A publication by Langford Parish Council

The Langford Diary

Editor: Trudy Emery *Diary Office:* trudyemery1@ntlworld.com *Tel:* 01462 636638

Raft Race & Summer Fete 6th July

Edition 204

Summer 2019

Ralph Turner with his medal having been appointed by the French Government to the rank of Chevalier in the Ordre national de la Legion d'Honneur

Ralph Turner

Chevalier in the Ordre national de la Legion d'Honneur

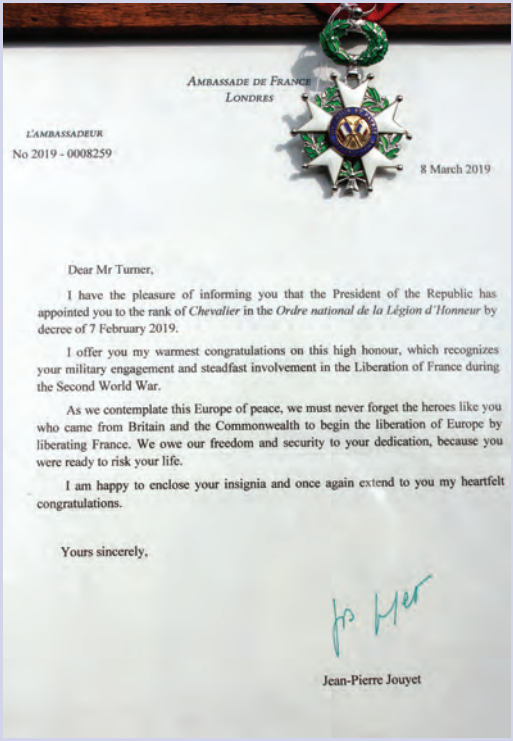
Ralph Turner has been appointed by the French Government to the rank of Chevalier in the Ordre national de la Legion d'Honneur. This medal and an accompanying letter is being given to surviving members of the Armed Forces who took part in the Normandy Campaign during the Second World War. It is a sign of the gratitude from the French people.

The Normandy landings were the landing operations on Tuesday, 6 June 1944 of the Allied invasion of Normandy in Operation Overlord during World War II. Codenamed Operation Neptune and often referred to as D-Day, it was the largest seaborne invasion in history. The operation began the liberation of German-occupied France from Nazi control and laid the foundations of the Allied victory on the Western Front.

Ralph is a true Langfordian and is best known for his knowledge and numerous photos of the history of Langford. He will feature in the new video of Langford Tales being produced by Theo Maximilian Goble. I am sure it will be very interesting viewing. Many, many people have contacted Ralph to thank him and congratulate him on the appointment from the French Government. Ralph really appreciates that so many people have done this, and he would like to take this opportunity to thank them for doing so.

To find out more about Ralph's time in France we spent a few fascinating hours with him. Bev took the photos and I took notes. Here is what he told me.

When I left the Army Military Driving School in Carlisle, aged 19, having passed as an A3 Driver we were issued with 3 ton Bedford lorries and we spent the next few months on the Yorkshire Moors doing exercises with the Royal Artillery. We were then posted to Titsey Hall at Oxted, Surrey. On the morning of June 6th1944 we saw hundreds of planes flying over.Very soon we were told to be ready to move in one hour. We loaded up munitions, petrol and rations. I got a load of petrol in Jerry cans. Then onto Tilbury Docks where we loaded onto 10,000ton boats. We moved into the Thames Estuary to join a convoy. We sailed the next day with 28 to a cabin. The day after we arrived at Normandy, but we couldn't land because the tides were wrong.



AMBASSADE DE FRANCE
LONDRES

L'AMBASSADEUR

No 2019 - 0008259

8 March 2019

Dear Mr Turner,

I have the pleasure of informing you that the President of the Republic has appointed you to the rank of *Chevalier* in the *Ordre national de la Légion d'Honneur* by decree of 7 February 2019.

I offer you my warmest congratulations on this high honour, which recognizes your military engagement and steadfast involvement in the Liberation of France during the Second World War.

As we contemplate this Europe of peace, we must never forget the heroes like you who came from Britain and the Commonwealth to begin the liberation of Europe by liberating France. We owe our freedom and security to your dedication, because you were ready to risk your life.

I am happy to enclose your insignia and once again extend to you my heartfelt congratulations.

Yours sincerely,

Jean-Pierre Jouyet

The next morning at 7am we were told to make our way to our lorries. We landed in 2 feet of water. We were making our way to our location but were taken the wrong way and a paratrooper came leaping out of a ditch and called "Those flashes you can see are the Germans. It won't be long before we are within their range." Ralph said he had never turned a lorry round so quickly in his life! The mortar was all round us. The Royal Artillery Ralph was with was the 53rd Medium Regiment RA. Our job was to take rations from the beach to the guns daily.

In the Battle of Caen the Royal Artillery fired 500 guns for 6 hours. Ralph remembers being run off his feet. Our engines were as hot as they could possibly be, he remembers. It was August when our troops took Caen.

The last battle I was in before leaving France was Falaise Gap Encounter where the Stuka Dive Bombers were screaming all around us. We managed to leave our lorries and take refuge in a potato field. Fortunately, none of us was hurt but the tarpaulin on our lorries was torn to shreds.

Ralph had many more experiences in World War 2 which are just as interesting, but I have kept to his time in France.

When the Peace Treaty was signed Ralph was sent to Berlin and became a lance corporal.

Trudy Emery

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A Letter from the Editor

As I write Langford is looking fresh with the new growth of green leaves in the sunshine. The daffs on the verges are finished but we have summer to look forward to. The worst of the building has passed (for the time being). Many of us dread what the future holds for our village but let's hope the Neighbourhood Village Plan has some influence on the ever-increasing amount of building.

Buildings alone don't make a village and in Langford we have some wonderful people. Do read the articles about two residents Ralph Turner and Jean Williams.

The War Memorial garden has looked great throughout the winter and now it looks particularly beautiful. Thanks must go to members of the Gardening Club for keeping it so well.

The Tidy up Langford was a successful community event once again, and thanks must go to Gill Clarke, John Shipman and Michelle Albone for organising the morning and providing refreshments with such wonderful cakes!

