

THE LINK

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

SEPTEMBER 2025

£1.20



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

EVENTS DIARY

Contact the Editor:
editorswlink@gmail.com

September Events Update (VH = Village Hall; Ch = Church)

Weds 3	Community Coffee	Long Compton Ch	10:30
Thurs 4	Country Market	Moreton WI Hall	10:00
Fri 5	FeelGood Friday	The Hall, Stourton	14:00
Sat 6	Village Breakfast	Burmington VH	08:00
Tues 9	Bridge Club	Long Compton Chapel	19:00
Thurs 11	Country Market	Moreton WI Hall	10:00
Sat 13	Coffee Morning	College Farm Barn, Willington	10:30
	Coffee Shop	The Hall, Stourton	10:00
	Social Saturday	Long Compton VH	11:00
Tues 16	Coffee Morning	Wolfford Ch	11:00
Weds 17	Feldon Mil and Naval Soc	The Hall, Stourton	20:00
Thurs 18	Country Market	Moreton WI Hall	10:00
Fri 19	FeelGood Friday	The Hall, Stourton	14:00
	Bosso Gringo	Townsend Hall, Shipston	19:00
	Race Night	Long Compton VH	19:00
	Movie: Mad About the Boy	Brailes Pic Hse	19:15
Sat 20	SW7 Sponsored Walk	The Hall Stourton	13:00
Thurs 25	Country Market	Moreton WI Hall	10:00
Sat 27	Dog Day	Red Lion, Long Compton	11:00
	Whist Drive	Long Compton Chapel	19:00
Sun 28	Harvest Service	Burmington Ch	11:00
	Harvest Service	Long Compton Ch	11:00



Happy Birthday!
September 2025



Benjamin Payne	Burmington	17
Olivia Johnston	Great Wolford	16
India Spencer Sewell	Stourton	16
Lucy May Andrews	Barcheston	17

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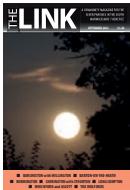
EDITORIAL



Welcome to the September 'Harvest' edition of The Link. If you have been following the Farming Notes over the past few months you will know that, whilst we have all been enjoying the sunshine, the lack of rain has been a major cause of anxiety for farming this year; we have reason to be thankful that ultimately the harvest does not seem to have been as bad as was feared.

I was listening to Stephen Mangan on Room 101 on Radio 4 last week saying how much he hated Autumn. I love it! It's such a productive time when I reap the fruits of all the hard graft on the allotment and the kitchen is a flurry of vegetable processing activity. There is no shortage of blackberries in our hedgerows and along with a crumble production line I have been busy looking for 100 ways to use courgettes; any suggestions gratefully received! Happy harvest time.

Sara Billins



Cover photograph: Harvest Moon by Jonathan Watts

LINK cover and artwork produced by Kopyrite, Chipping Norton

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

**Please note the copy deadline for October 2025:
September 11th**

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All subscription monies paid to The LINK are non-refundable in the event that the South Warwickshire LINK Ltd. ceases to opera



Sunday 2nd November: Cantamus A Capella Choir “Shades of Autumn”

A concert of moving and uplifting music complemented by readings to match the mood. Starts 3pm. Tickets £15, includes tea & cake! From: www.cantamus.org.uk

Saturday 22nd November: The Hall Theatre - “Dead On Cue” - 7:30pm

*Professional Live Theatre continues at The Hall with this fantastic play - perfect for a dark Winter's night.....A new ghostly thriller, written and performed by Mark Carey
Set in the same theatre dressing room, during the same play, at the same theatre, but 60 years apart. What is the unearthly link between the two productions of Hamlet?
Doors & Bar 6:30pm. Performance Starts 7:30pm. Tickets £15
Contact: info@thehallevents.org.uk / <https://buytickets.at/gilleshentonproductions>*

Saturday 29th November: Christmas Family Prize Bingo Night - 7:30pm

The Stour Health & Wellbeing Partnership bring you another fun evening of Bingo with some great prizes on offer! Doors & Bar 7pm, Eyes Down 7:30pm

Thursday 15th January: The Hall Theatre - “Mettle” - 7:30pm

*November 1942, 18-year old Gordon Collett volunteers for the Royal Navy serving on the HMS Vanessa - devastating U-boat attacks result in the heaviest loss of ships from any trans-Atlantic convoy that winter. This gripping, moving and often humorous new show is written and performed by Nicholas Collet, Actor, Writer - and Gordon's son.
Doors & Bar 6:30pm. Performance 7:30pm. Tickets £15 - info@thehallevents.org.uk*

Sunday 15th March : The Hall Theatre - “Victor and Albert - Purveyors of fine musical comedy” - 7:30pm

*Professor Victor and Dr Albert's unique brand of entertainment is a thrilling blend of music, comedy, games and a dash of magic, offering a fresh twist on a classic two-man variety show! Doors & Bar 6:30pm. Performance Starts 7:30pm. Tickets £15
Contact: info@thehallevents.org.uk / <https://buytickets.at/gilleshentonproductions>*

Sunday 10th May: The Hall Theatre - “Wood Owl & The Box of Wonders”

Ideal for children of all ages, featuring beautiful handmade puppets, original songs and music. Performance at 2pm, contact: info@thehallevents.org.uk



**The Hall Cherington, Stourton
& Sutton-under-Brailes**

www.thehallevents.org.uk / info@thehallevents.org.uk





Carers4Carers - a peer support group for local family carers.

Join us on **Friday 26th September** from **10:30 to 12 noon** at **Kinton Village Hall**.

We're thrilled to welcome Keith Barker, Wellbeing Advisor from Caring Together Warwickshire and The Carers Trust. He'll be sharing valuable insights to support your caring role.

Enjoy refreshments, friendly chat, and mutual support. Loved ones are welcome too – they can join our Companionship Group during the meeting.

For further details about our group or help with transport arrangements please contact Gillian on 07947 893504, send an email to kcarers4carers@gmail.com, or explore our website www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk.

