



THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

MARCH – MAY 2011

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Long Itchington
Parish Council
Clerk: Sue Jack
(Phone: 815216)
www.
longitchington.org.uk

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DIARY DATES

The next Diary
will run from :

Sunday 15th May,
to
Saturday 9th July
2011
inclusive.

Please send any
contributions by :

**Wednesday 27th
April 2011,
at the latest.**

to the Editor:

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LONG ITCHINGTON SURVEY

A high rate of return

Last month all Long Itchington residents over the age of 10 were given the opportunity to express their views, through a questionnaire covering a wide variety of topics.

We are thrilled to report that we achieved an 82% response rate across the Parish. This represents completed questionnaires from 732 households and 1456 individuals.

This marvellous result means that our findings really do have the backing of the community. The Parish Council would like to say a big thank you to all who took part. The survey has received substantial financial backing from Warwickshire County Council via Bob Stevens and we have been very grateful for that.

Over 50 volunteers delivered and collected questionnaires, and we also thank them for all their hard work.

Detailed results of the survey will be presented at the **Annual Parish Meeting on Saturday April 16th in the Community Centre.**

VOLUNTEERS

It was very heartening that, during the recent survey, 150 people sent back volunteer sheets offering to help with various organisations and activities within the Parish. Almost every activity attracted some interest from "Brownies" to "footpaths". If you volunteered then expect a phone call in the next two weeks to discuss how you can help. A couple of people filled in forms but forgot to put their contact details. If you did volunteer, but haven't heard from us by the end of March, please ring Barbara Atkins on ~ 814921.

NATIONAL CENSUS 2011

From 27th March, Stratford District Council will be undertaking their part of the National Census. Census figures are collected every ten years, and used to help the government to distribute funding for healthcare, education, transport and other services. It is a legal requirement for everyone to complete the form so that the relevant authorities can respond to community needs effectively.

HS2 (High Speed Rail) - have your say

The formal consultation period has now begun and lasts until 29th July 2011. For details of the route between London and the West Midlands, which passes through this parish near Bascote, look online at:-

<http://highspeedrail.dft.gov.uk>
or for paper copies phone: 0300- 321 1010.

COUNCILLOR BOB STEVENS ..

.. will be standing down this year as your District Councillor on Stratford District Council. There will be a bye-election on May 5th – the same day as the referendum on the Alternative Voting system.

Councillor Stevens will be continuing as County Councillor for the Feldon Division of WCC.

The Parish Council would like to thank Bob for his hard work and dedication on behalf of the residents of our Parish over the past 19 years.

COMMUNITY FORUMS

These are advisory bodies that act as key vehicles for community engagement within the locality. Members of the public can raise issues of concern and solutions to those concerns can be worked out. The next forum meeting in this area is at 7pm on 16th March at Ladbroke Village Hall (CV47 2BY), with a meeting at 6:30pm to discuss priorities with the police. The main topics will be Public Sector Budgets update, the future of health services, the Big Society: what does it mean to you? Contact Amanda Wilson-Patterson by phoning 01789 260135 or e-mail:

amandawilsonpatterson@warwickshire.gov.uk

DOG FOULING ON PATHS

Complaints again have been received about owners allowing their dogs to foul paths in parts of the village – particularly around Orchard Way. Offenders can be fined up to £1000 for allowing this, as it causes considerable inconvenience to pedestrians and wheelchair users.

POTHOLES etc.

If you notice potholes, pavement repairs or highway lighting problems, report them direct to County Highways on 01926 412515, or online at www.warwickshire.gov.uk.

For street lighting in the village, report any faults to Sue Jack, Parish Clerk, on ~ 815216.

GOLF BAN @ GREEN END PLAYING FIELDS

The Parish Council has again banned the playing of golf at the playing fields, as it is potentially dangerous to others using the facilities.

LILAC @ GREEN END PLAYING FIELDS

A planning application has been submitted to Stratford-on-Avon District Council for essential drainage works to the fields at Green End. Funds have been secured from Warwickshire County Council by way of a much appreciated grant.

