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The Langford Diary

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Chief Scout's Silver Awards

8 Cubs were presented with their Chief Scout's Silver Awards at their AGM – very well done to Stanley, Oliver, Alyce, Charlie, Jake, Brendan, Mason and Ellie.

A Letter from the Editor

Two very successful fetes in the village deserve the thanks of those volunteers who organised them. It was great to see so many people of all ages supporting the events and certainly enjoying the socialising, which we have missed over the last couple of years. Thanks must go to those who brought a smile to our faces with the innovative scarecrows in the village.

I have just returned from the Village Hall to help with refreshments (but mainly washing up!) at the Lollipops Toddlers' afternoon. It was 40degrees on my car when I arrived but wonderfully cool inside. Colin Carroll certainly did an excellent job when he organised the heating and cooling system a few years ago. How cool was that! Thanks Colin.

It was with sadness I attended the funeral of the late Colin Reavell. Many who were cubs or scouts will remember him. He assisted Mavis, who was akela for many years, at cub and scout camps. The family along with Andrew and Simon made the camps tremendous fun. I was lucky enough to join them (in my caravan) on many occasions. Colin certainly made sure no cub or scout went hungry with his amazing breakfasts, lunches and evening meals. Others will know Colin from his keen interest and knowledge in communications and for many years organised PA systems in the village, including at Remembrance Day services. Colin and his family left the village about ten years ago to live in Clifton.

As you may read in The Walking Group's article the group had to extend their walk one Tuesday when we needed to walk home from Biggleswade because the bus had been cancelled. There have been many complaints about our Grant Palmer bus service, so I have contacted both Steve Dixon, our Central Beds ward councillor, and Richard Fuller our MP. If you have experiences or a complaint about the bus service, why not let them know. A village needs a reliable bus service.

There are many organisations in the village. For details see pages 20 and 21. There may be something there that interests you so please take a look.

Trudy Emery - trudy.emery1@ntlworld.com - 01462 636638

TIDY UP LANGFORD DAY **Saturday, 24th September**

We will be meeting at 9:30-9:45am at the Church Room and finishing around 12noon.

Refreshments will be provided outside the Church Room after the event.

All help is appreciated to litter pick through Langford so please come along if you can.

*****Litter pickers and rubbish bags provided but please bring gloves*****

We look forward to seeing you on the day!

Langford Community Fete - 9th July



After a 3-year wait, at last we were able to put on the Langford Community Fete once more – and what a great day we had!

In contrast to the rather changeable weather we'd seen the previous weekend – when we would normally have had the Fete – Saturday 9th opened with clear blue skies, not a chance of rain – and hopefully not too hot for anybody. Although, admittedly the dogs were finding it a bit of a scorcher!



By 10 a.m., almost everything was in place, with huge inflatables, fairground rides and water attractions for everyone. The Fun Dog Show run by Vanessa was there in the corner of the field, and stall holders, both new and returning, were setting up. Our arena programme kicked off with the children's games, ably run by Savi, and later followed by a high-energy fitness workout from Kerri. After that



we had a spectacular performance from Caroline Broadbent's belly-dancing troupe Arabia, returning once more. Also returning were the baton-twirling Shefford Majorettes, led by Amanda; and the programme ended with Danielle Ellis putting her young dance protégés through their paces.

The licenced bar by "Tapped", and the Barbecue run by the Cricket Club, did good trade outside the Village Hall; while in the quieter and cooler environment of the hall itself, the ladies of the Methodist Chapel served teas and cakes. There was also



an excellent performance by the children's ukulele group from Langford Village Academy. The Raffle made a good profit, thanks to the many good prizes donated, and everyone reported good business during the afternoon.

We have always said that the money raised by the various organisations is as important as the profit from the Fete itself; and we raised over £500 for the Playing Field and Village Hall.

This was our first Fete since 2019. A few things were different this time, and I think it's only fair to say we had our fingers crossed that it would be a good one; but thanks to the generosity of everyone with their time, money and effort, and the support of everyone who came along, it was indeed just that. And I would like to say a big "Thank You" to Taya Cleghorn, who did such a brilliant job of bringing everyone and everything together and ensuring that the event went smoothly on the day.

Colin Carroll



1st Langford Scout Group

All sections of the Scout Group – Beavers, Cubs and Scouts – have had a busy term, making the most of the lighter evenings to hike, enjoy nature, play games outside and soak each other with water guns. We ran the stocks at the village fete and the weather was perfect for it – we



made over £80, half of which will be donated to the Preen foodbank.

We had our AGM at the start of July, which was a chance to reflect on a year that was

almost 'normal' after the strictures of Covid. The sections have all been very active and the drop out rate has been really low.

Membership numbers continue to climb – at the point of the annual

Census in January, our figures were 67 young members (an increase from 48 in 2021, 42 in 2020). Our current figures are 80 young people in all sections. Beavers are at their maximum of 24, Cubs at their maximum of 36. The Scout Troop has seen the biggest growth in recent years with 20 members now, up from 11 in 2020. This shows that we are providing a quality programme that encourages our young people to stay with us from 6 through to 14. We are also seeing an increase in girls taking part, in all sections. This September,



we will be achieving our goal of starting Beavers soon after their 6th birthday for those who have been on the waiting list from an early age. Where gaps allow, we will fit in children who joined the list later but as it stands, we have enough children currently on the waiting list to take up each available space as they turn 6 up until January 2024 (and beyond – that's as far as I've worked it out!).

So how do we fulfil the needs of an ever growing village? At the moment children get a space mainly based on whether their parents know to put them on the waiting list early enough. I find it very difficult to say to parents who enquire that it is unlikely that their child who is over 5 will get a space in Beavers. Expansion of the Group seems like the answer but for that we need volunteers willing not just to help, but to take on the necessary training and responsibility to run a section. Please do get in touch if you are seriously interested as the more leaders we have, the more we can offer and the more children we can accommodate.

At the AGM, it wasn't all business – we were lucky enough to be gifted a share of the proceeds of the Langford calendar earlier this year so we spent that on hiring a fantastic inflatable obstacle course that the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts (and a few parents) had a great time on.



We were also extremely proud to present 8 Cubs with their Chief Scout's Silver Awards at our AGM – very well done to Stanley, Oliver, Alyce, Charlie, Jake, Brendan, Mason and Ellie. We wish these guys all the best as they continue their adventures in Scouts.

Beavers are age 6-8 and meet on Tuesdays 6-7, Cubs are 8-10.5 and meet Wednesdays 6.30-8 and Scouts are 10-14 and meet Monday 7.30-9. All are term time only and all are open to boys and girls.

Beavers is currently full, Cubs is more than full and Scouts is pretty stuffed too but we are taking applications to the Waiting List for all sections – please get your child on the list as early as possible (current youngest on the list was born this year!) – contact me for more information.

Jo Smith, Group Scout Leader

GSL@langfordscouts.org.uk

Langford Walking Group



The walking group has continued to flourish and we often have 15-20 walkers.

Our monthly walks away from the village have been varied and interesting. The most notable of these was a guided walk around a private nature reserve in Shingay-Cum-Wendy organised by one of our walkers and with refreshments (home-made cakes and coffee!) provided by the local couple who were hosting us. These walks take place on the first Tuesday of each month so if you're planning on joining us for a walk we won't be at Chapel Hill Bridge then.

Local walks have been slightly restricted as Jordan's has remained closed on Tuesdays so most walks are around the south end of the village finishing in the Watering Can café.

However, in a bid to expand our horizons we have walked to Biggleswade with coffee in Weatherspoon's. Unfortunately the first of these walks ended in a broken knee cap when someone fell exiting the bus to Langford and on the second occasion the bus failed to arrive resulting in an 8 mile walk for the people living at the south end of the village!

On two or three occasions recently we've been utterly drenched which seems surprising now as we've had to cancel our next walk for the first time ever due to the extreme heat forecast for next week.