Lisa Barnett – Assistant Coordinator

**Even the word "dementia" can be daunting...
but we believe it's better to get the practical advice
and emotional support you need as a family carer**

Please visit one of our dementia friendly cafes locally

Tuesday from 10.30am - 12.30pm



Shipston on Stour CV36 4QG

Wednesday from 2pm - 4pm



Wellesbourne Village Hall CV35 9NH

Thursday from 10.30am - 12.30pm



Moreton-in-Marsh GL56 0DS

Friday from 10am - 12 noon

Tysoe Village Hall CV35 0SE

1st Tuesday of each month
from 10.30am - 12.30pm

Compton Verney House CV35 9HZ
(contact us for entrance tickets)

Google



talkdementia.uk

Advice and support for carers of loved ones
living with dementia in South Warwickshire

Contact Paul and Heather Dowler

Phone 01295 688376

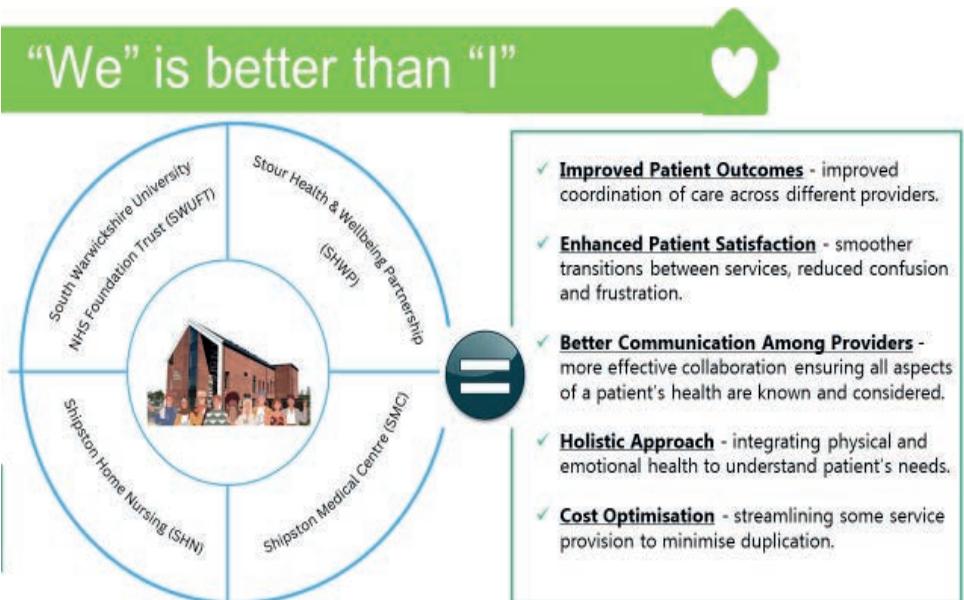
Email talkdementia.uk@gmail.com

Feedback from the Patient Meeting, 3rd June 2025

We were delighted by the turnout to this year's Patient Meeting – it's always good to see a packed Townsend Hall!

There was definitely a buzz in the air with presentations from the GP Practice, the Primary Care Network, the Patient Participation Group, the Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership and last but not least, Shipston Home Nursing. Against a backdrop of the (now published) NHS 10 year health plan and enhanced local opportunities for modern healthcare delivery offered by the re-opening of the Ellen Badger Hospital and Health and Wellbeing Hub, the mood in the room was very upbeat.

The news that the Practice will be renting rooms at the Ellen Badger - operating from a split site from the Autumn - was particularly well received. Also the prospect of better integration of local services which can only in turn improve patient care and experience, all beautifully summarised in this slide from the Shipston Home Nursing team...



Carole Nossiter, Chair, Shipston PPG
shipstonppg@gmail.com



Shipston Link runs scheduled local bus services, Tuesday to Saturday, from surrounding villages into Shipston Town Square, via the Medical Centre, plus weekly shopping trips to Banbury, Moreton-in-Marsh, Chipping Norton and Stratford-upon-Avon.



Our friendly drivers can take you right to your destination; so relax and let us worry about the parking. Bus Passes are accepted on all our Services, with flat-fares for cash customers.

We also provide a very reasonably priced Private Hire service, seven days a week, using our comfortable 16-seater mini-buses.

For more information about our scheduled Services call the Travel Line on 0871 200 2233, or click www.shipstonlink.co.uk



SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR PROBUS CLUB
COMPANIONSHIP FOR RETIRED AND SEMI-RETIRED GENTLEMEN OF SHIPSTON AND THE VILLAGES



FRIENDSHIP | FUN | FASCINATING TALKS

MEETING FORTNIGHTLY ON FRIDAY MORNINGS
AT SHIPSTON SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB
21 LONDON ROAD, SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR CV36 4EP

ALL WELCOME!



The LINK is your local monthly Community Magazine.

It has a circulation of 700 across the South Warwickshire Seven Benefice covering the villages of Barcheston, Barton, Burmington, Cherington, Long Compton, Whichford and The Wolfords.

We're always pleased to welcome new subscribers. At just £12.00 for a calendar year subscription, this represents excellent value and is a great way to stay connected with the news of events and stories in your local community.

We're keen to expand our circulation, so sign up and we'll add you to our readership and deliver to your door each month. Just contact our Subscriptions Manager David Cleave subs@outlook.com



CHARITY No 522997

Bossa Gringo Latin Quartet Comes to Shipston

Save the date in your diary, Friday 19th September 2025.

This exciting quartet of crack musicians breathe new life into well-known and not so well know Latin rhythms (Bossa Nova, Samba, Rhumba, etc) – think of those who famously played this style (Stan Getz, Dizzy Gillespie, Antonio Jobim, etc). The result is exciting stuff, with some spectacular solo work from all four members. We promise you'll love it!

The band includes the brilliant Toliy Vyacheslavov on saxophone, flute and percussion; the ace guitarist Hugh Turner on acoustic nylon and steel string guitar; acoustic bass man Paul Jeffries; and Ralph Mizraki playing congas, bongos, acoustic bass, electric bass, melodica, cello and whatever else is in his recording studio on the way out of the door! Not to be missed!

Watch out for tickets, which will be available from August 11th from The Flower House in Shipston, or online via www.ticketsource.co.uk/townsend-hall, and check out our website www.townsendhall.co.uk for news.

Jenny Glover Townsend Hall Trustee



Moreton-in-Marsh Country Market

For everything homemade, home grown, home cooked and home crafted. Every Thursday, 10.00 am to 12.00 pm, WI Hall, New Road, Moreton in Marsh.

All of the food we sell is cooked in the home, not processed in a factory, using locally sourced, seasonal produce and you can speak directly to the producers.

We also have some wonderful crafters with unique, creative products.

Have you thought about getting involved with the market? We are always in need of new producers and volunteers to help with selling our lovely produce. Contact details below:

07933 141410 / mimcountrymarket@gmail.com or find us on Facebook

A big thank you to all our customers for your continued support.



180th Anniversary of VJ Day and the end of World War II

On 15 August 1945, Victory over Japan (VJ) Day was declared, marking not only Japan's surrender but also the official end of the Second World War. This year, we commemorate the 80th anniversary of these momentous events and remember the 30,000 British service men and women from the army, navy and air force who gave their lives during the conflict with Japan in Southeast Asia between 1941 and 1945.

Britain's involvement in this theatre of war stemmed from its colonial presence in the region, which included India, Burma, Malaya, Singapore and Hong Kong. Japan, already expanding its empire after the invasion of China in 1931, clashed with British interests as it sought dominance across Asia.

Hostilities began in December 1941 with simultaneous Japanese attacks on British positions in Malaya and on the US naval base at Pearl Harbor. The following day, Britain and the United States jointly declared war on Japan.

Early battles brought heavy losses. On 10 December 1941, two of Britain's largest warships, HMS Prince of Wales and HMS Repulse, were sunk by Japanese aircraft, costing 840 lives. Within two months, Malaya had fallen, and on 15 February 1942, Singapore surrendered, resulting in 100,000 British and Allied troops becoming prisoners of war. Winston Churchill described it as the "worst disaster" in British military history.

