

The LANGFORD Diary

The Parish Council Publication for YOU the Residents of Langford

WINTER 2024

Editor: Trudy Emery
Contact: trudylangforddiary@gmail.com

Edition 226

St. Andrew's Church
**Christmas Tree
Festival**

Friday 6 - Sunday 8
December

**Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year**

A Letter from the Editor

Well, what a wet dreary autumn we've had! Let's hope the worst of the wet weather is over and we will enjoy a crisp sunny winter. We can but hope.

There has been plenty happening in the village so please read John Shipman's item. The Parish Council work very hard in our interests. I notice there is a vacancy for another Councillor. So why not give it some thought and enquire about joining the committee. May I take this opportunity to thank the local businesses which advertise in The Langford Diary; their fees help to fund this parish magazine. I would also like to thank the residents who have contributed each quarter, which seems to come round so quickly! But the volunteers who send in their submissions never complain. Well, at least not to me!

My Happy place, as they say, is my garden and we are lucky to have a larger than average size garden. I am not a very tidy gardener, so the many hours I spend there do not show in pristine neat flower beds. But we do try and encourage the wildlife. I get quite excited when I find frogs or burrowing bumble bees! We have, however, never been successful with growing vegetables so Sue and Gary's Hillfoot Farmshop was much appreciated for their locally grown fresh vegetables. Sue and Gary have now closed their shop, and I would like to wish them all the best for the next chapter of their lives. I shall have to look elsewhere for the local veg.

Much of the village have said a sad goodbye to two lovely ladies who have done so much for the village. Jenny Broadbridge has written a fitting tribute to Buerrean Richards, a stalwart of the chapel and past teacher at Langford Lower. Christine Marshall will also be sadly missed. She always had a positive outlook on life and greeted everyone with a cheerful smile. Olive Ravenall has written a tribute to her in the WI news.

On a more positive note, we can look forward to St Andrew's Church Christmas tree festival from Friday 6th December to Sunday 8th December. A great start to the Christmas festivities.

Meanwhile may I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Dry, Peaceful New Year.

Trudy Emery

trudylangforddiary@gmail.com

Christmas Lights in Langford

This year Langford Parish Council have purchased new Christmas Lights.
These will be turned on on the **29th November**.

The lights will predominantly be along Church Street this year but it is hoped that more will be purchased for next year.

If there are any businesses that would like to purchase any please email the **Parish Clerk Sarah Gallagher: clerk@langford-pc.gov.uk** who can give you further information.

Let's light up Langford!

What's On in Langford in the Winter!

November

26 Stotfold Salvation Army Band - Evening of Christmas Music - Chapel - 7.30pm - £5.00 entrance including refreshments

December

3 Gardening Club - Quiz Night - Village Hall - 7.00pm - More details on page 14

4 History Society - Christmas Social - details to be confirmed check website www.langfordhistory.org.uk

5 Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30pm

6-8 Christmas Tree Festival - St. Andrew's Church

8 Bedford Brass Band - St. Andrew's Church - 4.00pm

13 WI - Christmas Evening - Acapella Group 4 Firebirds - Potluck Supper - Village Hall - 7.15pm

15 Christmas Carol Service - Chapel - 10.30am see more details on page 25

22 Village Carol Singing on The Leys - 2.30pm-3.30am - In Aid of Action for Children

24 Christingle - St. Andrew's Church - 5.00pm

24 Midnight Mass - St. Andrew's Church - 11.15pm

January

7 Gardening Club - The Work of Bedfordshire gardens Trust - Church Hall - 7.45pm

9 Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30pm

10 WI - 35 Years in Flight - Paul Drake - Village Hall - 7.15pm

February

4 Gardening Club - No-Dig Gardening - Church Hall - 7.45pm

6 History Society - AGM - Church Hall - 8.00pm - Refreshments from 7.45pm

6 Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30pm

Book Swap - St. Andrew's Church Porch - 10.00am-4.00pm everyday
Church Open every day

Langford Weekly and Regular Meetings

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

Sunday

St. Andrews Parish Services Vicar Rev. Shaun Speller 01462 700248 – see page 27 for details of Christmas Services

Methodist Services Mission Group on the Second Sunday of the month.

Please see page 27 for Service Times and Forthcoming Events –

Contact Jenny Broadbridge 01462 701127

Dog Training 9.00am–1.30pm Langford Village Hall – Contact Gary 07738 683854

1st Langford Squirrels 5.00pm–6.00pm Scout Hut Ages 4–6

Monday

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

Langford Methodist Chapel Room Contact 07790 763078

1st Langford Rainbows – term time from 4.30pm – 5.30pm, Church Hall
contact Danielle on 07866 3957

1st Langford Brownies – term time from 5.45pm – 7.00pm, Church Hall,
contact Danielle on 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

Tuesday

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

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

Over 60's Movement to Music Class 11am–12noon and is £5.00 PAYG including tea/coffee at St. Andrew's Church Hall – Contact Hannah
info.imaginationarts@yahoo.com or 07394 93411

Langford Lollipops Toddler Group 1.30pm–3.00pm Village Hall –
See Facebook page Langford Lollipops Toddler Group

2nd Langford Rainbows – term time from 5.00pm – 6.00pm, Church Hall,
contact Danielle on 07866 395739

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

Langford Gardening Club First Tuesday of the month. See What's on in Langford in the Winter page 3 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

Toddler Dance Classes - term time from 9.15am - 10.30am, Village Hall,
contact Danielle on 07866 395739

Oasis Coffee Morning Chapel from 10.30am - see page 27 for details of Winter
arrangements

Older Persons Exercises Village Hall - 12 noon to 1.00pm - Conor Inskip
Ci.fitness@icloud.com - 07580 002552

Children's Dance Classes - term time from 4.15pm - 6.30pm, Village Hall, contact
Danielle on 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

