

THE LINK

A COMMUNITY MAGAZINE FOR THE
SEVEN PARISHES IN THE SOUTH
WARWICKSHIRE 7 BENEFICE

September 2021

£1



■ BARCHESTON with WILLINGTON ■ BARTON-ON-THE-HEATH
■ BURMINGTON ■ CHERINGTON with STOURTON ■ LONG COMPTON
■ WHICHFORD and ASCOTT ■ THE WOLFORDS

EVENTS DIARY

Contact: The Editor
Email: editor@swlink.org.uk

Events Update

September (VH = Village Hall; Ch = Church)

Wed	01	Wolfords WI, VH	19.30
Sat	04	Stuart Allen's Induction Service, Market Harborough	15.00
Sat	04	Fish and Chip Night, Burmington VH	18.00
Sun	05	Organ Recital, Barcheston Church	15.30
Wed	08	Nominations for General Synod close	
Thurs	09	Long Compton and District Garden Club, trip to Waterperry Gardens	
Thurs	09	Long Compton Book Club	19.00
Sat	11	Bard's Ride and Bard's Walk	
Sat	11	Coffee Shop at The Hall, Stourton	10.30
Sat	11	Socially Distanced Saturday, Long Compton Village Hall	11.00
Sat	11	Sutton-under-Brailes Village Fete and Dog Show, The Green	14.30
Tue	14	Long Compton & District Walkers, meet in Red Lion car park	09.30
Tue	14	CAMEO Lunch Club, Burmington VH	12.00
Tue	14	Long Compton Bridge Club, VH	19.30
Wed	15	Compton District History Society, Long Compton VH	19.30
Thurs	16	Craft Market, Long Compton Congregational Chapel	18.00
Sat	18	Preparation for Cherington Harvest Festival, Ch	10.30
Sat	18	Memorial service for Dr. Sue Pritchard, Shipston	
Sat	18	Brailes Picturehouse – <i>Little Women</i>	
Sun	19	Cherington Harvest Festival Service, Ch	10.30
Sat	25	Village Breakfast, Burmington VH	10.00
Tue	28	Long Compton Bridge Club, VH	14.30

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LINK cover: Oil on canvas: *Picnic on the beach in Dorset* by Stourton artist Colin Beckett.

Cover design by KMS Litho, Hook Norton.

The LINK welcomes contributions for the front cover or elsewhere. Portrait orientation photographs or artwork preferred. Please send items to editor@swlink.org.uk

LINK cover and artwork produced by KMS Litho, Hook Norton. If you would like to sponsor the front page, please contact editor@swlink.org.uk

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Farming Notes	Lynn Mathias	farming@swlink.org.uk

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Please note the copy deadline for October 2021:

Monday 13 September

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EDITORIAL

Link Talk

In Whichford, we are lucky to have a long-established family business that keeps the traditional methods of clay working alive. Whichford Pottery are celebrating their 45 years in business, and I have persuaded them to share some of their story with us. Later in the year, they will be running a new series of adverts in The LINK.

We're also pleased to welcome two new advertisers to the LINK. Tania Llewellyn has opened 'The Studio' clothing shop (page 41) and North Cotswold Ear Hygiene Centre (page 42) is also a new advertiser from this month.

Our thanks go to David Cleave and his sponsorship for many years (on behalf of Oxford Hardware) of the Cover Page of The LINK. David is in the process of retiring and so the sponsorship has now come to an end. If any of our readers/advertisers would like to sponsor our front page, please do let me know and we can talk over the details.

To date I'm afraid I've had no volunteers to take up the approaching vacancy in Cherington as village editor. The LINK only happens because readers and residents volunteer to take on these little jobs. If you can spare a few hours a month, please email me (or the existing village editor) and we can explain the finer details. Thank you.

Keith Murphy, editor@swlink.org.uk

Cameo Lunch Club

The next meeting of the lunch club is Tuesday 14 September.

On Tuesday 10 August, the club held its first lunch meeting since January 2020 as a consequence of covid. In the intervening months, the club has continued to operate by delivering meals to members' homes. Club members had much to celebrate on its reunion: the stalwarts who kept the club running by cooking and delivering meals during the lockdown and since, the generosity of the Long Compton ladies whose donations enabled the delivered lunches and that of the reunion to be free of charge, the new members from Willington and Long Compton who joined the club for the first time at this reunion meeting and the wedding anniversary of our cook and tireless supporter, Brenda Fitch and her husband David.

The club, which has only had to cancel two meetings over the 14 years of its existence, once for floods and once for covid, is certainly growing in size and popularity.

Don't forget the club meets on the second Tuesday of every month in Burmington village hall at 12 noon for 12.30 pm. Come and join us. All are welcome. We are renowned for our welcome, our food and our chatter.

Most villages in the Benefice are represented in the membership. A charge of £4 is made towards expenses. Please bring your family, friends and children. Transport can be provided. All dietary needs can be met.

Please book with Brenda Fitch on tel: 664313

Dennis Cummings

Bard's Ride and Bard's Walk

Come and join us for a cycle ride or a walk around the wonderful South Warwickshire countryside on Saturday 11 September, starting and ending at Honington Hall, near Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire. Our choice of three Rides are:

- Challenge Ride: 60 miles/100k
- Classic Ride: 25 miles
- Family Ride: 10 miles

You can also join us for the Bard's Walk of six miles. For the Bard's Walk we provide written directions plus a Church Quiz for the three churches 'en route'. For more information on prices and start times and to Register, see our website www.bardsride.co.uk

Breakfast rolls and a barbecue lunch are available in the hall grounds for participants, family and friends. (Dogs are allowed in the grounds on a lead). As our photos show, we had a very enjoyable and successful day in 2019.



All profits will enable the Warwickshire and Coventry Historic Churches Trust, who organise this event, to give grants to churches and chapels to repair and preserve their buildings for future generations. We hope you will join us for a great day out!

Note – 'Ride and Stride' day is also running as usual on 11 September. Please go to our website www.warwickshirechurches.org.uk and then to our Ride and Stride page for all information.

Sarah Constable, admin@warwickshirechurches.org.uk

Hurrah! Whichford Pottery is Celebrating its 45th Anniversary!

Whichford Pottery was founded in 1976 by Jim & Dominique Keeling and moved to Whichford in 1982. 'My earliest memory of clay is from the age of six when I opened up a small mine in the side of a ditch in my parent's garden,' says Jim. Years later, after graduating in History and Archaeology from Cambridge, Jim was drawn back to clay and took up a clay-working apprenticeship with A. Harris & Sons in Wreccelsham.

Jim and Dominique set up Whichford Pottery with two apprentices and now have a workforce of over 25. Recently they have been joined by three of their five children. Jim says, 'the team is now led by my eldest son, Adam, and youngest daughter, Theodora. My eldest daughter Maia and her partner Christine converted a barn in our car park into *The Straw Kitchen*. It is a true family business and in the rest of the team there are brothers, sisters and cousins, all from the local community.'

At the heart of the business is a respect for ancient ways of hand working. Jim says, 'the throwing techniques I was taught at Wreccelsham have been saved from extinction, and now live on in the next generation.' Adam adds, 'at the heart of the business are the skills my dad was taught by fourth generation potters and we are proud to be constantly training our team and keeping these precious skills alive. Our working methods stretch back into the past, but they also provide us with a viable framework for dealing with the complexities of the present.'



Early press photo of Jim, Dominique, Adam and Tom

As well as their ranges of flowerpots, the Pottery regularly work on landscape and restoration projects in both Britain and overseas. Many notable commissions have been undertaken, including pots for National Trust properties, complex pieces for Turner Prize winning artists as well as many private clients. Currently about 20% of production is shipped overseas to Japan and USA.