During the summer months we have three fetes to look forward to and of course the raft race. Good luck to all those who enter! Please support these fund raisers and you're sure to enjoy the days!

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

Trudy Emery trudy.emery1@ntlworld.com 01462 636638

The Tidy Up Langford Volunteers

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 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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Playing Field Management Committee Update

At the last meeting of the Playing Field Management Committee the following was discussed.

The field surface has been compromised this year due to weather conditions and regular use in several specific areas. Football had their training suspended for 3 weeks and Full Body Fitness has been asked to move around the field, not use just one area. Any user of the field must be aware that should conditions prove to be necessary, use of the field will be cancelled until it is deemed okay by the Management Committee.

Condition of knock up wall – several cracks have been noticed with moss growing out. A builder examined the wall, but suggested a Structural engineer be asked to report. Dale Whiston, Principal Building Control Surveyor, Central Bedfordshire Council came out and this was his report:

"I visited the above to check on the condition of the large standalone wall to the play area and although there is some minor surface cracking and brick spalling, I am not concerned as to the structural integrity of the wall. As discussed, the possibility of preventing further water ingress to the top of the wall, but I feel, due to the wall having footballs etc kicked at it, that concrete coping stones would be dislodged and create a potential danger in themselves, unless mechanically fixed to the wall. I would therefore suggest that a liquid water-proofing system may be suitable which will not be damaged by the wall usage nor become dislodged etc"

Gill to contact a water-proofing company as recommended by Mr Whiston.

Wrestler's site – Langford Parish Council and Rowan Homes, the developers of the site are close to a legal agreement being in place. Adrian has cleared the area between the playing field and the development and will seed in the Spring. Rowan Homes have planted shrubs, but they will be removed at a later date as it has been agreed that one area would flow into the next. A notice board to be erected stating it is a Wild Meadow area

The Parish Council is awaiting formal confirmation that the MUGA funds (£60K) from the Wrestler's development are now available from CBC (confirmation should be there this week). Funds are available to replace the trim trail/toddler's area. Approval needs to be given by CBC before the go ahead for the works.

Gill has met several Play Equipment Companies and received a plan. Still very boring. Further companies have been consulted and dates arranged for them to come and put forward suggestions.

Gill is still hoping that suggestions will come forward from Langford residents as requested both on Facebook and the last edition of the Langford Diary.

Langford Parish Council

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Monday 1 April 2019.

On behalf of Langford Parish Council, I would like to thank the residents of Langford and our Central Bedfordshire Councillors for their continual support to Langford Parish Council.

This being the last meeting before the election of this Parish Council, my thanks go to Members and our amazing hard-working, Parish Clerk Michelle Albone. Well done Members who have decided to stand again but sadly Barb for personal reasons has decided to stand down from Council. Your input Barb has been greatly appreciated as Chairman of Planning, kept us firmly but gently to the point in question.

The Past 4 years have been a myriad of ups and downs. Firstly, the death of Tony Fisher, whose contribution to Langford was outstanding – as a mark of respect we will be placing a feature in the centre of the new cemetery. The downs include the overwhelming attempts by developers to increase the housing in Langford. The successful applications have resulted in chaos during the building time, over stretching of the infrastructure, and understandable resentment by residents of Langford. The Parish Council has, and will continue to fight tirelessly any application that is considered against the best interest of Langford, but still are criticised for their apparent lack of success.

On the positive side some of the actions during the past 4 years:

- We have been so fortunate with our new clerk Michelle and I thank her for her total support to Langford Parish Council. Michelle keeps us going in the right direction both financially and legally, comes up with the best ideas, and knows how to put them into action.
- The brilliant idea of a Christmas Light competition with the lit Christmas tree in the churchyard is very successful
- We welcomed our new young family in to Chadwick House, the funding to purchase the property was bequeathed to Langford Parish Council by the estate of Betty Chadwick.
- We have provided life saving equipment at The Mill
- The Council has put together an Emergency Plan should there be a disaster in the village, so action can be taken very quickly.

- Langford Diary has increased information and is now in colour – Thank you Trudy Emery for being our very talented and industrious Editor.
- A defibrillator has been installed at the Post Office with another to be fitted near to the Pharmacy.
- The Parish Cemetery is near to completion, but burials and cremations will not take place until the Churchyard is full.
- Land at the rear of the Wrestlers development will soon be handed over to Langford Parish Council. This area is intended as a Wild Flower meadow, which will flow into the playing field
- The Remembrance Celebrations this year were wonderful and very emotive. The lit soldiers at the War Memorial are still insitu (although not lit now) and the poppies erected on the lampposts were fantastic. Thanks to Langford Gardening Club for revamping the War Memorial garden and annually providing seasonal plants.
- A Neighbourhood Steering Group has been set up and John will talk about that.

I would again thank my colleagues for supporting me as Chairman, they are very tolerant of my senior moments and outbursts of hysteria when things go so wrong.

Gill Clarke - Chairman

Langford WI

On Wednesday 10 April one of our oldest serving members, Muriel Pendlington, with great sadness stepped down from the committee. After joining in 1968 Muriel has served in various roles especially as President and Vice President. More recently she looked after the welfare of members.

We are grateful for her continued loyalty and still look forward to availing ourselves of her great knowledge when needed. Muriel remains a member of the WI and has kindly agreed to be honorary Vice-President. To demonstrate our gratitude Muriel was presented with the WI Sterling Silver Brooch and a bouquet of flowers.

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Langford Parish Council

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Chairman

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

Councillors

Richard Arnott **01462 700466**
20 Cambridge Close, Langford SG18 9SH
richard_arnott@yahoo.com

Mick Beazley **01767 223849**
20 Tithe Farm Close, Langford SG18 9NE
mj.beazley@ntlworld.com

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Clerk of the Council

Mrs. M Albone 75 Wilsheres Road, Biggleswade SG18 0DN **07482 276173**
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Weekly Meetings

Please keep me up to date with the meetings. If there are any changes, please let me know at trudy.emery1@ntlworld.com or 01462 636638.

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
Youth Football Winter

Monday

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
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 Caroline 07752 222542
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 Facbook 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
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
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) 6.300pm-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/improvers -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 The Summer!

