with Mince Pies and Meanderings, an evening of songs and recitations.

In February an evening of indoor Kurling was held in the hall. This was organised by the newly formed Monday Club. A great social evening, playing a sport that anyone can take part in, which I suspect is new to most people.

The quizzes continue to be held on a regular basis. They are intentionally great fun and an inexpensive evening away from the telly. However, we do need more support. Why not organise a team?

During the year a number of new regular events have started. As mentioned above; the Monday Club, which takes place in the afternoon and includes all sorts of games, including the kurling and snooker.

A very well attended Mother and Tots group takes place every Tuesday morning during term time.



I would like to mention The Village Fair which will be held on September 5<sup>th</sup> at the hall. This will be a major event that is being organised by the WI but does need a lot of volunteers. Please get in touch with a WI committee member if you would like to help.

We are trying to make every effort to keep the website up to date, therefore it is well worth looking at it from time to time to see what is happening. It is also useful to be able to see available free dates for the hall.

I would like to thank all of the people who have helped to organise events this year and thank you to all those who have supported events in any way.

If you have any questions or suggestions please come along to the AGM on April 27<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 7.30pm

Bob Shelley (Chairman) March 2015

### Historic Event at St. James' Church Longdon

Wednesday 8th. July at 7.30 at the Church  
When Wolf Hall came to Longdon  
The Life and Times of Bishop Stoneywell.  
Come and discover some of our 13c secrets  
A light hearted talk on a crucial point in our history  
by John Shand.

Refreshments available

#### AMS

#### Maintenance Services

Unable to find the time to do those little jobs around the home?

- ✓ Leaking taps & toilets
- ✓ Decorating
- ✓ Door & lock fitting
- ✓ Gutter cleaning
- ✓ Plumbing in washing machines/dishwashers
- ✓ Making / fitting shelves etc
- ✓ Garden & fence maintenance

- Very competitive rates (pensioner discounts)
- Over 30 years experience
- No job too big or too small
- Call me now for a free quotation

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## Next Messy Church - Sat April 18th 4pm

Dates for your diary- May 16<sup>th</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup>

Come early so you don't miss the start

Bring your friends and enjoy each others company in our beautiful church at St James

Always ends with food!!

Further details from Sarah, 07709 343326

Or Revd Jan Or Church mailbox [messy@stjames-longdon.org.uk](mailto:messy@stjames-longdon.org.uk)

### Pics from our first sessions







### The Chetwynd Arms Upper Longdon

Under New Management

Gary & Nicola welcome you all

This is a dog friendly pub.

We are open daily for food from 12.00 noon

All our food is locally sourced with home cooking

### Sunday Lunch

Available booking is advisable

Following the successful renovation and launch of the restaurant, Nicola and Gary would like to invite all of our regular loyal customers and welcome new faces to enjoy a relaxed home cooked fresh meal and fine wine and ales in our revamped beer garden open up again in April.

Dates for your diary

Easter Sunday set three course meal £18.95

Sittings at 12pm

3pm

TEL. 01543 190266

# ST GEORGES DAY

THURSDAY APRIL 23RD  
7.30PM-10.30PM

THE CHETWYND ARMS  
UPPER LONGDON

Presents

THE BAZ & GEOFF SHOW



MUSIC, MEMORIES AND LIVE VOCALS  
FROM THE 60'S 70'S 80'S AND MORE.  
PLUS SPECIAL ST GEORGE QUIZ



Food provided

Raffle Prizes

TICKETS £20.00



# LONGDON VILLAGE PLANNER 2015

## Planning an event in the village?

Let us know the date of any event you are planning even if it's in the early stages and we can put it in the planner. Contact us if you need information for your date planning.

valpassey@yahoo.com

Tel 490681

or Allen Juxon 490418



**For free publicity in the Lichfield Mercury's village section, please send Jo Owens details of your event. 01543 490555**

[whatsonLongdon@gmail.com](mailto:whatsonLongdon@gmail.com)