Burma was similarly overrun, with the Japanese capturing Rangoon by March 1942 and occupying the colony by May. Thousands of captured troops were later forced to work on the notorious Burma-Thailand Railway, known as the "Death Railway", where starvation, disease and brutality claimed countless lives.

Over the next 18 months, British forces continued limited operations in Burma. Units such as the Chindits – British, Indian and Burmese soldiers under Brigadier Orde Wingate – carried out long-range jungle missions, suffering immense hardship, disease and heavy casualties. For every soldier evacuated due to battle wounds, it is recorded that 120 were evacuated for tropical illness.

A turning point came in 1943 with the formation of the British 14th Army in India. Dubbed the "Forgotten Army" due to receiving fewer resources and recognition than troops in Europe, this multinational force under General Bill Slim rebuilt morale and prepared for counter-offensives.

In spring 1944, Japan attempted to invade India, launching a major assault on Imphal and Kohima. Fierce fighting between April and June saw British and

Allied troops, supplied by air, hold their ground and eventually repel the invasion. The victory came at a heavy cost: 17,500 Allied casualties at Imphal, 4,000 at Kohima, and 7,000 Japanese dead. This battle became the springboard for the eventual reconquest of Burma.

The war in Asia ended following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, leading to Japan's surrender. Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten accepted the formal surrender of Japanese forces in Singapore on 12 September 1945.

Today, 120,000 marked graves in the Far East stand as solemn reminders of the lives lost in this campaign.

Their sacrifice is immortalised in the Kohima Epitaph: *"When you go home, tell them of us and say: For your tomorrow, we gave our today."*

John Edmunds of Stroud, who also penned these lines, captured the spirit of their devotion: *"Went the day well? We died and never knew; But well or ill, England, we died for you."*

Dennis Cummings (Read by Colin Beckett at the Cameo Lunch, 12th August)



Shipston-on-Stour Area u3a A Friendly and Stimulating Local Community

Are you no longer working full time and wanting to do something new?

Join us at u3a on a fulfilling journey of learning, friendship, and fun, where individuals come together to explore new interests and share experiences.

We offer many different activities including **arts, nature, history, physical activities, music, languages, and social events**. Our welcoming community of over 350 members from all over the Shipston on Stour area encourages you to pursue lifelong learning and discover new hobbies while enjoying the company of like-minded people.

Why Join U3A?

Learn Something New: Explore and join any of our 39 interest groups.

Make Friends: Connect with others who share your interests and experiences. Rediscover the joy of learning.

Stay Active: Join our regular outings, workshops, walks and social events.

Flexible Participation: Choose the activities that suit your schedule and interests.

For more information and a full list of activities, please look at our website www.sosau3asite.uk
Come along to one of our monthly meetings which start at 2pm normally on the 4th Tuesday of every month at the Townsend Hall, Shipston, or contact Secretary, John Keayes, by e-mail secretary@sosau3acommittee.org to find out more



Raising money for
the Cotswolds
Dogs & Cats
Home



DOG DAY



JOIN US FOR DOG DAY AT THE RED LION, LONG COMPTON

- **FUN DOG SHOW** - with rosettes & prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd
- **MINI MAKEOVERS** from The Dog Spa
- **HEAD SHOTS** with Cotswold Pet Photography
- **DECORATE YOUR OWN DOG BANDANA** with Larkswold Creative Studio
- **SCURRIES** - timed retrieval demonstrations
- **TRAINING TIPS** from Byron Dog Training & Xavier Dog Training
- **CHARITY RAFFLE** for The Cotswolds Dogs & Cats Home
- **STALLS** - including Cotswold Hipster, Petz Paws and The Sausage Pit

11AM-3PM - SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

Follow us for more details!

  @redlionlongcomp

Sponsored by:

THE
CANINE MENU

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52 Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire. CV36 4AE

Charity No. 522997

Townsend Hall, Shipston, presents...
On Friday, 19th September 2025
The Bossa Gringos



This exciting quartet of crack musicians breathe new life into well known and not so well know Latin rhythms (Bossa Nova, Samba, Rhumba, etc). The result is exciting stuff. We promise you'll love it!

Ron Wilson
PHOTOGRAPHY

Featuring Toliy Vyacheslavov on sax, flute and percussion; Hugh Turner on guitar, and two bassists, Raph Mizraki and Paul Jeffries, who often switch between percussion, upright bass and bass guitar

Doors / Bar Open 19:00 for 20:00
Tickets £15 in advance; £17 on the Door
From the Flower House, 3 Market Place,
Shipston and online via
ticketsource.co.uk/townsend-hall or
townsendhall.co.uk

Tickets are for general admission. For a table reservation of 4 or more people, phone Peter on 07711-562317

INFO LINK

editor@swlink.gmail.com

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>.

Local Catholic Church Services

Chipping Norton

Holy Trinity, London Road. Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm. Sunday 11.00 am Tel: 01608 642703

Stow-on-the-Wold

Our Lady and St. Kenelm, 5 Back Walls. Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm. Sunday 9.15 am Tel: 01608 674354

Shipston and Brailes

Shipston, Our Lady and St. Michael, Darlingscote Road. Sunday 9.15 am.

Brailes, SS Peter and Paul, Friars Lane. Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm (for Shipston and Brailes Tel: 01608 685259)

Chipping Campden

St Catharine's Lower High St. Sunday masses: – Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm. Sunday 10.30 am Tel: 01386 84026

Local Quaker Meetings

Local Quaker Meetings for worship:

Broad Campden, Quaker Meeting House, GL556US - Sundays at 10.30 am.

Ettington, Quaker Meeting Hse, Old Halford Rd, CV377TH -Sundays at 11.00 am.

Sibford, Quaker Meeting House, Sibford Gower, OX155RX - Sundays at 10.30 am.

Shipston on Stour, in St Edmund's Church - last Thursdays (not Dec) at 2.30 pm

Local Congregational Services

Services at the Ebenezer Chapel, Long Compton as advertised

Chair Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778 Sec/Treasurer Sally Franklin

PARISH PEOPLE

Parochial Church Councils (PCCs)

	<i>Barcheston St Martin</i>	<i>Barton-on-the-Heath St Lawrence</i>
Churchwardens	David Hodges 07767840857	Walter Sawyer 684755
Secretary	Alice and Tom Murray 238755	Penny Mead 674595
Treasurer	David Cleave 666002	Kay Sonneborn
	<i>Burmington St Barnabas & St Nicholas</i>	<i>Cherington St John the Baptist</i>
Churchwardens	Michael Macdonald 662483	Roger Maycock 686404
Secretary	Graham French 239032	Paul Levitch 686353
Treasurer	John Boulter and Mary Scott (joint treasurer) 07968 450331	Sherry Gasson-Barker 686420
	<i>Long Compton St Peter and St Paul</i>	<i>Whichford St Michael</i>
Churchwardens	Jill Kirby 684923	Sophia Corlett 684369
Secretary	Zoë Wrigley 650404	Mandy James 684479
Treasurer	John Nye 684363	Jenny Scrivener
	<i>Wolford St Michael and All Angels</i>	
Churchwarden	John Wrench 674389	
Treasurer	Ann McKenna 674009	

