



THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

May 2020

Published
bi-monthly by the
Long Itchington
Parish Council
(Phone: ~ 815216)
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**Parish Council
Meeting
takes place on
Wednesday 6th
May.**

Agenda items can be
found at
www.longitchington.org.uk

Residents can send
comments in
advance of the
meeting to

[parishcouncil@
longitchington.com](mailto:parishcouncil@longitchington.com)

Welcome to our virtual Diary.

We hope you enjoy reading it and find it useful and entertaining. If you feel it's safe to do so, please print and give to neighbours who do not have access to our emails.

So how are we doing? It feels as though the majority are coping well and there's a lot of support and helping from neighbours and friends. The weekly clapping for keyworkers is both moving and uplifting with what seems to be the whole parish taking part.

Sometimes there isn't much we can do except stay safe. The single most important action we can all take, in fighting coronavirus, is to stay at home in order to protect ourselves, others and the NHS; this will save lives. By continuing to maintain limited day-to-day contact with other people, we will reduce the spread of the infection.

We have many willing volunteers in the community who are more than happy to get shopping, collect prescriptions or chat on the phone. If you feel you need to stay at home because of age or health-related issues then do take advantage of this resource – details are on page 2.

In the meantime, we wish everyone well and hope that very soon we will all be able to get together for a celebration of our wonderful community.



Parish Council plans socially distanced celebration on May 8th

We wanted to let everyone know that plans are progressing to celebrate VE Day in the afternoon of May 8th. There has been a great deal of interest in tea parties happening in front gardens and it would be lovely to see this taking place in a responsible, socially distanced way!!

There will be a short commemoration at 3.00pm which will be live-streamed to everyone who has the technology and we encourage you to break out the bunting, flags and all manner of red, white and blue decorations to adorn homes and gardens.

For other streamed events taking place, see the timetable on page 4. And it's not too late to make bunting, see page 6.



Some practical guidance when out and about

While we are fortunate to live in a rural setting, we must ensure that we are adhering to the guidelines and be aware of other walkers or farmers when using the footpaths. Maintaining social distancing is essential and where practicable, not touching gates or stiles with hands (or using sanitiser before and after doing so), making sure that we do not touch our faces.

For clarity, there is no evidence of coronavirus circulating in pets or other animals in the UK and there is nothing to suggest animals may transmit the disease to humans. In line with the general advice on fighting coronavirus, you should wash your hands regularly, including before and after contact with animals. Vets are only permitted to treat animals in urgent cases.

Dogs should be walked and horses should be cared for as part of your daily exercise. Cats will inevitably keep to their own routine, but you should wash your hands after handling them. Please do not feed horses that don't belong to you.

Farmers and those rearing food producing animals are classed as critical workers so are far less restricted when it comes to tending to their livestock.



Volunteers are ready and able to pick up prescriptions, get your shopping or have a chat on the phone

Our volunteers' initiative has been very successful, so we are broadening it to include anyone who feels they must stay at home for reasons of health. This might be age-related or because of underlying health conditions and needing to stay safe. If you are in this category please either phone the Parish Council on **01926 815216** or email us at parishcouncil@longitchington.com. We wish to thank all our volunteers very much for their efforts.

For prescriptions

Pick ups will be taking place **once on Wednesdays and once on Fridays** and the **recipient's name and address must be on our list** so that the pharmacy can prepare the prescription in advance. In an emergency we would always try to accommodate you on a different day.

To be added to the pickup list **please tell us by 6.00 pm the night before pickup day**. Or on any day before. For people who do not pay please also tell us the reason you don't need to pay.

CHECKLIST:

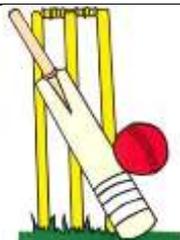
Your name	A safe place to leave the prescription
Your address	Number of items on the prescription
Your phone number (preferably landline)	Reason you don't pay

For shopping

If you are struggling to shop, please ring or email - details above. We will need to discuss payment options before we arrange a volunteer.

Anything else.....

Residents of any age, please do contact us if you need help with anything else or if you feel lonely and want to talk to someone and we will put you in touch with someone appropriate to your needs.



