

A publication by Langford Parish Council

# The Langford Diary

Editor: Trudy Emery

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Tel: 01462 636638

Edition 206

**Christmas Fair**  
Village Hall  
Saturday 14 December  
11.00am-3.00pm



**Winter 2019**

*Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year  
to all our  
Langford Residents*  
Photos from  
last year's Christmas Fair.



# Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

## 1st Langford Rainbows

This term we have started working on the Know Myself theme from our new programme. So far we have learnt what things we have in common with each other by playing games. We have made our own music shakers. We have started practising for our annual Christmas Show at the Methodist Church where we will be acting out the poem "T'was the night before Christmas". We threw a surprise party for our leader Catherine who is getting married in No-



vember where we played games, decorated cakes and made her a special dress to wear!

We attended a Dress Up and Dance event along with other Rainbows, Brownies and Guides in our division to raise money for Macmillan. Later this term, we will be attending a Winter Wonderland event with other Rainbows in the County.



## 1st Langford Brownies

Over the summer, we went camping for two nights at Boyd Field in Henlow with the Guides and completed a 'Magic Kingdom' Challenge badge as well as rock climbing and pedal karting.

We have started working on our Christmas Show performance which will be a Toy Story Christmas! We also had fun at Catherine's surprise wedding party and at the Dress Up and Dance Event. We are currently planning a Christmas trip to the cinema to see a special Girlguiding only screening of Frozen 2. Later this term we will be having some spooky themed food and making some Christmas craft.



## 1st Langford Guides

We had lots of fun camping over the summer with the Brownies at Boyd Field where we stayed for four nights. We did rifle shooting and decorated our own shoes! For the Christmas Show, we will be performing 'A Merry Stitchmas' which will be a Disney themed Christmas story we have created together.

We have already been Christmas Shopping in Peterborough which we do every year and the girls love! Later this term, we will be going to visit Cre-Art-Ivity in Stotfold to paint some Christmas pottery. We will have an end of term Christmas Party. We also have 10 Guides going to stay at PGL Caythorpe for 'Supanova'; this is a weekend full of fun outdoor activities organised by Girlguiding Anglia.

We would like to thank the Langford Welfare Trust for their kind donation towards our new tents, helping us to carry out our joint camping trip over the summer. We would also like to thank the Raft Race Committee for their wonderful donation which will go towards next year's activities.

Danielle Ellis



## 1st Langford Scout Group

The Autumn term for Cubs is a time to look at the changing seasons, learn new skills and work together as a Pack while the dark nights and bad weather keeps us indoors. So far this term we've hiked the Green Wheel from Biggleswade to The Kings Reach (introducing the Cubs early to the concept that all the best hikes end at a pub) startling Pokemon hunters and horses as we went. We've planted hyacinths; and made seed bombs to beautify our village and bat boxes to house our nocturnal friends. We've had a conker fight and learned to shoot air rifles. It's been a busy half term!

Before Christmas we will be paying our respects at the village Remembrance service and taking part in the annual District Campfire Carol service as well as having a stall at the village Christmas Fayre.

Cubs are boys and girls aged 8-10.5, we meet Wednesday 6.30-8 in termtime : we currently have limited spaces for those who like the outdoors and adventure and don't mind a bit of noise.

Please contact Akela (Jo) on [cubs@langfordscouts.org.uk](mailto:cubs@langfordscouts.org.uk)

# A Letter from the Editor

As the year comes to a close may I thank everyone who has contributed to our Langford Diary. Volunteers give up their time to run local organisations and let us know what is happening within our village. Thank you to all those who have contributed to our parish magazine. Their contributions are valued and appreciated. Our appreciation must also go to others. Personal thanks must go to Janet Bradford who proofreads each edition. I do hope you don't find too many errors!! Steve Hills collates and prints the Diary and John Manley delivers to every household. Thanks must go to the businesses which advertise in The Diary; the revenue from which covers part of our costs and the Post Office, Farm Shop and Garden Centre which hold spare copies for members of the public. A big thank you to all.

The Parish Councillors, chaired by Gill Clarke, continue to work voluntarily for the people of Langford and hold public meetings monthly. They have had a particularly challenging time with all the planning applications within the village. Meetings are held monthly at the Church Hall and the people of Langford are welcome to attend and support.

Another Tidy up Langford morning was organised in October, again it was well supported. Well done all those who help to keep Langford a great village in which to live!

In September St. Andrews Church hall held an open morning showcasing the events and meetings that are held there. There were ten organisations represented. These were Gardening Club, History Society, Brownies and Rainbows, Log Cabin Quilters, Parchment Craft, W.E.A. Pilates, Yoga, Imaginative Arts and the Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan. Details of these are usually included in The Diary.

In the past we have included a special mention of a volunteer or someone who has achieved something special. If you would like to say a public thank you, please let me know. My email address is always on the front cover.

Christmas in Langford should be most exciting this year. Members of the Methodist Chapel and St. Andrews Church are organising several Christmas events to which all are most welcome. Please look at the articles from both churches and the What's on in Winter page for more details. On December 14th there is the Christmas Fayre at the Village Hall. Don't forget Father Christmas will be visiting Langford Garden Centre again this year. Again, please see What's on in the Winter page for details. May I take this opportunity to wish our readers a Very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year!

The Langford Diary is also published on the Parish Council website

**[bedsparishes.gov.uk/langford-parish-council](http://bedsparishes.gov.uk/langford-parish-council)**

Trudy Emery

[trudy.emery1@ntlworld.com](mailto:trudy.emery1@ntlworld.com)

01462 636638

## Langford Christmas Fair

We are holding the second Langford Christmas Fair on **Saturday, 14th December 2019**. The event is being held at **Langford Village Hall from 11.00am to 3.00pm** and is open to all, including children.

We will have a variety of stalls including a food stall from Langford Hideaway plus Ant's Chilli House, Kirsty's Cakes, Ed's Gaming Emporium, Red Berry Crafts, local honey stall as well as interactive stalls from Langford Bowls Club, NRSA and many more.

We also have several performances throughout the day on the main stage.

A tuck shop run by Langford Guides, tea, coffee and mulled wine will be available throughout the day.

***Please join us!***

# Langford Women's Institute

New to the village? Not yet made friends? Or not know much about the village? Why not give the WI a try? We are not all Jam and Jerusalem these days!

The W.I. group in Langford is very go ahead. There is usually a speaker at our monthly meetings. Subjects vary but recently we have had talks entitled 'Internet Dating with a Difference' (which was very funny), 'The Wartime Housewife', 'Life as an Artist' and the list goes on. In August we had a very enjoyable Garden Party. In September we had a Harvest Evening, the theme being a 1950s/60s night with fish and chip supper. The subject of the talks is usually included in The Langford Diary in What's On page.

Not only do we meet monthly we occasionally go ten pin bowling, sometimes meet for breakfast and have trips to the theatre. Members also enjoy Petanque which is held at the local pub, The Plough, and the we have a walking netball team.

If any of this takes your fancy why not give us a try. We meet every second Wednesday of the month at the Methodist School Room (next to the Post Office) at 7.15. You can be assured of a warm welcome.

For more information please contact Jenny Broadbridge on 01462 701127 or [broadbridge42@icloud.com](mailto:broadbridge42@icloud.com)

This is the birthday buttonhole presented to me at the October meeting of the W.I. Every month members who have a birthday are presented with a beautiful buttonhole. They are always most gratefully received. Iris Roberts is the very talented lady who arranges them. Thank you Iris. Trudy Emery.



You may think the winter is a quiet time for gardeners, but to quote horticulturist Liberty Hyde Bailey "A garden is half made when it is well planned. The best gardener is one who does the most gardening by the winter fire".

