

A publication by Langford Parish Council

The Langford Diary

Editor: Trudy Emery

Diary Office: trudyemery1@ntlworld.com

Tel: 01462 636638

Edition 203

**Responses to
Langford
Neighbourhood
Plan page 4**



Spring 2019



**See Langford
Football Club
FREE ENTRY
Voucher on page 35**

A Letter from the Editor

Thank you to all our contributors to The Langford Diary for being so prompt this quarter. It has made my life so much easier.....sometimes I wonder if I will get enough in! We have some brilliant action pictures too. Please keep them coming! Unfortunately, we don't have any successful photos of our Christmas Light Competition. Good photos of Christmas lights are very difficult to produce. If you are ace at taking such photos please contact me next year. Many people told me that Langford looked brilliant again this year with all the lights, so thank you, your efforts are appreciated! Details of the winners are included in Gill Clarke's Parish Council Report on page 14.

Let's keep our village looking good. We have the Clean-up Langford morning again this year. So please join us on March 30th at 9.45am at St. Andrews Church Hall. Litter pickers and black sacks will be provided and there will be refreshments afterwards. If you aren't able to take part then why not check outside your house for the stray bottle, litter or cigarette end and pop the rubbish in your bin. Until recently I hadn't realised what damage cigarette ends do to our wildlife. They can be washed into our streams and rivers and ultimately into the sea where sea-life can swallow them. Please smokers, put your butts in a bin!

The Parish council continue to work hard on our behalf. We now have two defibrillators and one more to come. The Community Plan has been more work. Let's hope we are listened to with our needs and concerns.

Thanks must go to Taya who worked very hard to organise the successful Christmas Community event. It was great fun! Look out for details of another event which Taya hopes to organise in the spring.

Many of our new residents may want to get to know the area better and enjoy the environs. We have so many lovely walks around Langford. Members of the walking group which meets on Tuesday mornings at 10am at the Post Office Bridge (locally known as the Ford Bridge) are in the process of compiling local walks. The first of our series is published in this Diary on the back page. Hopefully you will enjoy the walk and enjoy living in Langford.

The Langford Diary is also published on the Parish Council website **bedsparishes.gov.uk**

Trudy Emery

trudy.emery1@ntlworld.com

01462 636638

Fatal Accident in Langford 1904

If you thought motor vehicle accidents are a modern problem, then here is a short report of an incident that took place in Langford over one hundred years ago. This is just one of the stories from Langford's past that can be found on our History's Society's website (<http://www.langfordhistorysociety.org.uk/>) and that bend and junction is just as dangerous today, hence the 30 mph speed limit.

Sir William Rattigan (1842–1904), a distinguished judge in India and the grandfather of the playwright Terence Rattigan, was motoring through Langford in July 1904 when his hired Darracq car left the road. As the car approached an awkward turn in the road at 10 mph it overturned:

‘Sir William was thrown against the glass screen in front of the car and Lady Rattigan and the chauffeur were imprisoned beneath the glass screen. Some labourers rushed forward to render assistance and found Sir William was dead. They extricated Lady Rattigan, who was suffering from cuts and shock.’ [*Bedfordshire Times*]

The body was taken to The Boot public-house which probably indicates that the incident took place at The Boot corner where the road was improved many years later. The Coroner's inquest was held a few days later at the Corner House, which used to stand on the south side of the junction between The Leys and the High Street. The roadworthiness of the car was not discussed but the coroner needed to decide whether anyone was to blame. The car was hired out by Rawlings of Gloucester Road, London, even though it had previously been in collision with a coal cart. A verdict of accidental death was returned, for although ‘the car was not in a fit condition to go on a journey’, the driver was ‘acting under the instructions of his masters’ and was exonerated from all blame.

[*Details from Bedfordshire by Simon Houfe (Pimlico, 1995).*]

Reproduced with permission of the Editor, History in Bedfordshire Vol 7 No. 7 2016



Picture taken in 1971 when the Boot corner junction was being improved.

Picture from page 51 of Langford Through The Lens Vol 1.



Langford Neighbourhood Plan

Responses to the November 2018 Questionnaire

Summary Feedback for Villagers

OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Langford Neighbourhood Plan is to create a vision for the parish and to give guidance in the planning process and in the many other factors that are impacting upon our village. Neighbourhood Plans are the result of a Government decision to devolve decision making on local developments and as such should reflect the views of the village residents, whilst being consistent with national and local planning policy, the latter being set by Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC). There is currently no CBC Local Plan and, in the absence of a Langford Neighbourhood Plan, which we are currently working on, there is little or no hindrance to incoming developers with sometimes inappropriate plans.

The Neighbourhood Plan is being developed by the Steering Group, made up of interested volunteer residents and some Parish Councillors. The first stage of the Plan development required us to find out the views and opinions of residents on a wide range of topics and this was done by the creation and circulation of a Questionnaire. The Questionnaire was publicised via the "*We Love Langford*" Facebook page, the [LangfordNeighbourhoodPlan.org.uk website](http://LangfordNeighbourhoodPlan.org.uk), posters in prominent positions in the village, two leaflet drops to every household, banners on the railings at the playing field and at the junction of Church Street, High Street & Station Road, requests to the organisers of village societies and finally by personal interviews at The Morning Coffee Shop held every Friday in the Church Hall. 415 households responded, a number well in excess of our early expectations. We were very encouraged by the detailed 2,500+ comments and suggestions in the responses and the obvious commitment of many of you to the future of the village and to the Plan.

RESPONSE REVIEW

There was a good distribution of responses from all areas of the village representing a good cross-section of resident ages. We will however gain more input from younger people so we can better represent their views in the final Plan.

ENVIRONMENT

There was a strong appreciation of the environment in and around Langford and for the outdoor sports facilities, with a desire to protect and enhance the green spaces. The responses showed a wish for more cycle paths and for a proper riverside path from Langford Mill to Jordans Mill. Concerns were expressed about all the issues that impact upon the village environment from flooding to crime and anti-social behaviour.

Quotes from the questionnaire included: "More people volunteering to run the sports & leisure facilities"; "e.g. youth club/coffee shop for teenagers/young people – a safe hub for them to talk, chat, meet friends and enjoy a nice atmosphere away from the stresses of life and pressures of school"; "More open spaces and support for wildlife and less new building"

TRANSPORT

On travel, it may come as little surprise that the overwhelming majority of journeys (80%) to and from the village are by car or van. 67% of respondents had never used a bus or last did so over a year ago and very similar numbers applied to bicycle use. 75% thought the bus service to be either poor, very poor or not applicable to them, with the lack of evening and Sunday services being pointed out. Taxi services for the village were also thought to be poor. Road and pavement conditions were another major concern, as was on-road parking.