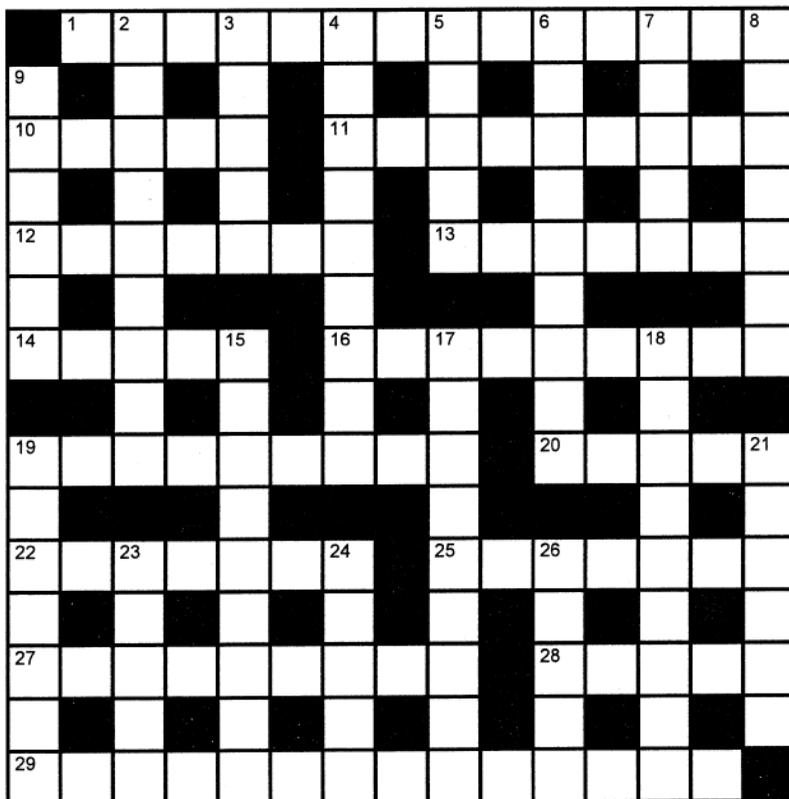
Dominique, Adam, Theodora and Jim in the garden

The coronavirus pandemic necessitated dramatic changes in how the Pottery operated, relying on a skeleton team, online sales and home delivery. The Pottery is now back in full swing and has re-opened. Visitors can relax in the garden, be inspired by sensational summer displays, browse *The Octagon* for wedding gifts, choose pots from the stockyard and enjoy lunches, brunches,

teas and coffees at *The Straw Kitchen*. Whichford Pottery demonstrates that business, closely tied with the local community, can work to everyone's benefit, adding both skilled jobs and a beautiful attraction to the local area. Here's to the next 45 years...

Please see www.whichfordpottery.com or call 01608 684416 for more information and for Pottery and *The Straw Kitchen* opening times.

The LINK Crossword



Across

- 1 Local restorers generating a thrilling experience. (14)
- 10 Foreign. (5)
- 11 Live in a dream! (9)
- 12 Not in education, employment or training mix with a song in Liverpool. (7)
- 13 Read the Riot Act for Italian cheese. (7)
- 14 Don't chicken out of this. (5)
- 16 All thumbs here! (9)
- 19 Polly knew what to do with it. (3-6)
- 20 Cheating birds? (5)
- 22 Really old-fashioned. (7)
- 25 Dissect with this. (7)
- 27 More in the pink. (9)
- 28 Sound of disapproval of strong drink. (5)
- 29 Eg. John Gilpin's Ride. (6-2-6)

Down

- 2 Re-direct this. (9)
- 3 On his own. (5)
- 4 Search photo for a startling noise. (5-4)
- 5 The possessor. (5)
- 6 Looking for the answer. (9)
- 7 Get rid of a confused civet. (5)
- 8 An attendant. (7)
- 9 Is the chimp able to eat a small piece of food? (6)
- 15 Happy ending for happy stories. (4-5)
- 17 This will have an overpowering influence. (9)
- 18 Get a closer view with this. (9)
- 19 Freshen the soap for refreshment. (3-4)
- 21 Mixed with sodium chloride. (6)
- 23 Pursue. (5)
- 24 The capsicum pod is not cold as it sounds. (5)
- 26 Priory Head was a friend of Costello. (5)

Compiled for us by our friend Campden John

Shipston Medical Centre

The latest newsletter from Shipston Medical Centre can be found on our website under Patient News. Printed copies are also available from the dispensary window or the waiting room. A few extracts from the newsletter are below which we hope will encourage you to access the newsletter.



Improvements to our appointments

Recently, changes have been made to our appointment system to enable routine appointments to be booked in advance. We hope this will support patients in consulting with the clinician of their choice, improving continuity of care and therefore improving the quality of care we are able to offer. We are also increasing our staffing, but we are limited by the amount of physical space in the medical centre.

All NHS environments will be continuing with protection measures to reduce covid transmission. The people who use our services the most are amongst the most vulnerable, and these measures are needed to protect them. It is also important that we protect our team, as without our doctors, nurses, dispensing and administrative staff, we would be unable to offer a service. Please wear a face covering at all times when you are in the medical centre. We've introduced an additional measure to minimise the number of patients waiting in the surgery. We have added a buzzer system where you are allocated a buzzer, so you can wait outside or in your car if you wish.

Message from David Williams:

'It is with very mixed emotions I write to say I will be leaving Shipston Medical Centre at the end of December 2021 to go and work with my wife as GPs on the Isle of Mull, in Scotland. The reason for the move is that I will be working part-time and also in a very rural island setting so will have to use different medical skills. Prior to working at Shipston I worked in the Amazon forest, so I do like challenges!

Memorial Service for Dr. Sue Pritchard

A memorial service for Dr. Sue Pritchard is being arranged by her family, with support from the medical centre, for Saturday 18 September in Shipston. This is a memorial service for the community, and there is engagement with local groups to assist with the organisation of this. It would be very helpful to get an indication as to how many people would like to come. Please help us with this by sending an email to suepritchardmemorial@gmail.com to let us know if you are coming, together with numbers in your group. If you can't email, then we'd appreciate you putting a note in the dedicated box near reception in the surgery, or advising us at the surgery.

'What I do in the Desert'

Michael Macdonald, who works on ancient inscriptions found in the deserts of the Middle East, will be giving a talk entitled 'What I do in the Desert' in Burmington Village Hall at 5.00 pm on Saturday 9 October. All are welcome.

INFO LINK

Contact: The Editor
Email: editor@swlink.org.uk

The Post Office van is in the car park by the village shop in Long Compton from 9.30 - 11.30 am Monday and Wednesday, and from 12.30 to 2.00 pm Tuesday and Thursday.
Shipston 'tip' is open - to book <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/recyclingshipston>

DATES AND FETES*

Please send us the dates of all your significant social events. We are continuing this listing even though events may be restricted. Please check this list before you plan a new event.

Dec 10/11/12 Friends of Long Compton Church - Christmas Tree Festival
Sun 19 Dec Christmas Service, The Chapel, Long Compton

*** Events could be affected by coronavirus cancellations.**

Local Catholic Church Service

Chipping Norton, Masses: Contact the parish priest for mass times – 01608 642703
Stow-on-the-Wold, Our Lady and St Kenelm, 5 Back Walls, Sunday 9.00 a.m. and Our Lady Help of Christians, Station Road, Bourton-on-the-Water Saturday Vigil 6.00 p.m. Tel: 01608 674354
Brailes/Shipston/Kineton Masses: Contact the parish priest for mass times - 01608 685259
Chipping Campden, St Catharine's Lower High Street, Sunday masses: – Saturday Vigil 6.00 p.m. Sunday 10.30 a.m. Tel: 01386 840261 (All socially distanced.)

Local Quaker Meetings

Local Quaker Meetings for worship:

Broad Campden, Quaker Meeting Hse, GL55 6US - Sundays at 10.30 am
Ettington, Quaker Meeting Hse, Old Halford Rd, CV37 7TH - Sundays at 11 am
Sibford, Quaker Meeting Hse, Sibford Gower, OX15 5RX - Sundays at 10.30 am
Shipston on Stour, in St Edmund's Church - last Thursdays (not Dec) at 2.30 pm
<https://banburyveshamquakers.org.uk>

At Chipping Campden (The Old Police Station GL55 6HB) on Sunday 10 October at 2.30 pm, the Journeyman Theatre (Lynn & Dave Morris) will be performing *Backdoor Parole*, a play which tracks the growing friendship between Ron, an elderly lifer and Kathy, a prison chaplain. The story examines the increasing plight of elderly prisoners and how the system is, to a large degree, failing them. To reserve seats, please email broadcampden@quaker.org.uk

Local Congregational Services

Please email editor@swlink.org.uk with any service details etc.