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 9.00am-12.00 morning session Langford Methodist Chapel Room
- 07935 784567 - www.owletspreschool.co.uk

Ivy Leaf Club Lunch Club - Warm Space for over 55's - Hot meal, tea and coffee -
voluntary donation - 1.00-3.00pm

Children's Dance & Drama Classes - term time from 4.30pm - 6.45pm, Village Hall,
contact Danielle on 07866 395739

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

Tennis Coaching Groups 4.30pm-8.00pm

Langford Parish Council Meeting First Thursday of Month - See page 23 for details

Langford Cricket Club All Stars Cricket Club 6-7pm -
www.facebook.com/LangfordCC

Langford Bowls Club 4.00pm to 6.00pm Training/Practice/Coaching - See page 42
for more details

Friday

Owlets Pre-school 9am-12.00 & 12 noon-3.00pm 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 Melanie Andrews 628912 - James Rix 01462 701663

WI Second Friday of Month. See What's On in Winter on page 3 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 <http://clubspark.ita.org.uk/langfordtennisclub>

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The Hall is available for parties/functions at the weekend on Friday evenings
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The Hall is very popular and gets booked up many weeks in advance so
please enquire in plenty of time to prevent disappointment!



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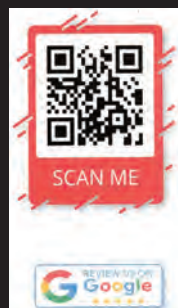
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1st Langford Scout Group

The Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have had a busy term so far, with no sign of it slowing down!

The Cubs have had a camp at Boyd Field (on the first frosty night of the season!), the Beavers and Squirrels took part in a Wild West themed activity day and the Scouts have been hiking and designing a fiendish crazy golf course. Falcon Cubs welcomed our MP Alastair Strathern and gave him a thorough grilling on a range of topics including



surveillance cameras and whether the sale of uncomfortable shoes should be banned. In October, all our members who had been awarded a Chief Scout Award this year were invited to a special County event to celebrate their achievements.

We are looking forward to taking part in the village Act of Remembrance and lots of Christmas fun to come - including a trip to the Panto!



We now have over 100 young people taking part in Scouting in the village, thanks to the amazing volunteers who make it all happen but we still need more help as we simply do not have sufficient spaces for all the children who would like to take part. More help is always welcome, whether that is occasional or regular. We also welcome young people age 14+ to volunteer with us through the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.



Squirrels are age 4-6 and meet Mondays 5-6, Beavers are age 6-8 and meet on Tuesdays 5.45-6.45, Cubs are 8-10.5 and meet Tuesdays 7-8.15 or 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.

Squirrels is full, Beavers is currently full, Cubs has limited spaces 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, Lead Volunteer jo.smith@langfordscouts.org.uk



Langford Village Academy

The children have all settled in wonderfully this academic year and have already been extremely busy.

The children have enjoyed helping raising money for Jeans for Genes, participated in wear Yellow for mental health day and a took part in a Fun Run wearing their pyjamas! You may have even seen them around the village on their History walk.



We had our annual Harvest over at the church and welcomed all of our parents to join us, we were so grateful for all of the donations for The Need project.

In September, Parents & Carers gathered to learn about the whole-school mindfulness approach at Langford Village Academy. It was encouraging to hear parents' feedback – children are bringing practices home with them and discussing the sessions themes.

Parents also expressed interest in attending mindfulness training themselves – we are developing a programme of sessions for parents and carers to run soon – part of the BEST vision to include and support the wider community.

Year 5 and 6 have enjoyed a WOW day, dressing up and learning about Greeks and Victorians, they even sampled some food.



We have enjoyed inviting parents into the school for information about starting Upper Key stage 2 and Reception, they had the opportunity to hear from our teachers about what topics the children will cover and had a tour around our classrooms.

We do still have some spaces for in year admissions, if you would like more information or a tour of the school, please do get in touch.



We are now beginning to look forward to our Christmas Fair on Saturday 30th November, Christmas dinner, pantomime and Nativity plays.

Defibrillators in Langford

Langford has several defibrillators which can be accessed by anyone in an emergency. They are regularly inspected by volunteers and maintained by the Parish Council. To use a defibrillator go to the nearest one and phone 999. Call an ambulance. The operator will provide an access code for the unit you are standing at. The units are automatic and can diagnose if CPR or defibrillation is needed. Follow the voice instructions from the machine. When the ambulance arrives they will take over and they may take the unit with them.

Defibrillators are located at the following locations:



**Village Store/Fish and Chip Shop/Pharmacy;
Church Hall near the School;
Village hall near Tennis courts;
Post Office
Beauty Salon in Riverside Gardens**



We started our Autumn programme in September when Ian Logan from SI Waterscapes came along to tell us all about '**Eco-system ponds**' and how they use pumps and filters to work alongside mother nature to produce low maintenance, clear water ponds. Good for us and for wildlife!

In October Matt Sutcliffe, Communities and Wildlife Manager from the **Wildlife Trust** gave a fascinating talk on the work of the trust in Bedfordshire'. It was amazing to find out just what is happening on our own doorstep.

In November local florist, Sarah Dempster from The Flower Hut gave us a fabulous **wreath making demonstration**. Sarah particularly likes working with twigs, herbs and ivy and gave us some great ideas to make our own festive decorations.

We're kicking off our winter programme with our Christmas Social in December. We are having a **QUIZ NIGHT**. It's of course open to our members, but we'd also like to invite our neighbours to join in the fun and provide some friendly competition! If you 'know your onions' that's great, but not essential. It's a general knowledge quiz so you don't need to be green fingered to take part.

A finger buffet will be served during the quiz, so please contact us to book a table to help us plan the event. In addition, you can also bring along your own refreshments if you wish.