The planning application also includes provision for a car park off the Marton Road - this is a high priority, to relieve the inconvenience of Green End residents during match days. We hope to get approval and start work within a few weeks.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 2011

- Sun 13th Holy Trinity, Sunday@10, 10:00am.
Chapel, Morning Communion 10:00am.
Wulfstan Dynamos (Long Itchington FC.), Division 5 Cup Final
v Priors United, at Stockton FC. Kick-off 3:00pm.
Chapel Evening Worship, led by Dr John Emery 6:15pm
- Tue 15th Chapel, Women's Hour, 2:30pm.
- Wed 16th W.I. Geology & Scenery of Warwicks. Community Ctr, 7:30pm.
- Wed 23rd L.I.F.E. AGM, Green Man, 7:30pm.
- Sun 20th Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
Chapel, Evening Worship, led by Marion Hartwell, 6:15pm.
- Fri 25th Marathon Quiz, Community Centre 7:30pm, Details adjacent..
- Sun 27th Holy Trinity, Morning Worship, 9:30am. (BST)
Chapel, Morning Services, 10:00am..
Young Families Church, Holy Trinity 3:00pm.
Chapel, Evening Worship, led by Roy Buchanan, 6:15pm.
- Tue 29th Playbox Theatre, Community Centre, 2:30pm. Details adjacent.
- Thur 31st Chapel, Preparation for Easter Study, 10:45am.

April 2011

- Sat 2nd Spring Show, Community Centre, see details adjacent...
Also Community Centre, Bosom Buddies Quiz Night, 7:30pm.
- Sun 3rd MOTHERING SUNDAY, Holy Trinity, Sunday@10, 10:00am.
Evening Worship, Chapel, 6:15pm.
- Mon 4th LILAC Meeting, Buck & Bell, 7:30pm
- Tue 5th Chapel, Women's Hour, 2:30pm.
- Wed 6th Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7:30pm.
- Thur 7th Chapel, Coffee Drop-in & NEW4U Sale 10:00 – 12:30pm
- Sun 10th Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
Followed by Annual meeting.
Chapel, Morning Communion Services, 10:00am.
Chapel, Evening Worship, led by John Desmond, 6:15pm.
- Wed 13th Wednesday Club, "The Bakery" Community Centre, 2:30
History Group, Community Centre, 7:30pm. To be arranged.
- Thur 14th Chapel, Easter Preparation Study, 10:45am..
- Sat 16th **Annual Parish Meeting**, Community Centre, 9:00 for 10:00am.
- Sun 17th PALM SUNDAY, Palm Sunday Service, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
Evening Worship, Chapel, 6:15pm.
- Tue 19th Chapel, Women's Hour, 2:30pm.
- Wed 20th W.I. 'Clarice Cliff', Community Centre, 7:30pm.
- Thur 21st Maundy Thursday, Chapel, Maundy Thursday Service 2:30pm
Holy Communion and vigil, Holy Trinity, 8:00pm.
- Fri 22nd GOOD FRIDAY, Holy Trinity, Music & meditation 2:00pm
Chapel, Good Friday Service, led by Dr John Emery, 7:30pm.
- Sun 24th EASTER DAY, Family Communion, Holy Trinity, 9:30am.
Chapel, Easter Sunday Communion Service, 10:00am.
Young Families Church, Holy Trinity, 3:00pm.
Chapel, Easter Sunday Evening Service, 6:15pm.

MAY 2011

- Sun 1st Holy Trinity, Holy Communion, 9:30am.
Chapel, Evening Communion, led by Ridley Ellis, 6:15pm
- Tue 3rd Chapel, Women's Hour Bring & Buy Sale, 2:30pm.
- Wed 4th Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7:30pm.
- Thur 5th Chapel, Coffee Drop-in & NEW4U Sale 10:00 – 12:30pm
- Sun 8th Holy Trinity, Sunday@10, 10:00am.
Chapel, Morning Communion Service 10:00am.
Chapel, Evening Worship, led by Betty Blower, 6:15pm.
- Wed 11th Wednesday Club, Open Meeting, Community Centre, 2:30pm.