Long Itchington Cricket Club

Practice and matches

Sadly the current lock-down has meant that the ECB (English Cricket Board) have instructed that all cricketing activities (practice and matches) must be ceased until the current situation improves. As a result, we have a cricket ground all ready for the season, but with no-one allowed to play on it for the foreseeable future! We are keeping the grass cut, so as soon as we have the all-clear to resume activities, we will be in touch (via e-mail/Facebook and word of mouth) to let everyone know. In the meantime, stay safe!!

Party on the Pitch

We have Room 17 booked to perform at what is now our annual outdoor event, this year scheduled for Saturday 20th June. We haven't cancelled yet, but will continue to see what the advice is coming from the Government. Whilst it seems unlikely that it will take place - again, please "watch this space" and we will let everyone know what is happening via the normal channels.



Although the WI is no longer able to hold its monthly meetings, members are keeping in touch with each other through regular phone calls, email, Facebook and Whats App groups. In this way members are sharing photos, ideas and stories and doing quizzes while staying at home and the WI committee is holding its committee meetings on-line.

As a first stay-at-home project members are knitting and crocheting squares which will be sewn to into blankets, when members can get together again and given to people who need them.

Long Itchington WI members are also using their skills to support the NHS and are making PPE equipment for staff at Warwick Hospital. So far, more than 90 laundry bags, 30 headbands (very popular with staff to wear with masks) and 24 sets of scrubs have been made and delivered and there are more on the way. Members have also crocheted pairs of hearts in response to a request by Warwick Hospital to help them comfort bereaved relatives. The WI is also sending packaged biscuits to staff at the hospital as a small thank you for all that they are doing for us.



Holy Trinity Church - our doors are closed, but our hearts are open

"We might be in lock-down, but we're unlocking many things." At Holy Trinity the door is shut but we are still positive. The church tower is floodlit each evening to show that the church community is still active, and to thank all who are helping in the fight against the virus.

To help us through these troubled times, there is a weekly Sunday service to allow people to reflect on their past week, sing or read hymns, say prayers, study a story from the Bible, and come a little closer to God. If you think that you may find this helpful, send an email to Rosie (andyandrosie@fiscali.co.uk) to be added to the distribution. This is open to all in the village. Anyone who does not do email, please ring Sue Myhill on 814050 who will arrange for a paper copy to be delivered. Visit our Facebook page **Holy Trinity Church Long Itchington**, where you can download service videos.

Reverend Jane is currently on sick leave and we wish her a speedy return to good health.

Coventry Diocese's new website gives the latest guidance, resources, news and stories relating to the current situation. <https://www.coventry.anglican.org>.

Ways of keeping in touch

KEEP IN TOUCH



If you have access to a computer or mobile phone you might want to consider joining Facebook, where you will find the Parish Council page – Long Itchington Parish Council and the Long Itchington Community Spirit page offering contact with other residents.

The Parish Council sends regular emails to residents, updating on the latest parish news as well as the latest coronavirus information.



If you wish to join up please email on parishcouncil@longitchington.com

There is also the PC website – <https://www.longitchington.org.uk>

If you just want to talk we have many volunteers who would be happy to do just that. Ring **01926 815216** to set this up.

Timetable for VE Day – 8th May 2020



First of all – in preparation for the day, decorate your home with bunting and flags and make sure you can watch and listen from 3.00pm at the PC Facebook page.

Please help neighbours to find our Facebook page – *Long Itchington Parish Council* in advance of May 8th

Without wishing to be kill-joys we must stress that the celebrations we are encouraging are to be within social distancing regulations. Sadly, it's not a street party. While we can't join together to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day, we can still honour the memories of those who lost loved ones during WWII by protecting our families and friends *now*. Please stay within the confines of your home or garden and do your bit to reduce the spread of infection and ultimately save lives, by having Afternoon Tea at home and enjoying our talented musicians.

Upload photos of your parties using the hashtag #LongItchVEDay onto Facebook. Make sure your post is public so we can all see it.

11.00 am	Two-minutes silence - nationwide
3.00 pm	Short commemoration live streamed in Long Itchington
3.15 pm	Music by local residents, including Hannah Marie and other surprises – live streamed onto the Parish Council Facebook page

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has produced a [template pack](https://ve-vjday75.gov.uk/toolkit/) <https://ve-vjday75.gov.uk/toolkit/> so that the public can hold a 1940s style afternoon tea party at home complete with homemade VE Day bunting, original recipes, games, and <https://ve-vjday75.gov.uk/dan-snows-ve-day-challenge/>



Keep yourself and the kids amused

Next time you take the youngsters for a walk, there's a game to play as you go through the village.