Tuesday 3rd December 2024 - Langford Village Hall - Doors open: 7:00 pm
Quiz Starts: 7:15 pm - Max 6 people per team
£5 per person (Club Members) - £7.50 per person (Non-Members)

In January, Corinne Price will be giving a talk on the work of '**Bedfordshire Gardens Trust**'. Corinne is Head Gardener at English Heritage and sits on the committee of the trust. The trust is run by volunteers whose aim is to promote, record, conserve and help others appreciate our county's gardens, parks and designed landscapes.

If you want to know how to reduce the amount of weeding and watering in your garden and improve your soil's structure, then come along to our February meeting. Russell Attwood will be giving a talk on '**No-Dig Gardening**'. Russell is a very experienced gardener and a retired biology teacher.

The Club usually meets at St Andrew's Church Hall in Langford on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.45 pm. For further details on our programme see the '**What's On In Winter**' section of the **Langford Diary**, or the following:

Website: www.langford-gardening-club.co.uk
Email: Langford.gardening.club@gmail.com
Nextdoor: www.nextdoor.co.uk/g/6sfdcv4qc/?is=nav_bar
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/541571895998607/events
Details are also on the noticeboard near Pound Close in Langford.

Langford Gardening Club

CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT



Tuesday
DEC 3

Langford Village Hall
Mill Lane, Beds, SG18 9QY
Doors open: 7:00pm
Quiz Starts: 7:15pm

£7.50 Non-Members
£5.00 Club Members
Max 6 people per team

General Knowledge Quiz
Finger buffet
Prizes To Be Won
Raffle Prizes



To book a table or for more details:
langford.gardening.club@gmail.com

Also on Facebook and Nextdoor

Langford History Society

Are you interested in history? Would you like to find out more about the area? We are a small, friendly village society that regularly holds fairly informal meetings – if you are not already a member, you are very welcome to attend our meetings as a visitor. We usually meet in the Church Hall on the first Wednesday of each month (with breaks in January and August) – free tea / coffee and biscuits are served from 7.45, with the speaker beginning at 8pm. By way of variety, we have a Christmas Social in December; plus our June and July meetings take the form of visits to local places of interest. Visitors pay £4 at the door; our annual membership fee (February to December) is £5, plus £2 at the door – however, prices for visits or other special events may vary.

That said, unfortunately our September meeting did not go quite according to plan – as medical problems meant that first our original speaker and then the stand-in both had to cancel. However, a showing of ‘Langford Tales’ came to the rescue, with those present enjoying a somewhat impromptu film show! We hope to rebook Roy Smart for a future meeting to give his talk about a Rutland-born woman who ran wild in Kenya and then became the first person to fly the Atlantic east to west.

Notwithstanding the heavy rains and high water levels, we were pleased to welcome Pamela Birch, the County Archivist, as our speaker on 2nd October. She gave a very interesting and amusing presentation (complete with audience participation) entitled “Playing snap, patience and happy families: the fun and games of work in the archives” telling us about the role of archivists and archive conservators.

At our meeting on 6th November, Stuart Fairclough will be recounting some stories from the history of the county in his talk “Tales of Old Bedfordshire”.

Wednesday 4th December will be our Christmas Social, details of which are still being finalised and will be available in due course on our website:

www.langfordhistorysociety.org.uk

As we do not meet in January, the following meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 5th February 2025.

The website is updated regularly and you should look there for details of our meetings and events. As well as more general Society information, the website includes a brief history of the village; open field names and enclosure; historical information about St Andrew’s Church, the Methodist Chapel, the Poorhouse and Langford Mill; the River Ivel; the Saxon coin hoard; details about a few Langford incidents (aviation and early vehicle accidents, the Black Death); as well as some past residents’ recollections and biographical details.

In addition, a useful source for family historians, the **“Langford Index of Names”** can be downloaded from the website – this 16-page index lists the names on the two village war memorials, plus those people referred to in volumes 1 & 2 of **“Langford through the Lens”**, **“Langford: A Village Walk”**, and **“Langford Then and Now”**.

The “We Love Langford” Facebook page also provides some historical information and a local quiz.

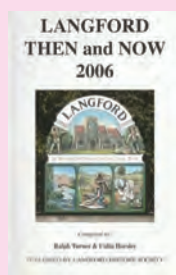
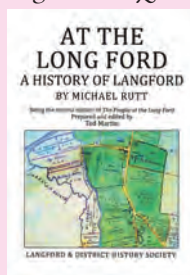
The Society has also produced / updated some books about Langford's history – most of which contain lots of photographs preserving the knowledge of the families, homes and businesses of old Langford. Our books are available from John Shipman (01462 700650). Email: j.m.shipman@ntlworld.com and you can collect the books in the village:

At the Long Ford: A History of Langford – by Michael Rutt (1st published 1976, 2nd edition revised and expanded 2021): 172 pages describing Langford's history from Saxon times to the present day. £7.50 or by post at £10.

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 amendments and discoveries made since original publication by means of an errata list and now has Ralph Turner's Village Walk of 2000 added. Price £7.

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.

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.



St. Andrew's Christmas Tree Festival 2024

This year's Festival starts the weekend of Friday 6th and ends at 4.00pm on Sunday 8th December.

Please come along and help support this community event. The St. Andrews Christmas Tree Festival Cup will be awarded to the best dressed tree voted for by the visitors.

Bedford Brass Band will be playing at the Carol Service which starts at 4pm on the Sunday 8th December.

Hot chocolate and mince pies will be served from 3.30pm ahead of the Carol Service.

If you or your organisation would like to sponsor a tree, please contact Bob Vidler on 07958599308 or via email at rvlandscaper@lineone.net to register an interest. As in previous years St Andrews will be supplying the trees, stands and lights

As usual the trees less the exhibitor's decorations and lights etc will be available for sale after the festival again at cost price.