Your comments included: "I work in Letchworth there is no bus from Langford. No evening buses to Hitchin or Henlow so can't use buses for eating out or leisure. Couldn't get to local services (e.g. Dr) on bus. I'm glad I've got a car!"; "No buses after 6.30pm. I'd use it to get to and from the station if there were"; "I don't feel safe cycling with the volume and speed of traffic especially between the village and Biggleswade, the A1 or Henlow"; "New housing to have sufficient car parking to avoid on road parking".

INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure questions highlighted wide concerns on supporting the growing village with the essentials of sewage, drainage and power. Access to GP services and dental surgeries also featured in the replies. The responses about access to fast broadband showed a 3-way split between it being a major problem, a minor problem and no problem at all, perhaps suggesting that there are parts of the village for whom fibre is not an option due to availability, cost or both. Although the sporting facilities in the village were thought to be good, there was a wish for more leisure facilities for our teenagers and in general for more pub & restaurant options.

Responses included: "Bad traffic outside the school at school times: unpleasant, unsafe, air polluting. Should promote active travel to school by protected bike & walk ways, 20mph throughout, perhaps "bike trains" and or "walking trains"; "Too many outages of electricity supply"; "More indoor facility's for ADULTS plus 14+ year olds . Everything is aimed at young children then we complain when teenagers/young adults are getting bored and causing trouble."

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Probably the hottest current topic in the village, with new applications being submitted on a very regular basis (another 608 new dwellings planned in the village that we know of). 69% of the respondents wanted less than 100 new houses to be built in the next 20 years, with another 12.6% wanting no more than 101-200 in that time. There were strong preferences for 1-2 and 3-4 bed homes to be built rather than 5 or more bedroom types, with a desire for more bungalows also becoming clear. Your strong preference was for small developments in the future, of no more than 10 houses – each of which should have a garden, off-road parking and energy-efficient designs.

Over 90% wanted local residents to have priority for affordable houses in the village and over 92% wanted no new developments on roads which are narrow and / or dangerous or with access near existing junctions. 71% of you wanted the current Settlement Envelope of Langford to remain unchanged. The wish to "keep Langford a village" came through from you loud and clear. Feedback included: "No longer a village, small town without facilities"; "It's a nice place to live, but it's no good pretending it's a small rural village any more. It's too close to London for that now. We have to ensure we don't spoil the good aspects of it, both for existing and new residents. We can't trust that simply to building developers that need to achieve maximum profitability. We need some proper planning vision"

THE NEXT STEPS

You overwhelmingly agreed that the four themes in the Questionnaire: Environment, Transport, Infrastructure and Planning should all be taken forward into the next stages of the development of the Neighbourhood Plan, with the strongest agreement being for Infrastructure and Planning. It was also very encouraging that you also raised other important issues, such as law enforcement, which are being fed back to the Parish Council, the appropriate body to address these concerns.

The Steering Group will further analyse the responses and the very many comments you submitted. As stated above, we will try and get more inputs on the views of the children and teenagers in the village so the Plan can better reflect their views. We also need to get the opinions of local businesses and landowners as well. If you can help us in getting these thoughts please contact us as shown below.

To date, the Questionnaire and publicity has been funded by Langford Parish Council. There are funds available from Central Bedfordshire Council to support the production of our Neighbourhood Plan and we shall be making an application for the year starting April 2019.

More detailed feedback will be given in due course & we will continue to inform & consult villagers as the process continues. It is a legal requirement that the final Plan is put to a vote in the village, with your approval needed for the Plan to be officially adopted.

It is very much our hope that the Langford Neighbourhood Plan will provide a better structure for the future development of the village and that it will reflect the views of our community. If you'd like to be involved and contribute to this important work for Langford, please contact us as shown below.

Finally, our thanks to all those who've submitted their views to date.

You can keep up to date with progress via the "**We Love Langford**" Facebook page and our website: [**LangfordNeighbourhoodPlan.org.uk**](http://LangfordNeighbourhoodPlan.org.uk)

CONTACT

E: michellealbone.langfordpc@gmail.com

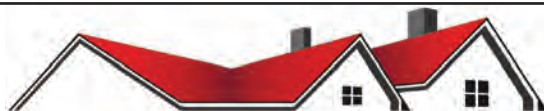
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Garage Sale Trail - Sunday 19th May

The Garage Sale Trail is back! Sunday 19th May 10am-2pm

Join us for the third Langford Garage Sale Trail -
let's make it even bigger and better than last year!

Sellers - to get your place on the map please email

jo.smith@langfordscouts.org.uk

A stall costs £5 which will go directly to the Langford Brownies and
Cubs - you keep all of the money you make from selling.

On the day just set up your table, put out your unwanted items and
make some money without having to be up early to head to a car boot
sale! It's a great chance to have a clear out, make some extra cash
and meet your neighbours!

Buyers - maps will be available to buy from local outlets.

Follow the route around the village to grab a bargain.

Hope to see you all there!



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Langford Parish Council

As I am sure you will be aware; the Parish Council has been bombarded with planning applications during the past few months. It is overwhelming and a threat to our village. Unfortunately, due to Central Bedfordshire Council not having a Local Plan in place, landowners are using Land Procuring Companies to put in outline planning applications to Central Bedfordshire Council, which unless there is a good planning reason, cannot be turned down. This is unacceptable as no infrastructure is included, and very very hard to fight. The Parish Council, together with Ward Councillors, are using their limited powers to put forward reasons to prevent these unwanted developments. We need residents of Langford to put in their views to support the objections by the Parish Council – please continue to make contact with Central Bedfordshire Council and make your views known.

It will be a busy year, with the Central Bedfordshire and Local Elections on 2 May 2019. The Parish Councillors will be up for election and it is open to all who have a vote. Why not stand for the Parish Council, and continue the work that has been done over the past 4 years by the present Councillors. It is a mostly satisfying voluntary position, can be frustrating yet lots of good things can happen to our village with your help. For further information please contact Michelle on ***michellealbone.langfordpc@gmail.com***

The Parish Council thank all residents for decorating their houses with Christmas lights, they looked stunning and we were pleased that 33 Cambridge Road and 5 Whiteman Close were the winners this year. The lit Christmas tree in the Church was beautiful, and it is hoped this year to have community singing around the tree during December. The decorated War Memorial and street lights near to the War Memorial were very emotive with the poppies and figures of soldiers. So not all is bad in Langford.

We are pleased that the new Cemetery is near to completion, and thanks to Chris Burgess, the developer for making this needed facility, so pleasant and attractive for the village. Good that the wild meadow at the rear of the new houses in Pound Close will soon be flowering, making a lovely circular walk from the recreation field.

Clean up Langford will be held on Saturday 30 March at 9.45am at St Andrew's Church Hall. Please come along and help clean up our village. Bring your gloves – pickers and bags will be provided. Refreshments will be ready on your return.

