



THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

JANUARY. – MARCH 2011

Published
bi-monthly by the
Long Itchington
Parish Council
Clerk: Sue Jack
(tel: 815216)
www.longitchington
parishcouncil.org.uk

INSIDE

Calendar of
Eventsp2

Church & Chapel
Newsp3

Community
Centre &
Other News....p4

DIARY DATES

The next Diary
will run from :

Sunday 13th March,
to
Saturday 14th May
2011
inclusive.

Please send any
contributions by :

**Wednesday, 2nd,
March 2011,
at the latest.**

to the Editor:

Ian Fletcher

4, Village Hall
Cottages, The Green
Long Itchington
CV47 9QH
(tel: 815 413)
e-mail:
ipsoco
@btinternet.com

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL Snow clearing scheme

The County Council is looking for a local Snow Warden to pass on information about local conditions in severe weather, and agree what action is required. Those interested should contact Bryn Patefield at:-
brynpatefield@warwickshire.gov.uk Please include your name, address & phone number.

SNOW CLEARING @ THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

In term time the School Caretaker clears the path to the school, but it has been agreed that it is impractical to clear the paths to the Parish Office and Community Centre when the school is closed.

In the event of sufficiently bad weather at such times, the Clerk will keep the Parish Council informed; and the Community Centre caretaker will keep the Booking Secretary informed - so that relevant users of the Community Centre can determine what action to take with regard to their planned event.

GOVERNMENT SNOW CODE

There is no law stopping you from clearing snow and ice from the pavement outside your property, pathways to your property or public space. If an accident did happen it's highly unlikely that you would be sued, as long as you are careful and use common sense to make sure that you don't make the pathway or pavement clearly more dangerous than before.

People using areas affected by snow or ice also have a responsibility to be careful for themselves.

SEASONAL 'FLU'

It is likely that levels of flu will increase in the next few months, and vaccination is the best means of protection. If you are offered a vaccination please take up the offer.

If you are ill with flu-like symptoms stay at home to avoid infecting others, take plenty of fluids and Paracetamol, but contact your GP surgery by telephone if symptoms persist.

CARE FOR YOUR NEIGHBOURS

During the cold weather many elderly or infirm people are often trapped in their houses. If you know of someone who may be in this situation, please check they have everything they need.

PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY

Ten years ago we carried out a village survey, the results of which helped to shape the Parish Plan and various village projects. This year we are carrying out another survey. Every resident aged 11 and over is encouraged to take part.

Around the weekend of 28/29th January a Parish Council representative, who lives near you, will call on you and give you a questionnaire for each household member to complete, and an envelope to seal them in. Your local rep will then arrange a convenient time to collect the envelope with the completed (anonymous) questionnaires.

The results will be analysed by an independent market research agency with strict confidentiality. Last time we achieved an 83% completion rate and we are hoping to better this in 2011.

Please take part and send us your views on the various topics in the questionnaire. If you have any questions please phone either Sue Jack (Parish Clerk) on ~ 815216 or Barbara Atkins (Parish Councillor) on ~ 814921

FLY TIPPING

Rubbish that has been dumped around the parish can be reported to Stratford District Council on 01789 260616. If you witness a car dumping rubbish take the registration number, note the date and time and a description of the driver and let the Council know. Fines can be up to £50,000 with up to 12 months imprisonment.

INCOME TAX REFUND SCAM

A fraudulent e-mail, purporting to be from the Inland Revenue is circulating at present. It asks you to complete an application form to apply for a refund, with your bank details and personal information. The Inland Revenue have confirmed that they do not send out e-mails requesting such personal information.

WARWICKSHIRE AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE

There are 30 public services and voluntary organisations working to tackle the harm caused by domestic abuse. If you or someone you know is affected by emotional, financial, physical or other forms of abuse contact Freephone 0800-4081552, or visit www.talk2someone.org.uk. In an emergency dial 999.

GRIT BINS

The Parish Council has provided five grit bins around the parish, and able-bodied residents are asked to make use of the grit they contain to improve safety at junctions etc. However, the grit is not for use on private drives.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2011

- Sun 16th Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
United Churches Service – with tea, Chapel, 4:00pm.
- Tue 18th Women's Hour, R Higginbotham, Chapel, 2:30pm.
- Wed 19th W.I. 'Air Ambulance', Community Centre, 7:30pm.
- Sun 23rd Morning Worship, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
Morning Service (all ages), Chapel, 10:00am.
Young Families Church, Holy Trinity, 3:00pm.
Evening Worship, Led by D Hudson, Chapel, 6:15pm.
- Sun 30th Joint Feldon Group Service, Weston - u - Wetherley, 11:00am.
Evening Worship, Led by P Sherley, Chapel, 6:15pm.