Just how many Teddy Bears can you see in windows? Or NHS Rainbows? Count as you go. Are there more teddies than rainbows? Or more rainbows than teddies?



And what about I Spy at the pond. Can you count the ducklings when they dash through the water at high speed or hide themselves in the reeds? Have you noticed that some are really brave and swim far from Mum while others stay close? Listen out for her calling sound so all her ducklings know where she is.



Mums and Dads, you probably already know many websites to use to keep the young ones occupied. You may not have come across these.

For the budding young artist: <http://www.robbiddulph.com/draw-with-rob>. Rob Biddulph has a host of short videos on YouTube lasting between 10 and 20 minutes with very clear instructions.



Have have a look at: <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/what-we-do/coronavirus-information-advice/keeping-kids-entertained-during-lockdown>. Here you'll find anything from creating a den to making pom-poms.

Then there's always Cbeebies <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies> or another useful Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PlanCGroup/>

Like **Pop Bottle Bowling**. All you need is 6 to 10 empty plastic bottles (500 ml or smaller) and a ball. Set the bottles up ten-pin bowling style. The player rolls the ball at the bottles and tries to knock them over. Babies and toddlers will have fun just making the bottles fall, older kids can make a proper game of it making any rules they like, e.g. 3 rolls of the ball and the winner is the one who

most



knocks over bottles.

Or make a simple **Jigsaw** out of an old birthday card. Using just the front with the picture, cut into six to eight pieces of odd shapes, shake them up - you've got a jigsaw!