June

3 ***Parish Council Meeting*** - Church Room - 7.30pm
5 ***Oasis Coffee Morning*** - Chapel 10.30-11.30am
5 ***History Society*** - Visit to Stotfold Mill
6 ***Parchment Craft*** - Church Room - 1.00pm
8 ***Summer Fayre*** - Langford Academy - for more information www.langfordvillageacademy.org.uk
12 ***Langford WI*** - The Palace of Knightsbridge - Richard James 7.15pm - Chapel Schoolroom
15 ***St. Andrew's Church Fete*** - 2.00pm (time to be confirmed)
18 ***Parchment Craft*** - Church Room - 1.00pm
29 ***Biggleswade Market Stall*** - for Chapel Funds

July

1 ***Parish Council Meeting*** - Church Room - 7.30pm
2 ***Gardening Club*** - Garden History in Bedfordshire - Church Room - 7.30pm
3 ***Oasis Coffee Morning*** - Chapel 10.30-11.30am
3 ***History Society*** - Visit to British Schools Museum, Hitchin
4 ***Parchment Craft*** - Church Room - 1.00pm
6 ***Raft Race and Playing Field Fete***
10 ***Langford WI*** - Internet Dating - Barbara Hudson - Chapel Schoolroom - 7.15pm
18 ***Parchment Craft*** - Church Room - 1.00pm
20-21 ***Beds and Herts Fuschia Society Annual Festival*** - St. Andrew's Church - 10.30am-4.00pm - FREE ENTRANCE

August

1 ***Parchment Craft*** - Church Room - 1.00pm
4 ***Cream Teas*** - 18 Windsor Way - 3.00pm-5.00pm
6 ***Gardening Club*** - Chilli Farm Visit
7 ***Oasis Coffee Morning*** - Chapel 10.30-11.30am
14 ***Langford WI*** - Afternoon Garden Party - Langford Bowls Club
15 ***Parchment Craft*** - Church Room - 1.00pm

As we continue in our 18th year to serve this community we can only feel how much we are needed and anyone who has served with us can only realise its importance to our clients who are always appreciative.

Our new, much lighter wheelchair, paid for by the Parish Council, has proved very useful and its use has increased.

We plan to hold another summer afternoon tea party for clients and volunteers after the success of last year's. We are pleased to have gained some new volunteers and always welcome anyone who has some spare time to offer. All are welcome to join us for our A. G. M. in the Church Hall on Monday 20th May at 2 p.m. At this meeting our two longest serving members will be resigning their roles after eighteen years of service. Val Henley, our hardworking and efficient secretary, needs more time for her family and Jean Williams, Chair is planning to move back to Wales. For more information, please contact Tel: 07884046741.

Jean Williams

Thank you to a Langford Friend

Jean Williams with Secretary Val Henley

Jean was a founder member of Langford Friends, the volunteer organisation within Langford whose members befriend residents, and provide help. The organisation started almost twenty years ago, and Jean has been Chairperson for many of those years. From a small group of volunteers, the numbers have grown and there are now over 30 volunteers with a dedicated committee of 9. She has been pleased to see Langford Friends grow and provide an excellent service. Jean has always taken a personal interest in the clients and this has been much appreciated by many. Sad to say, Jean is resigning from the post of Chair at the AGM in May.

Jean has always liked to take part in village life. She is a member of many organisations and an active member of St Andrew's Church. Jean has been on the Parochial Church Council for many years taking on roles including a spell as Churchwarden and as the Church's representative on the Deanery Synod. She has recently been involved in the reorganisation plans for the church together with fundraising. Her active participation in church life will be much missed. Jean and her husband Phil are moving back to Wales.

On behalf of all Phil and Jean's friends and acquaintances may I wish them both good health and happiness in their new venture.

Trudy Emery

Langford Neighbourhood Plan

SPRING 19 NEWS AND UPDATES

The Steering Group, comprised of a growing number of local volunteer residents and parish councillors, continues to make good progress on developing the Neighbourhood Plan. The group and the village received an early boost to their efforts in February when the results of the Questionnaire were instrumental in the refusal of Outline Planning Permission for 95 homes off Tithe Farm Close. This proved the worth of engaging properly with the process, which can also have other benefits for the village. If we can get the Plan written and approved then the village can benefit from 25% of the proceeds of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on all developments in the village. Our community will also have the documentation to support future efforts to oppose or modify planning applications affecting us and to try and shape the village as you want it to be.

Our work to date has been financially supported by the Parish Council, however we are applying for Neighbourhood Plan funds from Central Beds Council, which we intend to put to good use, allowing the Parish Council to continue their other work for the village.

We have commissioned a Housing Needs Survey, which is a very important part of a Neighbourhood Plan. You may well have received this already but if you haven't yet sent back your views then please do that right now. The more information we have on what YOU want the better the Plan will be!

The children at Langford Academy were asked by the staff to give their views on the village now and in the future. A selection of classes of 137 children from Foundation to Year 3-4 took part and gave important thoughts:

They disliked the volume and speed of traffic, which caused pollution and noise and were also critical of the disorganised parking around the school. They had a preference for well-designed houses and were critical of too many houses consuming the countryside. Some mentioned noisy trains and many said they did not want Langford to become bigger.

The environment is an important issue for our school children and they are very concerned about the volume of litter and dog poo in the village, especially on pavements. The quality and number of trees and flowers were mentioned many times and the children clearly want more. With regards to infrastructure they like the park amenities, the friendly people and the scenery. They'd like more active play equipment, including a zip wire and splash park, whilst some asked for a bigger school. The church and its historical significance was mentioned and they would like more sweet shops, an arcade, a cinema and, finally but perhaps not surprisingly, fast food outlets for them and their parents! The children's thoughts were also accompanied by some imaginative drawings. We're very grateful to the staff and children at the Academy for their time and attention and we'll be incorporating their thoughts and ideas in the final Plan.

We are also talking to local businesses about their current status and future requirements. We also want to make sure we know about the views of the many sole

traders and self-employed people in the village. There is a specific Business Questionnaire on our website ***https://langfordneighbourhoodplan.org.uk/***, which only takes a few minutes to complete. If you're in business locally, in whatever way, we want to know your views!