Sheila Vidler

Langford Women's Institute



It's that time again, cannot believe how the weeks fly by, but fly they do. Where did our summer go and where did all that water go when the rains came?

We have had plenty to see and do, so herewith my report.

Firstly, we enjoyed afternoon tea at Langford Bowls Club; the weather was perfect and the food delicious. Several ladies tried their hand on the green with some success, but we proved to be a mixture of skills!! All good fun. Our thanks to members of the Bowls Club and

to our team who worked so hard making it a roaring success both on the green and at the table.

September brought us a trip on the River Ouse with afternoon tea at the Kingfisher Hotel and our Harvest celebrations at our monthly meeting (more food!). The Committee served us all with a ploughman's supper plus all the trimmings, after which we sang and danced to country music provided by the Turf Tappers. This was their second visit to us and we went home with a big smile on our faces.



Much needed when we remember our dear friend Christine Marshall. We all find it hard to believe that we no longer have our dear friend and long serving member of the Committee amongst us. Christine was our Treasurer for many years and one of the world's 'doers.' She walked everywhere and would give a smile to anyone she met along the way. A true lady, whom we all loved and sadly miss. R.I.P. dear Christine.

Also in September some of us attended an evening at the Proms at King's House, Bedford. Music was provided by the Amici Singers and Bedford Town Concert Brass Band. I didn't get there myself but it proved to be a very good evening and was broadcast live on the night by Bedford Hospital Radio.

We enjoyed a talk by Mike Barbakoff on 'Women Codebreakers at Bletchley Park' at our October meeting. Apparently, by 1945, 75% of the staff of Bletchley Park were women, and many of these were in Uniform – no surprise to many of us the big part that women played during the War years. We rounded off October with eight of us attending an afternoon of Nostalgia Songs hosted by Steve Forward at Houghton Conquest Village Hall. It was an opportunity to meet with other Bedfordshire WIs over a cream tea and a sing song which culminated with a hearty rendition of 'Sweet Caroline'.



Coming up – another session of Tenpin Bowling

at RAF Henlow has been organised and we will again be laying a wreath at the Village Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. We have also been invited to a Christmas shopping evening in November. The invite reads 'come and have a fun afternoon in partnership with John Lewis Milton Keynes.' We appreciate and look forward to this very soon. We will once again be taking part in Langford Church's Christmas Tree Festival in December, for which our members are currently busy making snowmen ornaments.



Christmas is very evident now. Zoe, our Secretary, as always is working very hard towards arranging our Christmas lunch and has other ideas, yet to be sorted. By the time you read this Diary things will have happened. BUT next year if you feel like visiting us do get in touch with our President, Iris (01717 223849). This is a lovely Village; a lot goes on as you will discover. Happy Christmas from us all!

Olive Ravenall

King George Memorial Playing Field

Despite the very wet weather, the field is looking particularly good, thanks to Adrian Crawley, our Grounds Maintenance man. The Management Committee thank Adrian for this.

The annual inspection of the trees found that there is further decay in the Horse Chestnut trees, so much so that one tree at the rear of Pound Close, which was heavily pollarded to see if that would elongate its life span, has now to be removed. New trees will be put in its place. Several trees have been reduced in height and width. The area behind the Scout Hut, Bowls Club and Village Hall will be flayed to take back the nettles and weeds, allowing the trees more light and space.

Additional benches are to be installed along the playing field roadway, and the information board by the gate in Church Street to be revised, taking out the removed trees, but mentioning why the original Horse Chestnut trees were planted.

The annual ROSPA play inspection found that all the equipment was in good condition, with a couple of maintenance repairs to be carried out. There are no further plans to add any additional equipment, but we are always happy to receive any suggestions from residents - gillyannclarke@gmail.com.

There have been many reported issues of dogs loose and fouling on the playing field which is totally unacceptable. Dogs are not allowed off the lead on the playing field but can be walked around the perimeter on the lead, and there are plenty of bins surrounding the field to deposit any dog poo.

Gill Clarke
Facilities Manager - King George Memorial Playing Field

Langford Village Hall

The hall continues to be in high demand for bookings, these now well into 2024/25. There are a good variety of classes using the facilities, many children's parties, adult celebrations and weddings, craft fayres and meetings. Our hiring charges are in line with other halls in the area, which, with the good facilities around e.g., car park, playing field, make it a great place to hold a function. However, due to increased insurance criteria, inflatables will no longer be allowed in the Hall. We understand that this may restrict some hiring, but we have no alternative if we are to be covered by insurance.

New furniture to be purchased for the foyer, and the main hall floor to be sanded and resealed in February 2025.

The small hall is a very pleasant place to hold meetings, small gatherings, games etc, with facilities to make drinks, fridge, and toilets. Please contact the booking officer for further information.

Gill Clarke
Facilities Manager - Langford Village Hall

Langford Parish Council

We welcome Julian Vaughan as a new, co-opted member of the Parish Council. Julian has a strong track record of working on behalf of the community. There is one more vacancy. Contact the Clerk if this interests you.

The planning inspector is due to rule in the case of an appeal by developers to build 170 houses to the north east of Langford. See the documents on CBC website (CB/ 23/0381/FULL). The Parish Council has objected. We don't know when the ruling will be made.

The Cambridge Road, phase 2, building project (CB/23/04110/FULL), at the time of writing, still needs to conform to planning conditions relating to drainage of surface and ground water which were imposed at the time of approval. Many will know that the water storage pond on the site overflowed and flooded one home in Southland Rise. Many residents went to their aid but the house had to be evacuated. The developers will hopefully be held responsible as preventative measures should have been in place. CBC have approved the design of the pumping station.