## Regular Village Activities

**Jam Club at Church,  
Mondays 2-3.30pm in term time. For  
Mums, Carers, Babies and Toddlers**

W.I. Hall To book contact Margaret Woodard 490389		Longdon Club To book contact 490521 After 8pm		Village Hall to book contact Karen Dawson 492303	
	Over 60s 2nd Tues		Snooker and Pool 8pm	Stretch and Relax class 10.30am Yoga 7.15-8.30pm	Pre-school
			BINGO 8pm	Brownies .... Gentle Shaw Music Society	EVE
	1st Wed - Women's Institute 7.30			Pre-school	AM
	3rd Wed - Flower Club... 490888		Pool 8pm	CAMERA CLUB	EVE
			Snooker and Pool 8pm	Pre-school	AM
			Snooker and Pool 8pm	Prenatal Yoga 7.00-8.30 - 490881	EVE
			Snooker and Pool 8pm	Pre-school	AM
			Snooker and Pool 8pm		EVE
			Snooker and Pool 8pm		AM
			Snooker and Pool 8pm	Table Tennis 8.30pm	EVE
Mon					
Tue					
Wed					
Thur					
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					

		Event	Venue/Time	Contact
Wed	1-Apr	W.I. A history of markets and buildings. Anna Hallet		Janet 01889584119
Sat	4-Apr			
Fri	3-Apr	Good Friday Walk of witness	St James 10.30	
Sun	5-Apr	Easter Day		
Sat	11-Apr	Ground Force in Churchyard	St James Church	Graham490681
Tue	14-Apr	Over 60s Birthday Party 2.30	Horse and Jockey	Sandra 490787
Wed	15-Apr	Coffee Morning at 'Levanto'	Upper Way	Val 492662
Sat	18-Apr	MESSY CHURCH 4pm	St James Church	07709 343326
Sat	25-Apr			
Tue	28-Apr	Flower Arranging and Afternoon Tea with Diana Gudgeon	St James Church	Val 492662
Sat	2-May			
Wed	6-May	Tales of a Mayoress in Birmingham Ann Woodward		Janet 01889584119
Sat	9-May	Ground Force in Churchyard	St James Church	Graham490681
Wed	14-May	Coffee Morning at Fairfield House	Borough Lane	Val 492662
Sat	16-May	MESSY CHURCH 4pm	St James Church	07709 343326
Sat	23-May			
Sat	30-May			
Wed	3-June	W.I Oh to be a farmers wife Barbara Wooding	W.I. Hall	Janet 01889584119
Sat	6-June			
Tues	9-June	Afternoon Tea at Hamley Heath House, Rugeley	2.45-4.15pm	Val 492662
Sat	13-June	Ground Force in Churchyard	St James Church	Graham490681
Sat	20-June	MESSY CHURCH 4pm	St James Church	07709 343326
Sat	27-June	Village Fayre at the school		
Wed	1-July	W.I. Outing to Tanglewood Cottage Barbara Wooding		Janet 01889584119
Wed	1-July	Coffee Morning at Bank House	Brook End	Val 492662
Sat	4-July			
Wed	8-July	Church History Talk with John Shand	St James Church	Val 492662
Sat	11-July	Ground Force in Churchyard	St James Church	Graham490681
Sat	18-July			
Sat	25-July			
Sat	1-Aug			
Wed	5-Aug	W.I Glynis Gayton "Our Daily Bread"	W.I. Hall	Janet 01889584119
Sat	8-Aug	Ground Force in Churchyard	St James Church	Graham490681
Wed	12-Aug	Coffee Morning at 1 Old Barn Mews	Hilltop	Val 492662
Sat	15-Aug			
Sat	22-Aug			
Sat	29-Aug			
Wed	2-Sept	W.I Mac Joseph "Back to Back Houses in Bham"	W.I. Hall	Janet 01889584119
Sat	5-Sept			
Wed	16-Sept	Coffee Morning at Park Cottage	Church Hill	Val 492662
Sat	12-Sept			
Sun	13-Sept	PRODUCE SHOW	Village hall	
Sat	19-Sept	MESSY CHURCH 4pm	St James Church	07709 343326
Sat	26-Sept			
Sat	3-Oct			
Wed	7-Oct	W.I. Richard Winterton "The life of an Auctioneer"	W.I. Hall	Janet 01889584119
Sat	10-Oct	Ground Force in Churchyard	St James Church	Graham490681
Sun	11-Oct	Harvest festival		
Wed	14-Oct	Coffee Morning at Cob Hawthorn	Borough Lane	Val 492662
Fri	16-Oct	Harvest Supper	Village hall	Val 492662
Sat	17-Oct	MESSY CHURCH 4pm	St James Church	07709 343326