As part of the Neighbourhood Plan consultation we would like to make contact with Landowners in Langford regarding their long term aspirations for their land (i.e. their views on keeping land arable/agricultural or whether they intend a change of use). If you are a Landowner we would very much like to hear from you.

Some of you may have contributed in 2011 to the Langford Green Infrastructure Plan and we now have a group working on updating that for inclusion within the final Plan. Other groups are now working on the Plan's policies for Transport, Planning and Development, Environment and Infrastructure.

Allotments are currently in short supply locally and we'd like to know if you want an allotment or currently have one in a neighbouring parish.

Please let the Parish Council know now by phone to 07482 276173 or by email to:- michellealbone.langfordpc@gmail.com.

Last but not least, we'll have a display at the Village Fete on Saturday, July 6th so please come along and meet us, catch up with progress to date and maybe join us to get the Plan in the best possible shape.

You can keep up to date via our website ***https://langfordneighbourhoodplan.org.uk/*** or on Facebook (search: Langford Village Neighbourhood Plan).

Contact us via email on langfordneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com or via the Parish Council as above.

Langford Village Hall

Bookings are going very well and overall income has increased in the last few months (due to the increase in regular hirers and one-off hirers) which is promising. In the last couple of months there have been numerous calls for people wanting a regular hirer place (six in total) from Pilates, fitness, yoga etc. The hall is now pretty much running at full capacity, so these requests have been turned down. Regular hirers are paying well after a couple of firm warnings.

Feedback from all hirers is exceptional.

Artwork has been purchased for the foyer.

Many maintenance jobs have been necessary including work to the kitchen, hall curtain track, lighting both interior and exterior and preventative measures against vandalism.

Permission has been given from the owners of the properties in Church Street e.g. Chinese take away and Shop for the defibrillator to be sited there. Gill is awaiting the quotation for the fitting of the defibrillator.

The AGM for the management committee will be 20th June. 7pm All welcome

Gill Clarke

1st Langford Scout Group

Beavers

The Beavers have been enjoying fun packed evenings by completing a night hike, pioneering, safety and communicator badge work along with crafting activities and games. During March, we saw two of the Beavers obtain their Chief Scout Bronze Awards following all their hard work and dedication over the last two years. The Chief Scout Bronze Award is the highest award a Beaver can obtain. The Spring term finished with Beavers making Mothers Day cards and Easter eggs before the half term break. The new term will continue with action packed and fun activities for all."

Beavers are boys and girls aged 6-8, we meet Tuesday 6-7pm in termtime. Please contact Darren on beavers@langfordscouts.org.uk if you would like to add your child to the waiting list.

Cubs

At the time of writing, planning for the Garage Sale Trail is in full flow – here's hoping by the time this Diary reaches you we've had a wonderful sunny day with the village out in force supporting our fundraiser for Brownies and the Scout Group.

As we head into the summer term we have plans for lots of outdoor activities, focussing on the core skills of scouting – learning through adventure and gaining #skillsforlife

The Spring term was fun with first aid training, pancake making, a visit to the pantomime and tubing on the ski slope at Welwyn among our activities and we finished with a showcase of the Cubs' many talents with 'Cubs Got Talent!'

In March we had a brilliant weekend with the Cubs and Scouts at Paccar Scout Camp, which was part funded by the generous donation we received from the Raft Race last summer (thank you!!)

Cubs are boys and girls aged 8-10.5, we meet Wednesday 6.30-8 in termtime: we currently have a few spaces for children living in Langford or attending LVA.

Please contact Akela (Jo) on cubs@langfordscouts.org.uk

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

1st Langford Rainbows

Before Easter, we had lots of fun finishing our term with an Easter Egg Hunt in the Church Yard and doing Easter Colouring and Games. We learnt a dance that we performed for Mother's Day and we made pancakes where we cut our own fruit to eat with them. We made some amazing robots out of boxes and materials and we had lots of fun at Whipsnade Zoo for Thinking Day. We are currently planning a sleepover at Shepreth Wildlife Park in the summer.

1st Langford Brownies

We finished the Spring term and our 'Skills for My Future' theme with learning about different tools and creating our own shops. For Mother's Day, we invited the Mums in for hand massages, tea, biscuits and a few songs that we performed. We had our own Easter Egg Hunt as well as running one at the Church on Easter Sunday where we raised over £100. We would like to thank the village for their support as we had lots of little ones turn up for fun! We are looking forward to camping over the summer with the Guides.

1st Langford Guide

For Easter, we decorated our own Easter Eggs and we did a little hunt as well. We invited the Mum's in on Mother's Day for a Bingo night where we also had tea and cakes and gave them cards we had made. This term will be spent mostly outside doing sports and camping preparations. We will have our usual water fight to end the term as well as an Oscars themed party. We will also be going swimming and to the cinema.

St. Andrew's Church

Recently we have been able to make some improvements to the churchyard. We have been fortunate to have had some much needed work done to trees which makes the church building more visible, and the pathway resurfaced so that the building is easier to access. Inside we have also benefited from a new microphone system which has greatly improved the sound. We are grateful to the generosity of the parish council and other individuals who have made this possible.

Why do we bother with any of this?

Well of course the congregation who meet week by week to worship at St Andrews benefit from these improvements. But it is so much bigger than this. Just a week before Easter we saw Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris engulfed in flames. Thousands came onto the streets of Paris to lament the damage to a much loved building. Who would have thought that so much passion could be demonstrated over a building.

But just as Paris and beyond has a great attachment to such an iconic building, so we too as a community have much invested in the oldest building in our village. It is the place in which many memories will be connected- past, present and future.

But what of the future?

Notre Dame will be restored. The question is always what will it be like? Will it replicate that which was destroyed. Or does it provide an opportunity to rebuild differently.

The primary purpose of St Andrews remains as a place of worship. That much you would expect. But it is already used for other events. Last year you will remember we hosted a community display as we commemorated the 100th anniversary of the armistice. This year we will host the Beds and Herts Fuchsia Society's annual festival in July which I am sure will be a fabulous event. But we do have a bigger vision for the building which has always had to be updated for use.