As always, coffee afterwards remains an important part of the morning and we generally decamp to the "Watering Can" at the Garden Centre which is large enough to accommodate all of us. Jordan's shop has occasionally been open and they have provided us with refreshments. We look forward to their coffee shop extending its opening hours and consequently our walking repertoire!

We meet at Chapel Hill Bridge at 10am every Tuesday morning. Please do join us.

For any information contact Val Henley on 01462 626502



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Langford Calendars and Christmas Cards

After the success of 'This is Langford 2022' calendars, we are happy to announce we will be producing a new one for 2023.

These will also feature high quality images of the local area taken by Langford photographers.

Last year we were faced with some delays getting the calendars printed and delivered due to the pandemic, but this year we plan to have them ready well in time for Christmas.

As well as the calendars we will also be producing high quality packs of Christmas cards.

These will also feature stunning scenery and images from around the Langford area.

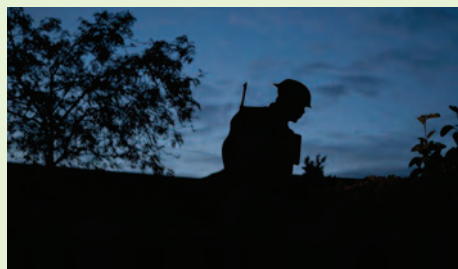
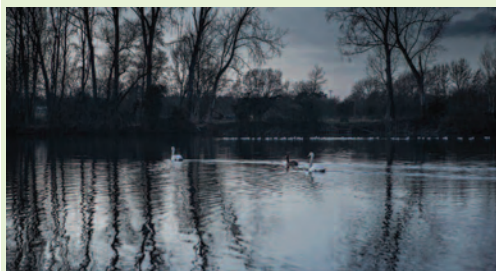
The calendars and Christmas cards will be perfect gifts for friends and family over the festive period.

The last campaign raised over £600 and all the money raised was shared between the Cubs, Guides and Brownies.

This year we aim to raise even more, which will also be shared out for the benefit of local groups in the community.

Information and updates will be shared on the 'We Love langford' and the 'This is Langford - Photography Facebook pages.

Any questions contact us on info@langfordtales.com



Langford Owlets Preschool

A Day in the Life of Ruby.....

My mummy dropped me off at Owlets this morning with a big kiss & cuddle, although I think she was a little upset as I didn't have time for a long one, there is too much waiting inside for me! Whatever am I going to do today? I could be a mermaid, swimming in the sea, I could be going on a magical adventure on our flying carpet, dancing my little legs off at the disco or even just having a bit of quiet time in the teepee. Who knows what today will bring!

I've come in early, which is great as I get to enjoy a yummy breakfast with Joanne and Michelle before my friends arrive. I love being first as I get to help them set up for the day and get to choose my favourite things to do.

Once my friends start arriving, it's time for them to hang their coats up, get their drinks out & settle on the rug for registration. This is always a fun time as I get to see who I'm going to play with today and what fun things are planned. Once Joanne has taken the register and we all know who's here, off we go to explore! As I look around I decide that this morning I will be playing in the home corner. I love this as I get to make my friends tea and cake from the kitchen, take my dollies for a walk in the buggies and even look after the other children if they need a plaster – because of course I am doing all of this dressed as a doctor with her stethoscope!

Snack time comes around very quickly so I dash over to the trolley to see what it is today....yummy carrot & cucumber sticks today! These will keep me going until lunch time! I'm glad I had a snack as now it's time to play outside and I'll need all my energy. We've been growing lots of different things in our pots and today it's my turn to see how they are all doing. I love checking on the strawberries because if they are ready I get to try one....I don't so much like the beans or tomatoes so I leave them for Kelly to pick.

It's soon lunchtime so I get my lunchbox and take a seat with my friends. My Mummy made me a lovely up pack lunch so I tuck into that whilst Sam and Vicki tell us all about what they like to have in their sandwiches....if we are lucky we might even get a little treat if it's someone's birthday! Some of my friends have gone home now but it's ok as some new ones have come in so I get to play with some new faces.

Time for crafts! Joanne loves to get us nice & messy before we leave so now it's time for painting, cutting, & sticking. Sometimes some of the other children's parents come and make things with us which is always great fun...especially when we have messy play and the Daddies go home covered in shaving foam! I love making things to take home but sometimes Sam ruins the surprise as she takes lots of pictures of me and sends them to Mummy before I get the chance to take them home. I don't mind though; it makes Mummy happy to know what I am getting up to throughout the day.

Once crafts are over I feel a little bit tired, but I can't go to sleep as I don't want to miss storytime! Vicki loves reading to us and always puts on funny voices which make us all laugh. Before I know it, Mummy is here to collect me, I give Joanne, Michelle, Sam, Vicki & Kelly a big hug goodbye and tell them that I will be back tomorrow so not to throw away the mud pie that I spent so long making this morning!

I love coming to Owlets, I get to play with my friends, have lots of fun making things and Mummy says she can't believe how much I have grown since I've been there. I will miss it when I leave and go up to big school but it's ok because I've already met my teachers as they came to see us at Owlets and played for a while. This was great fun and now I'm really looking forward to meeting some new friends when I leave...plus I still get to have my leavers party...for some reason Joanne and Michelle keep buying tissues, I think they might be a bit sad to see us leave but I know they are super excited about all the new children they get to play with in September.

Owlets preschool has been supporting the village of Langford for over 20 years. With a growing community, we aim to continue supporting the families within Langford and surrounding areas. We offer children the opportunity to learn through play in a stimulating and nurturing environment and are committed to providing this to children from all backgrounds and of all abilities. Our team look forward to hearing from you, just drop us a call or pop in and see us...although you may want to bring a change of clothes!!

Registration now open for 2022-2023

'We are so privileged to work with all our little Owlets and their families. Every day is a new experience. We have a wonderful team who follow the children's interests, ensuring each child has the most enriched learning opportunities through play. Ongoing training is a priority, with all staff continually updating our knowledge and practice ensures we offer the best possible provision for all.'

Joanne Rockall, Manager for Owlets Preschool

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**Registration
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Langford Methodist Church

NEWS FROM LANGFORD METHODIST CHURCH



The Chapel has held a range of social events over the last few months, which apart from being great fun have helped raise funds too.

In June we welcomed the Sandy Ukulele Group. The evening was a great success and there was a lot of singing along to well-known tunes and camaraderie within the band and with the audience. They were very entertaining and brought a smile to many faces. Also, at the end of June we held a Quiz at the Chapel, kindly organised by Colin Carroll. It was enjoyed by all who attended. I think we all learnt some new facts from some of the intriguing questions that were asked. Thank you to Colin for all his hard work in organising the event and to Joan and Ruby for organising the refreshments.

In July we were pleased to help at the Village Fete and run the cake and refreshment stall in the village hall, similar to previous years. It was a super day and it was lovely to see so many people attending the Fete. We were kept very busy and raised over £399.70, of which £30 was donated to the Fete, which was tremendous. Thank you to Joan, Maureen, Ruby, Jenny and the countless number of helpers who took turns in shifts to serve the refreshments and cakes. It was a great team effort. Also, in July we had a stall on Biggleswade Market, which apart from being another good fund-raiser, is a great way to



get out in the community and meet different people. Thank you to Joan for organising this. At the beginning of August, we were delighted to, once again, be able to enjoy delicious cream teas, kindly hosted by Joan and Chris Rutt in their garden. This is always a popular event and is always well-attended. And, also in August, we were kindly invited to 'Summer at the Manse' event, kindly hosted by our very own Rev Lorna Valentine and her husband Mark. It has been wonderful to be out and about socialising again and to share special events together.