The LINK can offer your local business.....

Advertising across SW7 Benefice directly into the community.

Please email adverts@swlink.org.uk

For a suitable commitment, we may be able to offer new advertisers an introductory 'advertorial'

PARISH PEOPLE

Parochial Church Councils (PCCs)

Barcheston St Martin

Churchwardens David Hodges 664310
 Secretary Nick Jackson 01926 640658
 Treasurer David Cleave 666002

Burmington St Barnabas & St Nicholas

Churchwardens Sonia Baker 661459
 Michael Macdonald 662483
 Secretary Graham Lancaster 663265
 Treasurer Sue Bradley 661635

Long Compton St Peter and St Paul

Churchwardens Jill Kirby 684923
 Secretary Zoë Wrigley 650404
 Treasurer Walter Sawyer 684755

Wolford St Michael & All Angels

Churchwarden John Wrench 674389
 Treasurer Ann McKenna 674009

Barton-on-the-Heath St Lawrence

Churchwardens Hamish Cathie 674303
 Secretary Gillian Cathie 674303
 Treasurer Mandy McPherson 674734

Cherington St John the Baptist

Churchwarden Roger Maycock 686404
 Secretary Paul Levitch 686353
 Treasurer Rory McLeod 686278

Whichford St Michael

Churchwardens Mandy James 684479
 Sophia Corlett
 Secretary Lucy Simpson
 Treasurer Andy Chapman 684652

Parish Councils

Barcheston
 Barton-on-the-Heath
 Burmington
 Cherington
 Long Compton
 Whichford

Chair

David Sutton
 James Coker (674601)
 Robert Hutchings (661496)
 Philip Townsend (686529)
 Simon Bing (684827)
 Peter O'Kane (684888)

Clerk

Ann Batchelor (661527)
 Julia Gotrel
 Sara Cole (686250)
 Sam Weller (698870)
 Sara Cole (686250)
 clerk.whichfordandascott@hotmail.co.uk
 Sue Finlay (661157)

Great Wolford Lynn Mathias (674247)
 Little Wolford Parish Meeting Helen Bostock (chairman@littewolford.org.uk)

If you wish to update information on this page, please email the Editor: editor@swlink.org.uk



*Happy
 Birthday!*



September Birthdays

4th	Benjamin Payne	Burmington	13
4th	Olivia Johnston	Great Wolford	12
10th	Oscar Rutherford	Cherington	17
15th	India Mauveen Spencer Sewell	Stourton	12
22nd	George Bygate	Willington	15
22nd	Lucy May Andrews	Barcheston	13
24th	Gabrielle Duck	Great Wolford	15
28th	Jack Chapman	Whichford	16

If you wish to add, delete or edit birthday details published – email editor@swlink.org.uk

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE CHURCHES – SW 7 - Seven Parishes ~ One Church

September 2021 CHURCH SERVICES							
SW 7	St Martin Barcheston	St Lawrence Barton	St Barnabas & St Nicholas Burrington	St John the Baptist Cherington	St Peter & St Paul Long Compton	St Michael Whitchford	St Michael & All Angels Wolford
Sunday Worship					4pm GAP Service (BD)		
5th September 14th After Trinity	9am BCP Morning Prayer (AW/CLW)						10:30am CW Holy Communion (AW/CLW)
12th September 15th After Trinity					10:30am CW Harvest Service (BD)	9am BCP Holy Communion (BD)	
19th September 16th After Trinity		9am BCP Holy Communion (BD)		10:30am CW Harvest Service (BD)	4pm GAP Service (BD)		
26th September 17th After Trinity			10:30am CW Harvest Service (BD)		9am BCP Holy Communion (BD)		
3rd October 18th After Trinity			9am BCP Holy Communion (BD/LM)		4pm GAP Service (BD)		11:30am CW Harvest Service (BD)

BD = Ben Dyson LM = Liz Maycock AW = Anthony Wells CLW = Clare Wells HP = Heather Parbury AD = Andrew Dow/
BCP = Prayer Book/CW = Common Worship/GAP = Informal Service



South Warwickshire Seven Benefice

Reverend Ben Dyson - Tel: 01608 685752 - pioneersw7@gmail.com (off duty Friday)
Benefice Administrator: Mrs Liz Clarke Tel: 07425 868855 Email: officesw7@gmail.com
www.southwarwickshirechurches.co.uk facebook.com/sw7churches



SW7 BENEFICE CHURCH NEWS



You're invited to the
Induction Service
of our new pastor
Stuart Allen

Saturday 4th September 2021
at 3pm

Main Hall, Robert Smyth Academy,
Burnmill Road,
Market Harborough, LE16 7JG

Followed by refreshments

Please use the top car park



Please register your interest in attending the induction service with Liz Clarke, SW7 Benefice Administrator at 07425 868855 or officesw7@gmail.com or Roger Maycock at 01608 686404 or rmaycock287@btinternet.com so that we know numbers and can possibly combine transport.

Link to Hope - Shoebox Appeal 2021

Sadly, no one has come forward to take on some of the responsibility for promoting this year's appeal in SW7. I know that many of you have been filling shoeboxes for many years and will be disappointed to hear this.

As a result, I am prepared to receive any complete boxes or items to help fill a box, at my new address (11 Clark Close, Shipston on Stour, CV36 4HJ) any time before the end of October. I will put a supply of leaflets in each of the churches in the Benefice. These contain details of what to put in the box, how to pack it and the list of contents to be attached to each box etc. If you need any other information, please ring me.

Sue Bradley - 01608 661635

SCHOOL NOTES

Editor: Sally Franklin
Email: longcompton@swlink.org.uk

Class of 2021

We say goodbye this year to a truly fabulous group of Year 6 children who have made so many memories during their time at Acorns. The group has grown, with new children joining, and the friendships that have blossomed are testament to the caring, thoughtful, understanding members of this cohort. Despite the challenges the last 2 years has thrown our way, these children (along with everyone else at Acorns) have held their heads high and continued with determination and ambition.



The final days in July were particularly special for the children, and we are very pleased that we have been able to share with them some wonderful experiences which have created lifelong memories – all in a Covid safe way. The climbing day at Far Peak Climbing Centre was a huge hit with the children and we watched them push themselves out of their comfort zones and try something new (for many). It was an absolute pleasure. A trip to South Cerney Outdoor for kayaking followed the climbing and yet again, the children did us proud; they had a thoroughly enjoyable and exhausting day. The children's behaviour (as always) was impeccable.

In between the climbing and kayaking fun, we were able to hold a Year 6 Leavers' BBQ for children and their parents, which proved to be a really lovely evening in the sun. Poems, which had been written by the children were performed, the Webb Sports Cup was presented, and the leavers received their ever-popular Acorns autograph books.

From Little Acorns, mighty oaks grow!

Brailes School finished the year with the Year 6 Leavers' Service at St. George's Church on the last Tuesday morning of term. The children each shared their favourite memories of their time at Brailes and their hopes for the future. Year 5 shared the poems they had written for each Year 6 child. Year 6 were each presented with a Brailes Leavers' medal, an atlas from FOBS and a bible from the Brailes Free School Foundation.

Congratulations to Chloe who was awarded the Craft Shield this year and to this year's three Sports Captains (Zach, Henry and Eirene) who were presented with the Sports Shield.

Our Year 6 children have missed so much due to coronavirus including sporting fixtures, school productions, Manor Adventure (twice) and having wider leadership responsibilities throughout the school. We did try to make memories with an end of year hike up the 99 steps and camp out on the school grounds, and a trip to South Cerney Outdoor. Thanks to the teachers and teaching assistants for the enrichment and care they have shown our pupils over the last seven years and especially during the last 16 months.



Christian Hilton – Executive Headteacher

FARMING NOTES

Editor: Lynn Mathias
Email: farming@swlink.org.uk

Harvest 2021

As I write in the middle of August, we have just started into the winter wheat, exactly a fortnight later than the wheat harvest last year. The unusually dry weather in the early spring probably held up the spring flush but the following wet weather got things moving. Overall, the weather combination has delayed the harvest. Looking at the heap in the barn, I do not think it will be a bumper harvest but it is difficult to tell at this stage with about half the crop still to cut. At the moment it is coming in at 15% moisture, so should not need any drying.