Parish Council

Parish	Chair	Clerk
Barcheston	David Sutton	Lindsey Walker (663567)
Barton-on-the-Heath	James Coker (674601)	Julia Hicks
Burmington	Robert Hutchings (661496)	
Cherington	Philip Townsend (686529)	Sara Cole (686250)
Long Compton	Simon Bing (684827)	Sam Weller (684897)
Whichford	Ed Law	Nicky Aldenton
The Wolfords	Pippa Lines (01608 674035)	Elizabeth Gilkes (684336)

CHURCH NOTES

We have had a glorious summer for our outdoor events, including the annual village fetes enjoyed by all; the coming together of many people, giving their time and different gifts collectively to benefit others. We are blessed to live in a very special area.

Our local churches here in SW7 work similarly drawing on lots of people's skills to help and encourage and support one another; to build up God's church family.

In the very first churches in Acts (2:42-47 and 4:32-37) it tells of people sharing their lives, food, money, talents and gifts for the benefit of others.

Serving others isn't something they had to do, it wasn't to earn anything for themselves, it's something they wanted to do, because they already knew the blessing of God's love for them and the salvation that they had through His Son, Jesus Christ, and they wanted to share that love and hope with others.

Similarly, your local Church wants to reach out to you, they want to tell of a love like no other; it is unearned and undeserved, it's also unconditional, unlimited, unwavering and unlike any other love you could find. It's a supernatural love.

If you would like to know more, but are hesitant about going to a church service, do come along to an outreach event, or to Connect.

Some of our events this summer have included meeting on Whichford Village Green, a beautiful setting for rounders, boules and footie fun. This summer we also shared a GAP (God and People) BBQ, and in August a Teddy Bears Picnic.

As we start with fresh with routines this September, why not give something new a try? You will have everything to gain and nothing to lose, we have a variety of church services to suit everyone - from 9.00am traditional services, and a 10.30am Common Worship, to the more modern service of God and People (GAP) at 4.00pm with pizza or hotdogs afterwards.

If you are nervous maybe bring along a friend, or give me, or one of the Ministry Team a call and we can tell you more.

Kim Petty – 07949 949215



CONNECT

Would you like to meet with other families in your community for an afternoon of friendship, fun, games and crafts and an opportunity to meet some of your local church family in a relaxed setting.

Come to Long Compton Village Hall
Every Second Sunday of the month 3-4pm

Refreshments provided

Connect is being organised by the
South Warwickshire 7 group of churches.

For more details, please contact
Kim Petty, kimpetty@btinternet.com 07949949215

South Warwickshire Seven Churches

Giggle Tots

Long Compton Village Hall
Free on Thursday mornings
Term time only 10.00-11.30

Come and join us for fun,
friendship and playtime.

For all care givers with
children 0-4.

More information from
Kim Petty 07949949215



Serving our Communities

World Vision®

Hope and a future for all children

SW7 Benefice Sponsored Walk

Starting at Cherington Village Hall
Saturday 20th September at 1pm



Do you enjoy walking?

Would you like to help raise money for a great cause?

You can by walking with us, helping on the day or by donating

If you can help please contact Richard Stevens

richardastevens235@gmail.com

To donate please search - justgiving.com/page/sw7benefice

Thank you for your support

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

September 2025 CHURCH SERVICES						
SW 7 Sunday Worship	St Martin Barcheston	St Lawrence Barton	St Barnabas & St Nicholas Burrington	St John the Baptist Cherington	St Peter & St Paul Long Compton	St Michael & All Angels Wolford
7th September 14th after Trinity					9:00am BCP Holy Communion (BD) 4pm GAP Service (BD)	10:30am CW Holy Communion (BD)
14th September 15th after Trinity	6:00pm BCP Evensong (BD)			9am BCP Holy Communion (BD)	3pm Connect Village Hall (BD/KP)	10:30am CW Holy Communion (BD)
21st September 16th after Trinity		9:00am BCP Harvest Holy Communion (BD)		10:30am CW Holy Communion (BD)	4:00pm GAP Service (BD)	
28th September 17th after Trinity			11:00am CW Harvest Service (AW)		11:00am CW Harvest Service (BD)	

South Warwickshire Benefice

Reverend Ben Dyson Tel: 01608 628229 email: vicarsw7@gmail.com (off duty Friday)
 Benefice Administrator: Liz Clarke Tel: 07425868855 email: officesw7@gmail.com
 www.southwarwickshirechurches.co.uk facebook.com/sw7churches

BD = Ben Dyson; LM = Liz Maycock; AW = Anthony Wells; CLW = Clare Wells; HP = Heather Parbury; AD = Andrew Dow; RS = Richard Smith; RS&F=Richard Stevens; A&BD = Archdeacon Barry Dugmore
 BCP = Prayer Book; CW = Common Worship; GAP = Informal Service

Its Sunday the 3rd of August and harvest number 59 for me finished last Wednesday. It's only the second time I've ever finished harvest in July, the last being the great drought of 1976. I wrote last time that most of the crops had hung on in the dry weather and as it turned out, some did. The spring barley always looked good, and it turned out as well as I could have hoped for. I guess it yielded as much as last year. Most of it was on some our better land. It was drilled early and in perfect seed beds. This helped it a lot. It combined well, all



standing and I cut it before it started to brackle down. I might add; it's the first year in many that Dan didn't have to light up the mobile grain dryer. They are a godsend in difficult harvests but dirty and expensive things to use. So, a fair yield and no drying cost helps with the very low prices I see quoted for barley at the moment.

The beans, on the other hand, looked really good all year and set a lot of pods; but as I wrote before, days of drying wind and baking sun really did for them. They aborted the top trusses of pods and what was left had small, but I must admit, perfect little beans in them. Dan has sold them and next week will deliver them to the store at Great Tew.

We debated if to plant anymore and can't think of much to replace them with in the rotation of crops. These days, if we can keep them clean from weeds, they are a good break crop for wheat entry the following autumn.

That leaves the wheat: I spoke before that we grow two varieties of bearded wheat – 'Skyfall' and a new one to us 'Highgrove'. The Skyfall: grown after Dan ploughed the two-year clover mixes, were very pleasing given the drought. The fields of other wheats were better on the heavy clay grounds and badly affected by the drought up on the Ironstone ground.