On a sadder note, we were so sorry to hear of the death of Lorna's mum Norma. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Lorna, Mark and family during this very difficult time. Many people had got to know Norma through shared Zoom meetings. We know what a great loss her passing is for Lorna and the family. Also, we heard of the death of Sheila Davies who had moved to a care home in Derbyshire. A lot of



people in the village will remember Sheila and Glyn and our sympathy goes to Glyn and family. Sheila was a member of the Chapel for many years. A quiet, caring and helpful lady, who will be fondly remembered.

At times of difficulty and illness, especially when something is too big for us to resolve or handle on our own, we find prayer invaluable and bringing our concerns and prayers to God is an important part of our service on a Sunday morning. Our services include a special time for prayer, as well as worship, a sermon, some readings, singing and reflection. All are welcome to attend any of our services.

Service Times

1st Sunday in the month - 10.30 am - Mission Group Service - led by our Minister Lorna Valentine. These services will be rotated between some of the local churches that our Minister oversees, so they won't always be at Langford Chapel. Please check beforehand if you are interested in attending one of the services.

2nd Sunday in the month - 10.30 am - Normal service at Langford Chapel.

3rd Sunday in the month - 9.30 am - Normal service at Langford Chapel.

4th & 5th Sunday in the month - 10.30 am - Langford Chapel. (One of the services to be an informal service).

Chapel Coffee Mornings - Wednesdays - either held in Joan and Chris Rutt's garden - weather permitting, or at the Chapel.

1st Wednesday - Oasis Coffee Morning 10.30 am.

2nd Wednesday - Coffee 10.30 am. Bible Study from 11.00 am.

3rd Wednesday - Coffee 10.30 am. Thought for the day, hymns & prayer from 11.00 am.

4th Wednesday - Coffee 10.30 am. Prayer time from 11.00 am.

Forthcoming Events

There will be a special Harvest Lunch after the Service at the Chapel on Sunday 11th September. All welcome.

St. Andrew's Church

Thank You Langford

You may know that St Andrews holds a 'Gift Day' in October each year so that our community has the opportunity to contribute financially to the parish. It never ceases to amaze me how generous people are and we really are grateful for the support that you have shown in years past.

One of the projects that your generosity has helped to support is of course the provision of some new facilities in the church building. As I write we are approaching the last leg with the installation of a kitchenette, adding to the level access and toilet facilities we installed last year.

The transformation this has made to the building is amazing. And as I have always said, these facilities are for the use of the whole community. They belong to all of us.

As a way of saying thank you to our community for making all of this possible, and as an opportunity to see just what a transformation has been achieved, we would like to invite you all to a 'Thank You Langford' day. Please come along on Saturday 8th October between 10.00 a.m and 3.00 p.m where we will be serving refreshments using the new kitchenette.

As I said we usually hold our Gift Day around this time each year. But this year we wanted to do something different - to enable your generosity to be used differently. So this year, returning the generosity that St Andrews has been shown, we would like any financial gifts that you are able to offer to others in need. Given the cost of living crisis which is affecting many we have identified three organisations serving the village: Langford Welfare Trust, Langford Friends, and The NEED Project

So please come along on the 8th October, see what changes have been made to the church building, and support the work of those helping others in need.



St. Andrew's Christmas Tree Festival 2022



St. Andrews will again be putting on it's annual **'St. Andrews Christmas Tree Festival'**.

It will be held over the **9th, 10th and 11th December 2022**. The Festival was a great success last year and this year we will be following a similar format. Further details will be in the Langford Diary Winter edition, on the St Andrews and We Love Langford Facebook pages from October. There will be no theme again for the festival this year.

Church Fete

Due to the weather it was decided it would be advisable to hold the fete inside the church. This did not distract from the fun our visitors had though and attendance was good when taking this into consideration.



Friday Coffee Mornings

***Fancy a Coffee or Tea with a slice of
homemade cake?***

We are open every Friday 10.30-12 noon in St Andrew's Church Hall. Always someone friendly to talk to and you will be made most welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

Sheila Vidler



The summer months are a busy time for gardeners. We still sow seeds, plant out young plants, harvest fruit and veg and we plan ahead for our winter crops.



However, at the Langford Gardening Club we took some time out to enjoy ourselves, visiting some nearby attractions. We started the summer off with a talk by Wally Thrale about bees and bee-keeping. The honey marmalade he brought along proved very popular.

July saw a visit to The Gardens of Easton Lodge in Great Dunmow,



Essex. We were so impressed by a talk by lodge volunteer Gary Matthews earlier in the year, we just had to go and see it for ourselves. We enjoyed a tour around the tree glade and walled gardens created by Edwardian designer Harold Peto. Peto's treehouse has recently been recreated, sited in an old oak tree. We could climb up and appreciate the Gardens from above.

We also visited The Kings Arms Garden in Ampthill on a warm, sunny evening. It's a small woodland garden, tucked away by the market square and run by volunteers. The shade created by the beautiful trees was very welcome and it was lovely to see some visiting muntjac deers. The garden was created by plantsman William Nourish with lovely woodland plants and a pond with a bridge.





In August we spent the evening at Guilden Gate Smallholding in Bassingbourn, which includes native hedging, wild flower meadows, fruit orchards, vegetable and herb fields and a vineyard. It's a sustainable small-holding and it was interesting to hear how they meet their energy and water needs by environmentally friendly means.

In the coming autumn months, we'll be returning to our programme of talks at St Andrew's Church Hall. On 6th September garden designer Amber Hine will present

'Winter Wonder'. This talk focuses on the joy of the winter garden. We'll investigate where to look for seasonal treats and discover what plants you can add to your space to make the best of what can otherwise be a barren time of year.

Our AGM will take place on 4th October and one of our members will be presenting a short talk about trees afterwards.

We'll be announcing details of the rest of our programme on social media and on the noticeboard near Pound Close in Langford in the coming weeks. We usually meet at the Church Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm.

For more details and our autumn programme:

Website: <https://langford-gardening-club.co.uk/>

Email: langford.gardening.club@gmail.com

Nextdoor: https://nextdoor.co.uk/g/6sfdcv4qc/?is=nav_bar

What's On in the Autumn!

September

- 1 **Parish Council Meeting** - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 6 **Gardening Club** - Winter Wonder - Amber Hine - Church Hall - 7.30pm
- 7 **History Society** - wallis Simpson and the Abdication Crisis 1936 - Church Hall - 8.00pm
- 9 **Langford WI** - Harvest Festival - Village Hall - 7.15pm
- 11 **Harvest Lunch** - After Service at Chapel - All Welcome
- 20 **Langford Car Club** - The Plough - 7.00pm
- 24 **Litter Pick** - Meet at St. Andrew's Church hall Car Park - Everyone Welcome

October

- 2 **Gardening Club** - AGM - Church Hall - 7.30pm
- 5 **History Society** - 60 Years in Book Trade - Ted Martin - Church Room - 8.00pm
- 6 **Parish Council Meeting** - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 14 **WI** - A Career in Costume Design - Amanda Sutherland - Village Hall - 7.15pm
- 18 **Langford Car Club** - The Plough - 7.00pm

November

- 1 **Gardening Club** - Check for Details
- 2 **History Society** - A Victorian Family Christmas in Peterborough - Church Room - 8.00pm
- 3 **Parish Council Meeting** - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 11 **WI** - Laughter in the Village - Bob Harding Jones - Village Hall - 7.15pm
- 11 **Remembrance Service at Memorial** - 11.00am
- 13 **Act of Remembrance at Memorial** - 10.45am - followed by Service at St. Andrew's Church for 11.30am
- 15 **Langford Car Club** - The Plough - 7.00pm

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 or 01462 636638.