Speedwatch continue to do an excellent job in the village, but in order to be more proactive, more volunteers are needed to help. If you could spare an hour or two it would be very much appreciated.

Please contact Michelle, our Clerk – ***michellealbone.langfordpc@gmail.com***. who can direct you to Stuart, Co-Ordinator of Speedwatch for the area.

Finally, you can have your say on all matters relating to Langford at the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Monday 1 April 2019 at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church Hall. It is hard to try to change/improve things if we do not know what is of concern to you.

Gill Clarke – Chairman

Useful Telephone Numbers & Websites

Bedfordshire Police	01234 841212	Citizen Advice Bureau	0844 4771600
Emergency Services		my.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk	
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Electricity	0800 072 7282		01462 455333
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or text 80876 POWER & postcode		www.childline.org.uk	
priority services for people in need		Silverline	0800 470 8090
www.ofgem.gov.uk		Refuge	0808 2000 247
Water	0800 169 3630	Central Beds Council	0300 300 8301
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Ivel Medical Centre	01767 312441	Social Services	0300 300 8123
Langford Pharmacy	01462 701518	Housing Repairs and Noise	0300 300 8098
Langford Village Academy	01462 629000	Highways	0300 300 8049
Langford Friends	0788 4046741	Dangerous Structures	0300 300 8098

Central Beds Councillors

Steven Dixon - Stotfold, Langford, Fairfield & Astwick Ward
0300 300 8524 - steven.dixon@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
Brian Saunders - 107 Hitchin Road, Stotfold SG5 4JE
01462 626722 - absaunders@ntlworld.com

Langford Parish Council

website: bedsparishes.gov.uk

Chairman

Gill Clarke 11 Mill Meadow SG18 9UR **01462 629440**
gillyannclarke@gmail.com

Councillors

Richard Arnott	01462 700466	Joan Rutt	01462 700451
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richard_arnott@yahoo.com		joan.rutt@ntlworld.com	
Mick Beazley	01767 223849	John Shipman	01462 700650
20 Tithe Farm Close, Langford SG18 9NE		3 Old Mill Close SG18 9QY	
mj.beazley@ntlworld.com		j.m.shipman@ntlworld.com	
Barb Hammond	01462 701070	Debbie Wilson	01462 485714
2 Manor Close, Langford SG18 9PU		1 King George Close, Langford SG18 9QD	
barb.hammond21@gmail.com		wilsondebbie4789@gmail.com	
Binanti Cuzner	01462 700018	Jane Wright	01767 601789
103 Church Street Langford SG18 9QA		1 Running Water Cottages, Langford Road	
binantis@hotmail.com		SG18 9RA	
Mike Kalaher	01767 227869	jmwri@aol.com	
79 East Road, Langford SG18 9QP			
mike.kalaher@ntlworld.com			

Clerk of the Council

Mrs. M Albone 75 Wilsheres Road, Biggleswade SG18 0DN **07482 276173**
michellealbhone.langfordpc@gmail.com

Weekly Meetings

Sunday

St. Andrews Parish Services: Vicar Rev. Shaun Speller 01462 700248

Parish Eucharist 9.15am (1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays each month)

Family Service 9.30am (3rd Sunday each month)

Benefice Eucharist 9.15am (5th Sunday) 3.00pm Holy Baptism
(2nd Sunday each month)

Holy Communion Wednesday 10.00am (2nd and 4th Wednesdays)

Methodist Services: Minister: Rev. Lorna Valentine

Service 9.30am: (last Sunday each month)

Service 10.45am

Sunday Club 10.40am: (term time only) last Sunday of month

Dog Training 9.00am-1.30pm Langford Village Hall

Contact Gary 07738 683854

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Monday

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Langford Methodist Chapel Room Contact 07790 763078

Pilates 9.30am-10.30am Church Hall Contact 07891 752906

Yoga 10.30am-11.30am Church Hall Contact 07891 752906

Rainbows 4.30pm-5.30pm Church Hall Contact 07866 395739

1st Langford Brownies 5.45pm to 7.00pm Church Hall (term time only) -
Contact 07866 395739

Karate 6.00pm-8.00pm Langford Village Hall Contact Richard 01462 629707

1st Langford Scouts (boys and girls aged 10-14 years) 7.30pm-9.00pm (term time only) Please contact scouts@langfordscouts.org.uk

Full Bottle Fitness Bootcamp 8.00pm-9.00pm on the Playing Fields 07758 812789

Tuesday

Owlets Pre-school 9am-12.00 morning session Langford Methodist Chapel Room -
07935 784567 - email owletspreschool@outlook.com

Yoga - 9.45am - 11.45 Langford Village Hall Contact Les 07841 862975

Walking Group meet 10am at Chapel Hill Bridge. For details of walks further afield
on 1st Tuesday of month contact Val Henley 01462 626502

Dance Class Over 65's Church Hall 11.00am-12 noon - Tel 07714 378887

Langford Lollipops Toddler Group (term time only) 1.15pm-2.45pm Village Hall -
See Facebook page Langford Lollipops Toddler Group

Langford Beavers (boys and girls aged 6-8 years) 6.00pm-7.00pm (term time only)
Please contact beavers@langfordscouts.org.uk

Dog Training 6.30pm-9.30pm Langford Village Hall Contact Gary 07738 683854

Pilates 6.30pm-7.30pm Church Hall Contact 07891 752906

Yoga 7.30pm-8.30pm Church Hall Contact 07891 752906

Fitness Class 7.45pm-8.45pm Aerobics/Body Tone Langford Academy
Contact - 01462 701289

Wednesday

Owlets Pre-school 9am–12.00 morning session & 9.00–3.00pm full day –
07935 784567 – email owletspreschool@outlook.com

Langford Methodist Chapel Room Contact 07790 763078

Pilates 9.30am–10.30am Church Hall Contact 07891 752906

Yoga 10.30am–11.30am Church Hall Contact 07891 752906

Full Bottle Fitness Bootcamp 10.00am–11.00am on the Playing Fields
Contact – 07758 812789

Oasis Coffee Shop 10.30am to 11.30am Methodist Chapel
(first Wednesday in month only)

The Ivy Leaf Welcome Club Ivy Leaf Club Station Road 2.00pm–4.00pm

Fit and Fabulous Church Hall 1.45pm–2.45pm 01462 620740 or 07741 453533

Children's Dancing – Pirouettes & Pullbacks – 4.30pm–6.15pm

Langford Village Hall – Contact Danielle 07866 395739

Langford Cubs (boys and girls aged 8–10 years) 6.30pm–8.00pm (term time only) Please
contact cubs@langfordscouts.org.uk

Tennis Club Social Sessions – 8.00pm Contact Paul Metcalfe 01462 700001
pauln.metcalfe@ntlworld.com www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk

Adult Dancing – Argentine Tango/Salsa 8.00pm–9.00pm Langford Village Hall –
Esme Castle 01767 601604