At Langford Gardening Club we are still busy with the following talks and events, so why not come along?

In December, folk performer Barry Goodman will present "Traditional Treasures" a talk on quirky English customs.

In January, Betty Cooke who has been involved in the Bedfordshire branches of the National History Society and Wildlife Trust will be giving a talk on "Gardening For Wildlife".

In February, we will visit the North Herts Museum for "A Nice Cup of Tea" a talk and tasting led by Museum Curator Cas Sanders.

As you can see you don't have to be a keen gardener to enjoy our events. We usually meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church Hall and have refreshments afterwards. We also have quiz nights, visits to gardens, local food and drink producers etc. Annual subscription is £25/£35 (Single/Double) or £3 per meeting for visitors.

**Details can be found on [www.langford-gardening-club.co.uk/](http://www.langford-gardening-club.co.uk/) or [www.nextdoor.co.uk/groups/](http://www.nextdoor.co.uk/groups/)**

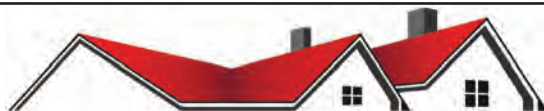
**Please see Whats on in Winter on p15 for details of meetings and visits.**



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# What's On in the Winter!

## December

**Post Box in Chapel for Langford Delivery only until 15th December. 20p per card.**

- 2 Parish Council Meeting** - Church Room - 7.30pm
- 3 Gardening Club** - Traditional Treasures - Gill & Barry Goodman - Church Room - 7.30pm
- 4 Oasis Coffee Morning with Christmas Music** - Chapel 10.30-11.30am
- 4 History Society** - Social Evening - 8.00pm - Church Room
- 5 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 8 Carols & Mulled Wine with Bedford Brass Band** - 6.00pm - St. Andrew's Church
- 11 Langford WI** - Christmas Evening - 7.15pm - Chapel Schoolroom
- 13-15 Christmas Tree Festival** - St. Andrew's Church
- 14 Christmas Fayre** - Langford Village Hall - 11.00am - 3.00pm
- 15 Final Day of Chapel Postal Service**
- 15 Community Carols Around the Tree** - St. Andrew's Church - 4.30pm
- 17 Langford Car Club** - The Plough - 7.00pm
- 19 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 7-8, 14-15, 21-22 Father Christmas at Langford Garden Centre from 2.00-4.00pm**  
**Wed 18th to Mon 23rd every afternoon - Proceeds to Biggleswade & Sandy Lions**

## January

- 1 Oasis Coffee Morning** - Chapel 10.30-11.30am
- 2 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 6 Parish Council Meeting** - Church Room - 7.30pm
- 7 Gardening Club** - Gardening for Wildlife - Betty Cooke - Church Room - 7.30pm
- 8 Langford WI** - National Skincare & Beauty - Etta Stobart - Chapel Schoolroom - 7.15pm
- 16 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 21 Langford Car Club** - The Plough - 7.00pm

## February

- 3 Parish Council Meeting** - Church Room - 7.30pm
- 4 Gardening Club** - Visit to North Herts Museum 'A Nice Cup of Tea' - Talk & Tasting lead by Cas Saunders - Church Room - 7.30pm
- 5 Oasis Oasis Coffee Morning** - Chapel 10.30-11.30am
- 5 History Society** - AGM - 8.00pm - Church Room
- 6 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm
- 12 Langford WI** - Wrest Park & The Women who owned it - Adam Smith - 7.15pm - Chapel Schoolroom
- 18 Langford Car Club** - The Plough - 7.00pm
- 20 Parchment Craft** - Church Room - 1.00pm

# 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](mailto: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

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**Owlets Pre-school** 9am-12.00 morning session & 9.00-3.00pm full day -

07935 784567 - [www.owletspreschool.co.uk](http://www.owletspreschool.co.uk)

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**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](mailto:scouts@langfordscouts.org.uk)

## Tuesday

**Owlets Pre-school** 9am-12.00 & 12 noon-3.00pm Langford Methodist Chapel Room

- 07935 784567 - [www.owletspreschool.co.uk](http://www.owletspreschool.co.uk)

**Yoga** - 9.45am - 11.45 Langford Village Hall Contact Caroline 07752 222542

**Walking Group** meet 10am at Chapel Hill Bridge. For details and 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](mailto: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 - [www.owletspreschool.co.uk](http://www.owletspreschool.co.uk)

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) 6.30pm-8.00pm (term time only)  
Please contact [cubs@langfordscouts.org.uk](mailto:cubs@langfordscouts.org.uk)

**Tennis Club Social Sessions** - 9.30am and 7.30pm Contact Paul Metcalfe 01462 700001  
[pauln.metcalfe@ntlworld.com](mailto:pauln.metcalfe@ntlworld.com) [www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk](http://www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk)

**Adult Dancing** - Argentine Tango/Salsa 7.00pm-9.00pm Langford Village Hall -  
Esme Castle 01767 601604

**Older Persons Exercises** - Village Hall - 12 noon to 1.00pm Conor Inskip -  
[Ci.fitness@icloud.com](mailto:Ci.fitness@icloud.com)

## Thursday

**Owlets Pre-school** 9am-12.00 morning session Langford Methodist Chapel Room -  
07935 784567 - [www.owletspreschool.co.uk](http://www.owletspreschool.co.uk)

**Langford Morning Meditation** 10.30am-11.30am -Village Hall - Sukh Parmar -  
[healingarts@sukhparmar.com](mailto:healingarts@sukhparmar.com)

**WEA** from January 2020 - Contact Jean Chapman 700306 - to be arranged

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

## Friday

**Owlets Pre-school** 9am-12.00 & 12 noon-3.00pm Langford Methodist  
Chapel Room - 07935 784567 - [www.owletspreschool.co.uk](http://www.owletspreschool.co.uk)

**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](mailto: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](mailto:pauln.metcalfe@ntlworld.com) [www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk](http://www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk)

# Langford Parish Council

## **Chairman**

**Gill Clarke**

11 Mill Meadow SG18 9UR  
gillyannclarke@gmail.com

**01462 629440**

## **Vice Chairman**

**John Shipman**

3 Old Mill Close SG18 9QY  
j.m.shipman@ntlworld.com

**01462 700650**

## **Parish Councillors**

**Richard Arnott**

**01462 700466**

20 Cambridge Close, Langford SG18 9SH  
richard\_arnott@yahoo.com

**Joan Rutt**

18 Windsor Way, SG18 9PB  
joan.rutt@ntlworld.com

**01462 700451**

**Mick Beazley**

**01767 223849**

20 Tithe Farm Close, Langford SG18 9NE  
mj.beazley@ntlworld.com

**Debbie Wilson**

1 King George Close, Langford SG18 9QD  
wilsondebbie4789@gmail.com

**01462 485714**

**Binanti Cuzner**

**01462 700018**

103 Church Street Langford SG18 9QA  
binantis@hotmail.com

**Jane Wright**

1 Running Water Cottages, Langford Road  
SG18 9RA  
jmwri@aol.com

**01767 601789**

**Mike Kalaher**

**01767 227869**

79 East Road, Langford SG18 9QP  
mike.kalaher@ntlworld.com

**David Williams**

34 Cambridge Road, Langford SG18 9PS  
will-de@hotmail.com

**01462 700474**

## **Clerk of the Council**

**Mrs. M Albone**

75 Wilsheres Road, Biggleswade SG18 0DN  
michellealbone.langfordpc@gmail.com

**07482 276173**

## **Ward Councillors**

**Steven Dixon - Stotfold, Langford, Fairfield & Astwick Ward**

0300 300 8524 - [steven.dixon@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:steven.dixon@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