Sunday

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

Methodist Services: Minister: Rev. Lorna Valentine – see page 15 for details

Contact Jenny Broadbridge 01462 701127

Dog Training 9.00am–1.30pm Langford Village Hall – see page 42 for details

Contact Gary 07738 683854

Youth Football Winter

Monday

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

07935 784567 – www.owletspreschool.co.uk

Langford Methodist Chapel Room Contact 07790 763078

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 Kasey Brooks 07584 035495

1st Langford Scouts (boys and girls aged 10–14 years) 7.30pm–9.00pm

(term time only) Please contact scouts@langfordscouts.org.uk

Bushido Judo 6.30pm–7.30pm – Henlow Memorial Hall – For details contact

Marion on 07940 524384 or email marrionmargetson@outlook.com

History Society First Monday of the month. See What's on in the Autumn for details

Tuesday

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

Room – 07935 784567 – 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

Langford Lollipops Toddler Group (term time only) 1.15pm–2.45pm Village Hall

– See Facebook page Langford Lollipops Toddler Group

Langford Beavers (boys and girls aged 6–8 years) 6.00pm–7.00pm (term time only)

Please contact beavers@langfordscouts.org.uk

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

Yoga 7.30pm–8.30pm Church Hall Contact 07891 752906

Langford Gardening Club First Tuesday of the month. See What's on in the Autumn for details

Wednesday

Owlets Pre-school 9am-12.00 morning session & 9.00-3.00pm full day - 07935 784567 - www.owletspreschool.co.uk

Langford Methodist Chapel Room Contact 07790 763078

Adult Tennis Social - 9.00am-12 noon and 7.30pm - 10.00pm

Oasis Coffee Morning - Chapel 10.30am-11.30am - see page 15 for details

Older Persons Exercises - Village Hall - 12 noon to 1.00pm Conor Inskip - Ci.fitness@icloud.com

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

Langford Village Hall - Contact Danielle 07866 395739

Langford Cubs (boys and girls aged 8-10 years) 6.30pm-8.00pm (term time only)

Please contact cubs@langfordscouts.org.uk

Tennis Coaching Groups - 4.30pm - 7.30pm - langfordtennisclub.org.uk

Adult Dancing - 7.00pm-8.00pm Latin and Cuban Line Dancing - 8.00pm-9.30pm Ballroom, Latin American, Salsa and Argentine Tango - Langford Village Hall - Esme Castle 01767 601604

Thursday

Owlets Pre-school 9am-12.00 morning session Langford Methodist Chapel Room - 07935 784567 - www.owletspreschool.co.uk

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

Tennis Coaching Groups - 4.30pm-8.00pm

Friday

Owlets Pre-school 9am-12.00 & 12 noon-3.00pm Langford Methodist Chapel Room - 07935 784567 - www.owletspreschool.co.uk

Tea, Coffee and Cake every Friday 10.30am - 12 noon at Church Hall. Everyone welcome. Contact Sheila 01462 701750

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

Bowls Club 2.00pm - 4.00pm - Iris Roberts 01462 700748 - Melanie Andrews 628912 - James Rix 01462 701663

WI Second Friday of Month. See What's On in Autumn for Details

Saturday

Cricket, Bowls, Tennis Summer

Tennis Coaching Groups - 9.00am - 1.00pm

Adult Tennis Social - 2.00pm - 5.00pm

Useful Information and Relevant Contacts see langfordtennisclub.org.uk

Langford Parish Council

Chairman

Gill Clarke

11 Mill Meadow SG18 9UR
gillclarke@langford-pc.gov.uk

01462 700286

Vice Chairman

John Shipman

3 Old Mill Close SG18 9QY
johnshipman@langford-pc.gov.uk

01462 700650

Parish Councillors

Richard Arnott

01462 700466

20 Cambridge Close, Langford SG18 9SH
richardarnott@langford-pc.gov.uk

Joan Rutt

18 Windsor Way, SG18 9PB
joanrutt@langford-pc.gov.uk

01462 700451

Mick Beazley

01767 223849

20 Tithe Farm Close, Langford SG18 9NE
mickbeazley@langford-pc.gov.uk

Debbie Wilson

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debbiewilson@langford-pc.gov.uk

01462 238287

Barb Hammond

01462 701070

2 Manor Close, Langford SG18 9PU
barbhammond@langford-pc.gov.uk

Jane Wright

1 Running Water Cottages, Langford Road
SG18 9RA
janewright@langford-pc.gov.uk

01767 601789

Mike Kalaher

01767 227869

79 East Road, Langford SG18 9QP
mikekalaher@langford-pc.gov.uk

David Williams

34 Cambridge Road, Langford SG18 9PS
davewilliams@langford-pc.gov.uk

01462 700474

Clerk of the Council

clerk@langford-pc.gov.uk **07482 276173**

Clerk Office hours

Tuesday-Thursday 9am-5pm

There is an answerphone to leave a message if you call outside these times.

Stotfold, Langford, Fairfield & Astwick Ward Councillors

Steven Dixon - Stotfold, Langford, Fairfield & Astwick Ward

07973 127077 - steven.dixon@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Brian Saunders - 107 Hitchin Road, Stotfold SG5 4JE

0300 300 8560 - brian.saunders@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Nicola Harris - nicola.harris@centralbedfordshire.co.uk - 0300 300 8553

Please note the Parish Website Address

Please go to

<https://langford-pc.gov.uk>

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

Langford Parish Council Meetings

Dates of Parish Council Meetings

Thursday, 1st September, 2022 - 7.30pm

Thursday, 6th October, 2022 - 7.30pm

Thursday, 3rd November, 2022 - 7.30pm

Langford Village Hall

**Please visit Langford PC website for next meeting dates
and venues at**

<https://langford-pc.gov.uk>

If residents have any issues they wish bringing to the attention of the Council then this can be done by emailing or phoning the **Clerk of the Council on 07482 276173**
or clerk@langford-pc.gov.uk

Agendas and minutes can be found on the PC website – langford-pc.gov.uk

Useful Telephone Numbers & Websites

Bedfordshire Police	01234 841212
Police Non emergency	101
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	
Water	0800 169 3630
National Floodline	0345 988 11 88
	(24 hour service)
Langford Surgery	01767 316346
Ivel Medical Centre	01767 312441
Langford Pharmacy	01462 701518
Langford Village Academy	01462 629000
Central Beds Council	0300 300 8301
Out of Hours Contact Numbers	
Social Services	0300 300 8123
Shirley Morley	
Church Hall Bookings	01462 701150

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
NHS	111
Langford Friends	0788 4046741
Citizen Advice Bureau	0808 223 1133
Samaritans	116 123
	0330 0945717
Childline	0800 1111
	www.childline.org.uk
Silverline	0800 470 8090
MIND	0300 330 0648
BBC Action Line	
	www.bbc.co.uk/actionline
Domestic Violence	0808 2000 247
Food Bank at Biggleswade Baptist Church	
www.bbchurch.org.uk	01767 312667
Langford Welfare trust	01462 700650
Papyrus Hopeline Uk	0800 068 4141

Defibrillators in Langford

There are now 5 Defibrillators in Langford and these are located outside: Le Roux Beauty Salon (Riverside Gardens), Langford Post Office, St Andrews Church Hall, the Village Hall and The Village Store.

If you come across someone who is unconscious, unresponsive, not breathing or not breathing normally (not breathing normally may mean they're making gasping noises), they're in cardiac arrest. The most important thing is to call 999 immediately and start CPR to keep the blood flowing to the brain and around the body. After a cardiac arrest, every minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces someone's chance of survival by 10 per cent.

If you're on your own, don't interrupt the CPR to go and get a defibrillator. If it's possible, send someone else to get one. When you call 999, the operator will give you the code to unlock the defibrillator machine from the cabinet. The defibrillator has adult and child pads and the machine will tell you what to do and when to do it.