GARDENING NOTES

Editors:

Margaret Welsh, Long Compton Garden Club

Miranda Arnold, Whichford Amateur Gardener

September can be a lovely month for gardeners. Much of the work has been done, more tender plants such as dahlias and echinaceas together with colourful rudbeckias and michaelmas daisies are in bloom and fruit and vegetables are ripe for harvest. Although days are shortening, we often have lovely warm days in which to enjoy our gardens.

There are, however, jobs to be done before the harsher autumnal weather. Trim back plants that may be damaged by autumn gales and prune and tie in climbing roses. Make sure that taller plants like Japanese anemones and asters are well supported. Towards the end of the month, new perennials can be planted while the soil is still warm. Similarly, wait until the weather cools a little to plant out container grown trees and shrubs as they will have a better chance of survival. Remember to water regularly.

Early flowering perennials can be divided and transplanted, but those flowering later should be left until the spring. Some species benefit from being cut down so that they form a tight cushion of growth which will over-winter well. Such plants include perennial violas and rock roses. Leave penstemons until spring, but cuttings can be taken. You can also take semi-ripe cuttings of other plants e.g. osteospermums and hebes. Rose prunings, pencil thin and about 6-8 inches in length should also take well if placed in gritty, well-drained compost. Biennials such as self-sown foxgloves and teasels may be relocated and wall flowers and sweet williams planted out ready for a spring display. Hardy annuals e.g. nigella, calendula and clarkia can be sown in situ.

In the vegetable garden, lift all potatoes by the end of September before they get slug damaged and make sure brassicas are netted to protect them from pigeons. When harvesting squashes, let the skins harden in the sun for a couple of weeks as they will store better. Herbs such as thyme and origano can be dried for use in the winter. Onion sets can be planted now and they should be ready to harvest in June or July. Sow winter salad crops such as pak choi, endive and winter lettuce. If you have bare, unused beds after harvesting crops, it is often advised to sow green manures. These seeds will germinate quickly as the soil is still warm. They can be dug in over winter and add nutrients to the soil, improve its structure and drainage and also suppress weeds. Don't, however, let them flower and set seed. Species recommended include red clover (which will add nitrogen), common rye grass or phacelia.

Any tender plants which have spent the summer outdoors should be brought indoors as the weather gets cooler. Check them over for any pests and remove any decaying leaves. Now is a good time for pond maintenance as breeding is over and hibernation has not yet begun. You could also start ordering any bare-root roses or trees which you require, and they should arrive from November onwards.

As I write, the garden is full of butterflies, especially the buddlejas and the origano is buzzing with bees. After a late spring, I hope that that we get an 'Indian summer' and that the insect numbers can build up and that many successfully hibernate as they are sadly, generally in decline. In spite of the cooler spring, there seems to have been good pollination of the apples and pears and I look forward to sampling the fruit.

Margaret Welsh

I look once again over to my neighbour's orchard to see yet another plant, this time one I have not seen before. (Now I pause here, to point out that the fence to my neighbour's orchard is a four-foot-tall picket fence so I am not really being guilty of being too nosy!) The plant is ladies bedstraw, a flower awash with bright yellow blooms. But from whence comes this plant? Well, of this, I am sure. Alongside the nearby church wall, for some time, have grown a number of these plants. Now for a long time I believed that this flower is so-called because it was the bedding put down in Jesus' manger as a substitute for straw. However, I was wrong. The name is indeed associated with childbirth and was used in mattresses instead of straw, the commonplace filling, because it gives off a sweet scent like that of new mown hay. Additionally, it helped deter moths and to ensure the comfort of the lady having her baby. It belongs to the same family as that pest-of-all-gardeners, known as goose grass, which I am sure several readers have had to already extract from their flowerbeds this summer.

The robin has been voted our most popular bird and I am sure will retain that position for many years to come. No windowsill at Christmas is without a card portraying this bird. I have one male robin occupying my garden each winter. His song, whilst not of Pavarotti-like quality, as with the thrush and the blackbird, is rather that of a light ballad singer. He sings from tree branches throughout cold winter months to defend his territory and deter rivals. The female is however the one which seeks out her mate, and once having done so, a nest can be built in either a bush or a tree or some other (sometimes unusual) place. One such was once discovered to be an old, upturned kettle! The young are not red breasted but have spotted chests, the red gradually appearing as summer goes on. I have been watching one such young bird in the garden and the progress made by this colour. The French for robin translates as red throat and indeed it was from the throat downwards the red appeared. The robin's molt is from June to September when, as with all birds, it follows the vital process of replacing feathers, its essential covering for warmth and its vital medium for flight. It is thought before urbanisation, the robin was essentially a woodland bird, but gardens with worms and beds full of insects attracted them more and more into our gardens.

We actively talk of many animals and birds – rabbits, foxes, hares and birds such as sparrows, starlings and our abovementioned robin. But some creatures one barely gives a thought to, principally because they are quietly out of our sight. Such a one I would propose is the newt, so I think it is about time that this creature is offered a 'get-out-of-jail-free card' so that we can examine it more closely. The newt, of which there are three species in this country, is always a welcome guest in a garden pond. They enter the water in spring and lay their eggs on any water plant. The larvae are similar to those of frogs and toads. They then leave the water for two or three years. Their food in the water will consist of other species of tadpoles. On land they will survive on worms, insects, and eggs laid in the ground. The great-crested newt has, as its name describes, a large well-developed crest and must be the easiest to identify. A feature of this creature is that it is able to regenerate limbs which have become detached from its body.

Last month I wrote about the unidentified pigeons which appeared on my garden lawn and spent two or three days gently picking away at the substances which they were finding there. When they were gone, not to be seen again, I thought they were probably racing pigeons gone astray and I had seen the last of them. But had I? I opened my paper yesterday to read that thousands of racing pigeons had just been released on the journey from Beachy Head to Hartlepool. The mind boggles! Supposing a whole number of these lose their bearings and having heard on their grapevine that there are rich pickings in Long Compton, and come and head for my garden? I shall for a few days be stood with eyes scanning the horizons and with my binoculars searching the skies. And so we shall see, we shall see!

VILLAGE NEWS

BARCHESTON WITH WILLINGTON

Editor: Please email – barcheston@swlink.org.uk

St. Martin's Barcheston – Organ Recital Series 2021



ST MARTIN'S, BARCHESTON

Organ Recital Series 2021

Sunday 5 September: John Morris

Organist, St Mary-the-Virgin, Stoneleigh

Sunday 3 October: Julian Harris

Director of Music, St James's Singers

Sunday 7 November: Mark Swinton

Assistant Director of Music, St Mary's, Warwick

Sunday 5 December: William Peart

Postgraduate Student, Universität der Künste, Berlin

Recitals will start at 3.30pm and last about 50 mins.

Entry is free. Donations are invited to St Martin's Organ Fund which is used to maintain the organ and fund future recitals and concerts

For further information please contact David Hodges: david@famington.co.uk

www.stmartinsbarcheston.co.uk

Barton Unlocks

With just over 70 residents on the Electoral Register – say 100 souls in total – Barton has been extremely fortunate in not having any Covid 19 cases. Yet during the period of full lockdown, contact and support was maintained through the village WhatsApp group and, using the group, the village fete committee were able to take a gamble to select Saturday 7 August for the village fete. In terms of organisation and effort, 70 residents is on the border line for the effort needed to arrange, publicise and hold a village fete, so it was very much a matter of all hands to the pumps (and there was even some days of heavy rain to go with it) from 23 June to get things going.

A variety of fun gatherings were arranged during the days running up to the day of the fete to collect items need for the 12 stands which were to be erected on the day and to get pledges for the auction and volunteers to manage the various stands. Volunteers were also needed to erect the tents, a licence for a bar was obtained and the 'fish and chips' van and jazz band booked.

The only thing which could not be pre-arranged was the weather.