**Brian Saunders - 107 Hitchin Road, Stotfold SG5 4JE**

01462 626722 - [absaunders@ntlworld.com](mailto:absaunders@ntlworld.com)

## **Dates of Parish Council Meetings**

### **St. Andrew's Church Hall**

**Monday 2nd December, 2019 - 7.30pm**

**Monday, 6th January, 2019 - 7.30pm**

**Monday, 3rd February, 2019 - 7.30pm**

**The Parish Council has a website where useful information and details of meetings may be found.**

**Please go to**

**<https://www.bedsparishes.gov.uk/langford-parish-council>**

**There is also a Facebook page with some other limited information.**

# Useful Telephone Numbers & Websites

**Bedfordshire Police** 01234 841212  
**Emergency Services**  
**Gas** 0800 111 999  
**Electricity** 0800 072 7282  
**Power Cuts** 105  
*or text 80876 POWER & postcode  
 priority services for people in need  
[www.ofgem.gov.uk](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk)*  
**Water** 0800 169 3630  
**Langford Surgery** 01767 316346  
**Ivel Medical Centre** 01767 312441  
**Langford Pharmacy** 01462 701518  
**Langford Village Academy** 01462 629000  
**Langford Friends** 0788 4046741

**Citizen Advice Bureau** 0844 4771600  
[my.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://my.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)  
**Samaritans** 116 123  
 01462 455333  
**Childline** 0800 1111  
[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)  
**Silverline** 0800 470 8090  
**Refuge Against  
 Domestic Violence** 0808 2000 247  
**Central Beds Council** 0300 300 8301  
**Out of Hours Contact Numbers**  
**Social Services** 0300 300 8123  
**Housing Repairs and Noise** 0300 300 8098  
**Highways** 0300 300 8049  
**Dangerous Structures** 0300 300 8098

## Wanderbus



Why not join our new W5 route through to:

### A1 RETAIL PARK – BIGGLESWADE

Nearly two hours to roam through all the shops!

(Also stopping at Asda Superstore, Biggleswade)

2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> Friday afternoon of each Month.

|                                                |              |              |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Meppershall, New Village Hall                  | 13.38        | RR           |
| Meppershall, High St. adj Crackle Hill Rd      | 13.39        | RR           |
| Meppershall, Shefford Rd, All Stops            | 13.40        | RR           |
| Shefford, Ivel Rd, o/s Fire Station            | 13.42        | RR           |
| Shefford, Clifton Rd, opp The Steamer PH       | 13.44        | RR           |
| Shefford, Southfields House                    | 13.45        | RR           |
| Clifton, Shefford Rd, opp Post Office          | 13.48        | RR           |
| Clifton, Clifton Park                          | 13.50        | RR           |
| Henlow, Clifton Rd, opp The Crown PH           | 13.55        | RR           |
| Henlow, High St, adj Five Bells PH             | 13.57        | RR           |
| Henlow, Langford Rd, adj Newtown               | 13.58        | RR           |
| Langford, o/s Riverside Gardens                | 14.00        | RR           |
| Langford, Station Rd, adj Flexmore Way         | 14.01        | RR           |
| Langford, Church St, All Stops                 | 14.03        | RR           |
| Langford, Langford Rd, All Stops               | 14.04        | RR           |
| <b>Biggleswade, Asda Superstore</b>            | <b>14.11</b> | <b>16.05</b> |
| <b>Biggleswade, London Rd, All Stops</b>       | <b>14.13</b> | <b>16.02</b> |
| <b>Biggleswade, A1 London Road Retail Park</b> | <b>14.16</b> | <b>16.00</b> |

Service open to all passengers. Cash fares & travel passes accepted

Timetable Info : Tel :0300-123-3023

E: [thewanderbus@gmail.com](mailto:thewanderbus@gmail.com)

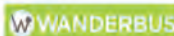
[www.wanderbus.org.uk](http://www.wanderbus.org.uk)

### LANGFORD - WANDERBUS

Bookings & Info Tel :0300-123-3023

[www.wanderbus.org.uk](http://www.wanderbus.org.uk)

e-mail: [thewanderbus@gmail.com](mailto:thewanderbus@gmail.com)



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 6 <sup>TH</sup> MAY 2019                       |                                                                 | *Stops at all Bus Stops on Request* |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>W1 BEDFORD</b>                                    | <b>- Every Wednesday</b>                                        | <b>OUT</b>                          | <b>RETURN</b>   |
| o/s Riverside Gardens                                |                                                                 | 09.29                               | 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           |
| <b>W4 MELWYN GARDEN CITY</b>                         | <b>- 1<sup>ST</sup> Thursday of Month</b>                       | <b>OUT</b>                          | <b>RETURN</b>   |
| Church St, all Stops                                 |                                                                 | 09.13                               | RR              |
| Station Rd, all Stops                                |                                                                 | 09.15                               | RR              |
| opp Riverside Gardens                                |                                                                 | 09.17                               | RR              |
| <b>Bus Station</b>                                   |                                                                 | <b>09.55</b>                        | <b>12.15</b>    |
| <b>W5 BIGGLESWADE – A1 RETAIL PARK</b>               | <b>2<sup>ND</sup> &amp; 4<sup>TH</sup> Friday of each month</b> | <b>OUT</b>                          | <b>RETURN</b>   |
| New Route - 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              |
| <b>Biggleswade – Asda Superstore</b>                 |                                                                 | <b>14.11</b>                        | <b>16.05</b>    |
| <b>Biggleswade – A1 London Rd Retail Park</b>        |                                                                 | <b>14.16</b>                        | <b>16.00</b>    |
| <b>W9 ST NEOTS</b>                                   | <b>- 2<sup>ND</sup> Thursday of Month</b>                       | <b>OUT</b>                          | <b>RETURN</b>   |
| 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              |
| <b>Roxton Garden Centre (on request)</b>             |                                                                 | <b>09.40 OR</b>                     | <b>12.10 OR</b> |
| <b>St Neots - Market Place</b>                       |                                                                 | <b>09.50</b>                        | <b>12.00</b>    |
| <b>W13 MILTON KEYNES</b>                             | <b>- 3<sup>RD</sup> Thursday of Month</b>                       | <b>OUT</b>                          | <b>RETURN</b>   |
| 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              |
| <b>MK - Midsummer Blvd / Debenhams &amp; M&amp;S</b> |                                                                 | <b>10.15</b>                        | <b>10.15</b>    |
| <b>/ John Lewis</b>                                  |                                                                 | <b>10.17</b>                        | <b>13.15</b>    |
| <b>OR = Stops on Request</b>                         |                                                                 | <b>RR = Return Stops on Request</b> |                 |



# WINTER 19 NEWS AND UPDATES

## Langford Neighbourhood Plan

Here is an update on the Langford Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan group, who are all volunteers, has been very busy in the last 6 months.