Langford Parish Council

I am pleased to report two things:

- We have a new Clerk: Sarah Jayne Gallagher, who is joining the Parish Council. Sarah has considerable experience in Local Government, being Chairman of Shortstown Parish Council, and a Portfolio Holder at Bedford Borough Council. Sarah works from home but is contactable by email: **clerk@langford-pc.gov.uk** or by telephone **07482 276173**. Should you have any concerns, or matters you feel should be brought to the attention of the Parish Council please make contact. **Welcome Sarah.**

- At our June Meeting Mr Henry Hewitt was co-opted onto the Parish Council. Henry has attended previous meetings, raising his concerns re matters in the village, putting forward his thoughts on how to rectify these problems and we are now pleased to welcome him onto the Council. The Parish Council welcomes other residents who would like to become a Member of Langford Parish Council. It is very interesting, sometimes frustrating, especially with planning matters, but rewarding.

The Council meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month except for Bank Holidays and August, Langford Village Hall at 7.30pm. Details are on the Langford Parish Council website, which is full of very useful information relating to Langford.

Congratulations to Taya Cleghorn for organising the Village Fete on 9 July, it was a great success. Thanks also to everyone who participated, had a stall, or just came along.

A litter pick will be held on 24th September, meeting at St Andrews Church Hall car park at 9.30am. Bags, litter picks, gloves etc will be provided, together with refreshments after the litter pick. Everyone is very welcome to come along to help keep our village clean and tidy.

Through the generosity of a family in the village, two additional defibrillators have been purchased and sited each end of the village. We are now fortunate to have five defibrillators sited within the village boundary.

Sadly, after a fierce and well-planned fight, the Parish Council and Ward Councillor Steve Dixon were unable to persuade Central Bedfordshire Council Development Control Committee to defer the proposed development at Cambridge Road. The development has outline planning, but the Reserved matters application put in by Crest Nicholson, who have purchased the site, was unacceptable to Langford Parish Council. Only 1 Phase was submitted – what is to happen to Phase 2? The access over the bridge in Edworth Road has no detail of what traffic safety is to be put in place. Access from Phase 1 to Phase 2 is over the concrete track – how can this possibly be done safely with Anglian Water lorries, farm vehicles, and other vehicles which have properties along this road having a right of way along to access Cambridge Road. Finally, the LEAP – children's play area is completely in the wrong place, adjacent to Cambridge Road where vehicles will be backed up to access the bridge and the development. No real passive surveillance with easy access to the A1 and this area floods.

HOWEVER Central Beds knows best!!! Langford Parish Council has again formally expressed their deep concerns regarding safety on this proposed site to Central Bedfordshire Council.

We will keep fighting for the village.

Gill Clarke - Chairman

Langford Women's Institute



After all the business we were then introduced to Dickie Arbiter, former press secretary to the royal family. He spoke very openly of the day-to-day happenings inside the royal household. He was so interesting and spoke without notes; you could have



heard a pin drop. Apparently, he is the only royal official to have witnessed the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth and also to have covered her Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilees.

Following a break for tea, we were introduced to the Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, a lady called Helen Nellis. This post is appointed by the Crown; however, the duties now are chiefly ceremonial. She gave a very interesting talk relating to all her work – a very worthy job but a tough one too.

In June we had our own celebrations for the Jubilee with a street party evening. There was music, dancing, games like pass the parcel and food of the 50s era.

How fast time goes when you are having fun and that certainly relates to our WI since my summer diary report, which took us to April. No sooner had we settled than we were off again. This time to the yearly WI Council Meeting, which was held at the Bedford Corn Exchange. We have not been able to meet like this for a while because of Covid. Meeting members of other WIs was so refreshing, plus of course we learn what County are planning for the rest of the year.





Competitions were running for the best outfit which was won by Brenda Murphy, best homemade crown by Jean Smith and first prize in the raffle was the millennium rose which Maureen Deftereos had the pleasure of taking home. While all this was going on beautiful cakes, made by Helen Lamey and Pam Richardson, were cut and served - delicious they were too. We also had a memorabilia table and it was interesting to hear the stories behind the exhibits. The evening was made possible by a small team of volunteers and what a great job they all did. From the number of thank you emails received I should say it was a very successful evening.

What a pleasure it was to be involved in the Langford Fete once again and on such a beautiful day. We held



our usual jam jar tombola stall which again was organised and ably overseen by Cynthia Pitman. It was a joint effort involving all our

members and very welcome help from some willing husbands. Our thanks to all the organisers and everyone who supported us on the day.

Something else I must mention is the WI Plaque at the Pound which was greatly in need of renovation. Iris and her husband organised the repair process and thanks to them and to Jill Brannan, who expertly did the gold lettering, it is now back to its former glory. You will find it beneath the new notice board installed



by the Parish Council to mark the Platinum Jubilee. Plans are now in place for our harvest meeting and it has been muted we could have a tramp's supper in September; tell you all about that next time.

Don't forget if you would like to attend a WI meeting one month as a visitor you will be made very welcome. Or ring Iris 01767 223849

Olive Ravenall

Speed Watch

The Langford Speed Watch team is a small team of volunteers who, through weekly speed monitoring sessions, work to raise awareness of the speed limits in the village and hopefully discourage speeding. The number of recorded vehicles passing shows we now have significant traffic going through our village and safety continues to be a concern.

We have several designated locations and report the details of all speeders to the Kempston Police Headquarter, who issue letters to those drivers. We also send the summary data to the Parish Council. We have requested an additional location in High Street to be risk assessed for us.

We are still aware that some drivers refuse to consider the danger of speeding and continue to overtake within the village and even harass drivers who are observing the correct speed.

We do pass on messages from passersby, who have raised concerns with us about illegal parking in the village eg cycling on the pavement, parking partly on the pavement/near road junctions/on yellow lines particularly near the post office which makes the bend so much more hazardous.

This month, we are delighted to welcome two new volunteers to the team, so you can expect to see us more often at different times of the day and days of the week.

Some recent statistics:

Date	Location	Time	Vehicles	Speeders	%
17/03/2022	Church Street N/B	12.00pm	185	10	5
25/03/2022	Ewbank Corner	12.00pm	195	0	0
31/03/2022	Church Street S/B	1.00pm	140	16	11
14/04/2021	Church Street S/B	3.30pm	211	15	7
29/04/2022	Henlow Road	1.00pm	244	5	2
05/05/2022	Station Road N/B	1.00pm	66	1	2
13/05/2022	Cambridge Road	12.00pm	178	0	0
18/05/2022	Church Street N/B	9.30am	165	18	11
28/05/2022	Henlow Road	9.45am	175	6	3
10/06/2022	Station Road N/B	2.30pm	97	1	1
13/06/2022	Henlow Road	3.30pm	331	4	1
23/06/2022	Cambridge Road	12.00pm	148	1	1
30/06/2022	Church Street	1.00pm	184	10	5

As before, Church Street, by the playing field, sees the highest percentage of speeders. The busiest road is Henlow Road (technically Langford Road but recording vehicles coming from the Henlow direction).

Langford Friends



I want to start this article by saying that everyone concerned with Langford Friends, both clients and volunteers, were greatly saddened to be informed last April that one of our younger volunteers, Jackie Sommerschild, had passed away in hospital. Jackie had been a dedicated volunteer since she signed on with Langford Friends in 2015 and words can't describe how sorry we are for husband Ian and family for the loss. During our AGM we paused for a few minutes in silent reflection as a show of respect for Jackie.

We held our AGM at the Village Hall on the 26th of May. It was well attended comprising many of our volunteers and two clients. Langford Friends has become a village

institution since its formation twenty-two years ago and this gathering gave me the opportunity to express a thank you again to all our extraordinary volunteers who commit to helping other people expecting nothing other than expenses in return. I also expressed a grateful thank you to our committee members, Pauline Williams, John Shipman, Heidi Pegrum, Val Henley, Graham Marshall, Trudy Emery, and Diane Pearce for the invaluable time and support they have generously given in helping Langford Friends run smoothly during the past year. And I am delighted to report that all the above have kindly agreed to remain on the committee with me for another year.