John Castle

The Barton Village Fete

We were incredibly lucky to avoid most of the rain, with just a few light spots not deterring people from enjoying their shopping, games, teas and G&Ts. Happily, the heavens only really opened well after the end of the fete, when we had tidied up and were enjoying our well-earned fish and chips.

Huge thanks are due to all who were involved, in whatever capacity.



The donations, most gratefully received in advance, allowed us to purchase tables and pay for the superb Melody Room jazz band - who created a fun atmosphere with their cheery jazz vibes.

All of the stalls were fabulously stocked with produce, cakes, bric a brac, plants, bottles and books, all very kindly donated by so many in Barton (and beyond), and all did incredibly well. Teas made an amazing £600, and the tombola a record-breaking £855. The pre-loved clothes also had a record year, and happily made a fantastic £1,300.

As well as helpers running the stalls, huge thanks are due to all those who helped set-up and take down the tents etc. - it couldn't have happened without everyone pitching in!

We were especially proactive with promoting the fete this year, and it was gratifying that this brought many new visitors in addition to our regulars. The turnout was really impressive. We also managed to attract a Stratford Herald reporter, who appeared after reading about the fete on social media.

It was a great day, enjoyed by Bartonians and visitors alike, and raising over £5,000 for the Church, Village Hall and four other charities, all of which have been so severely impacted by the cancellation of so many fundraising activities over the past year.

Jules, Suzie and Helen

Postscript - And so, the figures...

The grand total fete profit for this year was just over £5,000 (compared to £3,800 in 2019). An excellent result, we think. To be distributed thus:-

£2,000 to the Church

£1,000 to the Village Hall

£1,000 divided between the following charities (£250 to each):

Katherine House Hospice, Shipston Home Nursing, Lawrence Home Nursing and
The Gynaecological Cancer Fund

£1,000 (+ shrapnel) to remain in the fete account to pay for repairs to the stage and to give a float for next year's fete.

The fete simply couldn't work without everyone pitching in, so, thank you, one and all. As you bask in the glory of all your efforts, please bear in mind that should you be having a clear-out or tidy up over the coming months, and come up with some bric a brac, bottles or designer clothes, do please get in touch - we have plenty of storage!

Jules, Suzie and Helen

It's probably **FREE** – Subscription to The LINK online is free for existing subscribers within the SW7 distribution area so please do sign up...

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Gordon Stanley Marshall 30th January 1934 – 13th July 2021

By his daughter, Sally-Anne (Sam) Tsangarides.

Gordon was born in Shepperton, Middlesex, the youngest of four children. He talked of his childhood as getting into scrapes, fighting and football.

He matriculated from Ashford County Grammar School with Distinctions and Credits and took his first job, aged 16, in a construction company in Feltham. He was called up for National Service in 1952, serving in the Royal Artillery in Germany and becoming a qualified surveyor, after which he returned to the UK and became a Site Engineer for Hadsphaltic Construction, later Johnston Construction.

His former colleagues say that Gordon was 'master of the art of delegation, sitting at an empty desk reading the Contract Journal but with time to think about what might be a problem next week before anyone else'. He rose to become a director of the company.

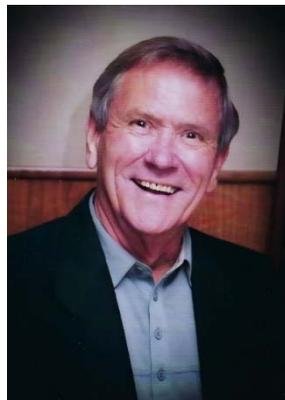
Gordon married Muriel and they had two children, Sally-Anne and Paul, when they settled in Barford in the 60s. Over several years, he competed in the Lions Raft Race, held between Charlecote and Stratford-on-Avon. It was a crazy day out but, as always with Gordon, it was a competition to be won.

After a long marriage, Muriel and Gordon divorced. Gordon took early retirement, married Helen and moved to Burmington with Helen and her son, Adam, where he was part of the community for over 30 years.

Gordon was Treasurer of the Burmington Parish Meeting and an entertaining charity quizmaster. He dressed as Santa for the Burmington children's Christmas parties and in a pink bear's costume as 'Burmington Bertie' at the village fetes. He was crepe suzette maker at the CAMEO lunch club on Shrove Tuesdays, when members would cheer him on in the hope that he might succeed in hitting the ceiling with one of his pancakes.

Gordon's life was filled with enthusiastic passions. He loved a wide range of music, especially classical and jazz and his knowledge was encyclopedic. He adored dogs all through his life. Between them, his rescue dogs Rusty and Pippa, gave him 35 years of close companionship and he was a regular dog walker around the village for many years.

Another passion was sport – playing soccer, badminton and squash in his younger years, and golf, which he only started aged 36. He achieved a handicap of just four, set up the competition structure at the newly-formed Brailes Golf Club and became an honorary member at Broadway Golf Club after 50 wonderful years, as well as making a hole-in-one at both Brailes and the St. Melion course in Cornwall and shooting his age twice – all proud achievements.



Gordon regularly quoted the Rubaiyat of the ancient Persian astronomer-poet Omar Khayyam on the central philosophical theme of 'seize the day'; there are also a lot of verses about drinking wine, which he also enjoyed immensely.

He was really proud of his four grandchildren – Andreas and Stephanie, William and Daniel – and their achievements at university, in sport and in their work. In recent years, after he and Helen had separated and later divorced and he was living alone, Gordon had wonderful support from his neighbours and the team at Shipston Care. Their regular visits and kindnesses, especially during Covid-19 isolation, helped ensure that he was able to remain living independently in his beloved home and village in spite of increasing health problems.

Gordon passed away suddenly at home on 13 July 2021 after afternoon tea in good company at the Burmington village hall. Neighbours describe Gordon as 'a highly-regarded and respected member of the village community who will be remembered for his friendliness to all'.

Children's Liver Disease Foundation

Thank you to everyone who helped and donated to our Children's Liver Disease Foundation Coffee Morning on 17 July in the garden of Kenrene, Burmington.

It was a very warm morning attended by very generous people. We raised £1,550 for this very worthwhile cause. Thank you again.

Irene Clarke



Book Sale



Burmington Village Hall

Every Saturday 10.00 am – 4.00 pm
Starting in September

Come along and see if there's a book for you. Prices will be displayed.
To our generous donors: please don't bring any more books to the Hall.
We have enough for the time being... Thank you. Julia Sykes



Fish and Chip Night
Burmington Village Hall
Saturday 4 September

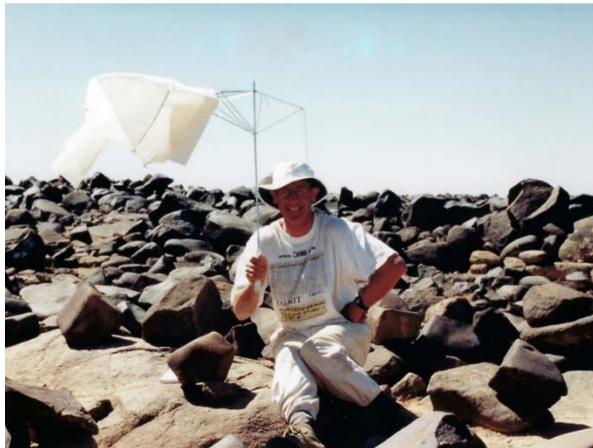


6.00 pm prompt - £10 per person/portion

EVERYONE WELCOME

Tickets from Irene 01608 661418

Talk by Michael Macdonald
What I do in the desert:
Conversations with Ancient Nomads



Burmington Village Hall
Saturday 9 October
5.00 pm for lecture
(Donations to the Village Hall)
6.30 pm for a Lebanese meal
(Tickets £10, please book with Sonia 01608-661459)

Village Hall Survey

As you may know, the village hall committee has sent out surveys to villagers in Burmington, Willington and Tidmington to see how people want us to develop the hall facilities.

A massive thank you to everyone who has completed one and a gentle reminder to those who haven't. If you could please get the completed form back to the red box outside the hall in Burmington, or to Fir Tree Cottage in Willington before the end of August, it would be appreciated, so that we can collate and analyse the results ahead of our meeting next month.