Thursday

Owlets Pre-school 9am–12.00 morning session Langford Methodist Chapel Room –
07935 784567 – email owletspreschool@outlook.com

Langford Morning Meditation *What we do; Create inner joy and peace to be able to deal with whatever comes your way, with an elevated perception, and guiding the mind to rest gently for deep restoration. Meditation has profound impacts on lowering stress (cortisol levels), therefore much of the numerous health conditions related to the negative effects of stress.*

10.30am–11.30am –Village Hall – Sukh Parmar – healingarts@sukhparmar.com

Zumba Fitness (for all levels) (No need to book cost £6 per person per hour session)
Just turn up and pay as you go – 7.00pm–8.00pm Langford Village Hall – 07966
988802 – thurleydance@gmail.com www.lisaszumba.co.uk

1st Langford Guides 7.00pm Langford Scout Hut Contact 07866 395739

Friday

Owlets Pre-school 9am–12.00 morning session Langford Methodist
Chapel Room – 07935 784567 – email owletspreschool@outlook.com

Line Dancing 9.45am–10.45am absolute beginners – 10.45am–12.15 beginners/im-
provers –Village Hall £5.00 Contact Suzanne 07902 495602
suzannecampbell@icloud.com

Morning Coffee Shop – 10.30am–12.00 midday – St. Andrew's Church Hall

Adult Dancing – Ballroom/Latin 1.30pm–3.00pm Langford Village Hall –
Esme Castle 01767 601604

Bowls Club 2.00pm – 4.00pm – Barbara Dickson 700355 or Iris Roberts 700748

Saturday

Cricket, Bowls, Tennis Summer

Tennis Club Social Sessions – 2.00pm Contact Paul Metcalfe 01462 700001
pauln.metcalfe@ntlworld.com www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk

What's On In Spring!

March

- 2 Orpheus Choir Concert** - St Andrew's Church - 7.00pm -
£10.00 with refreshments - 01462 701750
- 4 Parish Council Meeting** - Church Room 7.30pm
- 5 Gardening Club** - Guilden Gate Organic Smallholding - Simon Saggars
Church Room - 7.30pm
- 6 Oasis Coffee Morning** - Chapel 10.30-11.30am
- 6 History Society** - History of Caldecote Church - Church Room
8.00pm
- 7 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 13 Langford WI** - Honey Bees and Bee Keeping - 7.15pm -
Chapel Schoolroom
- 21 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 30 Clean Up Langford** - Meet Church Room 9.45am

April

- 1 Annual Parish Council Meeting** - Church Room - 7.15pm followed by
Parish Council Meeting - 7.30pm
- 2 Gardening Club** - Church Room - 7.30pm
- 3 Oasis Coffee Morning** - Chapel 10.30-11.30am
- 3 History Society** - Village Memories Evening - Church Room - 8.00pm
- 4 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 10 Langford WI** - Annual Meeting - Chapel Schoolroom - 7.15pm
- 18 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm

May

- 1 Oasis Coffee Morning** - Chapel 10.30-11.30am
- 1 History Society** - Talk by Author of the book on Stannards, father and
daughters (local artists) - Church Room 7.30pm
- 2 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 7 Gardening Club** - Wimpole Hall Gardens - Philip Waite - 7.30pm
- 8 Langford WI** - Members Evening - Chapel Schoolroom - 7.15pm
- 11 Langford Community Movie Event** - Village Hall
- 13 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council** - Church Room - 7.15pm
followed by **Parish Council Meeting** - 7.30pm
- 16 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 19 Garage Sale Trail** - 10.00am- 2.00pm - jo.smith@langfordscouts.org.uk

Ivy Leaf Club

It's a new year and we at The Ivy Leaf Club are enjoying welcoming new members, and seeing new faces. If you're looking to join feel free to pop in and get a membership form. We offer single membership £20, Joint membership £30, and OAPs & Junior 15-17 year olds £10.

Upcoming events in March April and May

Suburbia
Saturday 2nd March
(Members: Free Non-members: £4)



Scooted and Booted
Saturday 30th March
(Members: Free Non-members: £6)



Soul enforcement bureau
Saturday 4th May
(Members: £4 Non-members: £8)



Looking for a venue? Birthdays (except 18th birthdays), anniversaries, funerals. We can help, come and speak to a member of staff for more details and to book!



Want to keep up to date with events and news?

Find us on Facebook @ivyleafclublangfordSG18

Charlotte Muir (The Ivy Leaf Club committee)

Welcome Club

By the time you read this we will be settled back into our usual Wednesday afternoons of dominos, cards, scrabble and of course our usual chit chat. We will also be looking forward to maybe a lunch at the Garden Centre, or even a trip to a show.

As we start 2019 we look forward to seeing new faces. As our name says we are a 'Welcome Club' therefore you are welcome to come once, twice or every week. If you are an existing member we encourage you to bring along your friends to join the fun and laughter. If you are unable to get to the club each week please remember to contact 'Langford Friends' on 07884 046741 who will be more than happy to arrange transport.

We are open every Wednesday from 1:30pm - 4:00pm at Langford Ivy Leaf Club in Station Road. For further information please contact Stella Hill on 01462 700977.

Stella Hill

Langford History Society

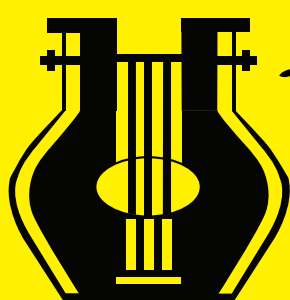
Our 2019 programme is now on our website. We start our talks season on 6 March (after having our AGM in February) with a talk on the history of Caldecote Church in Hertfordshire. Our ever popular Village Memories evening follows on 3 April and we have the author of the new booklet on the Stannards, father and daughter, who were local artists, coming to us on 1 May to talk about them (this meeting will start at 7.30pm, as the speaker has to return to London).

On the 5th of June we are arranging an evening visit to Stotfold Mill and in July to the Schools Museum at Hitchin.

There is no meeting in August but September will see us take to the air with the stories of the women pilots of the Air Transport Auxiliary in the Second World War. The aviation theme will continue with an account of Percy Pilcher, the first man who attempted to fly. Our last talk of the season covers Bedford's transport heritage and we round off the year with our Social Evening.

Our website also contains the 'Langford Index of Names', which is helpful for family historians and those with roots in our village. You can download free of charge this 16-page index to people referred to in the Society's three books and also in the Parish Council's Millennium publication, Langford: A Village Walk. The names recorded on the two village war memorials are also included in the index with an indication of which memorial contains the name.

We always give a warm welcome to new members and visitors and we are certain you will enjoy our talks. The meetings are informal and visitors pay only £3 at the door. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 8pm in the Church Hall, except for January and August, and we have visits in the summer. There is a



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Contact Sheila Vidler 01462 701750

Rais

raffle at each meeting and the tea, coffee and biscuits are free. Annual membership is currently £5 per person.