- **Draft Neighbourhood Plan:** We met with Langford students at Henlow Academy to get their views on the village. The group clearly disliked the drug users, litter and the continual building in the village. They liked the friendly village atmosphere, the skate park and the river and amongst their ideas they wanted a Youth Club, better recycling facilities with a bottle bank, a larger skate park and a countryside conservation area. We're grateful to them and their teachers for their time and thoughtfulness.
- **Funding Request Successful!** The draft is currently under review by the Group and we will be receiving comments from an adviser on its fitness for purpose before submission to the parish council and CBC. The four main policies are: Environment, Infrastructure, Planning & Development and Transport & Movement.
- **Community Engagement:** The Steering Group had a small display at the Langford Tidy Up Day and the Meet and Greet event. Discussions on areas of mutual interest have taken place with Anglian Water, GP practices, Biggleswade Town Council and Clifton Parish Council. Topics included housing, speeding, over development, transport and infrastructure.
- **Central Bedfordshire Council Local Plan:** As you may be aware this Plan, which is very important for the future direction of the Council and our village, has been independently examined and we understand CBC have to improve the plan following the review by the Inspector. CBC hope to resolve the outstanding issues and publish the Local Plan in 2020.
- **Support for the Langford Neighbourhood Plan:** We are employing a grant paid adviser to advise on policy content. We continue to receive both financial and secretarial support from the parish council. Thanks to our dedicated Steering Group team members for their dedication, time given freely, input and hard work. Thank you to all people who have responded to our questionnaires.
- **Recent Planning Applications:** The outline application for up to 150 homes south of Cambridge Road has been approved by CBC. A further application is expected detailing the design of the site and associated infrastructure. The outline application for up to 95 homes behind Loft Farm with access from Tithe Farm Close went to appeal after refusal by CBC. The inspector ruled in favour of the development with certain conditions. The outline application for up to 55 homes to the west of Langford Road was rejected by CBC but has gone to a public inquiry and this will take place on 14 -18 January at Jordans Mill, Broom. Please attend if you can.
- **Business Views needed!!** We'd still like more views from businesses in Langford, especially from sole traders, trades men & women and the self-employed. You can find our quick questionnaire on the website (see below for details). Please take a minute or two to let us know what you think and what you need in the village to prosper!!
- **Photos of the Village:** Thank you to those who sent in photos of Langford. These are really important as we need to illustrate the Plan with lots of good quality clear photos of the village, the good bits and the issues you want addressed. Please send more to: [langfordneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com](mailto:langfordneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com)



- **The Next Steps:** Soon we will be asking you to tell us a bit more about what you like and dislike about Langford so that we can start the process of making change happen. We will be asking you to give us your views in a quick survey called Placecheck. Look out for further news. Using Placecheck we will ask you three questions:

- o *What do we like about Langford?*
- o *What do we dislike about Langford?*
- o *What do we need to work on?*

See what children at Langford Academy say:



Once the Plan is finished, CBC will comment on it before it goes to the vote among villagers. It should be ready for the village vote early to mid 2020. Hopefully you'll approve it and it then shape and guide future planning applications and other village issues.

Keep up to date via our website <https://langfordneighbourhoodplan.org.uk/> or Facebook (search: Langford Village Neighbourhood Plan).

Email us on [langfordneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com](mailto:langfordneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com) or phone us via the Parish Clerk, Michelle Albone, on 07482 276173.

- You have had your say
- We have listened
- We have written policies and guidelines for housing developers
- We have highlighted strengths and weaknesses in our village structure
- We have identified where improvement and protection is necessary
- Look at our website, comment via Facebook or by email
- Don't forget it's your village and this will be your Neighbourhood Plan
- Support the Plan when you are asked to vote on it
- Stay with us whilst we finalise the Langford Neighbourhood Plan

## ***Langford Parish Council***

The winter months are approaching, and we are pleased to report that a good number of village streetlights have been converted to LED, thanks to a grant from the Wind Farm Community Fund.

St Andrew's Church has agreed that the Parish Council can again erect a lit Christmas Tree in the Churchyard, with Village Carol singing around the tree, information from St Andrews Church on date and time. It has been decided not to have a Best Decorated Christmas House competition this year – will be back again next year.

The Neighbourhood Plan group, comprising a number of community minded residents, have worked extremely hard to put together the Plan. Many legally required stages have been completed and it has proceeded further and earlier than expected. Please see information from John Shipman on this.

The Tidy Up day in September was very successful, lots of helpers willing to keep down the rubbish in the Village. The next diary date is March 2020.

### ***That is the good news.***

The not so good news is that the Planning Application Appeal on the land at Tithe Farm Close has been lost and outline planning permission has been given for up to 95 houses with access from Tithe Farm Close. This has serious implications for the residents of Tithe Farm Close and surrounding areas. It could potentially cause traffic problems in Church Street for residents, and more worryingly the school. The Parish Council together with residents put forward the best possible case against this application on two occasions – access from Tithe Farm Close and through Loft Farm, but unfortunately the Inspector deemed there to be insufficient reason to refuse the Tithe Farm Close application – the Loft Farm application is therefore no longer appropriate.

What with the approval of 170 houses at the rear of Cambridge Road, and the potential development along the Langford/Biggleswade Road (to come to Public Inquiry in January) Langford is under attack? The Parish Council will continue to fight in the best way possible but is continually being overthrown by the land procurers and Central Bedfordshire Council.

The Parish Council wish to thank residents who have tried to fight these planning applications by sending in their letters of objection, attending Planning Development meetings at Central Bedfordshire Council and getting together to put forward really professional and to our minds, sound reasons why these developments should never have been allowed.

The other problem is a group of 3/4 boys in the village acting in a dangerous and disastrous manner which, if they continue, could mean being in or causing an accident. These youths with their hoodies up, are riding their bikes through the village roads and pavements with no regard to safety. Already social media has reported on them, asking residents to be vigilant and identify the youths.

There has also been anti-social behaviour at the Village Hall, with youths climbing on the VH roof, stamping on the solar panels, tipping up the glass bin and smashing glass bottles against the VH wall. The glass bin, which was of sole use for the hall and other users of the site e.g. tennis club, bowls and scouts has been removed. These youths also caused real problems in the summer, damage to nearby residents and areas at the playing field and VH. The youths are also illegally entering the hall during a booking, unlocking outside doors and gaining access when the hall is unoccupied, measures have been taken to stop this happening. The CCTV around the hall is recording at all times and the Police have been issued with CCTV footage of this and other unacceptable activities by this group.

These youths are local, someone's child/grandchild – stop them before a tragedy happens or they land into serious trouble.

On a more cheerful note Happy, Peaceful Christmas and good wishes for 2020.

Gill Clarke  
Chairman – Langford Parish Council

## *King George Playing Field*

The Playing Field is in excellent condition, with a good report from the annual inspection by ROSPA. The minor items raised will be dealt with by Adrian our Groundsman.

The wind damaged fence by the house in Church Street has been replaced.

The cricket has finished now, and youth football practice and matches are being held.

The trees around the Playing field will be inspected in November, and advice given by the Tree Surgeon. It is not envisaged that any significant pruning or lopping on any of the trees will take place.

The Management Committee have consulted with residents via the fete and Langford Diary, over the proposed new and replacement equipment in the playing field. 5 responses were received, with comments taken into consideration.

At the present time the Committee is looking to install the road track for younger children on the site in the corner of the field where the basket swing was removed. The track is flat to the ground and would not have any seating/climbing areas.

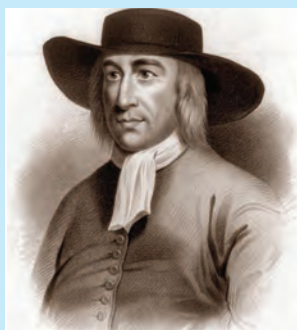
Also, in mind is a scheme to install a soft tarmac surface in front of the knock up wall, north side. The wall is frequently used by children/youths/adults but during the rain or winter, becomes a mud bath. We have tried on many occasions to improve the surface with grass matting, but this is not successful as the water table is higher in that area. It is envisaged that the present surface area will be increased, drainage installed, and the surface replaced at the same time as the road track, therefore a more cost-effective scheme as the groundworkers will be on site and the same surface substance can be used for both schemes.