This leaves the little 1-acre patch of mustard; Dan planted in the little field inside the gate. It combined really easily, and I was surprised how much yellow mustard

seed came up into the combine tank. I am guessing it will grow. We have enough to plant a lot more areas if we want. We will know shortly, as the next day after we cut it, Dan planted an 8-acre field with it. It's a field we named the 'Boulder Patch' years ago. On the old maps, there are two quarries shown and it was always a nightmare to plough; so, for many years we have cultivated it or cut it up with a set of heavy disc harrows. As a trial, Dan did that last spring and direct drilled it. It grew a fair crop, not as good as the other barley, but, when you look at the costs, it was cheaper and easier to do than our conventional ploughing and combi drilling. Hopefully, the mustard will grow and will be a cover crop, and Dan plans to direct drill it next spring into the crop remains.

All the fields of clover have now been topped off. Two fields have done their second year and will be ploughed in and hopefully drilled into a nice seed bed.

The two fields along Butlers Road stay down and will be ploughed in the autumn of 2026. The Government haven't come up with any plans to replace the environmental scheme they are part of, so I guess it will be returned to cereals and nothing for the birds and bees. 'Vote for Change', the PM says. I think we are going backwards in farming at an alarming rate.

John 'Tufty' Richardson



Chivel Farm, Heythrop near Chipping Norton

Monday 8th September at 2:00pm

The Club's final summer outing for this year is to a very beautiful local garden creatively designed by the owners Rosalind and John Sword.

The extensive borders are filled with interesting plants which are cleverly associated together for colour and texture. There is always something new to see and the garden will be filled with flowering plants.

The Club Committee are organising afternoon tea in the conservatory following our visit.

**For further details please contact Walter Sawyer
secretary@lcgardenclub@gmail.com**

GARDENING NOTES

Editors: Margaret Welsh
and Miranda Arnold

I really like September. I like the late-summer feel of the garden, I like the colours of early autumn flowers and leaves, I like the idea of the harvest. There's still the possibility of warm sunny weather, and although the days are getting shorter and cooler, it's still not quite full-on autumn. There's some looking ahead to spring to be done, there's not much heavy work in the flower garden, and there's lots to harvest from the vegetable garden, so you're literally enjoying the fruits of your labours.

In terms of looking ahead to spring, now is the time to plant your spring bulbs. It's best to do it while the soil is still warm, so that the bulbs can develop good roots and become established before winter sets in. This applies to pretty much any spring-flowering bulb, except tulips, which need to wait until November to be planted. I am going to be planting Pheasant's Eye narcissus this year; it's such a beautiful variety and smells glorious. It naturalises well in the garden and also does well in containers.



Photograph: Jonathan Watts

We'll also be putting in wallflowers around now. They come in such a good range of vibrant colours, and smell so sweet. They are biennials, so can be grown from seed, but I am impatient, and don't want to wait 18 months for them to flower. So, I prefer to buy plants, in order to get flowers next year.

In the flower garden, keep on deadheading to prolong flowering, and make sure your plants remain supported. It's a good time to lift, divide, and replant herbaceous perennials while the soil is warm enough to allow them to establish a good root system. Hostas, echinacea, phlox, and daylilies all benefit from division, promoting better health and flowering. Water the plant you plan to divide thoroughly a couple of days before you lift it. When you lift it, try to retain as much of the root system as you can. Then just divide into smaller chunks, using a fork or knife. Replant in their new holes, and water well to settle the soil around the roots. It's best to apply a mulch at the same time, to keep the moisture in.

The vegetable garden has plenty to offer at this time of year. Continue lifting your potatoes. I tend to harvest only enough for a specific meal, but I'm aware that time is getting short to dig the rest of them up before the heavier autumn rains and the onset of frosts. Advice is generally that they should be lifted by October, but I have left mine in till November with no ill-effects. I guess we were lucky with the weather - not wet enough to get waterlogged and rotten.



Cut any tomato trusses that have remained green and bring them indoors for together with an unpeeled banana or two, they will ripen well. This is because bananas release ethylene, a gas that triggers ripening. Or you could just make loads of fried green tomatoes (delicious to eat, time-consuming to cook).

You can still sow hardy winter greens like mizuna and pak choi, and some of the hardier varieties of lettuce, like Arctic King. If you have space to do this under cover, in an unheated greenhouse or a cold frame, so much the better. It's great to be able to have a winter salad from your garden.

Towards the end of the month, you'll need to start thinking about the transition to full autumn and the implications of the worsening weather and shorter days for your plants

Miranda Arnold

Visit to Dean Manor - Long Compton and District Garden Club 17 July

The road to Dean Manor from Chipping Norton was full of potholes and one could only wonder how people arrived when the roads were tracks.

The afternoon we visited this beautiful manor house with a lovely view to the west there were ominous clouds scurrying across the sky, so rain was possible and the temperature very balmy. It was probably not the best time to visit, especially given the very dry weather we have had over the last 3 months. Its usual annual open day is in June.



The gardens cover about 6 acres. The different gardens are divided by many stone walls and yew hedges. The relatively new kitchen garden had replaced some large rose beds and was supposed to reduce the workload - this is not apparent! The kitchen garden was impressive and the envy of many of us. The peaches were ripening well in the glasshouse.

The large herbaceous border is amazing and worth another visit earlier in the season. It is a mixture of formal and informal and therefore some surprises, lovely deep black hollyhocks, bright rose bushes, subtle clematis and beds of white snowball hydrangeas. The two linked swimming pools were enticing in the muggy air.

We were lucky to have been shown around by the young and enthusiastic Head Gardener, Jake, who has lots of ideas for the future.

And yes, this is the chosen holiday home for James David Vance, US Vice President. We got there first.

Lesley Roberts

NATURE NOTES

Editor: David Sewell

Where to start? September is officially the end of the summer but as I write the colder days of autumn still seem an awfully long way away. But the signs are there. This week I counted a flock of 50 swallows hawking insects from the wires on Church Lane. Feeding up for their epic journey back to Africa (and don't worry, I'm not going to mention Wilfred's migratory progress!) Our local swifts have already departed and the skies above our villages no longer resonate to their screams. The ubiquitous chiff-chaff calls that we talked about in the spring are now reduced to a single 'sweet' as they too busy themselves preparing for migration. All bit parts in the incredible seasonal mass movement of birds and mammals across the globe.

Fortunately, our hedgerows are dripping with fruit and nuts and our local orchards are so laden that the trees are prematurely dropping fruit to conserve water. I was concerned that the lack of water would have an impact on the



Photograph: Jonathan Watts

harvest, but it doesn't seem to have affected it. So, anything stocking up on calories has plenty to go at. I'm even wondering if the local walnut trees that are scattered around the area might actually bear ripe fruit. Which seems to be an appropriate moment to talk about Lord Maycocks nuts, which are truly magnificent this year. I've been admiring them from afar every time I take Bella for a walk up the valley. The walnut tree in question is only a few years old, about 12 feet high and buried in a hedgerow but this

year it's bearing its first good crop and my fingers are crossed. Hopefully, he won't mind me plucking a couple..