Our website at www.langfordhistorysociety.org.uk has lots of information about Langford's past. Through the website, we have been able to answer many queries from family historians with roots in Langford.

If you need further information about us, please phone **01767 699040**.

Langford History Books

Our books on village history contain lots of photos preserving the knowledge of the families, homes and businesses of old Langford.

The following publications are available:

Langford Then and Now 2006 – This book of 40 pages plus cover has two photographs on nearly every page of well-known places in the village showing how they looked then and how they look now. Some of the old photographs were taken from 80 to over 100 years ago. Price £4.

Langford through the Lens Volume 1 – This book in 73 pages delves into Langford's past with photographs of personalities and events explained in extensive captions. The reprint has the advantage of incorporating amendments and discoveries made since original publication by means of an errata list in the title pages. Price £5.

Langford through the Lens, Volume 2 (published 1992) – This book in 80 pages offers a selection of old photographs (some with extensive captions) showing all aspects of village life and the personalities involved over the years. Price £3.

To purchase these books contact Rowena Wolfe by phone or email: 01767 312556 or rowena.wolfe@btinternet.com Book orders can be collected in the village.

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Gloria*

Saturday 2nd March

interval refreshments

ing funds to modernise St Andrew's Parish Church

1st Langford Scout Group

Beavers (boys and girls aged 6-8) meet Tuesday 6-7pm (term time only). Please contact beavers@langfordscouts.org.uk

The Beavers have had an enjoyable and action packed three months, cracking codes, tracking and learning about the Green Cross codes. Not all has been hard work for them with a spooky Halloween party with the Cub pack, with a fun evening of games and activities. Cubs and Beavers scared the Leaders with some fantastic Halloween costumes. The Beavers had a fascinating evening with a visit from Bedfordshire Police with the best part of the evening sitting in a Police car with the blues lights on!



Beavers with donations for Battersea!

The Beavers represented the 1st Langford Scout Group, along with the Cubs and Scouts at the Remembrance Sunday parade. It was a proud moment seeing all the Beavers representing the Group and behaving brilliantly.

The last part of the year the Beavers completed some fantastic fund raising for the Battersea Cats and Dogs Home. The Beavers collect treats and toys to make up Christmas packages for the dogs and cats, with a massive 10kg of toys and treats. The year finished off with a nice Christmas party with some fun and games followed with some snacks and sweets.

Cubs (boys and girls aged 8-10.5) meet Wednesday 6.30-8pm (term time only). Please contact cubs@langfordscouts.org.uk

With all the sparkly fun of Christmas behind us, including some fun craft activities making mugs and hot chocolate cones and a wonderful Christmas Carols campfire with the other cubs from Biggleswade District, Cubs move eagerly towards the lighter evenings of Spring.

We will be looking at how to stay safe at home and on our travels with first aid and safety badgework, and have some fun with science experiments like making homemade hexbugs. Of course, we'll be getting outside as much as we can with an evening of tubing on the artificial ski slope in Welwyn and a night hike.

As February was The Scout Association's YouShape month - the Cubs themselves chose the programme and had both a 'Cubs Got Talent' and a Nerf Night. In March we will be taking the Cubs and Scouts for an activity weekend at Paccar Scout Camp, which is part funded by the generous donation we received from the Raft Race last summer (thank you!!)

On Sunday 19th May, we will be organising this year's Garage Sale Trail along with 1st Langford Brownies, please see separate information elsewhere in the Diary.



*1st Langford also has a thriving Scout Troop who meet on Mondays 7.30-9.00pm. Scouts are age 10-14.
Please contact scouts@langfordscouts.org.uk for more information.*

We need Volunteers!!

As the village grows and Scouting continues to grow in popularity, the Scout Group faces a challenge to provide spaces for all the children who would like to experience what we have to offer. To be able to do this we need more volunteer adult leaders. Please contact me if you would like to make a difference; you do not need to have a background in Scouts – the main thing is to want to facilitate our young members having fun and adventures in a safe environment. All training is given and you can volunteer as much or as little time as you have available.

Please contact me if you would like further information

Jo Smith, Group Scout Leader, 1st Langford

gsl@langfordscouts.org.uk

Langford Bowls Club

The Langford Playing Field Bowls Club is a friendly and welcoming club with both ladies and gentleman members competing in numerous district and county competitions, as well as friendly matches within the club and with other clubs during week days, evening and weekends. These include mixed friendly matches for the over 60's on Wednesday afternoons.



We would love to see some new members from the village and surrounding areas. There are lots of opportunities to get involved, if you have never tried your hand before or are a well-seasoned bowler, everyone is always welcome to come along, watch the proceedings and get involved.

If you are interested or would like to find out more, why not come along to one of the following opportunities at the bowls club to see for yourself:-

- ***Wednesday afternoons from 2pm*** during the winter months – Short Mat Bowls
- ***Thursday 4th April 7:30pm*** – Open evening, opportunity to meet our club members
- ***Saturday 20th April from 2:30pm*** – Summer Season Opening Day (Weather permitting)
- ***Friday afternoons from 2pm starting on the 26th April*** – Try the game at our open sessions.

Alternatively, please get in touch with our President Iris Roberts on 01462 700748 or our General Secretary Mrs Melanie Andrews on 01462 628912.

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

1st Langford Rainbows

This term we have started working on the 'Skills for my Future' theme within our Rainbow programme where we have learnt about using money, safety in and around the village and we got to eat some delicious fruit! We are also having a pyjama party and celebrating Pancake Day, Mother's Day and Easter. We will be attending our district's Thinking Day trip to Whipsnade Zoo in half term.

1st Langford Brownies

We kicked off the new term by finding out about different jobs that both men and women can do and trying them out for ourselves! We have also created our own stalls at our 'Brownie Marketplace' and made fajitas! Later this term, we will be playing bingo and celebrating Pancake Day, Mother's Day and Easter. We will also be going to the Zoo for Thinking Day.



1st Langford Guides

We have started the term by having some great visitors. We had Zoe, a local Ranger leader, who came to teach us some karate. We had Claire, one of our mums, who came in to tell us all about her job in the police and about personal and internet safety – our photos show the fun we had trying on the police uniform! We will be celebrating Chinese New Year later this term and

carrying out some blindfolded challenges. We will be going to Whipsnade Zoo for Thinking Day and are also planning a trip to go swimming in Bedford.



BROWNIES EASTER EGG HUNT

Come and join us on Easter Sunday (21st April) after the service at St Andrew's Church for a special Easter Egg Hunt! Find the letters of your name to win a prize, then enter our raffle to be in with a chance to win an even bigger prize! Money raised will go to 1st Langford Brownies, everyone is also welcome at the Sunday morning Church service beforehand.