The Management Committee is aware of the impact of changes to the Playing Field on local residents and a full consultation process will be implemented.

Gill Clarke – Facilities Manager

## Langford Quakers

There was a Quaker meeting house in Langford soon after the Society of Friends was founded by George Fox in 1650. In 1676 there were 20 Quakers in Langford which had a population of about 312. They were not many in numbers but the Quakers made their strong views known by their many protests. John Samm of Langford was summoned for non-payment of tithes in 1660 and was sent to Bedford gaol for one year. John was married to Ann and they had two children. Their son, also John, represented Langford at the Pulloxhill Quakers meeting in 1704. Many Langford Quakers met at Clifton until a monthly meeting could be arranged at Langford. This was achieved in 1700. Among the early members were Isaac Nottage, Edward Griffin, Edward Saunders, Thomas Underwood, John Grey and Edward Sibley.



**George Fox founder of the Quakers picture courtesy of Son of the South.**

The minutes of the meeting in January 1734 have survived and these give us further information. They had a permanent meeting house in Langford which had been left to them by Edward Griffin in 1720. This house had a burial ground in the garden so if human bones are ever dug up they will may be all that is left of the 18th century Quakers of Langford.

From the very beginning the Quakers had burial grounds, usually pieces of land which had been purchased or donated. In many cases they preceded the building of the Meeting House as vicars refused to bury Quakers in their graveyards and the Quakers, in any case, did not believe in the necessity of burial in consecrated ground.

The minutes of the meeting instructed the Friends “to resist tithes, church rates, priests and to keep to justice in dealings, plainness of habit, and speech; take care to appoint proper, prudent and judicious friends to visit brethren in their families; labour faithfully in a spirit of love and in the meekness of wisdom”.



During 1735 two meetings were not held due to harvest and “by reason of a grate flood”. At the October meeting John Freeman and his wife asked for a certificate to settle in Pennsylvania. The meeting deferred their decision until further advice had been taken and by November 1735 they were able to emigrate. He took with him letters of introduction to the Friends in America. Signatories to the letter were Langfordians John Gray, William Sale, Mary Ashwell, Joannah Bennet and 12 others.

The Langford meeting house had to be looked after and in 1737 Samuel Neal “lopped and layed a hedge and ditched the lane for four shillings. In 1740 the roof was re thatched at a cost of 9s/6d for the straw and 10s/5d for the workmanship”.

The Friends were selective to whom they gave charity; they would give nothing to widow Coleman in 1737 as “she not being married among Friends”. In 1739 they sent money to Wellingborough to help a Friend who has suffered loss by fire at harvest. Samuel Breeson received money because he had been robbed by a workman he took in as a lodger.

In 1740 they seemed prosperous as Robert Cook of Dunton left £5 in his will to the poor of Langford to be dispersed by John Grey. No worthy recipients could be found so the money was held in case of future need.

Marriage to non Quakers was one of the major hurdles as the Quakers disliked their members marrying outside the Society. Approval from the members had to be obtained. In 1724 Ann Thorogood of Moggerhanger wanted to marry Isaac Nottage of Langford. They announced their intention at one meeting and at the third meeting the elders gave their approval. William Sale and Susannah Kitchener followed. Three years later Henry Thorogood wanted to marry Sarah Read but the Friends would not agree as his wife had not been dead for one year. Henry protested and went ahead with the marriage.

By 1752 the numbers attending the monthly meetings had dwindled to force the closure of the meeting house and in 1754 the Meeting was absorbed into the Ampthill Quarterly meeting. Quakers kept their own records of births, marriages and deaths which may make research into family history difficult.

***Compiled by John Shipman using notes from The People of The Long Ford by Michael Rutt and from information in The National Archives.***

## *Oasis Coffee*

On the first Wednesday of every month from 10.30 – 11.30 am, Oasis Coffee Shop is open in the Methodist Chapel, next door to the Post Office. This Shop is unusual in that there is no charge for coffee and biscuits. A friendly welcome is given to everyone, and there are toys available for young children. We even welcome well behaved dogs! If you are new to the village and wondering how to get to know people, or if you have been here for many years, but now have a bit more free time, why not come along and make some new friends. The Christmas Coffee Morning will include Christmas Music on the organ and the Owlets will also join in and maybe sing for us as well. If transport is a problem, Langford Friends may be able to help: Telephone 07884 046741.

Jenny Broadbridge

# Langford Cricket Club

## End of Season Update

The Cricket Season is now well and truly over, the Cricket Square has been put to bed for the winter and the Football season has once again taken over from the Cricket on the TV.

The 2019 cricket season will leave a lot of memories, including England Cricket team narrowly beating New Zealand to finally win the Cricket World Cup.

At Langford, the youth section had plenty of games and all the players acquitted themselves very well.



The Under 13 team finished mid table in the Bedfordshire U13 Development East League and the Under 15 team put some great performances together to finish 3rd in their division.

Youth coaching continues a pace; taking over the playing fields on a Thursday evening with often over 50 youngsters aged between 7 and 13 years old. The future of Cricket in Langford looks in good hands!

This season the Club has invested in youth coaching with three new youth coaches attending the ECB Level 2 Coaching course.

A new initiative this year from the ECB was a Young Leader Course. Seven of our youth players attended the course covering areas such as scoring, umpiring and coaching. The young leaders had to then put what they learnt in to practice by helping the youth coaches in both training and matches. All seven passed and were presented their certificates at a lovely day at Lords Cricket ground. Picture attached.

The Langford First XI finished comfortably mid table in the Bedfordshire Counties Premier Division, no mean feat considering the size and resources of some of the clubs we compete against.

The Langford Second XI team, newly promoted to the Beds Counties Division 5 this year, went in to the last game of the season with promotion already secured, having lost three matches all year, a win would see them top the division. A win (and 30 points) were dully delivered, and Langford 2nd XI won the division by 23 points.

The Langford Ladies Cricket team continue to join forces with Flitwick Ladies to play their matches. In the season's opening competition, a Super 8's, the ladies topped their group, recording only 1 loss! In the Home Counties Women's Cricket League, our team did brilliantly to finish runners up behind a very strong Berkhamsted team.

Away from competitive cricket the Club organised a match to allow the parents of the youth section players to show their charges how it should be done. There was the now annual Women's softball cricket. This involved lots of ladies enjoying a game of cricket, a barbecue and some Prosecco.

President's day in August this year was made up of several matches to include as many people as possible.

Off the pitch, the Cricket Club enjoyed providing the barbecue at the village fete, and we hope that if you had chance to sample our wares, then you enjoyed the meat procured from The Old Butchers Shop, formerly of the village.

The Club would like to say a huge thank you to the raft race organisers, who do a fantastic job of raising funds from the sale of flour bombs. Again this year the youth section of the Cricket Club received a great donation from the money made. New age appropriate bats have been purchased already, and new balls will be purchased for the start of next season.

The Club organised a fantastically well supported quiz at the village hall to help raise funds for the Club. Maintaining the equipment used on the square, insurance and roof & door replacement to the score box have all taken their toll on Club funds this year.

Thank you to our generous Sponsors and contributors to the cricket club handbook, we really couldn't do it without you.

The Club continue to 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.

Please ensure you keep up to date on what is happening via the Langford Cricket Club Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/LangfordCC](https://www.facebook.com/LangfordCC)) and team fixtures, results and player statistics on the Langford Play Cricket Website ([langfordcc.play-cricket.com](http://langfordcc.play-cricket.com)).

Andy Watson, Chairman, Langford Cricket Club.