In 1918 the Revd Christopher Ewbank, the longest serving vicar of Langford recollected something of his first visit in 1867: 'There was no heating apparatus in the church, and the walls were very damp, of a greenish hue, and the smell was anything but exhilarating'. It took until 1911 for the church to have a heating system with radiators.

One of Revd Ewbanks frustrations was that he always wanted to be doing more in terms of refurbishment and restoration. Similarly we continue to want to progress our plans for new facilities in the church building. Why? Well, not just for the use of our congregation week by week but also for you - the community - whose building this is also. We hope this doesn't take the 44 years it took for the first heating system with radiators to be completed! If you want to help in any way to move our current project forward please do speak with me. I am also keen to hear of any ideas you may have for use of the church building by the community. So again, please do speak with me. In the meantime have a restful summer when it comes.

Shaun Speller

St. Andrew's Church Reordering Appeal

JOIN OUR
100 CLUB
OPEN TO ALL

42 people have joined which makes a

Weekly Prize Draw of £21.00 with £21.00

also going into our reordering fund.
If anyone would like to take part please contact Jean Williams on 01462 700433 or Sheila on 01462 701750.

The Beds & Herts Fuchsia Society
Annual Festival
St Andrew's Church, Langford
20th and 21st July 2019 - 2pm till 4pm

Church will be open to the public both days displaying many varietys of fuchsias.
Refreshments will be on sale all day.

FREE ENTRANCE

Fuchsia plants will be on sale and much more

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

Sheila Vidler

Friends of St. Andrew's Churchyard

It is hoped to get a voluntary team together to maintain St Andrew's Churchyard. This would involve general maintenance of cutting back hedges, bushes and etc and keeping the whole graveyard area tidy. It would not include grass cutting.
We would love to hear from you if you are interested at all and are able to spare some time that suits you. Please ring Bob Vidler on 01462 701750 .

Langford Cricket Club

Welcome to the 2019 Cricket season, and what an exciting summer lies ahead at Langford Cricket Club. The summer will be packed with cricket and events for all ages and abilities as we not only hope to try and emulate the on field success of 2018, but continue to make available cricket to all the community in Langford.

MEN:

The 2018 season saw the 1st XI finish 2nd in the Bedfordshire County League Premier Division this was a fantastic feat for a village team and our Club captain, Jordan and his team, are aiming to go one better in 2019. This year the Bedfordshire Premier League are moving away from traditional 'whites' so expect to see flamboyant coloured kit on display on the playing field on Sundays.

The Sunday second XI gained promotion into Bedfordshire County League division 5 for this season. We are very happy that last season several youth team players had the opportunity to play for the 2nd XI, and to the credit of their youth coaches, did a sterling job.

LADIES:

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

YOUTH:

Youth Cricket at Langford goes from strength to strength. The English Cricket Boards (ECB) All Star Programme is embraced at Langford, and runs from early May for 8 weeks, offering the opportunity for around thirty 5 to 8 year old boys and girls cricket coaching and provides all the equipment a young cricketer needs.

Children from 8 years old upwards are coached on a Thursday evening where fun and enjoyment are the priority. Girls and boys are invited and welcome to attend each week from 6pm to 7pm from the 25th April right through until August, this is a great introduction to the many youth teams the Club run, from U9's through 11's, 13's and 15's right up to Adult Cricket.

ALLSTARS:

The ECB sponsored scheme for 5 to 8 year olds commences on Sat 11th May at 9.30am, please registered with the ECB asap as numbers are limited.

The Club always welcome new players, so whether you are young, or a bit more mature, there is cricket at Langford Cricket Club for everyone, so please do come along and join us. Throughout the summer please ensure you keep up to date on what is happening via the Langford Cricket Clubs Facebook page (www.facebook.com/LangfordCC) and team fixtures, results and player statistics on the Langford Play Cricket Website ***(langfordcc.play-cricket.com).***

Andy Watson, Chairman. Langford Cricket Club.

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, evenings 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 any Friday afternoon from 2pm to try the game at our open sessions or pop along to see us at the bowling green during the Village Fete or whenever we are on the green. All you need to get started is flat soled shoes.

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

Concert at St. Andew's

Over 80 residents of Langford and visitors from surrounding villages attended an evening of sublime choral music at St Andrew's Church on Saturday 2nd March 2019. The Orpheus Choir of North Herts, directed and conducted by Anne-Marie Hetherington and accompanied by organist Clifton Hughes, performed Gloria by Vivaldi plus music by Vaughan Williams, Orlando Gibbons, Robert Pearsall and Patrick Doyle. The evening was held to promote St Andrew's appeal to fund the costs of providing proper level access into the church and the installation of toilet and kitchen facilities. The Orpheus Choir is celebrating its Golden Jubilee having been founded in 1969 by John Railton.

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For Bookings Contact Owner

Sally Morley on 07967 721678

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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 single or £35 for double membership. Visitors are always very welcome -£3.

Please see Whats on in Summer on p18 for details of meetings and visits.

Welcome Club

Although we are still very well attended each Wednesday and we have had a few new members it would be nice to see some more new faces. I am sure most of you know what we do every Wednesday, but for those of you who are not aware of us, we are a group who meet each week at The Ivy Leaf club in Station Road. We enjoy catching up with each other and some of us play cards, dominoes or Scrabble. We have a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit or two, but mostly we just enjoy an afternoon with friends. So, if you would like to join us, come along or ring Stella on 01462 700977 for more information.

Stella Hill

Langford Diary Copy Dates and Advertising

PLEASE NOTE - IMPORTANT

All Copy and Advertising for inclusion in NEXT Diary Autumn Edition by 22nd July for events in September, October and November.

2019-20 Submission Dates
WInter Issue 22nd October - Spring Edition 22nd January.