Elsewhere, due to heavy rain in September and October, together with blocked drains, there was sewage and surface water flooding which caused distress and damage. The Parish Council provided some synthetic flood barrier bags to residents who were affected. Community spirit was high with many people helping neighbours in their hours of need and worry. Thanks to all those who helped. Clearly the infrastructure ran out of capacity to cope with the rain. Parish Council continues to lobby for S106 funds to be spent on infrastructure in Langford to support and improve the drainage and other resources.

CBC have made a U turn and have decided not to increase the current speed limit on the road from Henlow to Langford from 30mph to 40mph. There will be a campaign and a request for a pedestrian crossing and pavement improvements near the garden centre entrance.

Parking outside the school during drop off and pick up times is a concern that many have raised with the parish council. Thank you to parents who park away from the hazards. Some parents use the village hall carpark.

At the time of writing the parish council is drafting the budget for the year commencing April 2025. Where would you like the Parish Council to spend YOUR money? Residents and organisations are welcome to contact the Clerk with suggestions for suitable projects that may require funding or that could benefit the community. The Parish Council does have some project ideas but is keen to hear views from the village. Contact the Clerk or any Parish Council member. It is hoped there will be no increase in the council tax element relating to the Parish Council. The accounts can be viewed on the parish council website.

The community litter picking event in September was well attended. Thank you to all residents who helped.

John Shipman
Chairman.

Langford Parish Council

Please see our Parish Council Chairman Letter on page 21

Chairman

John Shipman

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

01462 700650

Vice Chairman

Drew Richardson

8 Blackbird Gardens SG18 9RD
drew.richardson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

0300 3008550

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Lorraine Kalaher

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Jane Wright

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SG18 9RA
janewright@langford-pc.gov.uk

Clerk of the Council **Sarah Gallagher**

clerk@langford-pc.gov.uk **07842 276173**

Clerk Office hours

*Clerk works part-time and is usually available Monday-Friday
There is an answerphone facility to leave a message*

Clifton, Henlow and Langford Ward Councillors

Councillor Drew Richardson - Tel 0300 300 8550
drew.richardson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Councillor Richard Wenham- Tel 0300 300 8563
richard.wenham@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Councillor David Shelvey - Tel 0300 300 8553
david.shelvey@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

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

held in The Village Hall

Thursday, 5th December, 2024 - 7.30pm

Thursday, 9th January, 2025 - 7.30pm

Thursday, 6th February, 2025 - 7.30pm

Details available at Langford PC website

<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

Langford Friends 07884 046741

Church Hall Bookings 07958 599308

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

Social Services 0300 300 8123

NHS 111

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

Wet Wipes Block Drains in Langford

Wet wipes block drains in Langford – Causing an estimated ¼ million gallons of flooding, pollution and a significant health hazard to Langford residents in one incident alone in October 2024.

Several residents and the public footpath were seriously affected by a blocked sewage drain caused by an accumulation of wet wipes in Church Street.

Did you know that 75% of drain blockages are caused by people flushing wet wipes down the toilet?

Most wet wipes are non-biodegradable and insoluble which means when they are flushed they don't disintegrate and instead start to clog up your drains. The disposal of wet wipes in this way is not only causing many blockages but is also starting to create an environmental emergency.

Unfortunately many wet wipes state on their packaging that they are 'flushable', but a recent investigation revealed that in fact there were NO wet wipes that actually met the criteria to be labelled as such. Even though they appear to flush down the toilet, like toilet paper, they won't disintegrate and will instead cling to other debris and the walls of the pipes which over time will build up to create larger, more substantial blockages in your toilet or the foul sewer in the street. Furthermore, if they block the sewer on your property you may have to arrange and pay for the unblocking yourself. Please don't flush ANY type of wet wipes down the toilet. Your home or your neighbours home might be affected if the drains are blocked.

**If you are affected by floods from the sewage system
call Anglia Water on 03457 145 145.**

**For floods from the river
call The Environment Agency call 0800 80 70 60.**

**For floods on the highway
contact CBC 0300 300 8500.**

**If the flood is posing a danger to life or injury
contact The Fire and Rescue Service on 999. Thank you.**

From The Parish Council.

St. Andrew's Church

As I write this we are awaiting the launch of the myriad of Christmas adverts which hit our TV screens each year.



The television adverts are constantly telling us what we need in order to have the best Christmas, and any number of celebrities will pop up to try and convince us that the retailer they represent will really make our Christmas complete.

If you ask a group of children just what the TV adverts are telling us we need, they mention turkeys, decorations, lights, presents, and much more. If you then ask them if they thought we really need to have all these things, or whether it is maybe all stuff that we just like to have, they admit that it is great, but perhaps it is all just a little bit much and not necessarily needed.

When we think about the first Christmas it was in fact very simple and at the heart of it all there was only one gift; not piles and piles of boxes wrapped in shiny paper. God gave us all one gift, his Son, Jesus our Saviour and that is all we really need.

With this one gift we have everything, not just what we need to have the best Christmas, but what is needed to have life itself. Although there is only one gift, that baby brings with him many things, many gifts that will fill our hearts and transform our lives: love, peace, friendship, truth, hope, forgiveness, joy and kindness. The joy that the one gift we were given at the first Christmas is in fact the only gift we truly need. Come and celebrate that with us this Christmas at St Andrews.

Sunday 8th December

4.00 pm Christmas Tree Festival Carols with Bedford Brass

Tuesday 24th December

5.00 pm Christingle - 11.15 pm Midnight Mass

St. Andrew's Church News

The Village Book Swap in the Church lobby is so popular that we have had to increase the number of bookshelves. Open every day 10 am till 4 pm. Thank you to everyone who drops books off, tidies the books up and lastly all the people who visit.

Sheila Vidler 07887368077

Langford Methodist Church

In October, an Eastern section Away Day was organised by our Minister Rev'd Leslie Noon, at Willington Methodist Church. The event was open to all who attend the seven churches within the circuit. The theme was 'Calm in the Storm'.