Thank You to Guide, Brownie and Rainbow Leaders



All the members of the 1st Langford Rainbows, Brownies and Guides would like to thank our leaders – Danielle Ellis and Catherine Binney for being fantastic volunteers. Catherine and Danielle are pictured here either side of the genie. They give up so much of their time to plan and run our meetings and give up their

weekends and holiday to take us on camp and times away. They also organise lots of fund raising for us and planned our Christmas Show.

Langford WI

2018. What an exciting and eventful year Langford WI have had. Not only have we enjoyed some interesting and sometimes very amusing speakers at our monthly meetings, but we have also had a number of enjoyable outings. These have included: An Evening with Pam Ayres, Oklahoma at Stevenage, bowling evenings at RAF Henlow, regular petanque days with lunch at The Plough, breakfast at Weatherspoons and Christmas lunch at the White Horse in Southill.

We have also taken part in Bedfordshire Federation events such as the annual Quiz evening, and a Murder Mystery Evening which included a 2 course meal at Westoning. In Bedford we had a Faith tour which included visiting a church, a gurdwara and a mosque. We spent a most entertaining afternoon with Giles Brandreth. We have had a flower arranging demonstration, as well as a Taster session of New Age Kurling.

Members have entered National and Federation competitions with one member gaining Highly Commended for her hand-made Christmas Card.

We have also supported the Community with our Jam Jar Tombola Stall at the Langford Fete, and by serving teas, coffees and home-made mince pies at the Christmas Community Fair in the Village Hall.

So Whew! What a year! With several new members swelling our numbers during 2018 it looks as if 2019 will continue in much the same way. Meetings take place in the Methodist Schoolroom (next door to the Post Office) on the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 7.15 pm. Visitors (£3) are always welcome.

Zoe Lloyd

Langford Cricket Club

With the 2019 Season fast approaching, preparations are well underway to try and emulate the on field success of 2018.

Adult Men's, Ladies and Youth Nets all start in early March. With further information, and regular updates available on the Langford Cricket Clubs Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/LangfordCC) Langford has two Adult Sunday teams who play on a wicket that is one of the best in the county!

2019 sees the 1st XI looking to go one better than runners up in the Beds County Cricket League premier division. While our Sunday 2nd XI look to make an impact in division 5, after gaining promotion from Div 6 in 2018.

The AllStars Saturday morning cricket sessions will be back in 2019. The 8 week ECB sponsored introduction to cricket course, not only offers places for up to thirty 5 to 8 year old boys and girls, but comes with all the equipment a young cricketer needs.

Older girls and boys are invited and welcome to attend the weekly fun Thursday evening coaching sessions 6pm to 7pm, this is a great introduction to the many youth teams the Club runs, from U9's through 11's, 13's and 15's right up to Adult Cricket. Check the Facebook page for starting dates.

The Club enjoys a very active and engaged Ladies section, who in 2019 will continue the partnership with Flitwick Ladies Cricket, entering a combined team in the Four Counties Women's League.

There will again be Ladies Softball Cricket through the Summer, offering an evening of fun, relaxed cricket, with a BBQ and Prosecco!

Once again, we must thank all our Sponsors and Handbook Advertisers for their continued support, all of which goes to ensuring we are able to provide affordable cricket for the community.



Some of Langford CC's award winners for 2018, as presented at the Club's AGM.

From left to right, Luke Peters: Sunday 1st X1 Bowling, Eldon Craven: Young Player of the Year, Sajjon Kalirai: Most Improved Player, Clare Goldsmith: Clubperson of the Year, James Dhaliwal: Captain's Cup, Andy Watson: Player's Player and Kuldeep Heblikar: Sunday 2nd X1 Bowling.

St. Andrew's Church

What is your favourite season of the year? I realised a long time ago that I am not a winter person. As soon as the nights start drawing in, I find it harder to keep a sense of optimism and cheerfulness, knowing that there are many weeks of darkness ahead. I guess that's why Spring is a clear favourite for me. The mornings and evenings become lighter and the beauty of the countryside that we enjoy in and around our village becomes visible for so much longer each day. But would I want it to be light all the time? I don't think I would. Because there is something about going through the darkness that makes us appreciate the light so much more. And good things do happen in the dark. Creatures (including us) sleep and are restored. Bulbs and seeds prepare to sprout, trees and shrubs prepare to bud; new life is being prepared in secret. In our Christian calendar, the season of Lent deliberately leads us into a time of darkness. We have no decoration including flowers in the church, and our services are quieter and more thoughtful as we prepare our hearts for the biggest celebration in our church year. Why? Because on Easter morning we remember how Jesus rose from the dead, bursting out of the tomb, defeating death and the darkness which accompanies it. And this is what gives us hope, even on the darkest night, when we can't even remember what sunlight looks like. Jesus has beaten death, and so we know he has the power to bring new life to us too. Whatever we believe and whatever our current situation is, we can be assured that darkness doesn't last for ever. The light is stronger, and it will overcome. So even in the darkness, we can live with the knowledge and the hope of the light and life that is to come.



Why not join us this Easter as we celebrate that good news together.

Shaun Speller

St. Andrew's Church Reordering Appeal

Our 100 Club is growing in numbers. We have 40 people now which means there is a weekly prize draw of £20 with £20 also going into our reordering fund. If anyone is interested in joining our 100 club please contact Jean Williams on 01462 700433 or Sheila on 01462 701750.

Saturday March 2nd – Orpheus Choir concert in the church – 7 p.m. Tickets £10. Refreshments and raffle in the interval. SEE YOU THERE. Please contact me Sheila Vidler – 01462 701750.

Please support us as we all work together to make St Andrew's Church a place for everyone.

Sheila Vidler



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King George Memorial Playing Field

REPORT FROM KING GEORGE MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The good news is that the ROSPA report found the Playing Field to be in an overall good condition, with minor works required, which are being put into place. The Trim Trail needs replacement due to age, wear and tear so the Committee welcome suggestions from residents on what play equipment, including inclusive play equipment, would provide the most entertainment, physical and mental stimulation and usage. We do have a budget, and space constraints due to the cricket and football played at the park. However, please let us know what you think would be suitable for age ranges 8-14. Previously we have been asked for a McDonalds and a Cineworld, but this is a bit out of our remit. You can email me at ***gillyannclarke@gmail.com*** with your comments.

The junior play area near to the road is also being renovated and extended to the south. New equipment and picnic benches will be included. There has been some concern that this could increase the risk to users from stray balls during a cricket match. Do residents consider that this is a reason not to increase the junior play area? Your views would be greatly appreciated.

Again, email me on ***gillyannclarke@gmail.com***

THE BAD NEWS – due to anti-social behaviour at the basket swing, bad language, drug taking, intimidation to local residents, excessive noise, making as much noise as possible, screaming at the top of their voices late at night, it was decided to remove the basket swing. The basket had been removed on several occasions, but every time it was put back, the bad behaviour and intimidation reoccurred. The bench there has also been removed. This decision was not taken lightly, and the Committee is saddened that respectful children have been penalised for those who have no respect at all.

