

The LANGFORD Diary

The Parish Council Publication for YOU the Residents of Langford

SPRING 2026

Editor: Trudy Emery
Contact: trudylangforddiary@gmail.com

Edition 231

Celebrating



A Letter from the Editor

Well, it has certainly been a cold winter so far. I have just returned from a bracing walk through the village and I am so pleased to see the snowdrops, crocus and daffodils starting to emerge from their hibernation. I will look forward to the snowdrops at Henlow Grange which are enjoyed from Henlow Lakes walk. Unfortunately, the enjoyment is certainly marred by the few drivers who think the green verges on our roadsides are for their convenience to park. There are more pleas for volunteers in this edition. There is the Litterpick on Saturday March 28th from 9:30am to 11:30am. We meet at St. Andrews Church carpark and litter picker tools and bags will be provided. Accompanied children usually love the event! Why not come along. The Summer Village Fete is set for Saturday July 11th when plenty of helpers are needed to make the day a fun day for our children and adults alike.

This year we are asking for more volunteers for Langford Friends. 25 years ago, Jean Williams, Val Henley and Julie Larman founded this village asset. We will certainly be celebrating this anniversary. see pages 29 and 30.

Enjoy the springtime, and please think twice about where you park your beloved car!!

Trudy Emery

trudylangforddiary@gmail.com

Langford Walking Group

The walking group continues to be a very popular village activity and we all benefit from the positive effect this has on our health. We are regularly 20-30 strong and it's great to welcome new walkers - whether they're new to the village or just new to walking. Most walks take about an hour and a half, are generally not challenging and are always followed by coffee.

We walk locally most weeks but on the first Tuesday of every month we venture out of Langford!

We've recently discovered Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve which, if you haven't been, is definitely worth a try. It's not far from here, walking is not a challenge, there are some spectacular views and more importantly they have a Café! Our December walk was to Fairland's Valley Park in Stevenage, which is a really good local amenity and, not wishing to sound as if we are motivated solely by food and drink, the Café does a mean bacon butty!

In December we arranged a Christmas lunch at Mount Pleasant (formerly the golf course) in Lower Stondon, having enjoyed a Christmas afternoon tea there in 2024. It's a lovely space and was a thoroughly enjoyable and tasty meal.

We're looking forward to some drier weather to enable us to vary the weekly walks and enjoy some al fresco coffees.

If you'd like to join us we meet every Tuesday (except the first Tuesday on the month) at 10am at Chapel Hill Bridge.

A Cold Walk at Clophill Lakes in January



What's On in Langford in the Spring!

March

- 3 Gardening Club** - Plant Propagation - Martin Roberts - 7.45pm - Church Hall
- 4 History Society** - A history of Bedfordshire Hedgerows - Stephen Coleman - Church Hall - 8.00pm - Refreshments from 7.45pm
- 5 Parish Council Meeting** - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 13 WI** - Ex Met Police - Anita Carter - Village Hall - 7.15pm
- 26 Langford Space to Talk** - St. Andrew's Church - 7.15pm - 8.45pm
- 28 Community Litter Pick** - 9.30am - 11.30am - Meet at St. Andrew's Church Hall - Litter pickers provided
- 31 Cuppa and Chat** - St. Andrew's Church - 10.00am - 12 noon

April

- 1 History Society** - Weather is here, wish you were lovely - Paul Jiggins - Church Hall - 8.00pm - Refreshments from 7.30pm
- 2 Parish Council Meeting** - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 7 Gardening Club** - History of Beekeeping - Sue Lang - Church Hall - 7.45pm
- 17 WI** - Annual Meeting at St Andrew's Church Hall at 7.15 pm. tel 07757 043760 for information
- 22 Gift Day Coffee Morning** - Methodist Chapel
- 28 Cuppa and Chat** - St. Andrew's Church - 10.00am - 12 noon
- 30 Langford Space to Talk** - Church Hall - 7.15pm - 8.45pm

May

- 5 Gardening Club** - Moths of an English Country Garden - Andy Harding - Church Hall - 7.45pm
- 6 History Society** - The Rise and Fall of R101 Airship - Nick Cooke - Church Hall - 8.00pm - Refreshments 8.00pm
- 7 Parish Council Meeting** - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 8 WI** - 30 Years in Woburn Auction Rooms - Evan Wilson
- 17 Garage Sale Trail** - 10.00am - 2.00pm - see facebook for more info
- 26 Cuppa and Chat** - St. Andrew's Church - 10.00am - 12 noon
- 28 Langford Space to Talk** - Church Hall - 7.15pm - 8.45pm

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.

Monday-Friday

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

Sunday

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

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

Please see page 26 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

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

Move with Hannah 6.45pm – 7.30pm Beatzdance – 7.30pm–8.15pm Pilates

07575 393997 hannah@wellbeing-room.co.uk

Tuesday

Langford Lollipops Toddler Group 9.30am–11.00am Village Hall –

See Facebook page Langford Lollipops Toddler Group

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 £6.00 PAYG including tea/coffee at St. Andrew's Church Hall – Contact Hannah

info.imaginationarts@yahoo.com or 07394 934911

2nd Langford Rainbows – term time from 5.00pm – 6.00pm, Church Hall,

contact Danielle on 07866 395739

2nd Langford Brownies – 6.15pm – 7.30pm, Church Hall except 1st Tuesday of Month 6.00pm – 7.00pm – 07976 534423 following Rainbows

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

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 26 for details of future arrangements

Gentle Fitness Classes – 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

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

Move with Hannah Body Sculpture 9.45am-10.30am Pilates 10.30am-11.15am
07575 393997 hannah@wellbeing-room.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

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.lta.org.uk/LangfordTennisClub>

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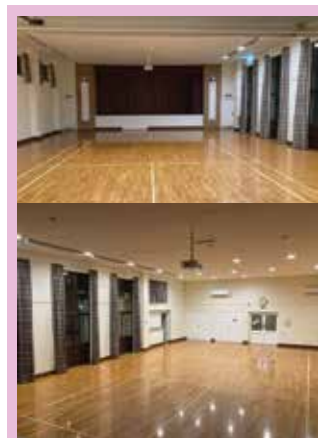
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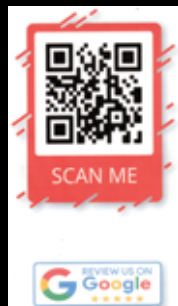
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1st Langford Scout Group

2026 is a year of celebration across the Scout Groups of the country as we celebrate birthdays for the three youngest sections – Squirrels have been running for 5 years, Beavers for 40 and Cubs for 110! Various events are planned locally and we hope it will be a great year for all our young members.