*The youth section after their presentation evening at the end of the season.*

# Langford Tales - Documentary

by Theo Maximillian Goble



Over the last couple of years there's been a surge of old photographs shared on various online village groups. These are often accompanied by little nuggets of information and occasionally certain names are mentioned, often of characters who lived in the village many moons ago.

Even though I didn't grow up in Langford the nostalgic glow of a bygone age unites us all and I always look at these posts with much intrigue. These old photographs and anecdotes piqued my interest. I wondered what kind of local stories could be unearthed if someone was to go out and dig a little deeper?

I've been making films of all shapes and sizes for as long as I can remember. I particularly love documentary and always marvel at how the ordinary can quite often be extraordinary. I'm always on the lookout for stories to tell.

Documentaries are hard nuts to crack. You have no script or storyboard from the off so the jigsaw pieces are created as you go along ... so where to begin?

I began with a simple idea; to make a film about Langford. I knew at the very least with a little research I'd be able to make a mini documentary about the history of the village, streets and buildings. But blood is more interesting than bricks. I knew if I was to capture some human testimonies, the film would then have the emotional ingredients needed to make it more than just an A-Z of Langford, but a film about people. Human stories that resonate with drama and emotion.

As a keen photographer, I have always been intrigued by the late Malcolm Handscombe, a photographer himself whose family have lived in Langford for hundreds of years. He was responsible for many important photos taken around the village for the best part of the 20th century. Learning more about Malcolm, who was always behind a camera, felt like a natural starting point to kickstart this project.

After putting the word out I was thrilled to receive a message from the Handscombe family. Malcolm's nephew John and his daughter Emily provided me with lots of information and shared many stories, both first-hand and also those passed down. To help bring the stories to life they supplied me with rolls of Super8mm film and over 500 original photographs which all had to be digitally scanned. This was just the tip of the iceberg!

The next person who agreed to partake in the film was the formidable Ralph Turner. I was a little daunted at first to meet such a prominent Langford character but it was impossible not to feel at ease in his presence. He had a huge heart and we hit it off straight away. When I asked Ralph about Malcolm he replied, 'He was my best mate!'.





I spent a few months with Ralph. He told me his life story from his childhood memories in the 1920s, the mischief him and his friends got up to as they grew into young men and ultimately his experiences in Europe during the war. A part of this was spent with Malcolm. I soon discovered Ralph and I had a lot in common. He was also a documentarian! He had spent many years gathering local information and photographs, most of which can be found in the many publications sold by the Langford Historical Society. To add to the mountain of archive I already had, Ralph gave me no fewer than 800 photos.

Through his passion for the village and my eagerness to help bring the stories to life we

formed a bond. In a short space of time we became good friends and it broke my heart when he passed away just a few months later.

It has been hard moving on with the project after the loss of Ralph, but that loss now acts as an inspiration. One of the last things he said to me was: "You are talking to other people aren't you?"

Seventy-three years ago Ralph returned to Langford after the war had ended but many Langford boys did not. I wanted to find out about the people behind the names on the high street war memorial. I've always wondered about these boys, their early years, their experiences over on the continent. An important part of the film will shed light on two boys in particular. The family of one have been in contact and given me access to letters sent back to the village during the war.

I have also spent some time with a lady who was a little girl during those years. It has been interesting to learn about war-time Langford and how life was for those who didn't go off to fight. I have also been given a letter written by a lady who was taken in as an evacuee by this lady's family.

I have been talking to many people and am very excited how the project has grown. One jigsaw puzzle piece leads to another. There are still many more pieces to gather but they are now coming thick and fast.

The entire film is being shot in and around the village. Helping me with this is Geoff Moseley, an experienced cameraman of over 30 years. Original music will be written by the amazing composer Christos Andreou who happens to live down the road in Biggleswade. A vast amount of archive material and historical documents related to the village have been generously donated by the people of Langford. I've also had the help of Linda Franklin, whose sharing of old photographs on the village groups first got me interested in Langford history. She has been supplying me with material that helps me tell the story of one of boys who never returned from the war. This film is a real team effort and I am blessed that so many local people are offering their support, I certainly couldn't do it without them.

The project has been running for 8 months now, and although we are just over the halfway mark, I now have quite a few jigsaw pieces in place and the final picture is starting to emerge. I look forward to sharing 'Langford Tales' with the village early next year.

**Facebook: Langford Tales – Documentary**  
**Email: [theoedits@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:theoedits@yahoo.co.uk)**

# Langford Friends Win BBC Award



Langford Friends have won a BBC Three Counties Radio People in the Good Neighbour Category. The award recognises the value of the service Langford Friends offers the village. These awards are given yearly at a presentation evening held at the Grove Theatre in Dunstable. While we do not do good works in order to be recognised it is nice to receive it. Well done to all the volunteers!

On the 17th October we held a Volunteer Forum in the Church hall. There were 19 volunteers that came to the afternoon event and enjoyed tea, cake and discussion. We are hoping to have these forums on a regular basis, perhaps two to three times a year. This way we can stay in touch with volunteers and discuss any issues as they arise. We will be holding a Christmas Volunteer Evening at the Ivy Leaf Club on the 5th December from 7.30pm.

From 1st December to the 29th February there will be a donation holiday for our clients thanks to a generous donation from the North Beds Football Charity Cup. Clients will not be charged for trips or jobs but volunteers will still be able to claim expenses.





**YOUR LOCAL VOLUNTEER  
SUPPORT GROUP  
TO HELP  
ADULT RESIDENTS  
OF LANGFORD**

*Do you require befriending or help with  
Transport for Health Appointments,  
Shopping, Cooking, Small Household Tasks,  
Letter Writing/Form Filling,  
Running Errands and Occasional Gardening.*

**FOR HELP OR INFORMATION  
CALL**

**07884 046741**

**7 DAYS 8am to 8pm**

**IF YOU REQUIRE OUR SUPPORT NOW OR IN THE FUTURE PLEASE RETAIN THIS LEAFLET.**

# Langford History Society

We had an excellent visit to Stotfold Mill on 5 June where our members had a full tour and tea and cakes and on 3 July we went back to the Victorian class room on our visit to the British Schools Museum at Hitchin and learned about education in the past.

September told the stories of the women pilots of the Air Transport Auxiliary in the Second World War. We had to change the talk for the October meeting due to the indisposition of the speaker, but Bedfordshire Gardens Trust stepped into the breach when Caroline Bowdler talked about the county's gardens. Our last talk of the season is about Bedford's transport heritage and we round off the year with our Social Evening.

We have our programme for 2020 ready and it is on our website. It will include talks on the Victorian workhouse; the aviation pioneer who fell from the skies (postponed from October 2019); the Kimbolton Coin Hoard; murders in Hertfordshire; and the history of RAF Henlow. In addition there will be a photo research evening when we hope to assign titles to historic photos in the Society's collection

Our website contains the 'Langford Index of Names', which is a source for family historians and those with roots in our village. You can download 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* free of charge. The names on the two village war memorials are also included in the index with an indication of which memorial contains the name.

We will give a warm welcome to you, either as a new member or visitor, and we are certain you will enjoy our talks. The meetings are informal and visitors pay only £4 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 two 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](http://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 701096**.

## **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](mailto:rowena.wolfe@btinternet.com) Book orders can be collected in the village.



# Langford Diary Copy Dates and Advertising

## **PLEASE NOTE - IMPORTANT**

**All Copy and Advertising for inclusion in NEXT Diary Spring Edition by 22nd January for events in March, April and May.**

### **2020 Submission Dates**

**Summer Issue 22nd April - Autumn Edition 22nd July.**

*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 FOR ALL NEW ADVERTS**

### **Cost of Adverts in Langford Diary 2020 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.

# St. Andrew's Church

Christmas is a time when we are able to escape from the day to day grind of life, and I am sure that many of you will be looking forward to escaping some of your daily routines for a short while.