During late January there has been a spate of serious offensive graffiti on the knock up wall, Village Hall and on newly erected signs. This is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. The Police have been notified and the Committee will not hesitate to take the necessary action to prosecute the offenders.

There is a very important issue that Management Committee seeks help from residents – how to stop the anti-social behaviour. We welcome youths at the park, after all it is a village facility, but when they come there to take drugs, bring sharp weapons, behave in an intimidating way, it is unacceptable to other users. Education on anti-social behaviour is something the Committee are looking at but help is needed from parents and those who have contact with youths on how to do this. Please help us.

For any help, queries etc please contact **Gill Clarke on gillyannclarke@gmail.com**

Langford Diary Advertising and Copy Dates

PLEASE NOTE - IMPORTANT

All Copy and Advertising for inclusion in NEXT Diary Summer Edition by 22nd April for events in June, July and August.

2019 Submission Dates

Autumn Issue 22nd July - Winter Edition 22nd October.

All Copy for the next Diary to be emailed to both
trudy.emery1@ntlworld.com - steve.alh.hills@btinternet.com

All Adverts and Advertising Material to be emailed to **steve.alh.hills@btinternet.com**

ADVERTISING RATES

Cost of Adverts in Langford Diary 2018/2019 – ALL COLOUR ADVERTS

SIZE - One sixth page

Single issue - £30 plus vat (£36 inc VAT)
Full year (four issues) - £80 plus vat
(£96 inc VAT)

SIZE - One third page

Single issue - £40 plus vat (£48 inc VAT)
Full year (four issues) - £120 plus vat
(£144 inc VAT)

SIZE - Half page

Single issue - £60 plus vat (£72 inc VAT)
Full year (four issues) - £170 plus vat
(£204 inc VAT)

SIZE - Whole page

Single issue - £110 plus vat (£132 inc VAT)
Full year (four issues) - £340 plus vat
(£408 inc VAT)

Editor's Reservation

This Diary is as complete and correct as possible at the time of going to press. While any Inaccuracies and Omissions in any Articles or Adverts supplied to the Editor and Parish Council for publication are regretted, the Editor and the Parish Council accept no responsibility for any such occurrences. All articles are copyright and may not be reproduced in whole or in part without written permission of the Editor or the Parish Council.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Parish Council.

IMPORTANT

**Please let us know if there are any changes to the details of your meeting.
Are the times and contact information the same?**

Langford Football Club

Following a less than ideal start to this football season, where we found ourselves languishing near the foot of the Spartan South First Division; the men's first team have now become a more settled and focused squad and, at the time of writing, have had a series of good wins that has resulted in them clawing their way up to the 7th position in the league. We are currently still in with a good chance with the Beds Senior Trophy.



Too late for publication in the last edition of The Langford Diary, was the news that **Langford FC** won the **Spartan South Midlands League Division 1 'Team of the Month' for October 2018**. This honour is awarded on the basis of improved team performance and discipline. The picture shows Langford Team Manager Martin Wells receiving the Team of the Month award from Spartan League's John Chidley.



There are now a relatively few number of home matches left in this current season and we would welcome anyone from Langford and the surrounding villages to visit Forde Park, to provide support and encouragement to our players during these remaining games. Normal entrance prices are shown below, but make use of the Voucher printed at the foot of this article and you can get in for Free!

Prices: Adults - £5-00, Concessions - £2-50, Children - FREE
***** Entrance fee includes a free Matchday Programme! *****

New Members

Langford Football Club is looking for new committee members. We have vacancies for volunteers in all areas; behind the scenes administrative roles, outside ground-work, match-day help in the kitchen, on the gate and in and around the clubhouse.

If you are interested in being part of the future of this club, please contact any committee member or David Jenkins.

email: david_jenkinsj@hotmail.com or call 07488 397844.



Forthcoming Fixtures

Comp	Date	Time	Opponents
ONE	9-13-19	15.00	Harefield United
ONE	23-3-19	15.00	Winslow United
ONE	20-4-19	15.00	Bedford
ONE	27-4-19	15.00	Risborough Rangers

LANGFORD FOOTBALL CLUB

FREE ENTRY VOUCHER

This Voucher entitles the holder to one Free Admission to any Langford FC home football match at Forde Park until the end of the 2018-19 football season.

Copies of this voucher will not be accepted.

Langford Methodist Church

March

- 1 **Womens World Day of Prayer** - St. Mary's Meppershall - 2.15pm
- 6 **Oasis Coffee Morning** - Chapel - 10.30am-12 noon
- 7 **Sisterhood** - TAGS singing group followed by tea - Chapel Schoolroom
- 10 **Chapel Anniversary Service followed by coffee** - Chapel - 10.45am
- Rev. David Chapman, Chair of the District
- 10 **Bring and Share a Lunch** - Chapel Schoolroom - 12.30pm
- 12 **Lent Course 1**
- 13 **Lent Course 1** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
- 14 **Sisterhood** - Musical Afternoon - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- Maureen Wilson and Doreen Saunders
- 14 **Church Council** - Chapel Schoolroom - 7.30pm
- 19 **Lent Course 2**
- 20 **Lent Course 2** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
- 21 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 26 **Lent Course 3**
- 27 **Lent Course 3** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
- 28 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm - Mary Hayes
- 31 **Mothering Sunday Service with coffee** - Chapel - 10.45am

April

- 2 **Lent Course 4**
- 3 **Lent Course 4** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
- 3 **Oasis Coffee Morning** - Chapel 10.30am-11.30am
- 4 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 9 **Lent Course 5**
- 10 **Lent Course 5** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
- 11 **Lent Lunch** - Chapel Schoolroom - 12.00-2.00pm
- 11 **No Sisterhood**
- 18 **No Sisterhood**
- 18 **Maundy Thursday Service and Sacrament** - Chapel - 7.30pm - Rev. Lorna Valentine
- 21 **Easter Sunday Service followed by coffee** - Chapel - 10.45am
- 25 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 18 **No Sisterhood**

May

- 1 **Oasis Coffee Morning and Gift Day** - Chapel 10.30am-11.30am
- 2 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 4 **Gift Day** - Chapel - 10.00am-12.00noon
- 5 **Gift Dedication Service followed by coffee** - Chapel - 10.45am - Rev. Lorna Valentine
- 9 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 10 **Christian Aid Service** - St. Andrew's - 9.15am
- 16 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 16 **General Church Meeting** - Chapel Schoolroom - 7.30pm
- 23 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 30 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm

During recent weeks, the Methodist Chapel (situated next door to the Post Office) has been very busy.