Of course, the hedgerow fruit isn't just there for the departing birds, it's also there to welcome our winter visitors like redwings and fieldfares. So, you can imagine

my frustration each year when hedgerows that will literally give life to these birds are thrashed into oblivion by hedge cutting. I find this breathtakingly shortsighted. I get that there is a small window of opportunity to attack the hedges within fields before the ground becomes too wet, but hedgerows that are road facing don't need to be cut until late autumn. It's not like they are going



to grow anymore and start to swamp the highways. Anyway, perhaps bear this in mind when you're considering cutting the hedges in your garden. A few weeks longer will not make any difference!

Finally, some mixed news on the owl front. First barn owls, which have had an appalling breeding year in some areas. The data for Warwickshire isn't available yet but anecdotally it seems the news is grim. At first glance this is strange because it's usually cold wet springs that affect breeding and we certainly didn't have one of those. So, theories are turning

to the extreme dry weather suppressing grass growth which then affected field vole breeding success. Field voles are a barn owls staple diet.

The good news is that I've found a local site for little owls after several years of looking. Back in the day there were several reliable places, in fact Trevor and Annie had them breeding in their garden at one point. But numbers declined and then dried up and my nights of wandering up to the rectory to play little owl calls into the darkness became pointless. And was probably rather an odd thing for a grown man to be doing anyway. But today all that changed so I'm hoping fervently that numbers might start to pick up again. Another reason not to cut down all the hollow ash trees suffering from die-back! Maybe next month I'll have some pictures to share.

David Sewell

WALKING NOTES

Editor: Stuart Brown

By the time this is read, Long Compton walkers will (hopefully) have completed their August outing. The route starts in the village of Minster Lovell and ends at the ruins of Minster Lovell Hall (before refreshments at the Old Swan). The route brings back memories of more than 50 years ago when my wife and I, then



students at Oxford, would travel out to the Hall. Those memories were captured when we purchased a print of a drawing by Norman Ackroyd still gracing a landing wall.

In previous contributions I have written about the value of a walk having a focus - a literary connection or some historical feature. Often, we have been treated to a discourse on a now abandoned railway line. The Cotswolds are blessed with many stunning views but,

strangely, there are no landscape painters who made the area their regular stamping ground. Suffolk has Constable and Yorkshire (along with other claimants) has Turner. John Singer Sargent made Broadway his home and other artists joined his group; William Morris was based at Kelmscott; even LS Lowry left Lancashire to work in Northleach, but none were known for their local landscapes concentrating rather on townscapes, botany or gardens.

There are lesser-known artists who were based in the area but, for me, I remain puzzled why the scenery we so often encounter on our monthly walks has not been committed to oils or watercolour. Perhaps by the time this is read other friends will have pointed out the inadequacy of my limited research or proffered an answer.

Stuart Brown scbqc1@gmail.com

SCHOOL NOTES

News from Brailes School

Following a very busy school summer holiday of intensive building work at, we are delighted with the fabulous additional Early Years indoor and outdoor learning spaces, the new nurture room and the replacement of all the flat sections of the school roof.

We start the new school year together as a school community thinking deeply about what it means and feels to belong: being heard, included, welcomed, valued, known and connected. We reflect on our school values of courage, compassion and curiosity and how we live out these values every day and continue to grow in our shared understanding of '*Ubuntu*' meaning '*I am because we are.*' Building a remarkable learning community where all can flourish: we grow together and shine bright.



We are pleased to welcome new children and families and new staff to Brailes School this September. Year 1 and 2 pupils have been excited to start the new school year in a brand new classroom, loving exploring the new inside and outdoor learning space. Year 6 pupil leaders have made an excellent start in their new roles along with the newly elected school councillors.

This year, we continue to grow on our journey as an OPAL school, deepening our passion and commitment for outdoor education and play for all age groups. We continue to strongly encourage and support a Smartphone Free Childhood for all our children. The school library has been well re-stocked with many new fiction books following recommendations from pupils in July, collaboration with Jaffe & Neale bookshop in Chipping Norton and charity funding donations. We look forward to a wide range of visits, sports, arts enrichment opportunities through our partnership with Cotswold Arts Through Schools, continuing our sustainability work and establishing a new global partnership with a primary school in Malawi.

House Team Shields

Year 5 and 6 pupils were delighted to work with Rachel Locke in better understanding their house teams (Bishop, Sheldon and Gillets) and have created some fantastic house shield designs. A big thank you to Rachel for all of the research and preparation that she has put into this project. The shields are displayed in the school hall and children will learn more about their house teams history from Year 6 pupil leaders during this school year.

Safe and Active Travel Brailes School has once again signed up to the Safe and Active Schools Programme for 2025-26 and will be working in partnership with the WCC Road Safety team on our school Active Travel plan. All children will be receiving age-appropriate road safety sessions over the year. We recognise how important this messaging is for all our pupils and over the year will be sharing messages and ideas from the Safe and Active Schools team and further information about the children's road safety learning in school. As a school, we have been pleased to contribute to the valuable work of Brailes Community Speedwatch initiative, with the voice from school parents and design maps by Year 5 and 6 pupils being included in Brailes' road safety improvement plan consultations.

Community Governor We are looking for a new Community Governor to collaborate with school leaders and governors setting the direction and ethos of our school. If you know anybody that might be interested, please contact the school office and Mrs Childs, the school's Headteacher, will be very pleased to share with you more about this role, or contact Mrs Self, Brailes Local Academy Council Chair to find out more by emailing self.l@welearn365.com .

Open Mornings We are holding open mornings on the 14th/ 21st Oct and 4th/18th November (9:30am – 10:30am). This may be for new Reception starters for September 2026 or for mid-year moves and for our school nursery. Please book your appointment for a tour of the school by telephoning or emailing. The application process for Reception 2026 opens on 1st November 2025 and the closing date is 15th January 2026. Our admission criteria are on the school website and we are able to take children from neighbouring counties such as Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire, in addition to Warwickshire. Places in Brailes School Nursery are made through an application form directly to the school office other year groups need to be made through Warwickshire Admissions.

Heather Childs

T: 01608 685253 E: admin3014@we-learn.com www.brailescofepprimary.org.uk

VILLAGE NEWS

Barcheston with Willington

Obituary: Winifred "Ann" Batchelor: Feb 1937 - 22 June 2025



It was unexpectedly joyous to see the church in Barcheston so filled with people - more than 80 - on a very warm July 18th to celebrate Ann's long, interesting life. Modest as she was, she would have been astonished!

Ann was a very private person and we learned with delight from her oldest friends - contemporaries - about her schooldays; teacher training in Bath (where her preferred PE was exchanged for Domestic Science because of her diminutive size); and extensive long-haul travels, including Japan (twice), New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Iceland, etc. There were many amusing anecdotes telling of her teaching skills, mischievousness and enduring friendships.

Ann was a much-valued member of St. Martin's, serving on the PCC and keeping the church clean single-handedly for over 40 years. It has taken a team of us to replace her. She also distributed church festival leaflets and The Link in Willington and surrounds every month.

As a resident of Willington, she was Secretary of the two villages' Parish Council for very many years. She also kept a caring eye on those elderly neighbours living alone, visiting regularly, and in one case, phoning every evening at 7:00pm. We all knew of her delicious baking for church and village events, her enjoyment of hockey and golf, and, until recent times, her long daily walks around the parish.