Community Centre
Friday 25th March. 7:30 for 8:00pm.

Marathon Quiz

In aid of :- Acorns Children's Charity,
and The Cornelia De Lange
Syndrome Foundation.
Licensed bar.
Teams of four - £20 per team.
Book with Steve Mitchell on
~ 812210 or 07717-213182.
or e-mail
mitchellasm@yahoo.co.uk

Playbox Recital

'A Host of Golden Daffodils'

This event, postponed from February,
will take place at

The Community Centre

on

Tuesday 29th March at 2:30 pm.

Readings and music to celebrate
Spring will be given by members of
Playbox Theatre. For tickets in
advance please ring Barbara Atkins
(~ 814921). £1 secures you a seat,
and entry into the raffle.
Tea and cakes will be provided.

SPRING SHOW

***** April 2nd *****

At the Community Centre

From 1:00 - 3:30pm.

Exhibits received & staged 10:00-11:30am
Followed by judging 11:30 – 1:00pm.

We'll be waiting for you!

Don't forget - Flowers, Homecrafts
and Handicrafts will be accepted on
the day but Photographs and entries
for the new Art competition must be
received by Thursday 31st March at
any of the designated points.

**If you haven't already received
your schedule, please call
Bill Hammond - 812126
Chris Hancock - 815217**

Once again, in addition to sideshows,
etc., we have the ever popular
L.I.F.E. Potato competition for
children under 12, and face-painting.
Come and collect your seed potatoes
and instructions from the L.I.F.E.
stall. Prizes for the heaviest crop of
potatoes brought back to the Autumn
Show on September 9th !!

CHAPEL NEWS. *Rev. Marion Hartwell*

The Chapel news is the GOOD NEWS of EASTER - that Jesus was raised from the tomb.

On Easter Day, we will celebrate that Jesus lives and that through him all Christians will live, transformed with new bodies after death, to meet up in heaven with those they have loved.

Come and celebrate this GOOD NEWS with us at 10am and again at 6:15pm. And please bring your children for the Easter Bonanza.

We also have vacancies for the Pilots Club - held on Wednesdays in Term time for children aged 4-10years.

Wishing you Easter blessings, Marion.
(If you wish, you may contact me on 07812- 804 924.)

LONG ITCHINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Although you will probably receive this edition of The Diary too late for you to contribute to, or attend, our Annual Jumble Sale (Saturday March 12th, 12 'til 2pm) in the School Hall, Stockton Road. If you're having a sort out, any soft items (soft toys, clothing, bedding, footwear, curtains, handbags) can also be donated on **Monday 14th March before 9:00am** for our Bags2school collection. We are paid by weight and this usually raises a further £500 a year for the school. An excellent recycling opportunity for us all!

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

We are still collecting used printer and toner cartridges (laser or inkjet) please continue to drop these into school.

MOBILE PHONES

For every 200 mobile phones we collect, we raise £300 for school funds. Please remember to remove the SIM card before donating any phones to us.

COUPON COLLECTIONS

We are continually collecting the following:-

- NESTLE BOX TOPS – for books
- TESCO – Books for Schools vouchers
- SAINSBURY'S – Active vouchers for school sports eqpt.

**Thank you for your continued support
The School Association Committee.**

LONG ITCHINGTON CRICKET CLUB

At the recent AGM Steve Crosthwaite was re-appointed as Chairman, Alex Jack. as Secretary, Martyn Rawbone as Treasurer, Club/Saturday 1st X1 Captain Nick Brooks, 2nd X1 Captain Graham Foster. Re-appointed as Sunday Captain was Steve Chapman, and Junior Co-ordinator John Breakwell.