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***

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

ADVERTISING RATES

Cost of Adverts in Langford Diary 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 - **Half page**
Single issue - £60 plus vat (£72 inc VAT)
Full year (four issues) - £170 plus vat (£204 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 - **Whole page**
Single issue - £110 plus vat (£132 inc VAT)
Full year (four issues) - £340 plus vat (£408 inc VAT)

Editor's Reservation

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

Langford FC Season 2018-19

1	Harefield United	38	36	2	0	91	110
2	Broadfields United	38	30	4	4	58	94
3	Winslow United	37	22	8	7	50	74
4	Buckingham Athletic	38	21	6	11	33	69
5	Bedford	38	19	4	15	-6	61
6	London Lions	38	18	6	14	14	60
7	Risborough Rangers	38	18	6	14	4	60
8	FC Broxbourne Borough	38	17	9	12	1	60
9	Ampthill Town	38	17	4	17	15	55
10	Enfield Borough	37	16	6	15	8	54
11	Langford	38	16	4	18	-5	52
12	Rayners Lane	38	15	6	17	-15	51
13	Park View	38	13	7	18	-11	46
14	Hillingdon Borough	38	16	2	20	-13	46
15	Milton Keynes Robins	38	12	5	21	-14	41
16	Wodson Park	38	10	5	23	-25	35
17	Amersham Town	38	10	4	24	-39	34
18	Brimsdown	38	10	3	25	-43	33
19	Codicote	38	7	6	25	-40	27
20	Hatfield Town	38	5	5	28	-63	20

Langford FC completed their final match of the season against Risborough Rangers FC on Saturday 27 April 2019. Langford had a poor start to the 2018-19 season, finding themselves second from bottom by October. But as the team settled, they gradually crept up to midway in the table, reaching a high point of 7th place during January to March. A very memorable game was a Beds Senior Trophy match against Ampthill Town at Forde Park. This finished 2-2 and went to 'nail-biting' penalties. All ten penalty kicks were blasted into the goal, except for the very last, which rebounded from the 'woodwork' to allow Langford go through to the next round. Unfortunately, injuries to key players caused major disruption to the team and despite the introduction of a few new players, the team had a run of defeats which caused them to slip several places. Our manager Martin Wells, substituted himself into the team on two occasions and even managed to score a couple of key goals.

The final match against Risborough Rangers was a very disappointing end to the season, being very much a case 'snatching defeat from the jaws of victory'. Being 2-0 up with 20 minutes to go, we still managed to lose the match 2-3, finishing the season in 11th place in the Spartan South Midlands League - Division 1. That's what makes football both exciting

and frustrating. We now have to look forward to next season and hope that we can fight for a strong top-half finish.

Would you Like to Play Football?

Anyone looking to get involved in playing Football? - we have men's, women's and junior teams; we start pre-season training for the men's team at Forde Park on 27 June from 6-30pm.

Would You Like to Take Part in the Running of a Football Club?

Langford FC is looking for new people, both male and female, to help run our local football club. We need help in all sorts of 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 can spare a few hours per week and are interested in being part of the future of this club, please contact David Jenkins,

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

Ivy Leaf Club

Ivy leaf club

Summer is upon us so why not come down to the Ivy Leaf Club and enjoy a drink? Not a member? Not a problem! You can visit us up to five times in a year and pay £1 or alternatively 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 June, July and August...

Corruption
Saturday 15th June
(Members: Free Non-members: £4)

100ft drop
Saturday 6th July
(Members: Free Non-members: £4)

Cheezy and the hellmits
Sunday 25th August
(Members: Free Non-members: £4)

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)

Langford Methodist Church

June

5 ***Oasis Coffee Morning*** - Chapel - 10.30am-12 noon
6 ***Bible Study - Colossians*** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
6 ***Sisterhood*** - AGM & Tea - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
12 ***Bible Study - Colossians*** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
19 ***Prayer Group*** - 11 Riverside Gardens - 7.45pm
26 ***Bible Study - Colossians*** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
27 ***Church Council*** - Chapel Schoolroom - 7.30pm
29 ***Stall on Biggleswade Market*** - For Chapel Funds - 8.30am-12 noon
30 ***Informal Service - Colossians followed by coffee***- Chapel - 9.30am
30 ***Sunday Club*** - Chapel Schoolroom - 10.45am

July

3 ***Oasis Coffee Morning*** - Chapel 10.30am-11.30am
3 ***Bible Study*** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
10 ***Bible Study*** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
17 ***Prayer Group*** - 11 Riverside Gardens - 7.45pm
24 ***Bible Study*** - 24 East Road - 7.45pm
28 ***Informal Service followed by coffee***- Chapel - 9.30am

August

1 ***Mission Meeting*** - Chapel Schoolroom - 7.30pm
4 ***Cream Teas*** - 18 Windsor Way - 3.00pm-5.00pm
7 ***Oasis Coffee Morning*** - Chapel 10.30am-11.30am
25 ***Breakfast followed by Informal Service*** - Chapel - 9.15am

Shefford Craft & Produce Show

Saturday, 31st August, 2019

Our 39th Show will again be held in the rooms behind Shefford Methodist Church and you don't have to live in Shefford to enter. There are numerous cups and shields for adults and children to win. If you enjoy being busy in the kitchen or garden, making things or arranging flowers, there is plenty of choice. Almost everyone carries a phone with a camera these days, so taking a photograph should be easy. Depending on their age, children also have various opportunities to make things in or out of the kitchen, but they are all able to submit a photograph.

Our free schedules showing full details of what you can enter, are available in the library and other outlets around Shefford or by emailing the address below. They can also be obtained at our stall at the Shefford Summer Fete on Saturday 1st June, where our fun quiz will be on sale and a free colouring competition for children can also be picked up.

If you have any questions we are happy to help. Come and see us at at the fete, email ***sheffordcps@gmail.com*** or use one of the contact numbers in the schedule.

Chessum Road, Langford

From Sheep Stealing to the Cabinet Office! That was the title for a contribution to the Diary that first occurred to me when I heard that a new road in Langford has been named Chessum Road after our family.

I was told from an early age (I was born in 1942) that a Chessum had been deported to Australia in the 19th century for stealing sheep. Maybe like many others in his time he was destitute and desperate. My eldest son has worked in the legal department of the Cabinet Office for the last decade drafting government legislation. Quite a change over the generations! When he researched people with the name Chessum in Australia he drew a blank, but he found a little colony of Chessums in New Zealand, so perhaps the convicted man escaped across the sea.