It will be more than fitting that Ann's ashes will lie in sacred ground by Barcheston church which she loved, and in which she worshipped.

All condolences go to her brother, niece, Jane, and family. We friends and neighbours will miss but never forget Ann at her best: an energetic caring, Christian woman of lively conversation, ready laugh and kind heart.

Dianne Smith



BARCHESTON & WILLINGTON COFFEE MORNING

at College Farm Barn, Willington

Saturday September 13th

10:30am to 12:30pm



Tea, Coffee and Cakes

Raffle, Skittles and the Lottery Game

Come along and catch up with friends and neighbours

BARCHESTON WITH WILLINGTON PARISH MEETING Advance Notice.



The next Village Meeting for Barcheston and Willington will be held on:
Thursday October 9th at 7:45pm in the Village Hall, Burmington.

This is an opportunity for you to keep in touch with Village and District affairs, to raise any concerns or opportunities you may have and to become part of the village discussion .

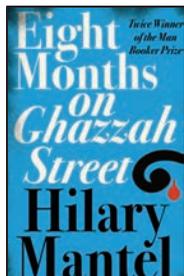
Points to be discussed will include:

Matters arising at the last meeting, Defibrillator management, Housing Needs Survey, Update on the South Warwickshire Local Plan and other local planning requirements, Bonfire Night and the local Councillor Update

Please come and give your support. We look forward to seeing you all.



Book Club



We enjoyed meeting to talk about *'Eight Months on Ghazzah Street'* by Hilary Mantel. This was her third novel, which she wrote after returning from four years in Saudi-Arabia.

This semi-biographical novel was much enjoyed by everyone. From the start to the finish, it was underlaid by a mounting feeling of threat and fear. Beautifully written, many were keen to read further about Mantel's life.

Fanny Rickett

Bench outside St Lawrence Church



Sincere thanks go to Walter Sawyer and Jilly Hancock for their hard work in clearing the overgrown roses around the beautiful bench in Barton on the Heath. Thank you both for your time and courage to stand on ladders and wrestle with the prickles!

Amazing difference.



Produce Table

The produce table on the village green has been reinstated. Gluts of greengages, figs, beans, marrows and rhubarb have graced the table. Penny Mead has kept the table stocked with jams, chutneys, marmalades and breads to raise funds for St Lawrence Church and this year Tomas Fenner-Leitao has set about baking specifically for the table raising £200.

Our sincere thanks go to all who have donated, picked, pickled, baked and particular thanks goes to Tomas for keeping the village and passersby in flapjack, banana bread and brownies and raising so much for the church

VILLAGE NEWS

Burmington

Editor: Graham French



Jam Making Festival and Competition

Advance Notice: Calling all jam makers!

Burmington Church is holding a **jam making festival** with a competition to find the best jam and jelly. There will be different categories including best made by a child, best jelly, best jam and others - with prizes.

Entrance is free to anyone, but you will need to submit two jars, one for tasting and the other to be sold for church funds at the tea event.

Winners will be announced at a **cream tea event** at the beginning of November to be held in Burmington Village Hall. Jams will also be sold.

Entrance forms and further details will be distributed in villages and churches and announced in August and September. Jams will be collected during October.

Please contact Jan Lennon 01608 662755 for further information.

Village Breakfast Burmington Village Hall

SATURDAY 6th September 2025
8:00 am – 10:00 am



Please note earlier start and finish times this month

To book please call / text Robyn 07966 849 149

Book early to avoid disappointment

Special dietary requirements catered for.

Please state when booking.

Church Tower Scaffolding



If you have walked into the churchyard recently, you may have wondered why the church tower is encased in scaffolding.

A few months ago, we had a Coventry Diocese 'quinquennial' inspection. This is a five yearly survey by a surveyor who reports on the state of the building and suggests any necessary repairs.

The surveyor spotted some possible "movement" in the tower along with some issues with the wooden posts supporting the louvres and the top of the tower and recommended that we engage a structural engineer to examine the tower close up.

That's why we needed the scaffolding – to allow the engineer to examine the tower and allow necessary repair work to be done.

The PCC is keeping all fingers crossed that we are not in for a huge repair bill!

PS the sharp eyed among you may have noticed a board on the scaffolding which says, "Under New Management". It should be pointed out that this refers to the management of the scaffolding company, not the management of the church and, whilst the C of E is currently looking for a new Archbishop of Canterbury, the holder of this post has yet to be announced.

| BURMINGTON CHURCH

HARVEST SERVICE & LUNCH



SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

11.00 am HARVEST SERVICE

FOLLOWED BY HARVEST LUNCH 12.00 NOON IN VILLAGE HALL

ALL WELCOME. £5.00 CHARGE FOR LUNCH (CHILDREN FREE)

VILLAGE NEWS

Cherington with Stourton

Editor: Christine Dudfield



Coffee Shop

Saturday 13th September

10.30am-12 noon

The Hall Stourton CV36 5HG

Bacon baps, coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cake. Eat in or takeaway. We are always looking for people to

help out if you want to get involved, please contact me on 07866 127409.

Christine Dudfield

Brailles Picturehouse

Doors open 7:15pm for 7:45pm start

Friday 19th September - Bridget Jones : Mad about the Boy'

Bridget Jones: Mad about the Boy focusses on Bridget navigating life as a widow and single mother of two after the death of her husband Mark Darcy. The story explores her re-entry into the world of dating, including a younger man named Roxter and a potential relationship with the more mature Mr Walliker, her son's science teacher. The film delves into Bridget's attempts to find love and happiness while dealing with the challenges of social media, online dating, and other emotional complexities of grief and motherhood.

Cast: Renee Zellweger, Colin Firth, Leo Woodall, Chwetel Ejiofor, Hugh Grant,

Future Titles ;

Friday 17th October Grumpy old Men (1993)

Friday 21st November Maria Callas

Deirdre and Team



Feel Good Friday Social Afternoons



Thank you to all those who attended the Summer Family Prize Bingo on Saturday 9th August, it was a lovely evening again. I know it's early to mention the "C" word, however please pop Saturday 29th November in your diary as that's when the Christmas Family Prize Bingo at The Hall is. As usual, doors open at 7pm, eyes down at 7:30pm. Please bring your children and grandchildren, looking forward to seeing you there.

Social Afternoon dates for your diary are Fridays September 5th and 19th 2:00pm to 4:00 pm at The Hall.

For more information, please contact me on 01608 663320

Vanessa Compton

Village Lottery Draw

1st. Jeremy Clark £80, 2nd. Theo Borland £45, 3rd. Dawn Russell £30.

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

Averell Kingston aap.kingston@gmail.com 07984 00367

Butterfly Spotting in Cherington

Photos by Tony Wells all taken in his garden this year



Female Emperor Dragonfly



Female Broad Bodied Chaser



Male Broad Bodied Chaser



Four spot Chaser emerging from nymph



Hummingbird Hawk Moth.