We have kicked off our New Year with our new Thursday Beaver colony – hopefully by the time this edition comes out we will have found a more exciting name for this section, and it will be going strong.



The Spring term is a tricky one

for activities as it's generally wet and unpleasant outside but we do have some great experiences planned – the Squirrels are going bowling at RAF Henlow, the Beavers have a sleepover booked at ClimbQuest in MK and the Cubs and Scouts will have their annual Activity Weekend where we stay in indoor accommodation and pack the programme with as many adrenaline rush

activities as we can – this year zipwire, indoor caving and crate stacking are on the menu.

Since the last edition of the Diary, we have attended the village Act of Remembrance and once again our young



people made us so proud of their behaviour and how smart they looked. The Beavers had a sleepover at Wymondley Woods and the Cubs spent the night at Shepreth Wild Animal Park. Several of our young people helped plant trees in the new tiny forest and we provided a collection point for the local initiative Community Spirit's Christmas gifts drive. The Llama cubs visited a fire station, the Scouts learned to sew on their own badges, Falcon Cub Charlie retained his title as best Rifle shooter in the District and the pack claimed the overall team title as well for the first time!





We really enjoyed being part of the village Christmas Lights switch on, and were really glad we chose an activity with fires since the night was bitterly cold! Our DIY s'mores sold out and gave a boost to the fundraiser we're running for an extra special camp. Thanks to everyone who took part and to Becky, Jenny and Dan for manning the stall.

We report our numbers of youth members to The Scout Association every January, and once again this year we have seen an increase with almost 120 youngsters taking part, 12 Young Leaders and 25 adults volunteers in leader or trustee roles. It is so wonderful to see the Group grow in this way, with the support of all our volunteers, and the enthusiasm of the young people and their parents.

Squirrels are age 4-6 and meet Mondays 5-6, Beavers are age 6-8 and meet on Tuesdays 5.45-6.45 and now also on Thursdays 5-6, 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.

We are taking applications to the Waiting List for all sections - please get your child on the list as early as possible - contact me for more information. We always welcome adult volunteers, for as much or as little time as you can spare, so please get in touch. Yours in Scouting,

Jo Smith, Lead Volunteer

Jo.smith@langfordscouts.org.uk

Our annual fundraiser – the Garage Sale Trail – will take place on Sunday 17th May 10am-2pm – details will be on Facebook or email me for more information



Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

1st Langford Rainbows

Last term at Rainbows, we completed a Skill Builder badge from the Know Myself theme which included learning about the different places in our community, asking interesting questions and designing our own flags. We had a spooky night where we made masks, plus we made clay pots for Diwali. We took part in the Christmas tree festival at the church, making snowmen paper chains, and we joined our annual Christmas Show at the Village Hall with some Christmas songs. This term, we are completing a Skill Builder from the Skills for my Future theme where we will be learning about different tools, making fajitas and learning about safely crossing a road. We have already had a lady from the Guide Dogs visit with her working dog, Arthur, so the girls asked lots of questions about what it is to be blind and how Arthur helps. We made a big donation to their charity. We are looking forward to an Easter egg hunt and making some Valentines' cookies, plus attending our District Thinking Day activity day.

2nd Langford Rainbows

In the Autumn term, we did our Lead Stage 2 Skill Builder badge where we did a dance challenge, practised leading each other around an obstacle course and designed our own zoo. We decorated brownies and gingerbread men, and we visited Asda to complete supermarket bingo where we



bought lots of items for the food bank. We decorated Christmas tree baubles for the Church's Christmas tree festival and sang songs at our Christmas Show for the parents. This term, we are completing a Skill Builder badge about innovation where we will be creating edible architecture, doing some dancing and learning how to mime. We are looking forward to decorating pancakes, having an Easter fun week, having the Guide Dogs visit us and going to Thinking Day.

1st Langford Brownies

Last term, we did our Innovate Stage 2 badge where we experimented to find the best shape sail for a sailboat and invented our own businesses. We had a spooky wide game where we did apple bobbing and treasure hunting for sweets, and we had a pyjama spa night. We finished the term with a red carpet party. We made baubles for the Christmas tree festival at the Church and we did 'Brownies Got Talent' at our Christmas Show. This term we have already had the Guide Dogs visit us and creating our own birthday bunting for our display board. We will be making fajitas, having an easter egg hunt and going to Thinking Day. We are also looking forward to a sleepover at Clip and Climb in Cambridge after Easter.



2nd Langford Guides

We opened our brand new unit in September and we have already grown to 20 girls which is amazing! We kicked off the term with creating our own unit guidelines, going to do some rifle shooting at Boyd Field and pumpkin carving. We made s'mores, had sparklers and completed our Network Stage 4 Skill Builder badge where we created bucket lists, learned about teamwork skills and made lots of things out of newspaper. We had a pyjama night where we did each other's hair, make up and nails, plus we had a red carpet night at the end of term with Oscar style awards given out. We went pottery painting at the Krafty Shed where we painted our own baubles, we made paper baubles using tissue paper for the Church Christmas tree festival and we made our own sketches for the Christmas Show, as well as running our own stalls to raise money. This term we have already done a Big Fat Quiz of 2025, started creating vision boards and had the Guide Dogs visit us. We are having a Valentines Disco with chocolate fondue, we will be completing a Communicate Skill Builder Badge to learn some sign language and the phonetic alphabet and going to Thinking Day. We are also planning a sleepover in London and a residential over the summer.