My father Tom Chessum was married to Nancy whose maiden name was Smith. Both were very well known and active as were earlier family members and both sides of the family went back many generations in the village. In those days not many people moved away, and 'away' often meant to a nearby village. When I was a child the population of the village was said to be around 700. We knew everybody and were related in some way to very many. But of course the number of inhabitants was always increasing though not at the same pace as now. I recall that when an Anglican vicar left the village the local newspaper said "He was a very popular Vicar. During his time here the population doubled". We were all left to speculate whether these two assertions were in any way cause and effect!

When my father was away at the war, my mother and I lived in the front room of my aunt and uncle Kath and Jess Smith in Cambridge Road where my cousin Valerie was born. When the war ended and my father returned we were allocated a council prefab in West View. We were there until the mid-50's when we moved into a house at 19 Station Road which my father built (his firm was called Chessum and Wright and is referred to by his partner's son Philip Wright in a lengthy set of memories published by the Langford History Society).

My father died early in 1963 but my mother lived in the house in Station Road until her passing in 2011. It was effectively our family home for nearly 6 decades to which I and my 3 sisters Rosemary Susan and Lucy frequently returned. It overlooked what we used to call the village green, the scene of many activities including the main village bonfire on November 5th. We regarded it as the centre of the village, but when I returned there by bus 20 years ago, the bus driver insisted there was no such place. "Do you want the Leys?" he asked!

Interestingly in view of the current desire of many to "keep Langford a village", my parents were anxious to preserve village memories and were totally opposed to the renaming of roads in a way which wiped some of its history. The road next to our house which led from Station Road, then called Pantyle Road, was renamed Windsor Way and another road which all the old village people knew as Jigs Lane was renamed Jubilee Lane. As a protest against what my parents regarded as the pretentious renaming of roads with royal names, our family house was named Pantyle House.

I still fondly remember Station Road as a country lane that led from our family house to that of my wartime home in Cambridge Road. My cousin Valerie (who currently lives in Station Road) and I remember it being full of trees and badly lit. Houses were few and far between. There were very few street lights and in those days they were dimmer than now. In dark evenings we would walk along it with some trepidation, plucking up courage to brave the darkness and run from each street light to the next.

I think of this now that Chessum Road is the name of a road leading into yet another new estate. With the many developments that have already taken place and others which are planned in the area, I wonder how Station Road will cope with all the traffic. A far cry too from my childhood when only a very small number of the more affluent people in the village possessed cars.

Time marches on! The world inevitably changes. We cannot expect Langford to return to the time when it was not only a village but quite literally like an extended family. But I hope Chessum Road will serve as a reminder of what has been lost and preserve a few memories -even if there are less sheep left to steal!

Richard Chessum

Langford Family Fete
July 6th at 11.am

It's on with the Fete once more, and preparations are well in hand. And have we got a show for you! In fact, there is so much to fit in that we are starting earlier this year, at 11a.m. We have at present got 28 stalls with many more expected, and this year we are also having a Car Boot Sale. All the usual attractions - the Barbecue, Fairground attractions, Raffle, Licensed Bar, and the Dog Show - will be there. We will be having performances from the Singtastic Choir (who were so good at our Christmas event) and Phoenix Chorus. Hitchin Sea Cadets Band will be opening the show, and Arabia Belly Dancers, Pirouettes and Pullbacks, Dreams Theatre, and Sosafitness will all be doing their best to entertain and enthral you. So put the date and the time in your diary now, you don't want to miss it! Of course, we are deeply grateful to our sponsors, without whom we could not put the Fete on : and at the time of writing they are Elizabeth Smith Veterinary Practice, Henlow Building Supplies, Quince Memorials, Neville Funeral Service, Alexanders Cars, Langford Service Garage, Country Scapes, and N.B.Barbering.
Remember, we are always looking for help on the day with moving chairs and so on, and would love to hear from you if you can assist us or wish to take part in any way. We are on Facebook and you can contact any of our team.

See you there! - Colin Carroll

Langford Walking Group

We are a friendly local walking group which meets Tuesday mornings at 10am on the Ford Bridge near the Post Office. We walk for about an hour and a half depending on weather conditions and the route we take. We often finish off with a coffee and refreshments at the Garden Centre Café. We sometimes walk beside the river to Jordan's Mill where we enjoy the refreshments there. The Cut out and Keep Walk on Page 40 is one of our walks.
On the first Tuesday of the month we walk further afield and this year we have enjoyed walks at Radwell Meadows, Priory Park and the Embankment in Bedford, Willington and the Wimpole National Trust Estate. We arrange and share transport. The photo shows us at Willington on a sunny morning in March. If you would like to join us come along and meet us at the bridge. For more details contact - Val Henley on 01462 626502.

Langford Tennis Club

The village tennis club is pleased to welcome new members for social and competitive play. We have a thriving coaching program with about 80 juniors and adults attending weekly coaching groups – there are a few adult places as we head into the better weather if anyone fancies giving tennis a go. We enter over ten ladies, mens and mixed adult teams into the bedfordshire leagues and this gives a broad range of playing levels a chance to play fun competitive tennis. And on Wednesdays mornings, Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons the club runs social adult play for members of all levels.

We have as many junior players as adults and the older juniors (age 14+) enter a team in the adult Bedfordshire league and are doing well. Junior tournaments are run a few times a year and we sometimes run ladders to encourage juniors to play.

For more information about the club, membership and coaching please see http://langfordtennisclub.org.uk/

Wanderbus

WANDERBUS

2019 EXCURSIONS
– 4th THURSDAY OF MONTH!

Call **0300-123-3023** or e mail: **thewanderbus@gmail.com** for more info or to book your seat.