We might wish it could be Christmas every day, in the words of Roy Wood and Wizard, and I am sure you have heard that one a few times already. Perhaps because we are anxious to escape the stuff, and the moments of life?

I am not sure that the grit of life was particularly different that first Christmas. We are often confronted with a Christmas card picture of the stable scene which seems a little too perfect. I wonder?

A heavily pregnant Mary, travelling miles on a dusty road on the back of a donkey; an anxious Joseph desperately knocking on inn doors looking for a place to stay; a grotty stable shared with common animals as the place where your newborn baby was to rest in a feeding trough? But by being born in a very ordinary place, Jesus showed himself to be one of us, to identify with the difficulty, the frustration, the debris that our own lives often contain. He came to earth to live as one of us, and at Christmas we have the opportunity to reflect on that. 'Emmanuel', as we sing in many of our beloved Christmas carols, means 'God with us'. And I believe that he is indeed with us, and that we can encounter him, through worship, and through our relationships with one another. You'll find details of the Christmas services at St Andrews elsewhere in this magazine. They are open to everyone. All you are invited to do is just turn up. And I pray that this Christmas you will encounter the God who came to earth - who turned up just to be with us.

Shaun Speller



## St. Andrew's Church Reordering Appeal

### ***What is St Andrew's hoping to do?***

In 2018 we felt it was time to move forward with our vision to provide a building which had a greater community focus. In conjunction with our architect we are now planning to achieve this in three stages.

#### ***The Font***

The first stage will involve moving the font and removing some pews in the south west corner of the building to provide the necessary space. The font is neither accessible or practical in its current location. So it will be moved to a more central position freeing up space for tables and seating to create a meeting place for people in our community.

#### ***A Kitchen and Toilet***

The second stage is to install a kitchen and toilet facilities. It's not something that would have been considered at all important in the past. Now it is an expectation. Not just for the worshipping community but for our wider community who we want to open up the building for. Many churches in Bedfordshire, and we have visited many, have made or are hoping like us to install such facilities. We all need to look forward to the future generations who will be using OUR church building for greater community use.

#### ***Level Access into the Church***

The third phase will enable everyone, young and old to visit and access St Andrew's. Currently, people need to negotiate a number of steps in order to actually come inside the building. Creating level access from outside to the inside of the church will make it easier for all of us.

We recognise the fact that any changes we are proposing to make have to be done in a sympathetic way. We have to preserve the internal and external fabric of Langford's grade 1 listed and historic 14th century church. But we must update its facilities.

### **Cost**

Such a large project is not cheap and the cost might seem insurmountable. But we are in a position to commence with the first phase after some determined fundraising and support from the community. We are applying to external funders but we do have to continue to raise money ourselves. Funders will in most cases match our fundraising so we have to show that we are serious in this endeavour by raising further money. So PLEASE support us in our fundraising. The Fund Raising Committee would welcome ideas and help from anybody who feels they would like to contribute in whatever way they feel they can. Please feel free to Phone or email me if you would like to help in any way. Thank you.

Sheila Vidler. Churchwarden and Fundraiser – 01462 701750 or vidlersheila@gmail.com

## **St Andrews Christmas Tree Festival**

St Andrews is planning a Christmas Tree Festival this year. The event will run for three days over the weekend of the 13th 14th and 15th of December, starting at 10am on Friday. The Festival will coincide with many other activities happening in the village during the Christmas period. So far we have received around 12 expressions of interest from such diverse groups as the Langford Village Academy, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Langford WI, Langford Parish Council, Langford Methodist Church, Langford Gardening Club, Pergamano, Imagination Arts, Tutum Ltd and the New Life Church.

St Andrews will supply the tree, tree stand and lights so all the groups will have to do is decorate their individual trees in the style they wish. There will be an opportunity for participants to come into the church to decorate their trees during the week prior to the Festival.

An element of competition is involved as those who visit the Festival will vote for the tree they feel is the most artistic and well decorated. A Cup or Shield will be awarded to the tree with the most votes. Want further information? Or perhaps you would like to decorate or sponsor a tree yourself. Contact at on [st.andrewscf@yahoo.com](mailto:st.andrewscf@yahoo.com)

## **Concert held at St. Andrew's Church**



Over 85 residents of Langford and visitors from surrounding village enjoyed a wonderful concert on Saturday 6th October at St Andrew's Church. The East Bedfordshire Youth Choir, ages from 8 to 21, performed songs from the Shows including The Simon and Garfunkel Story, Miss Saigon, West Side Story, We Will Rock You, The Rose, Jesus Christ Superstar, Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, Carousel and Les Miserables. Directed and conducted by Karen Beer and accompanied by organist David Della Valle the evening was held to promote St Andrew's appeal to fund the costs of providing level access into the church and the installation of toilet and kitchen



facilities. Vicar Shaun Speller said " It was a privilege to be entertained by such talented young people".

## Making a Difference - The Rotary Club

It is always distressing to hear about the destruction caused by war or extreme weather and the plight of the people left in behind in its wake. Rotary clubs work with ShelterBox and Aquabox so that in times of devastation, however this is caused, people who have lost everything are provided with an adequate shelter for a family, warm bedding, cooking facilities, essential tools and a means to purify water. The ShelterBox base is in Cornwall and equipment is stored in a large warehouse there and at other strategic places around the world, ready to be sent out at short notice. We donate money on a regular basis to help replenish the stocks.

We have also recently sent money to Mercy Ships, a charity which sends out a state-of-the-art mobile hospital ship providing free expert surgical care and aftercare to people living far from any form of medical attention.

In the summer the Rotary Clubs of Biggleswade Ivel, Biggleswade and Sandy organised a Fun Day for the pupils of the Ivel Valley School in Biggleswade and this was a great success. Money was also given to the school to buy two computers. The collaboration between the Biggleswade Ivel and Flitwick clubs has been ongoing to provide garden facilities for a little local boy who has profound problems.

We raise money by putting on enjoyable events and we really appreciate the attendance and support that we receive. Recently we had 'Ask the Gardeners' and fish and chip supper, where a panel of experts answered questions from members of the audience.

On 11th December we will be out and about with Santa on his Sleigh collecting for Keech Cottage. Advance notice to put in your diaries for 6th March next year is the Murder Mystery evening to be held at Stratton School, Biggleswade. The School drama group will be acting out the play, so will you be able to guess who the murderer is or will you need the mystery to be explained by the detective at the end.

Biggleswade Ivel Rotary club meets at 7pm on Wednesdays in the Green Man, Stanford and we are always very happy to welcome people who would like to be involved in some way.



## Langford Tennis Club

The members of LTC have enjoyed a great summer of tennis, with the highlight of the summer calendar being our Annual Summer Championships. This year saw a record 6 Finals being played in one day, they included the following: Vets, Ladies, Mens & Mixed Doubles and Ladies & Men's Singles. We were blessed with great weather and a spectacle of great matches. Well done to all involved – Photo shows our Chair, Caroline Bowers and Tournament Organiser, Andrew Fox, with our wonderful trophies ready for presenting to the winners and runners up.

We now move on to our internal Winter Ladders competition, which runs from October 2019 to March 2020 and gets us out playing in the colder months, we also have lots of teams entered into the local winter leagues. We are a hardy bunch at LTC!