FEBRUARY 2011

- Tue 1st Women's Hour, Alzheimer's Society, Chapel, 2:30pm.
Playbox Theatre, Community Centre, 2:30pm.
- Wed 2nd Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7:30pm.
- Thu 3rd Coffee Drop-in & New4U Sale, Chapel, 10:00am.– 12:30pm.
- Sun 6th Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
Evening Communion Service, Chapel, 6:15pm.
- Tue 8th Church Meeting (Chapel), 7:30pm.
- Wed 9th LIFE. Talk, Community Food, Green Man, 7:30pm.
Wednesday Club, AGM, Community Centre, 2:30p.m.
History Group, AGM, Community Centre, 7:30pm.
- Thur 10th Preparing for Easter Course, Chapel, 10:45am.-12:00noon
- Sun 13th Sunday@10, Holy Trinity, 10:00am.
Morning Communion Service, Chapel, 10:00am.
Evening Worship, LFC Worship Group, Chapel, 6:15pm.
- Tue 15th Women's Hour, Chapel, 2.30p.m.
- Wed 16th W. I. 'Tai-Chi, Community Centre, 7:30pm.
- Thur 17th Preparing for Easter Course, Chapel, 10:45am.-12:00noon.
- Fri 18th Quiz & Supper, Chapel, 7:00pm.
- Sun 20th Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
Evening Service, Led by R Higginbotham, Chapel, 6:15pm.
- Thur 24th Preparing for Easter Course, Chapel, 10:45am.-12:00noon.
- Fri 25th Cricket Club AGM. Green Man, 8:0 0pm.
- Sat 26th Rummage Sale, Galanos House, Southam, 2:30pm.
- Sun 27th Morning Worship, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
Morning Service (all ages), Chapel, 10:00am.
Young Families Church, Holy Trinity, 3:00pm.

MARCH 2011

- Tue 1st Women's Hour, Chapel, 2:30pm.
- Wed 2nd Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7:30pm.
- Thur 3rd Coffee Drop-in & New4U Sale, Chapel, 10:00am. – 12:30pm.
- Fri 4th Women's World day of Prayer Service at Holy Trinity.
- Sun 6th Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
Evening Communion Service, Chapel, 6:15pm.
- Wed 9th Ash Wednesday, Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 8:00pm.
Wednesday Club, Community Centre, 2:30pm.
History Group, Community Centre, 7:30pm.
- Thur 10th Preparing for Easter Course, Chapel, 10:45am.-12:00noon.
- Sat 12th Jumble Sale, LI Primary School, School Hall, 12:00-2:00pm.
- Sun 13th Sunday@10, Holy Trinity, 10:00am.
Morning Communion Service, Chapel, 10:00am.
Evening Worship, Led by Dr. J Emery, Chapel, 6:15pm.

CRICKET CLUB NEWS

LICC AGM takes place on **Friday February 25th** - at **The Green Man**,
starting at 8:00pm:

All current & new members are welcome.

Indoor nets start on Friday 18th March.

Further details in next edition of The Diary.

Playbox is Back !

On Tuesday February 1st

*For an entertaining afternoon
of*

Songs and readings

on the theme of:

"A host of golden daffodils"

A farewell to winter and a celebration of spring

A light-hearted recital of words and music
followed by tea and cakes.

In The Community Centre @ 2.30 pm.

Prior booking advisable
as places are limited.

£1.00 (includes entry into the raffle)

To book phone Barbara Atkins on:
~ 814921 (*Lifts can be arranged*)

Event sponsored by The Calendar Group

GALANOS HOUSE, SOUTHAM.

- **Saturday February 26th.**
2:30pm. Rummage Sale
- **Wednesday March 30th.**
7:30pm. Frock-Swap
Everyone Welcome.

Further details from Galanos House.
(Phone: ~ 812185)

Southam & District Lions

- **Friday February 11th 7:30pm.**
Barn Dance @ Southam College
Ploughmans Supper & Bar.
£9.00 per head.

For more info. contact:-

peter.guy@princes-trust.org.uk

- **Friday February 25th 7:30pm.**
Southam Lions Ladies present:
A Charity Quiz, at :-
The Graham Adams Centre.
£10.00 per team of four.
Licensed Bar.

Info. & entry forms from :-
Del Williams, phone -811443.

All proceeds to:- Zoe's Place
Baby Hospice.

- 3rd Annual Poetry Competition
Closing date January 31st.
Entry forms from Southam library,
or phone ~ 810513.
Entry free. Valuable prizes.

www.southamlions.org/lions-events/poetry-2010/

CHAPEL NEWS. *Revd. Marion Hartwell*

I wonder if you watched the BBC dramatisation of the Nativity during Christmas week, and if so did it make you think more deeply about the way Mary, her family and Joseph may have suffered because she had been chosen to give birth to God's Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour. I believe it will be available on DVD if you missed it.