We do require a deposit of £5.00 p.p. for any excursion. A cheque to Wanderbus, 5 The Pastures, Upper Stondon, Beds SG16 6QB or a bank transfer to : CAF Bank Ltd, Sort Code 40-52-40, Acc No 00013118 Name: Wanderbus Ltd (Use you name in Reference)

	DESTINATIONS	Bus Fare Per Person
23rd May	**Cambridge**	**£7.50**
	Botanical Gardens. Entry Fee £6.00. Plants from around the world.	
27th June	**Burghley House & Gardens**	**£15.00**
	Stamford, Lincs. = 'England's greatest Elizabethan House' - State rooms & Gardens £17.00 - Gardens only £13.00	
25th July	**Waddesdon Manor, Bucks**	**£12.00**
	National Trust House & Gardens - Aviary, - Stables Cafe. Entry fee £11.00 or free to National Trust Members	
22nd August	**Wimpole Hall, Cambs.**	**£8.00**
	National Trust. Hall, home farm & gardens. Entry £17.20 or £12.50 for just Gardens & Home Farm. Tea room. Dahlia Display	
26th Sept	**Anglesey Abbey, Cambs.**	**£12.00**
	National Trust House, Gardens & Water Mill. £15.80 for all access or £9.00 for gardens only. Dahlia Display.	
24th Oct.	**Wyvale Garden Centre, Shepreth**	**£8.00**
	Various concession outlet shops, garden centre and restaurant	
28th Nov.	**Christmas Market**	
	Destination to be advised.	

LANGFORD - WANDERBUS
Bookings & Info Tel :0300-123-3023
www.wanderbus.org.uk
e-mail: thewanderbus@gmail.com

WANDERBUS

A regular bus service open to all – young & old.
Cash Fares & Travel Passes accepted on all routes.
NB. W5 is a New Route through Langford!!

As of 6th MAY 2019 "Stops at all Bus Stops on Request"

W1 BEDFORD - Every Wednesday	OUT	RETURN
o/s Riverside Gardens	09.26	RR
Cambridge Rd. all Stops	09.27	RR
Station Rd. all Stops	09.27	RR
Church St. all Stops	09.29	RR
Bedford – St Pauls Square - Corn Exchange	**10.05**	**12.20**

W4 WELWYN GARDEN CITY – 1st Thursday of Month	OUT	RETURN
Church St. all Stops	09.13	RR
Station Rd. all Stops	09.15	RR
opp Riverside Gardens	09.17	RR
Bus Station	**09.55**	**12.15**

W5 BIGGLESWADE – A1 RETAIL PARK 2nd & 4th - *New Route* - Friday of each month	OUT	RETURN
o/s Riverside Gardens	14.00	RR
Cambridge Rd. all Stops	14.01	RR
Station Rd. all Stops	14.01	RR
Church St. all Stops	14.03	RR
Langford Rd. all Stops	14.04	RR
Biggleswade – Asda Superstore	**14.11**	**16.05**
Biggleswade – A1 London Rd Retail Park	**14.16**	**16.00**

W9 ST NEOTS - 2nd Thursday of Month	OUT	RETURN
o/s Riverside Gardens	09.13	RR
Cambridge Rd. - all Stops	09.14	RR
Station Rd. all Stops	09.15	RR
Church St. all Stops	09.17	RR
Roxton Garden Centre (on request)	**09.40 OR**	**12.10 OR**
St Neots - Market Place	**09.50**	**12.00**

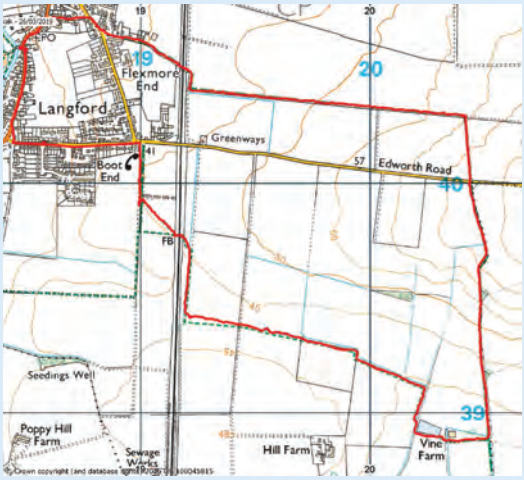
W13 MILTON KEYNES - 3rd Thursday of Month	OUT	RETURN
Church St. all Stops	09.06	RR
Station Rd. all Stops	09.08	RR
Cambridge Rd. all Stops	09.09	RR
Opp Riverside Gardens	09.10	RR
MK - Midsummer Blvd / Debenhams & M&S	**10.15**	
/ John Lewis	**10.17**	**13.15**

OR = Stops on Request **RR = Return Stops on Request**

A Circular Walk of almost 5 miles to the East of Langford

Cut Out and Keep

This walk starts from the ***Chapel Bridge*** and heads north past the ***Post Office*** and east through ***The Leys*** and then south along ***Station Road*** before turning east down ***Jubilee Lane***. Once out of the built-up area there are good views of the wind farm. ***The railway needs to be crossed*** with caution and then the walk can continue, following the yellow ***footpath markers on posts***. The route continues east towards the water tower at Toplers Hill following a hedge on your right. About two thirds of the way to the water tower the ***footpath turns south*** before one needs to cross the busy Edworth Road. At this point you are about 220 feet (67 m) above sea level. Once past this busy road the path descends into open countryside with views to your right of the solar farm, Hill Farm, and in the distance: Henlow, Arlesey, Meppershall water tower and beyond. Hopefully you will see or hear some skylarks or other wildlife. At the bottom of this valley is the River Ivel running west to east. To your left you will see the large chicken rearing business known as Vine Farm. ***Continue along the footpath down the hill***. Once on the level you will turn right/west and then you will pass a ***small irrigation reservoir*** and then the path continues very close to the south fence of the ***solar farm***. Once past the solar farm you will see the passing trains ahead of you. As you approach the railway line the footpath turns north and follows the railway line until a ***pedestrian bridge*** is encountered enabling you to cross the London the Edinburgh tracks in safety. Once over the bridge you can either cross a paddock diagonally using a stile or continue alongside the paddock until you reach the ***Concrete Road***. Either way, turn north on the concrete road and you will end up at the junction of ***Cambridge Road and Station Road***. From here you can either head back to the centre of Langford (via Station Road) or continue towards Henlow (via Cambridge Road) and sample the refreshments at ***Langford Garden Centre.*** From the Garden Centre cross the road and then either follow the river back to Chapel Bridge or walk along the high Street to Chapel Bridge.



John Shipman and members of Langford Walking Group

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