A good number attended and very much enjoyed the day, which included readings, prayer, group discussions, craft activities and fellowship. There are times when we may be anxious, worried or apprehensive, and it was good to focus on a bible verse that we could relate to and which could give us strength and reassurance. The storm will pass and there can be calm and peace once again.



Also, in October we held our annual prayer week. Paul Cooper led a special service to start the week. A prayer list is collated from prayer requests received and prayers take place every day during the week. It is a special week of prayer and focus, but prayer also takes place every Sunday and during the week, so if you, or anyone you know, would like us to pray for someone, or an event, then please do let us know.

We were very saddened to lose a key member of our Chapel in October. Beurran Richards was a member for many years and well known within the local community, having taught at the local school. So many of the younger generation in the village will remember her. A kind, caring lady, with a strong faith, a lovely smile and a calm



demeanour, who took on many roles within the chapel over the years. Steadfast and true and with a great concern for others. She would often ask how another member was and show interest and care for them, even when suffering with ill health and pain herself. And, with declining health and at almost 96 years old, Beurran was determined to attend chapel as often as she could. She also held a monthly prayer group at her home and liked to be involved. Beurran was much loved and will be greatly missed.

As we look towards Christmas and all the special celebrations that brighten up the colder, darker winter days, we can think about the bright star that lit up the sky above the stable where Jesus was born. The magnitude and greatness of the special event, which 2000 years later is still celebrated and

the story of the nativity passed down through generations. The miracle of the little baby, born in humble surroundings, that grew up to be a caring, loving man who spread good news, healed the sick and preached to love your neighbour as yourself. As we look towards Christmas we pray for peace throughout the world and a special time for all.

When we may feel a cloud is hanging over us and we may feel weary, we know that there is a light that keeps us going within our soul, and our faith helps us through the tough times to a brighter day. Many of us who attend Langford Methodist Church gain so much from attending a Sunday morning service. Not only are we listening to different preachers and hearing different readings from the bible, but we worship and praise together, which is very uplifting, and we pray together, which is so important. We have moments of quiet and reflection too. The sharing in faith and worship and prayer means a lot and we have made great friendships over the years. There is a real sense of community and fellowship within the church. All are welcome, why not come along and join us.



Rev'd Leslie Noon

If you would like further information about our Sunday Services or any of the events listed, or to receive a copy of the Methodist Church newsletter, or if you have a prayer request, please contact Jenny Broadbridge – Senior Steward.

Service Times

Second Sunday in the month – 10.30 am – Mission Group Service – led by our Minister Leslie Noon. These services will be rotated between some of the local churches that our Minister oversees, so they won't always be at Langford Chapel. All are welcome to attend.

1st, 3rd, 4th or 5th Sundays in the month – 10.30 am – Service at Langford Chapel.

Chapel Coffee Mornings

Wednesdays – 10.30 am – Langford Chapel.

Forthcoming Events

04/12/24 or 11/12/24 – Oasis Coffee Morning with Christmas music and mince pies.
15/12/24 – Christmas Carol Service 10.30 am
22/12/24 – Christmas Service 10.30 am led by Revd. Leslie Noon
22/12/24 – Village Carol Singing on the Leys – 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm. In aid of Action for Children.



We have been really busy since the last edition of the Langford Diary. We have attended numerous coffee mornings and fairs to chat with people about their energy concerns (It turns out that light bulbs are a thing that causes a lot of confusion). We have also done numerous home visits to help with heating settings and advice on draft proofing and other ways to maximise warmth for minimal cost as well as advice on damp, grants, solar panels, heat pumps and EVs. If we can help, please get in touch. We are all qualified Energy Champions and all have DBSs. We cover Langford and most of eastern Bedfordshire, from Sandy to Stotfold and beyond. We are supported by Central Bedfordshire Council and other organisations.

What is Community Energy?

Community Energy focuses on two main areas: **Powering Down** and **Powering Up**.

Powering Down We provide free advice to help you stay warm whilst saving money. Our service is independent of any suppliers. Our qualified Energy Champions can assist with:

- Efficient home heating using existing systems
- Reducing draughts
- Insulation improvements
- Managing damp issues
- Understanding energy bills
- Support for those at risk of fuel poverty
- Exploring renewable technologies
- Information on available grants for tenants, landlords, and homeowners
- And more!

Powering Up We now have several community solar projects in the early stages of investigation. More on that in future editions.

If you are interested in any of the above services, would like more information, or wish to join us, please contact us at:

info@riverivelcommunityenergy.com

<https://riverivelcommunityenergy.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563347417656>

Ro Jackso



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Bedfordshire
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Working in partnership



Ro Jackson

Langford Businesses Opening Times

PHARMACY

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

SUNDAY
MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY

THE PLOUGH

12.00am - 11.00pm
3.00pm - 11.00pm
3.00pm - 11.00pm
3.00pm - 11.00pm
3.00pm - 11.00pm
12.00pm - 1.00am
12.00pm - 2.00am

POST OFFICE STORES

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

SUNDAY	CLOSED
MONDAY	9.00am - 6.00pm
TUESDAY	9.00am - 6.00pm
WEDNESDAY	9.00am - 6.00pm
THURSDAY	9.00am - 6.00pm
FRIDAY	9.00am - 6.00pm
SATURDAY	9.00am - 1.30pm

LANGFORD VILLAGE STORE

SUNDAY	7.00am - 8.00pm
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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For more information - please contact
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Clerk for Langford Parish Council
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clerk@langford-pc.gov.uk

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Langford Friends have had a busy time. We currently have forty-four volunteers who support the service that we offer to eighty-three clients. The services that we offer are transport to and from medical appointments and social events, help with form filling and blue-badge applications, shopping, collecting prescriptions and a handyman service. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer a service to children.