The younger children of Long Itchington C of E Primary School presented the Nativity in a lovely way bringing the story alive through the innocence of children.

I hope the story of the birth of Christ was part of your Christmas in some way and that it will stay with you as we move into the New Year and look towards Easter.

In the Chapel we had a preparation for Christmas Course through Advent. Beginning in February we will have a similar Course to prepare for Easter to which you are all welcome whether you worship with us on Sundays or not. (See the diary for dates.)

For your children, Pilots Club re-opens on Wednesday January 12th at 6-15pm. New members welcome.

I wish you a New Year which surrounds you and your loved ones with the Lord's blessings,

You may contact me on 07812- 804 924. Marion.

LONG ITCHINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Many thanks to everyone who attended our Christmas Shopping Night on 3rd December, despite the snow! With Aubrey Allen's cooking demonstration, a good variety of stalls and a licensed bar, it was a popular evening.

Together with a chocolate tombola, secret wrapping room, and tea towels designed by the children ... we raised over £2000. Thanks to everyone who supported these events and all those involved.

This total has us well on target for the upgrading of equipment for the ICT suite.

Our Annual Jumble Sale is on Saturday 12th March from 12 Noon – 2.00pm within the main School Hall, on Stockton Road. Please put this popular event in your diary now. We always have plenty of bargains including toys, gadgets, games, books, bric-a-brac, lots of clothing and footwear.

All monies raised are put towards purchasing equipment, for the direct benefit of the children.

A good excuse to have an early spring clear out perhaps?

Donations will be gladly accepted and should ideally be dropped off between 10 & 11am on the morning please. If you have any items you would like us to collect, please call Nick on ~ 811559 or Cathy on ~ 817986.

Wishing you a Happy and Prosperous 2011
The School Association Committee.

CHURCH NEWS & VIEWS. *Tim Britton*

THANK YOU

Thank you for all your support for your parish church over the last year. The Christmas tree festival and the Crib Service on Christmas Eve were examples of occasions when lots of people in the village took part, and the church reflected the diversity and life of this community.

It was great to see the church with all the different trees from various organisations giving a really festive atmosphere, and to see so many people of all ages at the Crib Service. Many families had hosted knitted figures of Mary and Joseph for a night in the run up to Christmas, and looked after a knitted lamb until the Crib Service when they brought them up to the Crib, so we had a whole flock of sheep there! Thanks also, to 'Mary and Joseph and the Baby', who put in another appearance at that service!

The parish church really is your church. We receive no funds from the Anglican church or the government, so are totally dependent on local giving for all the upkeep and ministry. We want the building to be an important asset for the whole community, just as we believe Jesus to be central to our lives. So thank you for all you do to make that possible.

LENT

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 9th March. It's a time when many people try to develop the spiritual side of their lives in the run up to Easter. We hope again to run a special course or home groups during Lent, but these have not been planned yet. Details will appear on the website as soon as they are available, and in the church bulletins.

TIM BRITTON

(Phone: ~ 812518, or email:
tim@thefeldongroup.org.uk)

www.thefeldongroup.org.uk

L.I.F.E. Speaker: Canalside Community Food

You are invited to the next L.I.F.E. talk by Tom Ingalls of Canalside Community Food on Wednesday 9th February at 7.30pm in the Back Room of the Green Man. Tom will talk about the Farm which is based near Radford Semele, the group and the project which aims to provide fresh, organic, seasonal, locally grown fruit and vegetables and to involve local people in the process of producing the food they eat. Entry is Free, and the evening is open to all (L.I.F.E. members or non-members). Contact Alison ~ 811857 or Charlotte ~ 811892 for further information.

L.I.F.E. Forthcoming Speaker and Tree Walk

We are pleased to announce that our local M.P. **Jeremy Wright** will be holding a talk in the village on Friday 1st April. He will focus on the government's policies and objectives regarding rural communities and environmental sustainability. For further details see the next (March) diary. A **Spring Tree Walk** is planned for May - starting in the village and taking in all the areas where trees were planted in November 2009. More details to follow in the diary and on village noticeboards. Organisations involved in the tree planting will be also contacted in due course. Contacts as above.

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS.

2011 SPRING SHOW

Included with this edition of the Diary should be a copy of the schedule for this year's **Spring Show** to be held on **Saturday 2nd April** in the Community Centre, Stockton Road. Entries are welcomed from all residents and friends of Long Itchington. We hope that you will find it of interest and that, as usual, many of you will come forward to exhibit the fruits of your labour in a mood of sharing and friendly rivalry! If your copy of the schedule is missing, you can get one by ringing Bill Hammond on ~ 812126 or Chris Hancock on ~ 815217.