At the end of November a most successful evening with Stotfold Salvation Army Band took place, and during December all our Christmas activities were very well supported. It was a pleasure to welcome visitors to the services and particularly Keith Lackenby, our minister's father, who took the Christmas Eve Communion service.



On Sunday December 9, with many others from the village, we celebrated Beurrean Richards' 90th birthday at Henlow Pavilion. Beurrean is known to many as she was a teacher at Langford School for many years. We wish her well in her Centenary Decade!

During this next Quarter we shall be holding the usual Lent Groups leading up to Easter.

On March 10 our Chapel Anniversary takes place when the speaker will be Rev. David Chapman, District Chair (equivalent to an Anglican Bishop). A Bring and Share lunch will be served, which will also include home-made soup with home-made bread. We are planning a Lent Lunch on Thursday April 11. Look out for details.



Our congregation is friendly and welcoming and would be delighted to see newcomers at any time. Services are always followed by refreshments, and are held every week at 10.45 am, apart from the last Sunday of the month when a more Informal service is held at 9.30 am.

Jenny Broadbridge
Senior Steward

Langford Community Events

Not just the Fete this time!

As 2019 begins, our thoughts turn once more to the Fete, which will be held on July 6th this year. But we are no longer talking about just the Fete – our team were busy later in 2018, to bring the “Langford Community Christmas Fair and Film Show” to the Village Hall on (a cold and wet) Saturday 15th.



December.

As you will see in the pictures, the Hall was filled with

a wonderful array of attractions: craft stalls, stalls raising money for charities, and stalls run by our local organisations, giving people the chance to buy some unique Christmas gifts and cards and meet one another, in a lovely pre-Christmas atmosphere. Refreshments came from our own licensed bar, the



WI, the Brownies, the new Hideaway coffee bar, and the “Roaming Dough” pizza team – who, unfortunately due to the nature of their operation, had to brave the weather outside, but at least had their oven to keep them warm!

In the morning we were entertained by the ladies of the “SingTastic” choir from Dunton, who gave us some rousing renditions of carols and popular Christmas songs. There was also a flying visit from a cycling Santa team who were raising money for Keech Cottage.

In the afternoon, for the first time, we had a film show on the big screen in the main hall: the well-loved Christmas movie “Elf” starring Will Ferrell, which has delighted children and adults alike since it was made in 2003. Everyone enjoyed it, and it has given us valuable experience; we will be having another film show in May this year, title to be decided, so watch out for our publicity.

As Chair of the Village Hall, I would like to say a big “Thank You” to Taya Cleghorn and Steph Stockwell and their team for putting on this enjoyable event, which raised £183 for the Hall and Playing Field funds. And while I am at it, I should mention that the final account for the 2018 Fete showed that we made a little over £2000 for those same funds; the most ever!



More volunteers to help with our forthcoming events will be very welcome – please contact Taya, John Shipman, or myself, and look out for our publicity on Facebook.

Colin Carroll

Langford Welfare Trust

In February 1899 the Langford Welfare Trust distributed 2cwt (51kg) of coal to each family they considered in need and one loaf of bread to each child attending the Board School. Today things are different but there are still people who need some financial support to pay for important things in life.

In the last financial year there were five disbursements of funds to Langford people for travel and accommodation costs for school trips to residential centres for education and development.

The trust derives its income from investments, a gift from the parish council, the rent of Town Land, and the letting of fishing rights.

Every year the Langford Welfare Trust makes disbursements in the community to assist families who are in financial difficulty. If you live in Langford and are having difficulty with paying for something that is important to you and your family why not see if a payment can help you out? The trust can provide funds for such things as basic items of furniture, school uniforms, books, travel costs, tools, equipment, training costs, or any welfare related item.

To enquire about a grant or to enquire for eligibility, please write to the Trust, c/o 3 Old Mill Close, Langford, Beds. SG18 9QY, or 'phone 01462 700650.

Langford Gardening Club

Langford Gardening Club would like to extend a warm welcome to any green fingered or just interested Langfordians!

We hold a monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Church Hall as well as visiting gardens of interest.

Annual subscription is £25.00 single or £35.00 for double membership. Visitors are always very welcome -£3.00.

2nd April 2019 - 7.30pm
Primula Auriculas - Pop's Plants

7th May 2019 - 7.30pm
Wimpole Hall Gardens- Philip Waite

4th June 2019 - 7.30pm
Alpine Plants - Rick Lambert



MOGGERHANGER PLANT SALE 2019

Friday 17th May
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
**PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCHES
CREAM TEAS**

Saturday 18th May
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
**PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCHES
CREAM TEAS**

Sunday 19th May
12 noon to 4 p.m.
**PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCHES
CREAM TEAS**

Venue to be announced
All proceeds to St. John's Church

3 Mile Circular Walk

Cut out
and keep

A 3mile Circular Walk from Chapel Bridge including Stanford Lock. This walk can be muddy after heavy rain.

Near the Post Office cross the **Chapel Bridge** over the River Ivel and head west over a brook, through a **kissing gate** and then north- west across the common to another kissing gate. You may encounter cattle and some wet, boggy patches following heavy rain. The wild flowers on the common can be spectacular at certain times of the year. Through the **kissing gate** continue west keeping to the side of the field passing a walnut tree. Continue around the edge of this field, turning north to follow a ditch which you will cross using a **narrow bridge**. Note the quality of the water here. It's crystal clear. It's also the outflow from the efficient sewage plant which is close by. Mayflies are often seen here. Follow the permissive path keeping the hedge on your right as it passes a small wood. Picking up another ditch on your right, follow this until you reach a very **narrow but safe bridge**, cross the bridge so the ditch is on your left. Still heading west, you arrive at the remains of **Stanford Lock**. Listen out for skylarks and watch your step as it is a popular place for exercising dogs! The canal from the River Ivel passes here. The canal was originally built with the intention of reaching Shefford. Only a bridge remains, the lock gates have been removed. Follow **the canal, on your right**. The footpath soon leaves the canal side and heads diagonally across the naturalised set aside land and then crosses a **brook using a narrow footbridge**. Note on the left side of the bridge how the banks have been worn down by wildlife crossing the brook. You might see deer, badger, fox or muntjac impressions in the wet earth. The path continues up an incline with a tall hedge on your right. Take care it can be wet and slippery here sometimes. Follow the hedge and you will reach a large gate and **Tarmac road beyond**. At this point turn left and head east towards Baulk Wood and the sewage works.

The footpath emerges on another Tarmac road next to the Sewage plant. Turn right/east and cross the brook and you will emerge at Baulk corner, at the road between Langford and Henlow. From here continue until you reach the river Ivel bridge near **Langford Garden Centre** where refreshments are waiting. From the Garden Centre cross the road and either continue along either the High Street or pass through the kissing gate and follow the river back to the Chapel Bridge.

John Shipman and Members of Langford Walking Group