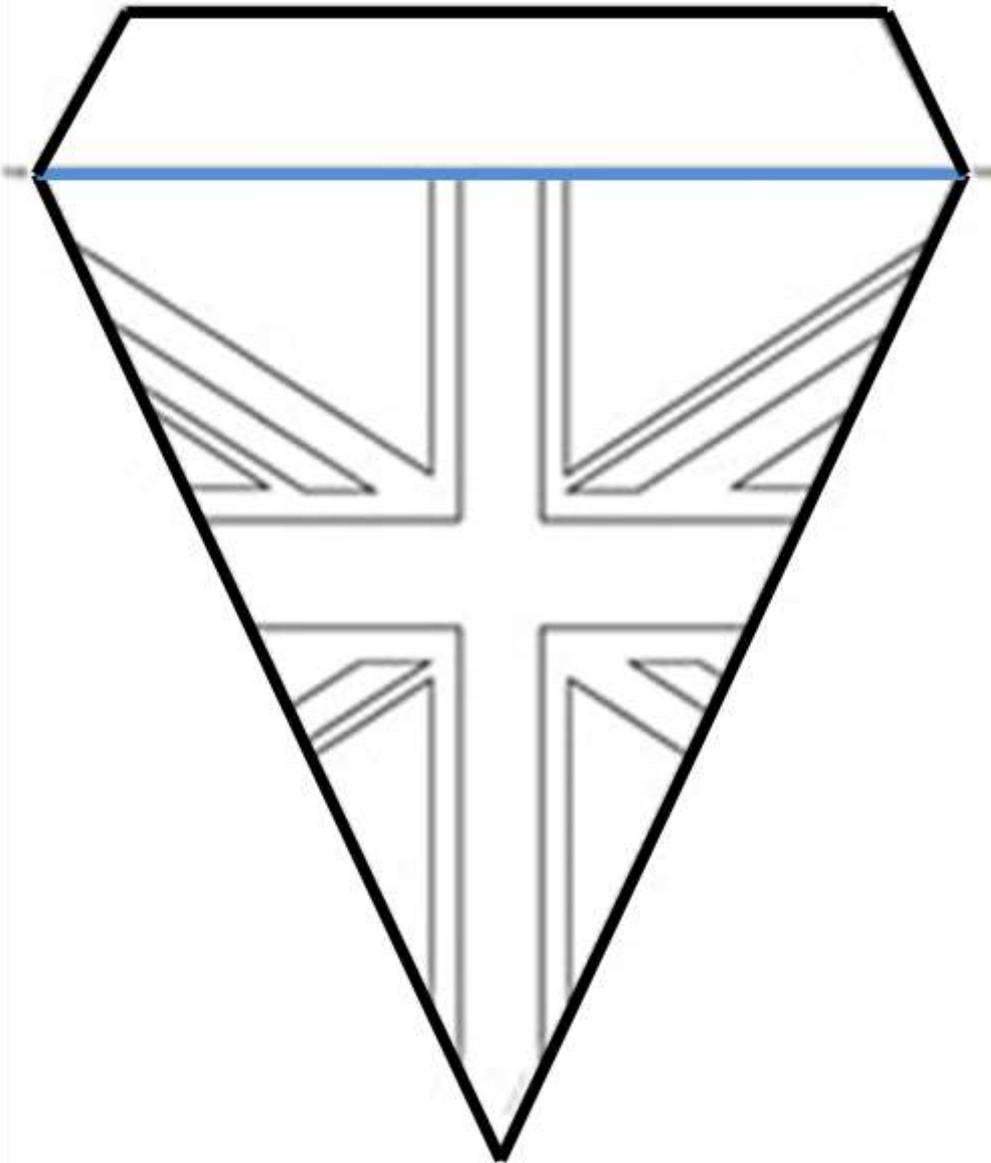


[The Great Long Itchington Corona Sunflower Project](#)  - links to page if you are already on Facebook

In these times of uncertainty, unfamiliarity, fear and sadness we are stronger together. Children not having regular access to education or exercise is a massive upheaval and could have a negative effect. Not seeing friends they've seen daily all their lives is going to be difficult to explain.

Back to basics, Back to nature, **Grow a Sunflower** 

QUICK-MAKE BUNTING FOR VE DAY



Here's a super-quick way to make bunting in time for VE-Day. Print this page (File, Print, Current Page, Okay) , printing as many copies as you might need. Then cut the flag along the heavy black **outside** line. Print as many copies as you want. Get out the paints and colour in each flag. When finished, fold back at the blue line. Put a long piece of string or ribbon on a flat surface. Place each flag face down **under** the string so the string **lies in the fold line**, leaving enough string free at each end to make sure you can hang the bunting. Put glue along the under edges of the fold and press down. And there you are, a string of bunting – easy peasy!

Long Itchington

A Walk on the Wild Side



During this national crisis many of us have had a great opportunity to see nature at closer quarters than ever before, and explore our local wildlife spots as part of our one hour outdoor exercise. But for some going outside to see it for themselves is not possible, so an audio guided wildlife walk has been produced, based on a walk during September 2019. Produced in five separate parts, it is hoped that this guided walk will be of interest and help boost morale in these difficult times.

First, have a look at this video from the Long Itchington Parish Council website which will introduce you to the wild places of our parish: <http://longitchingtonwildlife.org.uk/>

Then join Phil Claydon, our Wildlife Warden, to listen and to watch Part 1 of a Walk on the Wild Side here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4ssQbXQ6YU&t=1s>. Parts 2-5 to come.

Find out what flora and fauna share this parish with us and why living in a rural community such as ours can be so rewarding.

Local Food Home Delivery & Take Away Services

- Southam Fruit & Vegetables
Fruit, vegetables, eggs.
Collection or Delivery-Call Shane 07503 510554
Or email: hodgett19752010@hotmail.co.uk
payment- card or cash
- The Harvester-Long Itchington
Take Away food Pizza & Fish and Chips
Call 01926 812698
- The Buck & Bell, Long Itchington
Take away meals(various) Thurs. Fri.
Sat. 5.00 – 8.00
Sunday lunch – 12.30 – 3.30 £8.95
Please ring in advance – 01926
259221
- Rachel Harris – Fruit, Vegetables and
Salad boxes at £15 each incs. delivery
Individual boxes of either fruit,
vegetables or salad
Phone: 07851 089825 to order by text

QuizTime

Calling all ramblers, walkers and strollers! Next time you go for your daily constitutional around the village, take a printed copy of this page and have a go at the quiz.

Can you identify the places shown below? Each one is taken at some point from one of the Rights of Way footpaths around the parish.

 <p>1.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>	 <p>2.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>
 <p>3.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>	 <p>4.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>
 <p>5.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>	 <p>6.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>

- Answers**
- 1. SM5 Approaching Stonebridge Lane
 - 2. SM2 Approaching White Hall Farm
 - 3. SM24 Stoney Thorpe Hall/Polo Grounds.
 - 4. SM3a Approached from Thorn Way
 - 5. SM8 Approaching Marton Road Farm from A423
 - 6. SM3 From The Green

More pictures of footpaths for you to find will be uploaded onto our website in the next few weeks.