Indoor nets will be held at Princethorpe College between 7:15pm and 9:00pm on Tuesday's 22/3, 29/3, 12/4 and 19/4. Existing and potential new members will be made most welcome. For further information please contact either Steve Crosthwaite on ~814971 or Martyn Rawbone on ~ 332179. For further details see the next (May) Diary.

CHURCH NEWS & VIEWS. *Tim Britton*

APRIL CHANGE IN SERVICES

Please note the change in services in April. As Mothering Sunday falls on the 3rd April, we have decided to have the Sunday@10 service then - as a special Mothering Sunday service at 10am. Our other services will be at 9:30am. April 10th will be a normal Communion service, but then on the 17th (Palm Sunday) we will have a special service to mark Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem at the beginning of the week leading up to Good Friday and Easter. On Good Friday we will be joined by a choir for music and meditation at 2pm, to mark the last hour of Jesus' crucifixion. The Easter Day 9:30 service will be a family Communion service in which we celebrate Jesus' resurrection and triumph over death on our behalf. We will also have a Young Families Church on Easter Day - including an Easter egg hunt.

EASTER

Jesus was crucified on the instructions of the Roman governor Pontius Pilate. That method of execution was the most painful and shameful known, given to the most godly and loving person known; yet we call the day 'Good Friday' – because we believe Jesus, the Son of God, took the world's evil onto himself and opened the way for us to be part of a new, perfect, everlasting world. Jesus died and was buried that day in a rock tomb; but the following Sunday he rose from the dead, proof and guarantee of what is to come. If Jesus did not physically rise from the dead, Christianity is hogwash. But how else do you explain the empty tomb and the incredible change that came over his followers who claimed that they had encountered him? Because of Easter, Christians claim a relationship with the living Lord Jesus. That makes all the difference!

TIM BRITTON

(Phone: ~ 812 518, or email:
tim@thefeldongroup.org.uk)

www.thefeldongroup.org.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ALERTS.

1. Be very aware of a recent hole in the wall 'scam' at the local Co-op store. Typically you enter your card and pin number into the ATM; you request an amount of money but your card is not returned. So who is the first person you are going to tell? The Co-op manager or staff – so in you go. However, by the time that you return to the cash machine some thief has manipulated the system, withdrawn your card and money and 'scarpered' with it. The person responsible for this is believed to be a white male wearing a distinguishable, brightly coloured top/jacket. Have you seen anyone suspicious hanging around near the Co-op?

2. Two recent house burglaries: one in Dale Close, and the other Church Road. ALWAYS lock your doors even though you are in and watching television. Alert the local community police if you spot anything that you consider suspicious. Eg vehicle(s), person(s) etc. Let's make Long Itchington a safer place. I am in possession of crime prevention leaflets and stickers, and neighbourhood watch material. Should you require any of the above please contact me, Allan Charles, on acharles629@hotmail.com or telephone ~ 812751.

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS.

L.I.F.E. @ The Spring Show.

Along with all the usual displays and exhibits of the Spring Show on Saturday 2nd April, LIFE will be there again with the Children's Sunflower and Potato Competitions. Don't forget to call by and collect your free seeds and tubers to grow and enter, returning at the Autumn Show for ceremonial weighing and measuring with rosettes and prizes too of course!

HISTORY GROUP.

Our programme of speakers has yet to be completed – please keep an eye on the village notice boards.

Our exhibition of memorabilia of football in Long Itchington was well received, so we hope to repeat the exercise as soon as the cabinet in the foyer of **the Community Centre** is free. Our next display will feature "The Old Village Hall". If you have any suitable material – such as concert programmes or tickets, or memories of the touring cinema, or the dances - that we could borrow then please contact Jill Tooby ~ 812269.

BOSOM BUDDIES - QUIZ NIGHT.

A team of 6 ladies from the village, are taking part in the Moonwalk - walking 26.2 miles at night through London in May. A mad idea ? - but for a good cause, and for our friends and families who have been affected by Breast Cancer.