All the units marched in the Remembrance parade in the village and we went to the cinema to see Zootropolis 2 in December. We also took part in a Rugby Session at Biggleswade Rugby Club where we learned how to pass and kick the ball, and we attended an activity session at the Church where we learned about creation. Our units are very full at the moment so we recommend registering early through the Girlguiding website. We have a really great team of leaders, unit helpers and young leaders but we always welcome more volunteers! You can also register through the Girlguiding website - www.girlguiding.org.uk



Ivy Leaf Club



We are continuing to hold monthly entertainment nights - all events will be advertised on our FB page so keep a look out! I am attaching our banner showing all events for this year. This will also be displayed outside the club and on Church Street near the playing field.

We have the amazing Uche (soul and swing) on 28th March; Drunk and Disorderly (pop from 60's to present) on 25th April and Fishing for Robots (80's electro pop) on 30th May.

All football fixtures, and other sporting events, are shown in our large HD televisions in both the bar and lounge. As the weather gets warmer we will also have an outside TV.

Our lunch club/warm space for the over 55's continues to be popular each Thursday from 1pm. It is a very welcoming friendly space so do pop down - a hot meal and unlimited tea and coffee are available for a donation.

Our lounge bar can also be hired for most private functions for a nominal fee.

Memberships are now due and new members are always welcome. We still offer the cheapest "pint" around with all draught beer being less than £5 a pint!

Please feel free to pop in and say hello! **New members always welcome.**

Julie Devereux - Chairperson

Langford Village Academy

Starting 2026 off with a Bang!

The new year has only just begun, but our pupils have already filled the school with energy, curiosity, and some truly unforgettable experiences.

Reception and KS1 blasted into January with an exciting WOW Day to launch their new topic on Space. From imaginative roleplay to hands-on discovery, the children spent the day exploring planets, rockets, and the wonders of the universe – a brilliant start to their learning journey this term.

Our Year 6 pupils enjoyed an extraordinary opportunity in January, as they travelled to the O2 Arena to take part in Young Voices. Singing alongside thousands of other children, they represented the school with enthusiasm and pride. It was a magical experience that will stay with them for years to come.

Looking ahead, Years 5 and 6 are eagerly anticipating their March visit to Warner Bros. Studios. This trip will build on their reading of Harry Potter, giving them a chance to step behind the scenes and explore the filmmaking secrets that brought the stories to life. Meanwhile, Year 2 are counting down the days until their exciting visit from the local fire brigade. The crew will be teaching the children about fire safety, equipment, and the important role our emergency services play in the community.

And finally, don't forget to mark your calendars – our Summer Fayre is coming up in May! More details will follow, but we're already looking forward to a fun-filled event for families and the whole community.



Langford History Society

About us:

Are you interested in history? Would you like to find out more about the area? Although initially founded as a Langford group, we now have members from the surrounding area - including Biggleswade, Upper Caldecote, Clifton, Henlow, Sandy and Stotfold. 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 and a Summer Social in July; and our June meeting will be a visit to a local place of interest. For our 'speaker meetings' visitors pay £5 at the door; our annual membership fee (February to December) is currently £5, plus £3 at the door - however, prices for our summer visit or other special events may vary and are detailed on our website.

Our next meeting(s):

Following the December Christmas Social and our AGM in February, we look forward to restarting our regular programme of Speaker Meetings in the Church Hall. On Wednesday 4th March, Stephen Coleman will be presenting "A History of Bedfordshire Hedgerows" - this talk focusses on the creation of hedgerows in the county over the last 2000 years and shows that today's field patterns are not entirely a product of the last 200 years but the result of medieval assarting, piecemeal enclosure of common fields by private agreement from the later 14th century and in some places parliamentary enclosure of the 18th and 19th centuries imposing a rectilinear field pattern on the landscape. Documentary records also provide a glimpse of hedgerow maintenance and allow us to recognise their economic and practical value, especially their trees, often the subject of detailed surveys.

On Wednesday 1st April, Paul Jiggins will be taking a whimsical look at the history of picture postcards in his illustrated talk "Weather is here, wish you were lovely".

On Wednesday 6th May, in another Cardington-themed evening, Nick Cooke will be telling us about "The Rise and Fall of the R101 Airship". This presentation covers the period prior to the R101 airship, Nick's family's involvement with the Royal Airship Works and Short Brothers and some of the details of the airship. The crash site in France is discussed and what remains of the Airship Works today.

Find out more:

Please look on our website if you would like to find out more about the history society:
www.langfordhistorysociety.org.uk

The website is updated regularly and there you should find details of our meetings and events, news items and membership. 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.

Perhaps you have recently moved here and would like to discover a bit more about the village? 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.

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Monday: 6.45pm Beatz dance & 7.30pm Pilates Friday: 9.45am BodySculpt & 10.30 Pilates

Are you looking for a way to move more, feel better, and enjoy some time just for you? WELL welcome to Move with Hannah as part of The Wellbeing room which offers friendly, welcoming wellbeing classes designed for everyone – regardless of age, fitness level, experience, or confidence. Whether you're completely new to movement or simply looking for something uplifting and enjoyable, you'll find a warm welcome here. And the best bit... they are right here on our doorstep!

My classes are built on one simple belief: wellbeing should be accessible, fun, and inclusive. There is no pressure to be "fit", flexible, or experienced. You don't need special equipment, fancy outfits, or prior knowledge – just a willingness to show up and take part in a way that feels right for you.

Every session is fully adaptable, and I offer options throughout so you can move at your own pace and listen to your body.

These classes are relaxed, supportive, and often filled with laughter. Classes are a chance to step away from daily stresses, reconnect with yourself, and enjoy being part of something positive and encouraging. Each class offers something a little different while remaining welcoming, fun, and suitable for all abilities.