Earlier this year Pauline Williams reminded me that we should update our volunteer DBS checks. The Disclosure and Barring Service check is especially important in finding suitable volunteers to work with vulnerable citizens. Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity recommend that Good Neighbour Groups, such as Langford Friends, enhanced DBS checks should take place every three to five years. The committee decided we would set ours at five-year intervals, and over the past few months we completed DBS rechecks on 21 volunteers holding certificates dated over five years. I must thank Graham Marshall again for helping me deal with this. All 21 volunteers have now received new certificates and 18 have also subscribed to the DBS Update Service. Unless the guidelines change, we shouldn't have to ask the 17 to fill in the recheck forms in the future. The certificate numbers and dates of issue have been passed on to Heidi Pegrum for our records and as we stand, we will need to conduct two DBS rechecks in 2023, five in 2024, seven in 2025, and five in 2026.

We look forward to our annual summer afternoon tea party at the Watering Can Café Bistro, Langford Garden Centre to be held on Tuesday 23rd August and following an approach to Langford Friends by a former professional musician/singer and resident of Langford we are hoping to arrange an afternoon tea with music for our clients at another venue in the village during the autumn.

In June we received a generous donation from the family of Doreen Currell, who has sadly passed. It was Doreen's wish that the retiring collection at her funeral be given to Langford Friends as they helped her when she lived in Langford. Donations such as this are always gratefully received! They go towards our operating costs including our telephone and public liability insurance and enable us to continue to serve the needs of an ever-increasing number of residents in our village making it possible for them to maintain independent lives. The total number of clients that have registered with us has grown to 58 and if you have need of our service, perhaps for the first time, please call us on 07884 046741 and if we are able, we will be pleased to help.

Richard Wood, Chairman.

Langford History Society

Our meetings are back to normal in the Church Hall on the first Wednesday of the month starting at 8pm and free tea and coffee is served. We do not meet in January or August. Visitors are welcome and pay £4. Annual membership, February to December, is currently £5.

We are pleased to announce that a completely new website has been created with the help of the Parish Council and we are currently getting to grips with updating it.

We started the year as usual with the AGM in February and on 2 March Liz Davies talked on magic and folk medicine in Huntingdonshire. In April Stuart Fairclough gave us an excellent talk deriving from his service as a Police Accident Investigator. On 4 May, Ian Waller, talked about Life in the Workhouse: the alternatives to going into it; the conditions there; and the records available to researchers.

Our visit on 1 June was to Beck House, Wrestlingworth, where we had an interesting tour



Questions with the Archaeologist after the Meeting

of the gardens and an idyllic late tea and cakes on the lawn in the sun.

On 6 July we had our biggest meeting for many a year when about 60 villagers attended. We had to hold it in the church because of the numbers involved. James Fairbairn, the archaeologist who investigated Tithe Farm prior to building, told of his methods and finds to an appreciative and attentive audience.

We did not meet in August.

On 7 September Roy Smart told us about Wallis Simpson and the abdication crisis of 1936 and on 5 October Ted

Martin will talk of his 60 years in the book trade, both from the printing and publishing sides of the industry.

On 2 November, Liz Davies comes again to get us into the festive spirit with a 'A Victorian Family Christmas in Peterborough'.

The year will end with our usual Christmas Social.

To continue your interest in local history there is plenty to read online on our website:

www.langfordhistorysociety.org.uk

There are many stories about the village, with short histories of the church and Methodist chapel, tales of incidents in the past. Our Facebook page will also have stories and a local quiz.

The website also has the '**Langford Index of Names**', 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 names.

Our Society is also a member of the county-wide Bedfordshire Local History Association and their website,

www.bedfordshire-lha.org.uk

has back numbers of their journal, **History in Bedfordshire**, going back to the first issue in 1992. Here you can find articles and book reviews on almost every aspect of Bedfordshire and Bedford's history. There are articles on the two World Wars and many on Bedfordshire villages and towns all of which can be found by using the index on the site. This year's autumn issue (No 9.5) has an article on Archaeology, local history and the pandemic and Part 1 of the wartime reminiscences of a land girl.

Should you want to learn more about Langford's history, our books are available from Rowena Wolfe (or as below) by phone or email: 01767 312556 or

rowena.wolfe@btinternet.com.

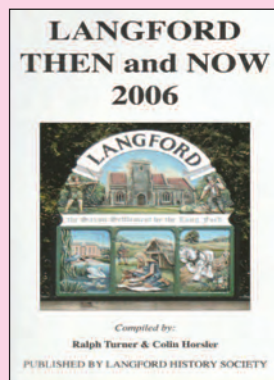
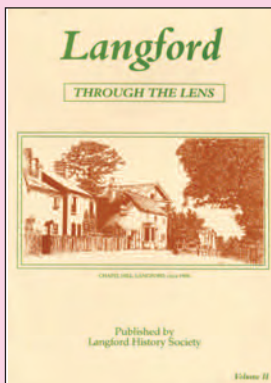
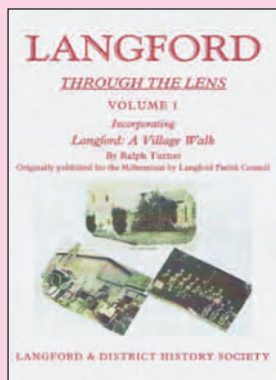
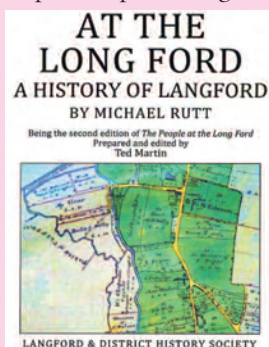
You can collect the books in the village. They contain lots of photos preserving the knowledge of the families, homes and businesses of old Langford. They are:

At the Long Ford: A History of Langford, by Michael Rutt: 172 pages describing mLangford's history from Saxon times to the present day. Copies are available from Ted Martin at 2a The Leys (01462 701096) at £5 or by post at £8 from John Shipman (01462 700650) or Rowena Wolfe (01767 312556).

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 incorporating Langford: A Village Walk - This book in 138 pages (published July 2021) delves into Langford's past with photographs of personalities and events explained in extensive captions. The reprint has the advantage of incorporating 8 amendments and discoveries made since original publication by means of an errata list in the title pages and now has Ralph Turner's Village Walk of 2000 added. 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.



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est1899

If you are having difficulty with paying for something that is important to you and your family why not see if a payment can help you out?

The Trust can provide funds for furniture, school uniforms, books, travel costs, tools, equipment, training costs, or any welfare related item.

If you have a group that needs funding or support to manage the COVID-19 situation and to get going once again or to get started, the Trust may be able to help.

The trust is supported by Langford Parish Council and has also received funds from The National Lottery Community Fund in 2020.

Contact - **The Langford Welfare Trust**,
c/o 3 Old Mill Close, Langford, Biggleswade, Beds., SG18 9QY
Tel 01462 700650. email j.m.shipman@ntlworld.com



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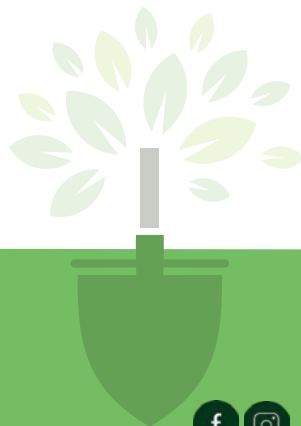
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The Vine Farm Murders

John Shipman describes a rather macabre yet true story about a grizzly murder that took place in Langford.

Vine Farm is a very lonely place. It stands at the extreme south-east corner of the parish where the river forms the boundary with Astwick. It gets its name from the fact that there was a vineyard there in medieval times. Until 1847 the river was very winding; in that year it was straightened as part of a canal scheme which came to nothing. A moat had been dug so that the river could form the defence for a stone-built house. The walls and fortifications of this place were very thick and the whole group of buildings must have been quite formidable. The murders took place about the middle of the 18th century [c 1746]. The whole incident is macabre and has overtones of witchcraft and devil worship.