We held our annual tea party for clients and volunteers in August. Over fifty people attended and enjoyed an excellent afternoon tea at The Watering Can Café at Cherry Lane Garden centre. Thanks to all the staff there for fantastic food and service. It was a sociable event, giving everyone the opportunity to catch up with old friends and to make new ones.

We held a volunteers' forum in September, giving our volunteers and phone-holders a chance to look at the service we offer, to update them on any new initiatives and to take suggestions from them as to ways we could improve the service that we offer.

We always welcome new clients and volunteers. I became involved after needing the service when I broke my wrist and was unable to drive. One of our volunteers took me to the fracture clinic at the Lister Hospital. From that I became involved, initially as a phone-holder and later a committee member and chair for the last year. I thoroughly enjoy my involvement and know that the service we offer to Langford residents is envied by others who live in areas where there is no similar scheme.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or if you require our services, please contact us on 07844 046741.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our clients and volunteers a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We look forward to our service continuing to offer support in 2025.

Pauline Williams (Chair).



Langford Lollipops baby and toddler group

Every Tuesday

1.30 til 3pm

Langford village hall

Birth to school age



Everyone welcome



Tea and snacks included



Ends with rhyme time



under 6 months

50p

1 Adult & 1 child

£3.50

Extra Adult/Child

£1.00



Ivy Leaf Club

I cannot quite believe that this year is coming to an end! Thank you to all of our members and supporters for your custom this year.

To end the year we have the amazing **Fishing for Robots returning on Saturday 21st December - always a fun night, dancing to their 80' electro pop.** £4 non members on the door.

We will then have our usual **Christmas and NewYear's Eve discos.**

We have started planning our 2025 entertainment programme which will be advertised very soon.

Our Lunch Club/warm space continues to be popular. This is a weekly event for over 55's on a Thursday from 1-3 pm. Come along and meet new people and enjoy food and unlimited tea and coffee for a voluntary donation.

Remember all football, and other sports fixtures, are shown on our large HD TV screens. We also offer the cheapest pints around!

Our lounge bar can also be booked for most private functions for a nominal charge.

If you are new to the village, pop in and say hello!

Julie Devereux - Chairperson.

Time's Immeasurable Pulse

A poem by Michael Rutt published in 1981 from a collection called Time's Immeasurable Pulse

An untitled poem (number 4 of 16) about farm work in February – probably in the 1950's. Reproduced here with kind permission of Jonathan Rutt.

They came in February, the threshing men,
buffeting ★ against the fretting cold,
looking for a pitchfork,
full of bacon and wintry talk,
with breath like Norway fog.

Albert swore and Caleb cursed
because the coal was wet and slack;
they couldn't fit the main belt back;
eight o'clock and nothing threshed
but the rick sheet's off and folded flat,
the Moggerhanger Men★ are lifted out

and expectations moves among them
as it did when summer jokes
brought in the sheaves that wait today.

At ten o'clock the first stack's lower,
the 'chining* rate is shut to slow
and Mark and Ted call 'baver' now.

They huddle in the onion loft,
seek shelter from the shriving wind
and talk in gusts of who has sinned,
or who gave birth,
of whose departing they remember
and how the old horse broke its girth;
and speculate on fools at law,
on wills and rents and paying the poor;
well chewed over in bread and cheese,
and all washed down in bottled tea;
on what is now and what's to be.

They went for home at half-past four,
sheaves transformed for grainy bread;
left scattered debris, straw and chaff,
a cold engine and a splintered laugh
at nests of dead pink rats,
whose home they heartlessly destroyed
and made a meal for Tithe Farm cats.

But also there in that late winter dusk
something hinted at Bermuda air,
and not one doubted he would see
another harvest brought to barn
and yellow August come to them –
and me.

Notes of Bedfordshire dialect words:

Buffeting: swings the arms across body to keep warm

Moggerhanger Men: wooden props to put against a wheat stack to stop it falling over
as it settles – usually a sign that the stack was badly built.

'chining: the steam traction engine was called the 'chine, pronounced "sheen".
The whole process was called 'chining.

Baver: pronounced with a long "a", lunch taken to work and eaten about ten o'clock.

John R Ford

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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



Central Bedfordshire Council VCS Grant in 2023 and 2024



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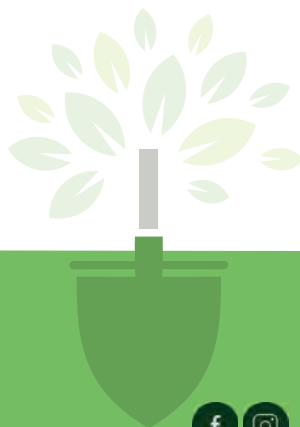
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Langford Owlets pre-school

Langford Cricket Club



End of Season Update

I hope you are all reading this following a month or so of dry weather, allowing everything to dry up and recover. We can hope!

As we approach Christmas, it's a good time to both review last season, and look forward to next summer. Whatever the weather brings!

Langford's 2024 season was over shadowed by rain, more rain and several monsoons. When we could play cricket, we saw the youth section do well, with games for the U9's, U11's and U15's. We really struggled with U13's this year, so if you know any budding cricketers at U13 or U15 age groups, we would be happy to have you.

Youth coaching continued a pace; taking over the playing fields on a Thursday evening with often over 30 youngsters aged between 7 and 13 years old. The future of Cricket in Langford looks in good hands!

The Sunday Langford 1st XI finished the season strongly in Division 4, Langford finished 2nd in the league, and secured promotion. Division 3, here we come!

The Saturday Development team strengthened again this season, and welcomed progressing youths from the U15's, more new arrivals getting back into cricket and some new starters trying cricket for the first time. The team were extremely competitive and finished 3rd in Division 3, winning 7 and only losing 5.