There are opportunities to demonstrate your skills and interest in Flowers, Homecrafts and Handicrafts across a wide range of challenging classes. In addition, a new Art Section has been introduced and judging of the entries will be by a public vote, similar to the Photography Section which has proved so popular in recent years. The Calendar Group plan to create the 2012 Village Calendar using the award winning photographs chosen by you but remember, voting ends at 3:00pm on the day!! In addition to their own dedicated classes, children are of course encouraged to enter any other class in the show that takes their fancy.

The Show opens to the public at 1:00pm and concludes around 3:30pm with the announcement of the results, awards and the drawing of the raffle - for which tickets will only be sold on the day. Refreshments will be available during the afternoon and we shall do our best to keep both adults and children amused with suitable activities and pastimes. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the day.

LONG ITCHINGTON CALENDAR - 2011

This year saw greatly reduced sales for our calendar, leaving us with a small loss. Many commented that they had preferred the calendars of 2009 and 2010. The Calendar Group is very sad that villagers were not so keen on this year's effort. We rely on receiving suitably good photographs from you, the village. It would seem that this year we did not receive enough appropriate photos.

All the profits we make go towards village groups and activities, for example - The Wednesday Club's Christmas Party and Summer outing as well as a donation to the Pre-School. Each year we fund a Recital in the Community Centre. We would like to continue to make such contributions. There are plenty of calendars left....!! Contact Sue Jack on ~ 815216.

Please help the calendar group in its work and submit photos to the Spring Show, so that it can make 2012 a more successful year - when the calendar will comprise award winning entries voted for by you !!

WEDNESDAY CLUB and HISTORY GROUP

Both organisations meet at the Community Centre on the second Wednesday of each month at 2:30 and 7:30 pm. respectively. They are always looking to welcome visitors and new members. For further information see village notice boards, or contact Jill Tooby on ~ 812269.

FARMING NOTES.

by *Tony Grimes*

2010 was the coldest year since 1986, and only nine years in the past hundred were colder. January was the coldest since 1987, and December was the coldest since 1890. As far as rain goes, it has been the fourth driest year since 1976 - with just 564mm (22-23") recorded. Perhaps surprisingly, December was the driest with 14mm, or just over ½" recorded in the month.

We haven't quite finished ploughing for the spring crops, but should be able to complete that operation soon.

Perhaps the most interesting recent visitors to the farm have been a flock of what, at first, we thought were Whimbrels. They are quite a rare bird in this country and are normally only seen off the west coast of Scotland - a few pairs mostly in the Shetlands, or on Lewis, the northernmost of the Outer Hebrides. After reading that Whimbrels migrate to the coasts of Africa in winter, a further, closer look identified these birds as Curlews.

A flock of more than twenty such birds in this area is very unusual. The Curlew, Britain's biggest wader, was once confined to moorland. However, it extended its breeding range strikingly in the 1900's - until it now nests almost everywhere in the UK. Curlews breed on moors, heaths, sand-dunes, bogs and even in river shingle. In winter you would expect to find them wading over coastal marshes and mudflats. The Curlew is a large bird, approximately the size of a cock-pheasant, with long legs and a downward curved bill. This flock was with us for four days and they spent most of their time on the cricket pitch digging for insects and worms.

Another rare local visitor - to a reserve near Dunchurch - has been a Black-tailed Godwit. Early in the 19th Century it was lost to Britain as a breeding-bird - through extensive draining of fens and marshes, and also extensive netting 'for the table': but it is now beginning to make a comeback. Rather like the Curlew it is a wading bird - mainly in coastal areas. Smaller than a Curlew, with long legs and a straight bill, it also normally migrates to the African coasts.

VOLUNTEER HELP FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Arthur Rank Training, is an independent, charitable organization providing education and training opportunities for 14-19 yr-olds. It is looking to become more involved in Community Projects - providing some free labour in exchange for time spent being part of a meaningful project - preferably in an outdoor setting, working alongside a variety of people from different walks of life. Initially they are able to offer some basic labouring, possibly site-clearing or digging for example, with a small group of 16-19 yr-olds - supervised by a competent and experienced member of staff. If village organisations feel that they have use for an extra 'few pairs of hands' - even for just a few hours - and would be happy to work along side a young person, please feel free to contact them, via Ariadne Uslu, at **Warwickshire Rural Community Council**. Phone: 02476-217390 or e-mail: competitions@wrccrural.org.uk

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LONG ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL ARE :-

The Community Centre, Stockton Road, Long Itchington, Southam, CV47 9QP. Contact: **Sue Jack, Parish Clerk**. The office is open five mornings a week, and all planning applications relating to the village can be viewed there, although making an appointment is advisable - to ensure that the plans are on site.

Phone: ~ 815 216. E-mail: liparishcouncil@aol.com Website: www.longitchingtonparishcouncil.org.uk