On **Saturday 2nd April** we are holding a **Quiz Night at the Community Centre** in aid of 'Walkthewalk' against Breast Cancer. Please come and join us for a fun evening with supper too! Arrive around 7:30pm for an 8:00pm start.

Tickets in advance, including Chilli Supper, £25 per Team of 4. Good prizes, Raffle and Licensed Bar. Tickets available from Alison ~ 811857, Banu ~ 817562, Charlotte ~ 811892, Julia ~ 633437, Louise ~ 814154 or Sharon ~ 815650.

Also, look out for us around the village, 'in the pink' over the Beer Festival weekend when we will be helping to keep the children happy, and raising money for Walkthewalk - along with the L.I. School and Brownies!!

THE BUNTING BABES

A group of villagers are planning to decorate as much of the village as they can with bunting for the Royal Wedding on Friday April 29th - and The Beer Festival weekend that follows. Volunteers are needed to help with cutting triangles and sewing bunting onto tape. Help will also be needed to hang the bunting. Brightly coloured material, binding tape and cotton are also needed. If you can help, particularly if you know where we can obtain a mile or more of tape! then please contact Mark or Sharon at The Green Man. ~ 812 208.

SCF (Save The Children Fund) WEEK

House to House Collection April 24th – April 30th. Can you please help to collect in one road, or even a small group of cottages ? If so then please contact Pam Fletcher on ~ 815413.

COUNTRYSIDE NOTES. *by Tony Grimes*

The first two months of the year have been very chilly, with 74mm (nearly 3") of rain in total.

Soil conditions were perfect for planting spring barley in the first week of February, but the ground temperature was too low. Experience shows that in these conditions, the grain will take root, but it will just sit there waiting for the temperature to rise, and this increases the risk of seed rot.

Grain marketing for 2011 harvesting has been difficult. Normally we put our grain into a pool, covering the seven months from January to July - and receiving the average price for that period. Until recently this has been a worthwhile option, but now it would be sensible to fix a price ahead of sale. The market is so volatile at present, due to the problems in Libya - and other oil-producing countries. As I write I have just discovered that wheat has dropped by £30/ton. Rightly or wrongly we've fixed our linseed and malting-barley prices – so fingers crossed.

I am pleased to report that we have recently had a large flock of Yellowhammers, up to 25 birds, in the hedgerows about 100 to 200 yards from the farm buildings – they were here for 3 or 4 weeks. In the winter Yellowhammers become gregarious, and often flock with other seed-eaters to feed in stubble-fields. Yellowhammers avoid areas where there are buildings, and rarely enter gardens – even in the countryside – yet it is not particularly shy of people.

Last month I wrote about Curlews, the collective noun for which, perhaps surprisingly, is 'a herd'. Unfortunately there is no such unusual collective noun for Yellowhammers.

TREES & HEDGEROWS

The trees we planted during the LIFE/National Tree Week project in November 2009 are still young and need 'TLC'. Unfortunately the stakes supporting our cherry trees on the memorial site - opposite the Trading Estate - have disappeared. Luckily these trees appear sufficiently well established to survive unsupported - but please keep an eye on them. In dry weather they will still need watering.

We have recently acquired some Warwickshire Elm Trees (reportedly immune to Dutch Elm disease), so we plan to plant six of them along the eastern border of the new LILAC Playing Field. We also hope to get some holly bushes from Stratford DC, to plant along the southern border of the field - along the Green End fence. We hope that this will help to shield the residents from some of the potential noise of the sporting activities on the field; and may eventually allow us to do away with the chain-link and concrete fence - whilst still proving an effective barrier.

Christopher Purser

Village Tree Warden.

'STOP PRESS' L.I.F.E. Speaker, **Jeremy Wright M.P.** has had to postpone his talk scheduled for Friday 1st April. This will be rearranged, and a new date set for the autumn.

Note: Annual Parish Meeting, at The Community Centre, on Saturday April 16th, from 9:00am. - details enclosed.

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.longitchington.org.uk