For the eagle eyed among you, you may have noticed that we have upgraded the nets on the playing fields. This was much needed, as the old nets were showing their age, with nets starting to break, and increasing the chance of balls flying through. This was obviously a safety risk.



With Huge thanks to Tarmac via their Landfill Communities fund, and with further support from our Club sponsor Harrison's Accountancy, we were lucky to cover all the costs through the Landfill Communities Grant scheme!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Allstars will run again this year for 8 sessions on Saturday mornings, from May onwards. Registration for the Allstars begins in March via the ECB portal.

Indoor nets starts on the 27th Feb at Stratton Leisure, Youth training starts at 7pm (this is hard ball training, so for U13 and upwards) Adult training at 8pm.

Thank you to our main Sponsor Harrison's Accountancy for their continued support.



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 Tennis Club

Throughout the summer, we held a tournament where 33 competitive matches were played over ladies' and mens' singles and doubles, and mixed doubles. This culminated in a Grand Finals Day on Saturday 14th September. It was a lovely sunny, warm day and we had over 8 hours of very entertaining tennis with lunch and friends and family cheering on the players. Thanks to Kevin Howell, Jo Jaggard and Andrew Fox for organising the event. The victorious players were Kira Oestreicher (Ladies' singles), Fergus Morrison (Men's singles), Lisa and Kira Oestreicher (Ladies' doubles), Aidan Grieves and Nathan Hodge (Men's doubles) and Caroline Bowers and Jon Dawes (Mixed doubles).



Lee Shambrook and Fergus Morrison



Nicole Chen and Kira Oestreicher



Nicky Chung, Clare Warren, Lisa & Kira Oestreicher



Aidan Grieves, Nathan Hodge,
Fergus Morrison and Gareth Dowrick



Jon Dawes, Caroline Bowers, Vicky Chung and Chris Markwick

In October, some of our members tried their hands at real tennis at Hatfield House. It is very different from lawn tennis in that the rackets and balls are different, you play off the roof and walls and the scoring system seemed extremely complicated to the uninitiated! We were ably taught by one of our tennis club members, Jon Dawes, who is a professional real tennis coach. We are hoping to have another visit soon.

Some of our members at the real tennis court in Hatfield

Our regular coaching sessions continue to run. If you are interested in any form of coaching, please get in touch directly with Sharna to discuss your requirements on 07305 687853 or sharna@ace-active.co.uk

Details of our social sessions on Wednesdays and Saturdays are available on the Langford Weekly and Regular Meetings page in the Diary. If you would like to join in, and become a member, 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 our new **ClubSpark Website** <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/LangfordTennisClub>

Vicky Chung (Membership Secretary)

Some of our members at the real tennis court in Hatfield





Langford Bowls Club

Winter 2024/2025

Summer came and went, and we barely noticed, seems unpredictable weather patterns are to become the norm. Although the weather was very fickle it didn't stop the club from enjoying the outdoor season. The club played 17 Wednesday Triples matches during the summer, winning 11 out of the 17, so congratulations to all those that played. In addition to the Wednesday Triples, twenty-two friendly matches were played over the summer, resulting in an overall draw, winning 11 and losing 11.

Away and Home matches were again contested against the Northampton Retired Police Bowls club, these are always fun matches played in the best of spirits, we lost again but we are getting closer to winning a match! Only going down by 7 shots this year. A repeat of the home and away matches is anticipated for 2025.

In the East Beds League, the A team had a bit of a struggle this year, however they again managed to avoid relegation and remain in Division 3. Unfortunately, the B team were not as fortunate and have been relegated, they return to Division 4 after only one season in Division 3.

The internal club competitions have been completed and the results are listed below. Congratulations to all.

Langford Bowls Club 2024 Competitions Winners

- **Mixed 2 Woods** **Steve Bilcock**
- **Mixed 4 Woods** **Peter Holmes**
- **Mixed 4 Woods Handicap** **Steve Bilcock**
- **Partner Pairs** **Jim Rix & Dave Laight**
- **Drawn Pairs** **Barrie Crane & Derek Harding**
- **Don King** **Taff Roberts, Bob King & Richard Blossom**
- **Milton Cup** **Eileen Ede & Keeley Appleby**
- **Drawn Pairs League, won by the Seagulls, Geoff Bell & Barrie Crane**

The club will be holding its awards presentation evening in the village hall on Saturday the 9th of November.

The Club will continue with indoor Short Mat Bowls over the winter period, this is played on a Wednesday afternoon in the club house at 1.30 pm, all are welcome, if you have never played bowls before this is a good introduction to this fun game, so just turn up, you will be made most welcome.

Have a lovely Christmas, stay safe, and see you in 2025.

James Rix - Chairman



Langford Football Club

The season is in full flow and all our teams are enjoying their football. Our First Team has started brightly with 15 league games played. We lie 8th in the league. Our home fixtures can be found on the notice board and various locations around the village. Our Ladies are in transition and showing signs of improvement. We seek to put a winning run together and move up the table. Langford Ivel, however, has had the perfect start with 6 wins from 6 games which puts them top of their league. There is still a way to go so we are not getting carried away.



On the 20th December we are holding our Annual Christmas Draw with Bingo. See our poster above.

As we look forward to the second half of the season we would like to wish everyone A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

Paul Vince - Chair Langford Football Club

Advertising in The Langford Diary

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For more information - please contact

Sarah Gallagher

Clerk for Langford Parish Council

07482 276173

clerk@langford-pc.gov.uk

PLEASE NOTE - IMPORTANT

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

Submission Dates 2025

Summer Edition - 22nd April - 2025

Autumn Edition - 22nd July 2025

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
trudylangforddiary@gmail.com and steve.alh.hills@btinternet.com**

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