Beatz Dance is an upbeat, feel-good class set to great music (think spice girls and girls aloud!), focusing on simple, easy-to-follow routines that boost mood, coordination, and confidence – no dance experience required, just a love of moving and having fun.

Sculpt is a low-impact, strength-based class designed to gently tone and build strength using controlled movements and bands, helping to improve posture, balance, and overall body confidence, with plenty of options to suit every level- trust me those thighs will 100% know about it the next day!

Pilates focuses on core strength, mobility, and flexibility, supporting better posture and everyday movement while promoting relaxation and body awareness. We target core control, imperative as we age and preventing falls.

If you're curious, the best way to find out is simply to give it a go. Booking is easy, and new faces are always welcome. Whether you come alone or bring a friend, you'll be joining a supportive local community that believes wellbeing should be enjoyable, not daunting.

Spaces are limited, so booking is encouraged to avoid disappointment. Treat yourself to something that supports your health, happiness, and confidence – I would just love to welcome you. For class details and bookings, please get in touch or follow The Wellbeing with Hannah locally. Your wellbeing journey could start with just one class. 07575 393997

Langford Women's Institute



By the time you read this update, hopefully we will be enjoying spring weather and all the nice things that can come with it.

At our October meeting, Diara Blain talked to our group about Ukrainian Christmas and Easter traditions. Looking resplendent, dressed in traditional Ukrainian costume, Diara showed us beautifully decorated eggs and embroidered tablecloths, giving us a fascinating insight into these customs.



In November, Colin Hill, a retired Metropolitan Police officer, gave an amusing talk about his time in the police force. This was his second visit and once again he entertained us with some incredible stories drawn from his long and varied career.



Our President, Janice, was due to lay a WI wreath at the Langford memorial on Remembrance Day, but unfortunately had a fall; thankfully she is okay and her damaged shoulder is recovering well. Our thanks to Maureen Edwards for stepping in at the last minute.



The Festive Season was a busy time for us. We joined in the fun at the Village 'Christmas Tree Light Up' activities by running a stall with competitions to guess the weight of the cake, number of sweets in the jar and name the reindeer. It was good to see so many families enjoying themselves.



At the beginning of December we held our Christmas lunch at The Five Bells in Henlow. Twenty-six members tucked into a lovely meal with all the trimmings, which was enjoyed by everyone and provided a perfect opportunity to relax and socialise at the end of a busy year.

The WI monthly meeting at the Village Hall was our annual Christmas Party, hosted by Committee members. A variety of festive food was

provided by Committee members and we were entertained by Robin's Ukulele Players from Clifton. Everyone enjoyed singing along to a variety of Christmas songs and carols.

Our busy month was rounded off perfectly by the Christmas Tree Festival at St Andrew's Church followed by Carol Singing accompanied by the Bedford Brass Band. The WI tree was beautifully decorated by Beryl Piper and our 'starry themed' tree was enhanced with a fantastic knitted nativity by Stephanie Barker. Well done to Langford Lower school and Owlets - votes for their trees attained the top three places.

Our WI has also enjoyed several social activities including games afternoons once a month in the Church Hall, Tenpin bowling at RAF Henlow and meals at the Spice Lounge and Pera Kitchen in Biggleswade

If you think you might be interested in joining the WI or coming along as a visitor, please contact our secretary: Zoe Lloyd on 07757 043760 - you would be very welcome.

Maureen Deftereos





Our winter programme got off to a good start with our quiz night in December. We sold out, with a full village hall and a good time was had by all.

The Club also had great fun decorating our entry for the Christmas tree festival at the church. Our theme this year was garden birds and we all enjoyed creating our decorations.

At the start of 2026 we had some fascinating talks on how to make our gardens bird friendly and about Wassledine farm in Gravenhurst.

Now the winter is over, it's a good time to start planning for the upcoming gardening year. A really great place to start is learning how to increase your plant stock. In March, Martin Roberts will be presenting a talk on 'Plant propagation'. He has been in horticulture for over 40 years; in his own land scaping business and as head gardener for private properties. He was the co-creator of Abbey House Gardens in Malmesbury in Wiltshire. It boasts over 12500 different types of plants and was the largest private collection in Europe.

In April, Sue Lang will be giving a talk on 'The History of Beekeeping'.

Sue and her husband Danny started keeping bees in 2006, and although they had over 30 hives in their care in 2009, now a much more manageable number of around 8 hives. They sell their honey at local country shows.

And in May, Andy Harding will be presenting 'Moths of an English country garden'. Andy is a part-time professional naturalist. He has been able to spend time doing voluntary work on the natural history/conservation front, including 30 years as Buckinghamshire Bird Recorder.

He has led nearly 60 tours overseas talks in the last 25 years primarily concerned with birds and butterflies. He has been studying moths from his back garden for around 8 years and hopefully if weather conditions permit will be bringing along some live moths when he does the talk.

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 Spring' section of the Langford Diary, or the following:

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1043776940696454>

Email:

Langford.gardening.club@gmail.com

Nextdoor:

www.nextdoor.co.uk/g/6sfdcv4qc/?is=nav_bar

Details are also on the noticeboard near Pound Close in Langford.





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Langford Parish Council

There has been positive feedback concerning the Christmas lights on lampposts and on the village Christmas tree. The Parish Council has decided to invest in additional Christmas lights during the coming months ready for installation next December.

With assistance from residents of all ages some members of the Parish Council in December planted 500 small trees in the cemetery. These were provided together with some additional funding by the Forest of Marston Vale Trust. Further investment is planned to improve the environment at the cemetery.

Looking forward the Parish Council will be funding some improvements at the playing field which will include measures to deter unwanted vehicles on the playing field. Several new trees were planted in November, the ditch behind the Village Hall was dredged and with the help of the Ivel Drainage Board some dead trees were removed in the same location.

The Parish Council has welcomed the planning applications for new Tennis and Bowls Club buildings which will replace two very old buildings.