Diary Dates

A couple of dates for your diary: Fish & Chip Supper Saturday 4 September and also the return of the monthly Village Breakfast on Saturday 25 September 10.00 am -12 noon (£5 per person). We would really appreciate it if you could let us know if you are coming to the breakfast by dropping a text/call to 07966 849149. Thank you.

Village Hall Committee

VILLAGE NEWS

CHERINGTON WITH STOURTON

Editor: Alan Holmes

Email: cherington@swlink.org.uk

Tel: 686682

Coffee Shop, The Hall

Come along and catch up with friends over a coffee and it's your chance to meet people from the village if you have recently moved in. Everyone welcome. If anyone would like to help, then please get in touch with Christine 01608 686288 / 07866127409. We are also looking for anyone who would like to have a craft stall at the Coffee Shop. Please contact me for more.

Coffee Shop - Saturday 11 September



10.30 am - 12 noon.

At The Hall, Stourton - CV36 5HG

Teas, Coffees including cappuccino,
latte etc. Bacon Baps and Cakes.

Christine Dudfield

Harvest Festival

Calling children and parents of our villages... Saturday 18 September 10.30 – 2.00 pm. In preparation for the Harvest Festival on Sunday 19 September at 10.30, it would be lovely to have flowers, fruit and/or vegetables from you to help celebrate the festival. I will be in the church from 10.30 am – 2.00 pm and will bring extra flowers so everyone will have the opportunity to make a small flower arrangement.

One important request. Parents - in order to meet Safeguarding regulations, all children must be accompanied at all times. Many thanks and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the Saturday 18 September.

Sarah Scotter

SUTTON UNDER BRAILES

Village Fete &
Sat Sep 11 - 2.30-4pm
on The Green

DOG SHOW



10 Classes

Cutest puppy (6 - 12 months)

Terrible Teenager (13 - 24 months)

Prettiest Bitch

Most Handsome Dog

Best Oldie (over 7 years)

Waggiest Tail

Child Handler (under 15yrs)

Cleverest Biscuit catcher

Best local dog (5 mile radius)

Dog the judge would like to take home



Rosettes ~ 1st, 2nd & 3rd



Rosettes ~ Best in Show

Rosettes ~ Reserve Best in Show



NB : All dogs must be kept on lead at all times

Enquiries : Tel. 01608 686332

Free Parking

Village Lottery

Winners in the draw for the August lottery were

1st Steve Allkins - £80.00 2nd Jean Bryant - £45.00 3rd Val Flint - £30.00

Congratulations to our winners and thank you for your continued support. For more information on joining, please contact Steve Allkins.

Steve Allkins

Brailes Picturehouse

Saturday 18 September

Little Women - With their father away serving in the Civil war, the women of the March family Marmee, and her four daughters, Jo, Meg, Amy and Beth - are left all to fend for themselves. Faced with poverty, the fledgling author, Jo March, is struggling to make a name for herself. Considerate Meg is married, and the artistically inclined, Amy, is in Paris with their affluent Aunt March. However, the news of musically talented Beth's devastating illness, reunites the sisters under the same roof. Stars Emma Watson, Saoirse Ronan, Florence Pugh, Meryle Streep and Chris Cooper.

Future dates - 16 October, 20 November - titles to be decided

Our plan is, with safety and restrictions in mind, to offer small table seating, of up to four, and of course the normal rows in front. At the Brailes village 're-start' event on Saturday 11 September, you will find our Picturehouse stall where you can come and have a bit of fun with our quiz, along with a possible ice cream and compote, oh goodness must get practicing!

Deirdre and Team



Oil on Canvas - *Picnic on the Beach in Dorset* by Stourton Artist, Colin Beckett

VILLAGE NEWS

LONG COMPTON

Editor: Sally Franklin

Email: longcompton@swlink.org.uk

Long Compton Parish Council Needs You! We have two Parish Councillor vacancies



Do you live within 3 miles of Long Compton?

Are you looking for a new challenge?

Are you passionate about where you live and what to make a difference?

Then please contact the Parish Clerk for more information

longcompton@googlemail.com

Allotment Plots to Let

The Parish Council have two plots available for villagers of Long Compton at Taylor's Allotments, opposite Hollows Entrance, Old Hill.

Please can you contact the Long Compton Parish Clerk to register your interest at longcompton@googlemail.com



Long Compton Village Hall

Socially Distanced Saturday

Saturday 11 September 11am – 1pm

*We serve delicious home-cooked meals and hot drinks.
Local stalls selling their wares. Do pop along and join us!*



Mike Rosewell, RIP

It is very sad to have to announce the death on Friday 6 August of Mike Rosewell. Many in Long Compton will remember Mike for his great character and support for the village (he started the Village Hall 100 Club which continues to support the hall today). He was a Rowing Correspondent for many years and a full obituary from his past colleagues can be found at <https://heartheboatsing.com/2021/08/12/rosewell-of-the-times/>

He was always keen to chat and always had a story to tell! He was 84.

He and his wife Jill moved from Broad Street, Long Compton to Shipston some years ago. Jill moved to a care home several years ago. They have a daughter Anna, and a son, Daniel.

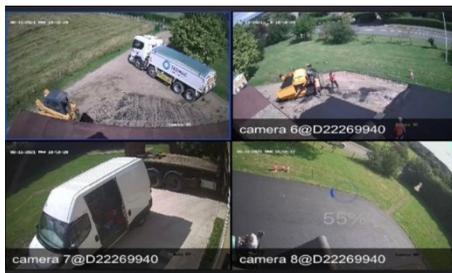
Melanie Smart

Long Compton Village Hall

August was a busy and exciting month for the village hall with several bookings and the transformation of the drive (& entrance) from a potholed obstacle course to a smooth surface safe for pushchairs, wheelchairs, high heels, wedge heels and those unsteady on their feet (for whatever reason!).

It's been a long campaign to raise the funds needed and we are grateful to all those who have done their part in organising and supporting fundraising events and donating time, effort and money to make it happen. Thank you! There are still a few bits to finish off but we're nearly there.

The new surface was put to good use just two days after completion with the August Social Saturday. The weather was typically 'August-y' and gazebos were quickly fetched and erected to protect one and all. It goes without saying that the glorious sunshine as we packed up was useful for drying the canvases ready for storage!



The tarmac going down...



The Salvation Army collection bin has been sited at the hall for a couple of years now and we have received regular donations of clothing etc. for which the hall is paid by the Salvation Army. Although the bottom dropped out of the clothes recycling market during lockdown, we continued to get plenty of donations to the bin and have raised over £200. So far this year, we have raised £70.45 all down to you choosing the SA bin for your unwanted clothing. Thank you! Although the Salvation Army have been endeavouring to empty the bin twice a week, it does still get full to the brim at times. If this is the case, can we politely ask that you don't leave bags of recycling next to the bin as this is fly tipping. Please bring them back another time.

Long Compton Village Hall has a.....

Salvation Army Donation Bank



The Committee invite you to make use of this facility to give new life to your unwanted clothes, footwear, bags, belts, towels and bed linen.

For more information, visit the Salvation Army website: www.satcol.org/donating

Mo Read, 684130, 07814 802814 or lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

Long Compton Neighbourhood Watch



Our local co-ordinator is Jordan Boswell, who would very much welcome reports of suspicious behaviour. Do let him know about anything that seems to you to be out of the ordinary. Your information might just be the little piece of the jigsaw that helps solve a problem. All calls and emails are completely confidential – your name will not be made public.

Contact Jordan on 07795 008998, or at jordanlboswell@hotmail.com

100 Club Draw

The August Draw was held at the Social Saturday held at the hall on 14 August. The results are as follows:

1st Prize 49 Gill Cox	3rd Prize 136 Mr & Mrs Phillips
2nd Prize 75 Doreen Cunnington	4th Prize 126 Chris Brown

The next draw will take place at the next Social Saturday on Saturday 11 September.

Chris Galloway 684234

Long Compton
book club

Our next meeting is Thursday 9 September at 7.00 pm

We will be discussing *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom

and *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett

All Welcome - Contact: Carole Clements 01608 684938
carole.r.clements@googlemail.com

Long Compton Bridge Club

The Bridge Club will start up again in the village hall as follows:

Tuesday 14 September 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Tuesday 28 September 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm.