For any further info on our lovely, friendly and successful club please look at our website at [www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk](http://www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk)





# Langford Walking Group

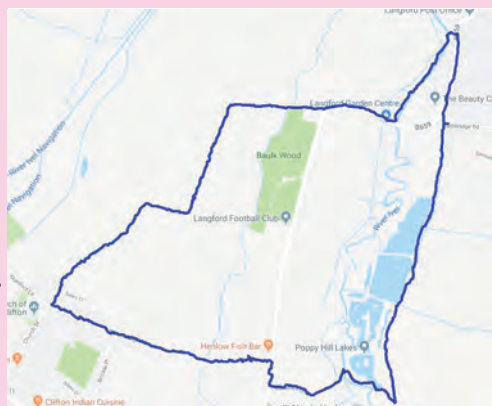
The walking group continues to meet every Tuesday morning at 10.00 at Chapel Hill Bridge for a local walk around some of the many footpaths we are lucky to have nearby. On the first Tuesday of each month we go for an adventure away from the village! Over the Summer and Autumn these have included walks to Rowney Warren, Sharpenhoe Clappers and one of our favourite walks from the Shuttleworth Collection around Old Warden and back through Shuttleworth park. Walks are generally around 60-90 minutes long and none are too difficult. Our walks always include time for coffee. We are a friendly, informal group and apart from exercise there is ample opportunity to chat, so please do join us. For more information please contact Val Henley 01462 626502



## 3 mile walk via Clifton and Henlow

This walk is probably ideal for wintertime as many of the paths are usually not too muddy! This is a popular walk for the Tuesday morning Walking Group. I do hope you will enjoy it too!

Starting at Chapel Hill Bridge cross the river and follow it in a southerly direction keeping the river on your left. Sometimes there are horses in the second field so take care. Go through some kissing gates and turn right and walk along the footpath alongside B659 towards Henlow. At the bend take the track ahead of you, this will take you to the sewage works! Turn left after these works and walk towards Clifton. You will come to a gate after which the route becomes a road that turns to the right. You will then pass a small carpark. Continue along the road (Church Street) and this will take you past Clifton Bury Farm to Stockbridge Road. Turn left and follow Stockbridge Road downhill to the fish and chip shop. Cross Langford Road. Turn left and after about 100 yards turn right into Gardeners Lane. This takes you through to Millenium Meadow where you will walk down the hill and cross the footbridge which has a magnificent carving of a kingfisher. Follow the winding footpath through Poppy Hill Lakes and then turn left. This cycle path is about a mile long and becomes Common Road, Langford. At Boot Corner, (the bottom of Cambridge Road) you can turn left and enjoy refreshments at the Garden Centre or carry on along the High Street, past the Post Office to The Hideaway Café in the centre of Langford.



Trudy Emery and Richard Smith.

# Langford Methodist Church

## December

- 4 **Oasis Coffee Morning with Christmas Music** - Chapel - 10.30am - 12 noon -  
Donations for Owlets
- 5 **Sisterhood** - Emma from Air Ambulance - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 12 **Sisterhood Carol Service and Tea** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 15 **Sunday Club Nativity** - 10.45am - Chapel - Rev. Lorna Valentine
- 15 **Final Day for using Chapel Posting Service** - 20p per card - Langford Delivery only
- 20 **Village Carol Singing** - 6.30pm - Chessum Road - For Action for Children
- 22 **Carol Service** - 10.45am - Chapel
- 24 **Carols and Sacrament** - 11.15pm - Chapel - Rev. Lorna Valentine
- 29 **Breakfast followed by Informal Service** - 9.15am - Chapel

## January

- 1 **Oasis Coffee Morning** - Chapel - 10.30am-11.30am
- 9 **Sisterhood** - Members Afternoon and Tea - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 16 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 19 **Covenant Service** - Henlow Chapel - 11.00am
- 23 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 26 **Informal Service with Coffee** - Chapel - 9.30am
- 30 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm

## February

- 2 **Informal Communion Service followed by Lunch** - Chapel Schoolroom - 10.45am  
- Rev. Lorna Valentine
- 5 **Oasis Coffee Morning** - Chapel - 10.30am-11.30am
- 6 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 13 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 20 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm
- 23 **Informal Service with Coffee** - Chapel - 9.30am
- 27 **Sisterhood** - Chapel Schoolroom - 2.30pm

## Welcome Club

We are still enjoying our Wednesday afternoons at the Ivy Leaf Club. Although we don't have many outings we still enjoy meeting up with all of our friends to chat over a cup of tea or coffee and of course the cakes or biscuits that are always available. We still have a game of bingo and play cards, dominoes or scrabble. We also have a meal out at one of the local pubs. If you would like to come and join in sometimes, a very noisy but friendly and happy club will welcome you. We meet every Wednesday at the Ivy Leaf Club at 2.00pm till 4.00pm.

For those of you who don't know anything about us, we started up in 2002. It was suggested by the parish council to see if the village needed a place for retired people to meet for an afternoon to get together and enjoy some company and to have a chat with friends who they didn't see as often as they would like. The first week we had, I think, about a dozen people turn up, but as word got around over the next few weeks our numbers grew and grew until we had over sixty members. We had lovely holidays, river trips, theatre trips up to London including the Albert Hall and the great Brick Lane

theatre. OH! Happy days!! Our numbers are less now but it is still a happy club so if you think you can stand the sound of people enjoying themselves come along or ring me, Stella, on 01462 700977 for more information. Stella Hill

# Langford Football Club



The results of the men's team has been very disappointing over the past couple of months - having won just two matches in the past 12 games. Many of the matches, where we had taken the lead, only to give away through poor defending, silly goals that resulted in a subsequent draw or defeat. This is something that we are currently working on to put right in the lead-up to the Christmas period.

Our next few home matches are as follows. Please come along and show your support.

|     |          |       |                       |
|-----|----------|-------|-----------------------|
| ONE | 21/12/19 | 15:00 | Stotfold FC           |
| ONE | 28/12/19 | 15:00 | Bedford FC            |
| ONE | 01/02/20 | 15:00 | London Lions FC       |
| ONE | 15/02/20 | 15:00 | FC Broxbourne Borough |

On a brighter note, the Ladies team are doing really well this season. Due to a reorganisation of the Women's league, our Ladies team was moved from Division 3 to Division 2 for this season. This move was vindicated as they are currently top of this league, having not conceded a goal until their fifth match. The ladies play at Forde Park on Sunday's; the next home match against AFC Dunstable Women is on 17 November, kick-off 2-00pm. Entrance is free of charge; please feel free to come along and support them.



## LANGFORD F.C. LADIES 2019 - 2020

Back Row: Kurtis Vince, Summer Titmus, Harriet Ford, Tabby Brown, Danielle Vince, Sophie Bounds, Leah Holmes, Katie Gayner, Paul Vince  
Front Row: Claire (Mara) Ashwell, Kirsty Fyling, Millie Jeeves, Becca Reeves, Jordan Rockall, Ayasha Brown, Lottie Taitel, Leigh Todd

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**BANQUET NIGHT**

**DINE IN ONLY £11.95 PER PERSON**

**SUNDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY**

*Choose from the Menu:*

*1 Starter - 1 Main from Traditional Dishes*

*1 Side Dish - 1 Pilau Rice or Plain Naan*

*(King Prawn and Fish Dishes are £3.95 Extra)*

***Book your table now for Christmas Day!***

**First Seating 1.00pm - Second Seating 3.00pm**

**Christmas Day 2019 Menu**

**Adults £27.95 Kids under 12 £11.95**

**Glass of Sparkling Wine or Soft Drink on your arrival**

**Starters**

Choice of any Starter from the menu

**Main**

Choice of any main dish  
from the menu including specialities  
with rice or naan

**Side**

Choice of any vegetable side dish

**Dessert**

Ice Cream & Coffee & mint