Residents tell us that dog fouling on the playing field and street pavements continues to be a problem. We know this is a disgusting and a niggling problem in every parish. We have no solution.

We will be organising a litter picking event on Saturday 28th March at 9:30am at the Church Hall. We expect to see many of our regular litter picking volunteers. We would welcome some new faces too.

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

Lorraine Kalaher

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

01767 227869

Parish Councillors

Mick Beazley

01767 223849

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

Barb Hammond

07890 153155

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

Julian Vaughan

07593 091378

7 Cambridge Way, Langford SG18 9SG
julianvaughan@langford-pc.gov.uk

Zoe Stacey

07854 088067

15 Garfield, Langford SG18 9NG
zoestacey@langford-pc.gov.uk

Paul Slack

07590 024811

4 The Fields, Langford SG18 9QX
paulslack@langford-pc.gov.uk

James Van Hinsbergh

jamesvanhinsbergh@langford-pc.gov.uk

David Williams

01462 700474

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

Jane Wright

01767 601789

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

Henry Hewitt

07747 532002

7 Ewbank Corner, Langford SG18 9FF
henryhewitt@langford-pc.gov.uk

Andrew McArthur

01462 700124

andrewmcarthur@langford-pc.gov.uk

Drew Richardson

0300 3008550

8 Blackbird Gardens SG18 9RD
drew.richardson@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 March, 2026 - 7.30pm
Thursday, 2nd April, 2026 - 7.30pm
Thursday, 7th May, 2026 - 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	Out of Hours Contact Numbers	
Police Non emergency	101	Housing Repairs and Noise	0300 300 8098
Emergency Services		Highways	0300 300 8049
Gas	0800 111 999	Dangerous Structures	0300 300 8098
Electricity	0800 072 7282	Social Services	0300 300 8123
Power Cuts	105	Customer Services	0300 300 8000
or text 80876 POWER & postcode		NHS	111
priority services for people in need		Citizen Advice Bureau	0808 223 1133
www.ofgem.gov.uk		Samaritans	116 123
Water	0800 169 3630		0330 0945717
National Floodline	0345 988 11 88	Childline	0800 1111
(24 hour service)			www.childline.org.uk
Langford Surgery	01767 316346	Silverline	0800 470 8090
Ivel Medical Centre	01767 312441	MIND	0300 330 0648
Langford Pharmacy	01462 701518	BBC Action Line	
Langford Village Academy	01462 629000		www.bbc.co.uk/actionline
Central Beds Council	0300 300 8301	Domestic Violence	0808 2000 247
Langford Friends	07884 046741	Food Bank at Biggleswade Baptist Church	
		www.bbchurch.org.uk	01767 312667
		Langford Welfare trust	01462 700650
Church Hall Bookings	07958 599308	Papyrus Hopeline Uk	0800 068 4141

St. Andrew's Church

The start of 2026 brought a realisation that it had been a decade since 2016. It might feel to some of us like it all happened yesterday, but thanks to social media, one of the ways in which we have welcomed 2026 is by looking 10 years into the past.

But what do you remember about that year? 2016 was a year for memorable trends and challenges. Which of these might you remember?



The Mannequin Challenge which was a viral video trend where groups stood frozen while one person filmed them. Pokémon Go saw people out and about on the hunt for different species of Pokémon.

In one of the more random things to happen in 2016, the public overwhelmingly voted for 'Boaty McBoatface' as the name of a £200m polar research ship!

It was also a particularly gloomy year for celebrity deaths, including David Bowie, Prince, George Michael and Alan Rickman all passing away. And 2016 also saw some major world events – such as the UK Brexit referendum and Donald Trump's first US election win.

Many people feel uncertain about the future, and that would be understandable given current events in the world. And we tend to be especially nostalgic when the world feels like it's going through some major change, as we try to anchor ourselves to a time when we experienced relative safety and certainty.

The Church can sometimes (amongst other things!) be accused of being too nostalgic. But the Christian faith looks back to an event which brings a timeless hope to our world, whatever the prevailing circumstances are. And hope is on the horizon because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ – a hope which does not disappoint. May that be our renewed experience this Easter.

Rev. Shaun Speller

St. Andrew's Church News

Just a reminder that the last Tuesday in every month is Cuppa and a Chat in the Church. 10 am till 12 noon.

Everybody most welcome, bring your dog if you are out for a walk.

Tea, coffee and biscuits and friendly faces to talk to.

Sheila Vidler

Langford Methodist Church

Christmas has come and gone for another year, and once again we celebrated the birth of our Saviour in traditional ways. The Owlets came in and sang at our Christmas Coffee Morning and presented us all with cards which they had made. We had our usual Carol Service the Sunday before Christmas and also sang carols on The Green. Thank you to all who took part. £122 was raised and sent to the UK Methodist Charity - Action for Children.



Now we look ahead to Spring and Easter with the evenings slowly getting lighter. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 18th February when some people choose to give up something, eg: chocolate, until Easter Sunday. Our Chapel Anniversary takes place on Sunday 22nd March when one of our former ministers, Revd. David Haseldine will be taking the

service at 10.30 am. Following the service lunch (price £6). On Maundy Thursday 2nd April we have a Communion Service at 7pm as we remember the Last Supper which Jesus had with his disciples before he was arrested and crucified on Good Friday. On Easter Day the service will start at 11.00 am and be preceded by coffee at 10.30. This is to allow our minister, Revd. Leslie Noon to take an earlier service at Shefford and then come to us.



All are welcome at our Wednesday Coffee Mornings and at any of our Sunday services. We have a Gift Day Coffee Morning on Wednesday 22nd April. We are hoping to make the Chapel entrance wheelchair friendly, as at the moment we have steps to negotiate. Watch this space! There are other changes afoot, with closer co-operation with Henlow, but regular services and Coffee Mornings will continue in our premises. More details next time!