And thereafter every 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at the same times.

The Club is open to players of any standard, and the aim is to have fun and meet other players so as to enjoy further games at home. Beginners welcome. There is no membership fee, but a 'green fee' of £3 is charged for each meeting to cover coffee/tea, biscuits and expenses.

Chris Galloway 684234

Compton District History Society

On Wednesday 15 September, we will be holding our long-delayed AGM, followed by a talk from Bill Cook about Long Compton during the Second World War. (Please note the date - this is the third Wednesday of September, not the second as usual.)

Members renewing in September will pay a half rate subscription, having had only half a year effective membership in 2019. New members will pay the full £12.

We have been able to reschedule the talks which were cancelled last year and add new ones for next year with a variety of subjects with something to interest everyone. The full programme will be available at the AGM.

We will be meeting as before in the village hall at 7.30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month from October to December and March to June next year. Refreshments are served after the talk. We look forward to seeing members, new members and visitors in the near future.

Diana Cook 01608 684771

Long Compton & District Walkers

A pleasant warm day awaited us for our walk in August and we assembled in Shipton under Wychwood having managed to avoid the traffic chaos in Chipping Norton.

We set off to explore an area we had not visited for a number of years, heading towards Lyneham, crossing part of the golf course before making our way towards Foxholes nature reserve. It is a very noticeable aspect of our walks now that we see very little, if any wildlife, or hear much birdsong and that was again the case during the morning. A couple of the group took a tumble over some of the slightly tricky muddy sections, but no damage was done, apart from individual pride.

Returning through Bruern past the Abbey, we arrived in Shipton to the news that there was a burst water main in the High Street, just outside the pub where we were booked in for lunch. This meant reduced water pressure, but the staff coped admirably, and we enjoyed sitting in the garden mulling over the general news and happenings. Thank you to our leader for organising the walk and we look forward to the next walk which will be on September 14, meeting as usual in the car park at the Red Lion at 9.30am.

Jan Treadaway 684553

The Compton Creatives

For those of you who don't know us, we are a group who enjoy arts and crafts, with an emphasis on textiles. We meet monthly, usually on third Monday of the month. Sometimes we just work on our own projects while indulging in coffee, cakes and chat. Sometimes one of us holds a mini workshop, and sometimes we have an outside teacher come to give us a workshop. We also enjoy outings to exhibitions and places of interest.

If you would like to join us, please contact me.

caroline.nixon@btinternet.com or jhburras@yahoo.co.uk

Ebenezer Congregational Chapel

The Craft, Flower and Produce Show is on 28 and 29 August which is after the copy date for this issue, so we will let you know how that went in October. We have been very industriously giving a coat of paint to the Arden Room this weekend, in preparation for the event.

The car park is still a work in progress, but we are hopeful it will be finished before long.

The collection of drinks cans in aid of Katharine House Hospice is still ongoing. These should be placed in a bag in the bins just inside the car park entrance.

Our next craft market will be on Thursday 16 September, 6.00 – 8.00 pm.

Our Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 10 October at 3.30 pm. Any Harvest goods for display will be gratefully received.

Ebenezer Chapel

Long Compton Congregational Church
Butlers Lane

CRAFT MARKET

Every 3rd Thursday

16 September

6 pm - 8 pm

Refreshments on Sale

For Details contact: Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778
longcomptonebenezerchapel@live.co.uk

Ebenezer Chapel

Long Compton Congregational Church

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday

10 October

3.30pm

Please join us for Refreshments after the service.

Gifts of produce gratefully received, please leave at the Chapel
or Contact Sally 07870 545431 or Elizabeth 07791 621778

longcomptonebenezerchapel@live.co.uk

The Exchange Library in the Porch is still going strong and well used. We will have to close the door for autumn and winter, but it will still be unlocked, so access will not be a problem (we have moved the lock to the inner door).

Sally Franklin 07870 545431
Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778

Compton and District Garden Club

Thursday 9 September: trip to Waterperry Gardens (east of Oxford off M40 OX33 1LA)

There is something for everyone in this eight-acre garden - beautiful trees, classic borders, long vistas, a garden museum, plant centre and shop.

The cost is £8 (own cars to be used). We are hoping to arrange lunch together. More details will be sent out to members.

Please let Anthony Wells or Lesley Roberts know if you would like to come. We are using our own cars for all these visits, and we would like to share cars if possible. Please let us know if you would be happy to do this.

**Anthony Wells: 684337 anthonymgwells@btinternet.com
or Lesley Roberts: 684545 lesleyroberts46@gmail.com**

Exhibition of paintings by two Local Artists

At Long Compton Village Hall

15 - 24 October (11 am and 4 pm each day)

All are most welcome, and entry is free

Jill Jeffrey



Stella Carr



Village Organisations

[Long Compton and District Garden Club](#) - Contact Anthony Wells 684337 or Lesley Roberts 684545

[Compton and District History Society](#) - Contact Diana Cook 684771

[Comptonians](#) - Contact Margaret Welsh 684238

[Village Hall](#) - Mo Read on 684130, 07814802814 or lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

[Compton Creatives](#) - caroline.nixon@btinternet.com or jhburras@yahoo.co.uk

[Long Compton & District Walkers](#) - Jan Treadaway 684553

[Long Compton Short Mat Bowls](#) - Club Contact Adrian on 684024

[Long Compton Bridge Club](#) - Chris Galloway 684234

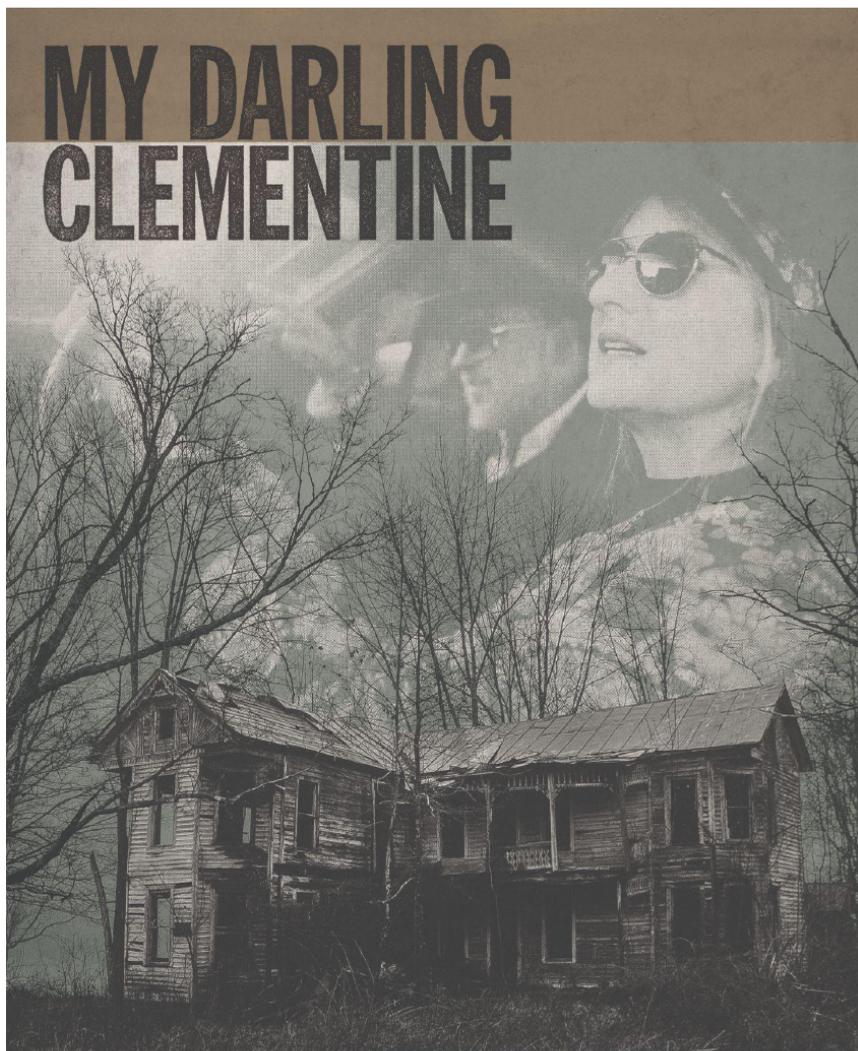
[The Friends of Long Compton Church](#) e: friendslcchurch@gmail.com

f: [@friendsoflongcomptonchurch](https://www.facebook.com/friendsoflongcomptonchurch) and <https://www.friendsoflongcomptonchurch.com/>

[Long Compton Sports Club:](#)

Secretary: Andrew Lund-Yates 07813 032144/ 01451 820467 andrewlundyates@gmail.com

Cricket: Andrew Badham 07900-466339 andrewbadham@icloud.com



MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

"King and Dagleish have re-invented the country duet - the mingling of these two voices is just heavenly."
Mojo



MYDARLINGCLEMENTINEMUSIC.CO.UK
PHOTO BY MARCO BARLER
DESIGN BY SWING FROM THE BATTERS

Saturday 9 October at 7.00 pm. St Peter and St Paul Church, Long Compton.