At this time the farm was occupied by a family who worked some of the land in the great open field, known as Sand Field. During a winter's night the house was broken into by a gang of robbers, one of whom was a woman. They ransacked the premises and killed, or so they thought, the family. One farm lad, however, escaped all this by hiding in a cupboard, and saw from his place of concealment a woman takes the body of an infant whose body had been hacked about, and lay it in the warm ashes of the fireplace. As she did this she said: 'If ever you live to be a man, say Rose of Royston wrapped you warm.' When this was done the dismembered bodies were left. When the farm labourers arrived for work in the morning the hysterical boy was found and was later able to tell what he had seen and heard. In a barn the men found a dog which had apparently been left by the gang. It was this dog which led the authorities to Royston and to the arrest of the criminals. They were living at a butcher's shop in Royston and when the dog ran in, the woman was angry at seeing the animal and imagining that it had been maltreated she said (to quote the court case transcript): 'I wish I knew who served my dog so, I'd lay their heart's blood cold.' The gang were a band of gypsies who had become involved with 'Rose of Royston' and the butcher. They were tried, found guilty and hanged at Cambridge at the next Assize Court.

This true story is one of many historical episodes concerning Langford which were described by local historian Michael Rutt. Other stories and historical information have been updated and reprinted by the Langford and District History Society.

Cancer Charity Day at The Plough



The Cancer Charity day held on Saturday, 9th July raised over £1100 for Macmillan Cancer Support and over £2,000 for Thymic UK. Katie's locks were also donated to Little Princess Trust.

Other Events coming to The Plough

September • 3rd - Bad Monkey Driver (Rock covers) 8th to 11th Beer Festival - 9th Pizza 10th Live Music Beer BBQ Bouncy Castle - 17th - Nick Moyster - 23rd - Cheese & Wine Night Tickets £35 each available now **October** • 1st October Ruthum & Blues band 8th Open Mic Night - 15th Echoplane - 22nd Simon Baker - 28th Spiritual Night with Sue Clarke (Sold out) - 29th Halloween Disco **November** • 12th Cosmic Pixies- 19th Lanterne Rouge - 21st World Cup - 26th Open Mic

The Ivy Leaf Club

We have enjoyed a lovely few months and have continued with the improvements to the Club. We now have a brand new 85" HD television in the bar and we have also renewed the TV and Sky box in the Lounge. Both will hopefully give much better pictures when watching the football and other sport.

Live music continues with a fabulous Reggae & Motown band, New Harmony, on 3rd September followed by Uche Eke, Soul Singer, on 8th October. We then have the popular Fishing for Robots returning on 29th October - come and dance the night away to some 80's dance floor classics!

We will also do our regular Cocktail Night in aid of MacMillan - details to be confirmed. Please like and follow our Facebook page to keep up to date with and updates to our events. A reminder that our Lounge Bar can be hired for private functions (with the exception of 18th birthday parties) at minimal cost. We are more than happy to discuss specific requests and we will work with you and any suppliers to make sure the event is a success.

Also, a reminder that memberships were due for renewal in May - if you have not already renewed, please pop in and do so. New members always welcome.

If you have any questions please pop in and speak to our friendly staff, message us on FB, or call us on 01462 700868 during opening hours.

Julie Devereux - Co-chairperson



Langford Bowls Club

Summer 2022

Well Summer has arrived!! with a blast of heat in the last couple of weeks, and very little rain for several months, the prolong period without rain is of concern and our green is not so green now!

The green was open for play at the end of April and is being well used and due to the dry weather is running very fast.

Once again, we held a Bowls England "Let's Play Bowls Promotion" over the late May Spring Bank holiday, not so many takers on the day this year, however, it was encouraging to see some younger ones having a go and being quite adept, having never bowled a bowl before. Our membership numbers have increased this year which is very encouraging, it is hoped this trend will continue. Since June we have been holding coaching sessions on Thursday evenings 6pm – 8pm, these have been well attended and new players are becoming more proficient. Friendly games against surrounding village clubs continue to be held most Wednesdays and Saturdays. We have two teams competing in the East Beds League in Divisions 3 and 4, unfortunately, luck has not been with us this year and both teams, who have bowled well, have lost several matches by the odd shot or two.

The Club held a Bottle Tombola at the recent Village Fete, thanks to all members for their bottle donations and a very big thank you to the Langford Villagers who generously supported the Club on the day.

The club premises and Green were again used this year by The Ivel Valley Walkers for their annual group get together, which comprised a long or short walk followed by a refreshing drink, and Hog Roast Lunch. The green was used by quite a few of the walkers who tried their hand at bowls. Bowls Club members were on hand to show them the ropes.

Our internal Pairs League, Singles, Pairs and Mixed Pairs knock out competitions are in progress as the Diary goes to print. The winners and photos will be in the Winter edition.

The 24th of September will see the conclusion of the 2022 outdoor bowling season, as is our tradition, the season will end with the Don King Triples competition. This is an internal competition where teams of three play a round robin against each other, over a limited number of ends. This will be followed by either a BBQ, Hog Roast or Fish and Chip supper.

The club is debating whether to play Short Mat Bowls over the winter months, a decision will be made at the next committee meeting at the beginning of October.

If a positive decision is made, then Wednesday afternoons starting at 2pm will be the day and time. The start date if we go ahead will be notified on our Facebook page.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and stay safe and cool.

James Rix

For further information please go to our web site

<https://www.hugofox.com/community/langford-bowls-club-8165/home>.

We have also just created a Face Book Group so please request to join; you will be more than welcome.

Alternatively, please contact the following: -

Mrs Melanie Andrews 01462 628912 (Club Secretary)

Mrs Iris Roberts 01462 700748 (Club President)

Mr James Rix 01462701663 (Club Chairman)

Langford Cricket Club

Mid-Season Update

At the time of writing, the cricket season for Langford Cricket Club Adult teams is well over halfway through. The Youth team's seasons are nearly complete.

The 2022 cricket season at Langford has been a mixed bag, but we are seeing a near return to pre covid normality.

The Club were delighted to be able to once again run the BBQ at the village fete!

We run 4 youth teams at Langford -

The Under 9's and the Under 11 teams play on a Sunday morning.

The Under 13 team play Tuesdays in the Bedfordshire U13 Development East League.

The Under 15 team play on Thursdays evenings in the U15 Development East League.

Following on from a dry spring, we are having a dry summer, and the playing field is looking a bit brown, we all seem to have survived the hottest 2 days on record in July.

The Saturday development team continued, and is doing much better in terms of availability and is really providing cricket for both young and old alike, who otherwise wouldn't have had the opportunity. The dev team is open to anyone, so if you feel like playing please let us know.

Sunday adult cricket is in good health, the Langford First XI is comfortably mid table at the halfway point of the season in the Bedfordshire Counties Premier Division

The Langford Second XI team, are struggling a bit, but hopefully the form will kick in and they will move up the table in the second half of the year.

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) and team fixtures, results and player statistics on the Langford Play Cricket Website (langfordcc.play-cricket.com).

Andy Watson, Chairman. Langford Cricket Club.



Langford Football Club

The Season Started on 6th August 2022. The First Team are in Division One of the SSMFL. The Lads are looking forward to the challenges ahead. This season the Management Team of Stuart and Graham will be assisted by Omar and Andy. It would be great to see more of you at the games on a Saturday afternoon.

The Ladies Team are now in the Premier Division of the BHWFL playing on a Sunday in the afternoon, well worth a watch. Our Sunday Side Langford Ivel also play on a Sunday in the mornings. Both the Ladies Team and Langford Ivel's season starts in September, keep an eye out for our fixtures they will be advertised around the village.