Jenny Broadbridge
(Senior Steward)



Spring energy-saving tips and advice from River Ivel Community Energy

As winter gives way to the warmer, brighter months of spring, we can breathe a sigh of relief at the prospect of turning down the thermostat as our homes naturally become warmer and brighter. While we may still shiver at the thought of pending winter heating bill, spring offers the perfect opportunity to adopt new energy-saving tricks and techniques that can help save money on future energy costs and boost your overall home's energy efficiency.

"Turning your thermostat down by just one degree can reduce your household bill by about 10%"

The most standout action you can take to save energy (and money) is to turn your thermostat down. Our Energy Champions note that turning your thermostat down by just one degree can reduce your household bill by about 10%, which is a saving of around £90-£145 per year for a typical home. A comfortable indoor temperature is around 18-21 degrees.

Consider a smart thermostat that can automatically adjust to changing outdoor temperatures. If you need a little help getting started with one, or advice on how to use it, please get in touch.

www.riverivelcommunityenergy.com

More homeowners are using the power of the sun during the lighter, warmer months to reduce energy costs and invest in cleaner energy. Our Energy Champions offer free, independent advice on Solar Panels and other clean energy.

To check if your home has any energy loss 'hotspots', you can book the use of our energy thermal imaging camera to indicate areas where heat is being lost from roofs, doors, porches or windows etc.



Get in touch via our website: www.riverivelcommunityenergy.com or follow us on FB at River Ivel Community Energy



Cambs and Beds HPS is a friendly, local group of the Hardy Plant Society. We usually meet on the first Saturday of the month from September to April at The Weatherley Centre, Eagle Farm Rd, Biggleswade, SG18 8JH. Our talks begin at 14.00pm and we have a programme of excellent speakers planned.

The speakers for this spring are as follows:

7th March 2026

Tony Kirkham- 'Plants from the Edge of the World'
Former Head of Arboretum at Kew Gardens.

11th April 2026

Val Bourne - 'A Year at Spring cottage'
Organic gardener and award winning journalist.

9th May 2026

Kerry Barehead- 'International Rose Trials'
Well known speaker and expert on Roses.

10th May 2026, Sunday

Spring Plant Sale
Commencing 10.00 a.m. concluding 12.00 midday
At the Weatherley Centre, Eagle Farm Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8JH
Free Entrance

In the summer, we organise coach trips to gardens and nurseries of interest. Visitors are always warmly welcome to our meetings at £4 per session. For more information about our group and the programme, please go to our website www.hpscambsandbeds.co.uk

Christopher
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Advertising in The Langford Diary

For more information - please contact
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Clerk for Langford Parish Council
07482 276173
clerk@langford-pc.gov.uk

Biggleswade, Potton and Sandy Community First Responders.

YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS...

Biggleswade, Potton and Sandy Community First Responders (CFRs) are a charitable organisation covering Biggleswade, Sandy, Potton, Langford and surrounding areas. Working in conjunction with the **East of England Ambulance Service** providing an emergency care response to 999 calls within minutes to our community.

In 2024 our group volunteered 2806 hours, attended 528 patients including 38 cardiac arrests.

In 2025 our group volunteered 3048 hours, attended 648 patients including 44 cardiac arrests.

We want to do even more!

NEWS! After some very generous donations from Langford businesses, Langford individuals, local authorities and local grants, we now have a kit based in Langford itself.

The Plough pub in Langford has us as their nominated charity for the first half of 2026, so please support them.

When responding to 999 calls, we carry the kit in the below picture.



CFR's are **VOLUNTEERS** who have been professionally trained by East of England Ambulance Service and attend life threatening 999 calls. We are often the first on scene, even prior to the ambulance, and we carry kit that allows us to provide vital life-saving care until the ambulance crew arrive.

Can you help?



If you have been inspired and would like to know more about becoming a lifesaving volunteer CFR for East of England Ambulance Service then please contact CFR@eastamb.nhs.uk or visit www.eastamb.nhs.uk

Thank you...

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

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

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



Volunteers for Langford Friends held a social Pot-Luck supper before Christmas to relax and share both good times and ideas on how Langford Friends is doing. We could not support clients in the village the way we do without these volunteers freely giving of their time to help others.

I would like to offer my public thanks to a couple of people for their large donations to Langford Friends. Theo and Jo Goble have donated the proceeds from the sale of the 2026 Langford Calendar. Mick Quinlan thought of Langford Friends when he was winding-up the North

Beds Charity Football Competition. Thank you on behalf of all our clients.

We support almost 100 clients from the Langford community. Most of their requests are for driving to and from appointments in and around Bedford, Biggleswade, Letchworth, and Baldock and occasionally to hospital appointments in Cambridge or Stevenage. Shopping trips and haircuts also appear regularly. We consider any request for help from our clients and will assist if we can – but we do prefer a few days' notice to allow our volunteers to plan their lives. We continue to seek volunteer drivers to support our clients and we also need telephone holders to hold the Langford Friends telephone for a week, pass the requests to volunteers and keep a record of our jobs. Volunteers use their own cars to transport our adult clients and will be asked to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

Langford Friends runs a WhatsApp group where client requests are posted and volunteers choose which jobs they wish to carry out. Upon accepting a job, the client's contact details are sent to the volunteer and they contact the client to make the final arrangements. Any contribution by the client is passed to the treasurer and mileage is reimbursed. Volunteers tell us that being able to pick and choose what they want to do allows them to fit client requests around their other commitments with family and friends.

If a volunteer role appeals to you, or you are an adult resident of Langford wishing to become a client, please call the Langford Friends phone on 07884 046741 or email our secretary on secretary.langfriends@outlook.com.

This Summer sees the 25th anniversary of Langford Friends. We will be holding a tea party in the village hall in September. We will be inviting all Langford Friends' clients and all Langford Friends volunteers, both past and present.