Doors and Donation Bar open at 6.30 pm.

Early bird tickets £15 to October 1 then £18 or under 16s accompanied by an adult £5 from flccsec@gmail.com or on the door.

Or Eventbrite - <https://bit.ly/3yW34IS> full price only.

The Friends of Long Compton Church Registered Charity Number 1141040

VILLAGE NEWS

WHICHFORD AND ASCOTT

Editor: Melanie Arnold

Email: whichford@swlink.org.uk



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Harvest Festival Service

Sunday 10 October at 10.30 am, Family Service, St Michael's Church, Whichford

Please bring contributions for the food bank. Refreshments will be served after the service, (subject to change if necessary). Do come along.



cc-by-sa/2.0 - St Michael's Church, Whichford by Phillip Halling - geograph.org.uk/p/509437

Mandy James

The Reading Room Draw

Congratulations to Tony Blunt who was the winner of the August Reading Room draw.

Jenny Scrivener

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Caroline O'Kane 684780

Jenny Scrivener 684564

Sophia Corlett 684369

Mandy James 684479

Mary Manville-Hales 684679

A donation to the Church would be appreciated. Please try to give us as much notice as possible and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Mandy James

VILLAGE NEWS

THE WOLFORDS

Editor, Little Wolford Email: littlewolford@swlink.org.uk

Editor, Great Wolford: Lynn Mathias

Email: greatwolford@swlink.org.uk Tel: 674247

The Wolfords WI

On Sunday 8 August, Wolfords WI did teas at Chastleton Church for the first time. This was kindly organised by Sarah Franklin and turned out to be a great fundraiser. A team of six ladies provided tea and an array of homemade cakes. It was great teamwork and we all enjoyed the day even though it was hard work. We cut and plated 13 big cakes in all, including gluten-free options and look forward to doing it again in September. A big thank you to everyone that made cakes, they all looked wonderful.

In August we did not have an official meeting, but we always do some sort of outing, inviting family and friends from the villages.

We arranged a private outing to Sezincote House & Gardens, which was great because we had the house and gardens to ourselves. We were lucky with the weather as we drove down the long drive and glimpsed the view that takes your breath away. It's as if you have been transported somewhere exotic. The guided tour of the house was very informative and interesting, the interior design is amazing. We then explored the beautiful gardens and finished off with refreshments of our own in the Orangery.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 1 September 7.30 pm at The Wolfords village hall. If you would like to join us at a meeting, please contact Sarah Franklin 674615, President Sue Elliot 674295 or Secretary Roz Warriner 684223.

Great Wolford Minute Books

The two Great Wolford Parish Council Minute Books, 1894-1989 which have been deposited in the Warwickshire Archives are now available to view online at <http://archivesunlocked.warwickshire.gov.uk/calmview/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=06379>

BINGO and Fish and Chips Supper

(Takeaway also available)



Saturday 9 October at 7.00 pm
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Ann McKenna (674009) / annmckenna3@sky.com

In aid of St. Michael & All Angels Church, The Wolfords

For the takeaways on the night (Saturday 9 October):

Due to the success of our previous takeaways, we will be offering a takeaway service between 6.00 pm and 7.15 pm.

Here's how it works: we need at least 50 orders to make the van visit viable so now is the time to express an interest by emailing Ann McKenna (see details below), with the number of meals you would like.

Cut-off date for pre-ordering is Saturday 25 September and to keep the delivery on the night quick and efficient, we're asking for payment to be made in advance when we confirm your order. And of course, you don't need to be a Wolford resident to join in – if you can come and collect then you're very welcome to place an order.

Once we have 50 orders confirmed we can take further orders up to Wednesday 6 October.

The cost for this takeaway is £10 per serving - to order please contact: Ann McKenna email: annmckenna3@sky.com or tel: 01608 674009

Please help us to maintain the church and churchyard at the centre of our village.

The Wolfords Village Hall One Hundred Club

There is no draw in August and next draw will be in September. Please let me know if you would like to have more shares as the club is still short of 100 shares. All proceeds go to help with the upkeep of the village hall.

James van Helden

Saturday 9 October – Takeaway Fish and Chips

Following the lifting of restrictions, we have decided to recommence our fund-raising events with Fish Chips & Bingo at the Village Hall. Due to the success of our previous takeaways, we will also be offering a takeaway service between 6.00 pm and 7.15 pm as described above.

The Bingo evening will commence at 7.00 pm at the Village Hall in The Wolfords Village Hall – please see the separate notice above for details of this event and the takeaway.

For those of you who regularly walk past the churchyard in Great Wolford, you will see that the wall has been repaired in 2 places and the funds raised from the takeaway fish & chips have funded these repairs. So a big thank you to all of you who supported us. There is more work to be done on the churchyard wall and some redecoration in the church which we hope will be completed before the end of this year

Great Wolford Harvest Festival



HARVEST FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 3rd OCTOBER

11.30 am

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Come and join us for a good sing from 11.30 to 12.30 and then stay for a light buffet-style lunch at the back of the church (no charge and no need to book). Everyone welcome especially children of all ages.

Any contributions of flowers and produce to decorate the church will be very welcome - please bring along on Saturday morning. And we're also collecting for the local Food Bank. Can you spare any tinned, dried or packet food to help those who are struggling through difficult times?

This is a traditional village family-friendly event for the whole community so do come and meet up with your friends and neighbours.

This month would have seen the 75th birthday of one Farrokh Bulsara, better known as Queen front man Freddie Mercury. He was born in Stone Town in the British protectorate of Zanzibar (now part of Tanzania) on 5 September 1946.

I believe he deserves a place in our Poetry Notes even though some may say that he was a musician and a showman first and foremost, rather than a poet.

I well recall the release of the landmark *Bohemian Rhapsody* in 1975. This coincided with my leaving home and looking after myself for the first time. The song, probably better categorised as a true work of art, has remained with me as a marker for that stage of my life. I've no doubt that others well recall, either to their pleasure or otherwise, the domination that this release had over the British charts for nine weeks in 1975/6 and again, after Mercury's death in November 1991 at the early age of 45.

Bohemian Rhapsody is said to be about identity and the search that Freddie was engaged in, looking for meaning in existence, particularly his existence. In the opening words we see how this could be true.

*Is this the real life? Is this just fantasy?
Caught in a landside, No escape from reality.
Open your eyes, Look up to the skies and see,
I'm just a poor boy, I need no sympathy,
Because I'm easy come, easy go,
Little high, little low,
Any way the wind blows doesn't really matter
to me, to me.*

On the other hand, alternative explanations are available. The D.J., television entertainer, comedian and one-time Cherington resident, Kenny Everett quoted Mercury as claiming the lyrics were simply 'random rhyming nonsense'. Kenny was indeed a close friend of Freddie, and it leads me to wonder if Freddie ever made an appearance in Cherington? Perhaps we have some readers who can fill us in with any relevant tales of either Kenny or Freddie?

How apt is that name 'Mercury'. It's probably already been commented on, but just try to get a hold or a grip on mercury, and this precious sliver liquid will simply just slip through your hands. Maybe that's why he chose the name. He shone like silver, and all too quickly, just slipped through our hands.



Freddie Mercury 1946 -1991

Keith Murphy, editor@swlink.org.uk



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