Paul Vince - Chairman



Langford Tennis Club

Matches are well underway in the Bedfordshire County Summer League and Veterans League with a total of 12 teams participating. We play other clubs in Bedfordshire including Riverside (Bedford), Flitwick & Ampthill, Dunstable, Luton, Pottton, and many of the small villages such as Pavenham and Harrold. We have four men's teams in Divisions 2, 3 and 4; three ladies' teams in Divisions 1 and 2; four mixed teams in Divisions 2 and 3; and one mixed veterans' team in Division 2. All are doubles matches consisting of



Members enjoying a chat

two pairs who play two sets (a rubber) against each of the opposing two pairs. The winning team is decided on the number of rubbers, if this is tied, then the result is decided on the number of sets and, if this is also tied, it then goes down to the number of games won. The match then concludes with a very sociable lunch or tea provided by the home team. All matches are played outdoors and so players are at the mercy of the elements with some matches being postponed due to rain or, as

occurred recently at the time of writing, temperatures approaching 40°C! Our annual internal Summer Championships have also started with all matches consisting of 2 sets with a championship tie-break if necessary. We have a knockout competition for the men's singles and mixed doubles and a round-robin competition for the women's and men's doubles. A total of 26 pairs have entered the doubles events with a handicap applied to ensure fairness where possible. Finals day is set for 24th September.

Our weekly coaching sessions have now stopped for the summer holidays but will resume in September. This should free up some court space for players to play all the matches mentioned above!

As a reminder, our social sessions are held on a Wednesday morning from 9.00am, Wednesday evening from 7.30pm and Saturday afternoon from 2.00pm. If you fancy joining in, please come along and you will receive a very friendly welcome!

For more information about the club and to keep up with the latest news, please visit:

Website www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk

Facebook page

Instagram page ([Langfordtennisclub](https://www.instagram.com/Langfordtennisclub))



Cherry Lane Langford says Fond Farewell to Nursery Manager after 48 Years



On the morning of Friday 29th July 2022 the staff at Cherry Lane Garden Centre arranged a small gathering of colleagues, past and present, to mark the retirement of Nursery Manager, Graham Jeffs.

Graham started at Langford Nurseries and Garden Centre in 1974 as a nursery assistant at the age of 18. A chance meeting with one of the partners, whilst having a lunchtime drink with his father at The Plough, started Graham on his growing career of nearly five decades.

Langford Nurseries and Garden Centre was originally set up by Keith Hichisson and Rae Roberts as a growing nursery in 1971 to supply their plants to wholesalers and to undertake small landscaping work in the local area. Once Graham joined them they were able to grow more home grown plants and it was decided that a small shop was required to sell to local customers. Graham has always loved growing plants and vegetables at home so the growing

operation on the nursery became his second home. As the business grew and more staff were employed to assist him, Graham became plant area manager. He would scour all the seed and young plant catalogues and choose what he knew customers would like to see flourish in their own gardens. With Graham's dedication to his work and the growing of the plants he became Nursery Manager 25 years ago.

Graham said "I have always loved plants and the satisfaction of growing things. I love what I do here at Langford so I've never really classed this as a job more of a vocation. I've always looked forward to coming in every day. I have been sharing everything I've learnt over the past 48 years with my colleagues and I know I am leaving the nursery operation in good hands. I'm really going to miss the people – colleagues old and new, and our customers too, but I am looking forward to having free time to spend at home with my family, including my three grandchildren. I live just down the road so I'm sure I'll pop in from time to time!"

In March 2021 Langford Nurseries & Garden Centre was sold as the partners wished to retire. QD Commercial Group Holdings Ltd purchased the site as part of their Cherry Lane Garden Centre Group and are now undertaking building work to extend its growing operations and shopping experience for the next stage in the business's history.

Simon Daubeney, Garden Centre Manager at Cherry Lane Langford, said: "We are all really going to miss Graham and wish him all the very best for his retirement. He has been such an asset to the business over the past 48 years and really is truly dedicated to our growing operation – some mornings he comes in at 4.45pm to ensure that our plants have a "good water" on hot days. Graham has been doing a fantastic job in training and supporting our nursery team who will be working hard to carry on his legacy of growing top quality plants for our customers."

Graham was presented with a garden bench, goodies hamper and cake to celebrate his retirement from the job he has loved "man and boy".

Graham Jeffs, The Man, The Myth, The Legend.

WANDERBUS 2022 Excursion Programme

DATE	DESTINATION	Entrance Fee as per current website	Bus Fare
Thursday 29 th September	ASCOTT HOUSE & GARDENS, nr Leighton Buzzard. An old English black & white timber manor house dating back in parts to C17 th . Acquired by the Rothschild family in 1873. Housing and exceptional collection of paintings, fine furniture and superb porcelain. Extensive gardens.	£13.00 p.p. House & Gardens or £8.00 Gardens only. Free to National Trust	£12.00 p.p. Pick up 11.30/12.00 Depart 15.30
Thursday 28 th October	BICESTER VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTRE, Oxon. Home to more than 160 luxury fashion & lifestyle boutiques of many of the leading brands offering savings of up to 60% off the recommended retail price. Dine at Soho House & Co's farmhouse restaurant and café of the splendour of Café Wolseley.	Free Entry	£20.00 p.p. Pick Up 10.00/10.30 Depart 15.15.
Thursday 24 th November	CHRISTMAS MARKET - TBA		

Langford Businesses Opening Times

HILLFOOT FARM SHOP

SUNDAY	10.00am - 1.00pm
MONDAY	CLOSED
TUESDAY	10.00am - 4.30pm
WEDNESDAY	10.00am - 4.30pm
THURSDAY	10.00am - 4.30pm
FRIDAY	9.30am - 4.30pm
SATURDAY	9.00am - 4.00pm

POST OFFICE STORE

SUNDAY	8.30am - 6.00pm
MONDAY	7.30am - 8.00pm
TUESDAY	7.30am - 8.00pm
WEDNESDAY	7.30am - 8.00pm
THURSDAY	7.30am - 8.00pm
FRIDAY	7.30am - 8.00pm
SATURDAY	7.30am - 8.00pm

POST OFFICE COUNTER

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9.00am - 6.00pm SATURDAY - 9.00am - 1.30pm
SUNDAY Closed

THE PLOUGH

SUNDAY	12.00am - 11.00pm
MONDAY	3.00pm - 11.00pm
TUESDAY	3.00pm - 11.00pm
WEDNESDAY	3.00pm - 11.00pm
THURSDAY	3.00pm - 11.00pm
FRIDAY	12.00pm - 1.00am
SATURDAY	12.00pm - 2.00am

PHARMACY

CLOSED FOR LUNCH EACH DAY	
MONDAY	9-12.45 - 13.30-17.15
TUESDAY	9-12.45 - 13.30-17.15
WEDNESDAY	9-12.45 - CLOSED
THURSDAY	9-12.45 - 13.30-17.15
FRIDAY	9-12.45 - 13.30-17.15
SATURDAY	9-12.45 - CLOSED

LANGFORD VILLAGE STORE

SUNDAY	8.00am - 9.00pm
MONDAY	7.00am - 9.00pm
TUESDAY	7.00am - 9.00pm
WEDNESDAY	7.00am - 9.00pm
THURSDAY	7.00am - 9.00pm
FRIDAY	7.00am - 9.00pm
SATURDAY	7.00am - 9.00pm

LANGFORD FISH BAR

SUNDAY	CLOSED
MONDAY	11.30am - 9.30pm
TUESDAY	11.30am - 9.30pm
WEDNESDAY	11.30am - 9.30pm
THURSDAY	11.30am - 9.30pm
FRIDAY	11.30am - 9.30pm
SATURDAY	11.30am - 9.30pm

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SIZE - Half page

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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)

PLEASE NOTE - IMPORTANT

**All Copy and Advertising for inclusion in NEXT Diary Winter Edition by
22nd October for events in December, January and February.**

2023 Submission Dates

Spring Edition 22nd January - Summer Edition 22nd August

IMPORTANT

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

**All Copy for the next Diary to be emailed to *both*
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