Martin Littlehales

Langford Calendar Campaign 2026

This has been the third year we have produced our 'This is Langford' calendars. The idea first came about back in 2021 after being inspired by the many photos shared on the 'This is Langford – Photography' Facebook page. The images uploaded by Langford residents range from photos taken spontaneously on phones whilst out for walks, to those taken by amateur photographers who venture out, camera in hand and often spend hours trying to catch a glimpse of an owl, or be there at the right moment as the sun goes down. The range of photos and styles shared never fails to amaze us so these Langford-themed calendars seemed like the perfect way to showcase them and give them a wider audience.

As in previous years, my wife Jo and I spent 12 months gathering the best photos from each month, so we would end up with images that showed the village across all four seasons. At the end of each month we produced videos showing the best images and invited people to watch and vote for their favourites.

Once we had finalised all the images we passed them onto Steve Hills who would work on the design and ultimately get them sent off to be printed. Steve also handles the design and printing of the 'Langford Diary' so we know we are in safe hands and the quality of the end product is top notch.



In the past we had begun the campaign in January, but people wanted calendars to give as Christmas gifts so it was always really tight to get the printing done. So for this campaign, we began gathering photos in September 2024, that would give us a 12 month span, but would allow time at the end for the calendars to return from the printers in time for Christmas 2025.

We try our hardest to keep the price of the calendars as low as possible, but we do add a little on to the price. We do this so we can raise money for Langford-based organisations. Previous recipients include; Langford Village Academy, Langford Cubs, Langford Guides, and Owletts. This year we chose 'Langford Friends', a group of volunteers who help out residents with lifts and chores. We were thrilled that this year the calendars made a profit of £450 which was given to 'Langford Friends'.



We sold 180 calendars in total and Jo and I delivered them all by hand. It was a real reward seeing the reactions when the calendars were delivered. An ex-Langford resident who now resides in Austria put in an order which we sent by post. And a kind lady in London wanted to buy one but asked that we gave it to a Langfordian who needed a little bit of sunshine.

The calendars are always a lot of fun but most importantly, we feel they bring people in the village together.

Many thanks to the photographers and those who supported us!

Theo & Jo Goble



Langford lollipops

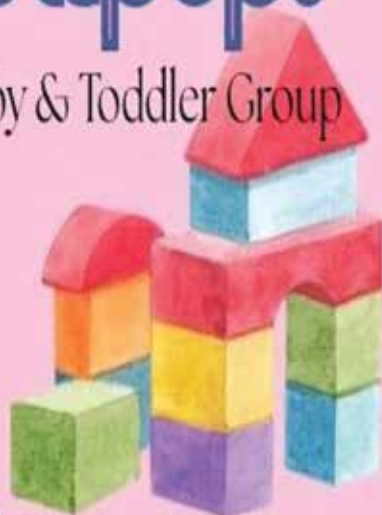
Baby & Toddler Group

Adult and baby £1

Adult and child £3.50

Extra child / adult £1 each

Cash only please



Snacks and tea/coffee
included



Langford Village Hall

Every Tuesday 9.30am - 11am (term time)

No need to book just turn up!



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.

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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We accept 15 hours and 30 hours funding (subject to entitlement), this can be used for the regular sessions and for the breakfast club.

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We work closely with Langford Academy to enable smooth transitioning to lower school.

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Langford Owlets pre-school



**Langford Village Fete returns on
Saturday 11th July, 11am-4pm at
King George's Playing Field, SG18 9QY.**

Our much-loved annual fete is a celebration of village life, with local stalls, food and drink, a bar, live performances, and plenty of activities and entertainment for kids (and adults!) to enjoy. It's the perfect chance to catch up with friends, support local groups and businesses, and soak up the community spirit.

The fete raises money for local groups, gives local businesses a chance to promote themselves, and is a local event for local people – celebrating our village and everything that makes it special. Entry is free.

We're always keen to hear from anyone who would like to be involved – as a volunteer, stall holder, sponsor, performer or in another way.

Sponsorship is vital to the fete and allows us to put on entertainment such as animal encounters, face painting and balloon modelling, as well as covering the running costs of the event. It is organised by volunteers and we are always looking for more hands to make light work. We're so grateful to our sponsors, past and future, as without them it wouldn't be possible to put on such a large event.

Sponsorship opportunities are now open, with a limited number of packages available. These will close mid-March to maximise advertising time, or sooner if all are taken.

More details will follow on Facebook – scan the QR code to stay up to date and put the date in your diary so you don't miss it.

Here's hoping for the sunshine that we enjoyed in 2025!

**To get in touch, please email
eventslangford@gmail.com**



LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH 2026

COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

MEETING AT ST ANDREWS CHURCH HALL

9.30AM-11.30AM

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK
TEL: 07482276173
EMAIL: CLERK@LANGFORD-PC.GOV.UK



Ivel Sprinter

Who Are We... and What Do We Do?

You might be wondering just who the Ivel Sprinter is and what we're all about – so let's tell you our story. The Ivel Sprinter is a voluntary Community Bus service operated by East Beds Community Bus Ltd. We've been proudly serving local villages such as Langford since 1991, when residents found themselves without any reliable local transport. In true community spirit, local businesses and organisations came together to raise the funds for our very first bus, and we began offering trips to help people get to the shops, doctors' appointments and other everyday essentials. The service is open to all ages.

From the beginning, the organisation was set up as a Limited Company with charitable status, and the entire team – from the Management Committee to our drivers – were, and still are, volunteers. Over the years, our services have grown. As well as our local routes, we now run regular trips to Cambridge, St Neots and Bedford on a weekly or monthly basis. Although our day-today running is self-sustaining, we still rely on community support to help fund replacement buses. All of our minibuses are 16-seaters, which lets us operate with non-professional (but very experienced!) volunteer drivers.

Our drivers come from all sorts of backgrounds and most are retired, but they all share one thing: a commitment to helping their community by providing a safe, friendly and reliable service.

We're always looking for new volunteer drivers or people who'd like to help out on our committee. If that sounds like you, please get in touch through our **website: www.ivalsprinter.org.uk**

On our website you can find our timetables. We serve Langford on Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday.

Please give our Facebook page a like and a share as it really helps to spread the word. Find us at "Ivel Sprinter Community Bus Service".

Langford Football Club

Langford FC would like to wish you all a Happy New Year! Our start to 2026 has been slow due to the weather, having games called off in early January for all the teams.

We are now half way through the season. Langford First Team have 33 points, as of 20th January we are mid table, but feeling that we should have had more. Our young players have been great, and I'm sure in time they will reap the rewards, and success is just around the corner.

We have 3 teams at this moment, the 1st who play in the SSMFL Division 1, they train on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Then we have Langford Ladies. You will see them training on Wednesday evenings at the park, they play Sunday afternoons also at Forde Park in the Beds and Herts Premier Division. Lastly, we have a social side. Langford Ivel who play Sunday mornings on the playing field, they are in division 2 of the Beds Sunday League. If you enjoy football, it's worth watching, so if you're at a loose end on a Saturday or Sunday pop down to watch.

The Club are looking for sponsors for all our teams as this will help secure their future. We do rely heavily on the support of volunteers who keep the Club going to whom we are very grateful. Last time I gave you an insight to the club; Langford FC formed in 1908 and at various times Langford has had a fantastic youth set up, but unfortunately at this moment we have none. Again, this is based on volunteers to run teams, which is a big commitment, having been part of this set up for the last 20 years. I know how hard it is and how time consuming it can be, but it can also be very rewarding.

Hope to see you at Forde Park on a Saturday or Sunday.

Paul Vince – Chair Langford Football Club

Langford Cricket Club



Happy New Year to Everyone!

Preparations are gathering momentum at the Cricket Club with the 2026 season looming large. Indoor net training starts on Thursday 26th Feb for 4 weeks at Stratton Upper School. 7-8pm for Youths and 8-9pm for Adults.

In 2026 Langford CC will have two Adult teams, one on a Saturday and one on Sunday. Playing on one of the best cricket pitches in the area!

The Sunday XI will be testing themselves in Div 2 after back to back promotions over the last 2 seasons.

The Club have again entered a Saturday team in to the Beds Invitational Saturday league, this development team aims to be a fun and learning experience and the Club hope that the team will be a mix of youngsters, legends, ladies and anyone else interested in playing cricket.

The Sunday fixtures have been issued, and we are sure that the Saturday fixtures will be released soon. You can check out the fixtures on langfordcc.play-cricket.com

The AllStars Saturday morning cricket sessions will be back in 2026. The 8 week ECB sponsored introduction to cricket course, not only offers places for 5 to 8 year old boys and girls, but comes with all the equipment a young cricketer needs. Registration starts in the Spring via the ECB registration pages.

Older girls and boys are invited and welcome to attend the weekly fun Thursday evening coaching sessions 6pm to 7pm, this is a great introduction to the many youth teams the Club run, from U9's through 11's, 13's and 15's right up to Adult Cricket. These sessions start after Easter.

The Club has players representing Bedfordshire at both youth and senior level, up to and including over 70's.

For more details on any of the above, check out the Langford CC Facebook page.

Thank you to our main Sponsor Harrisons Accountancy for their continued support.

As a Club, we rely on volunteers and the support of players and parents of players. If you would like to get involved as a volunteer, a coach or a player, please do contact us via our Facebook page.

Once again, we thank all our Sponsors for their continued support.

www.facebook.com/LangfordCC

Andy Watson, Chair. Langford Cricket Club.



Village Life

The Club ended 2025 season with the Club's internal competitions awards presentation, held again in the Village Hall on the 6th of December, this was again great fun with exceptional catering provided by our very own Master Chef Eric Williamson, photos of the worthy winners are attached.

The green keeping team are busy tending the green with top dressing and fertilizer in preparation for the coming season.

Though very much weather dependant, we plan to open the green for practice roll ups on Monday 6th of April, the confirmed date will be listed on our website.

We hope to again hold a Join the Club / Bowls Promotion Day in May, we invite all Langford residents and any who might be interested in trying their hand at this most enjoyable sport, the confirmed date will be posted on our website.

The mixed friendly matches against other local village clubs will again be played on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays with the occasional Sunday, the schedule of arranged fixtures will again be posted on our website.

The Club is hoping to enter two teams in the East Beds Triples League for 2026, at the time of writing we have only been allocated one slot, hopefully this will be increased to two at the East Beds League meeting in February (fingers crossed).

Our men have entered a team in the County 4 Wood and County Pairs Competitions.

Our Ladies have entered teams into the Beds Country Fours, Triples and Pairs Competitions; we wish them all every success.

As usual, our internal club competitions will commence in May /June and will continue over the course of the Summer.

The winter activities are in full swing. We had our first Quiz Night in November which was a great success, and we are looking to run these on a regularly.

We have Keep Fit - on Mondays at 1:30.

Table Tennis - on Mondays at 2pm, all skill levels welcome.

Short Mat Bowls - on Wednesdays at 1:30 an afternoon full of fun and friendly competition.

Bridge - For Beginners on Thursdays at 7pm, this is new this year and most enjoyable.

The cost for each activity is just £2 (£1 for keep fit)

If you fancy giving any of these activities a try, then please contact (Kim Smith) on 07421132900 for information

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2026.

Langford Bowls Club

Langford Bowls Club 2025 Competitions Winners



*Mixed Two Woods
David Laight*



*Mixed Four Woods Handicap
Dale Parfitt*



*Mixed Four Woods
Steve Bilcock*



*Milton Cup
Dave Laight &
Malcolm Ede*

*Don King Trophy
Richard Blossom,
Julie Houghton,
Hazel King,
Scott Quince*



*Partner Pairs
Barrie Crane &
Derek Harding*



*Drawn Pairs
Dale Parfitt &
Richard Blossom*

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For more information - please contact

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Clerk for Langford Parish Council

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PLEASE NOTE - IMPORTANT

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

Submission Dates 2026

Autumn Edition - 22nd July 2026

Winter Edition - 22nd October 2026

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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