***Feldon Valley Military and
Naval
History Society***

the next meeting will be at
The Hall, Pinfold Lane Stourton,
CV36 5HG

on Wednesday, **17 September 2025**
at **8.00 pm** for a talk by Jeremy Clark on

**His Longest Day followed by
his Longest Night**

The sketches and reminiscences of
14284647 Gunner Clark from Overlord to
1946 as collected and annotated by his
nephew, Jeremy Clark.

contact: Peter Stoddart

at: petercstoddart@gmail.com

VILLAGE NEWS

LONG COMPTON
Email: editor@swlink.gmail.com



August proved to be a busy month for us at the Village Hall. We had our Ground Force Day where we tackled brambles, the general cutting back of vegetation and the weeding of the boules court, so a big thank you to all that took part. It was tiring but great fun!



Also, we had the wonderful Shipston Town Band visiting on 2 August and our thanks go out to them for giving us such a superb performance. The weather was perfect, and everyone enjoyed a lovely day with family and friends accompanied by an excellent big band sound.



The poster for Social Saturday at Long Compton Village Hall. It features the logo on the top left and a grid of 16 colorful fruit tarts on the right. The text on the left provides details about the event, including a CPR demonstration by first responders.

LONG COMPTON VILLAGE HALL

Join us for
Social Saturday
With First Responder CPR Demo
11am—1pm, 13th September 2025
Long Compton Village Hall

Our First Responders will give a CPR demonstration—you could save a life!

Free entry - savouries - cake - chat
Music - talks - stalls

Social Saturday had a treat with our very own Geoff Dewhirst playing some jazz tunes whilst we all enjoyed the usual fine array of homemade savouries and cakes. On 13 September, we have a return visit from our First Responders who will be giving a demonstration on how to do CPR, so

you could learn how to save someone's life.

September also sees the return of Race Night. Last year it was our most popular event and great fun was had by all betting on horse races, buying horses, sponsoring races.

Race Night is on 19th September at 7:00pm and will be accompanied by a supper at £12.50 per head.



LCVH presents:
Race Night
19th September 2025
7pm, Long Compton Village Hall

Supper included at £12.50 per head
Licensed bar
Lots of fun with 8 real races
Place your bets and they're off!
Booking essential contact Karen at
lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk



You'll need to reserve your place by contacting Karen at lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk. It was so popular last year, places will be on a first come, first served basis.

Don't forget our fruit spirit event in November. Soon all the blackberries and sloes will be ripe for picking so all those who enjoy making sloe or damson gin, or indeed other fruit spirit drinks, don't forget to prepare your finest 2025 vintage for the judging panel!

Finally, we are still looking for volunteers to help us with Social Saturdays and other events. Please drop us a line at lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk if you are willing to help us. Thank you so much.

Long Compton Village Hall Committee 100 Club

Long Compton Bridge Club

The Bridge Club starts again on 9 September after the annual summer break; we play every second and fourth Tuesdays each month. Beginners are very welcome – contact me for details.

Chris Galloway 684234

100 Club

There were two draws at Social Saturday this time, as there wasn't one in July.

The July draw

1 st	Elaine Stoner	2 nd	Michael Dumbleton
3 rd	Mr & Mrs Wimshurst	4 th	Elaine Innes

The August Draw:

1 st	Mr & Mrs Sawyer	2 nd	Dan Richardson
3 rd	Wendy Bentley	4 th	Mrs Loveridge

Chris Galloway 684234

Congregational Chapel

The decorating is coming along and the main chapel room should be finished soon. We have purchased new flood barriers; an additional one for the inner front door, one for the rear Ardn Room entrance and a new one for the kitchen door! In addition, the outer walls will be either coated in blackjacking or waterproofed at the bottom. We decided to paint the floors so they can be easily cleaned and any water ingress dealt with.

The Manse will have a new flood barrier on the kitchen door and its French windows (together with new step and a wall to direct the flow of water away!). It has also been blackjacked on the sidewall!

We have decided not to do a Macmillan event this year.

However, if anyone wishes to hold an event for a registered charity you can 'hire' the Chapel free of charge. Just get in touch to arrange a day. The car park is available to use for events held at the Chapel.

We are considering Charged Parking (for non-Chapel use) to raise money for ongoing maintenance caused by the additional use and are currently looking into ways this could work.

Forthcoming events: Saturday 27 September Whist! 7:00pm

We are always grateful for any help and send our thanks to those who help out. We hope to see you soon.

**Sally Franklin 07870 545431 or Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778
longcomchapel@hotmail.com**

St Peter and St Paul, Long Compton

HARVEST SERVICE

Sunday 28th September 11 am
followed by lunch in the church
All welcome, including children

Come and enjoy the harvest
decorations, give thanks for the
work of our famers and stay for
Ploughman's Lunch*

***No charge but donations welcome**



Join us for Community Coffee

at



St Peter and St Paul's Church, Long Compton

on

Wednesday 3rd September 10.30am to 12.00 noon

All are very welcome,
Young, Old, Families, Dog Walkers and Newcomers to the Village.

VILLAGE NEWS

Whichford and Ascott

Editor: Melanie Arnold



The Reading Room Draw

The Reading Room draw winner for August is David Farrell.

Jenny Scrivener

Whichford & Ascott

Christmas Fair

Saturday 8th November 2025

10am – 1.30 pm

For Fabulous Christmas Shopping!



Entry £5 includes home made mince pie and coffee

Wonderful Raffle Prizes

By kind invitation of Bertie & Annabel Hicks
Vernon House Farm, Ascott. CV36 5PP

In aid of St. Michael's Church, Whichford

VILLAGE NEWS

The Wolfords

Editor: Lynn Mathias



Di and Peter Watson



Diana and Peter Watson moved into 1 Brook Cottage in 1977 and lived there very happily for the next 40 plus years. They fully involved themselves with village life, and amongst other things, were involved in the bell fund (which later turned into the village fund); the parish council; the village bonfire and subsequently hosted the bonfire after party.

One of the main reasons they moved to the village was the fact that there was a decent village pub, and in turn Dad helped organise the pop-up pubs.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Lynn and Chris Mathias for the parking, as well the Pop-up Pub team for their support at Mum's wake and everyone else who helped make her memorial so memorable.

We would also like to thank everyone personally for their friendship, support and memories of Mum over the last couple of months (and indeed Dad over the last 3 years). It has been hugely appreciated in what has been a very sad time for us all.

We were incredibly humbled by the large turnout for Mum's church memorial service on Friday 25th July at St Michael and All Angels Church in Great Wolford, we were especially taken with the beautiful and fragrant flowers at the front of the church from our parents' friends. They were divided up between the two households and the beautiful notes kept in mum's memorial book, so thank you very much and we will no doubt see you all soon.

Best wishes,

Jonathan, Katherine, Jo, Nic, Albie, Jack and Emmeline

The Wolfords Village Hall One Hundred Club

The July winners were as follows:

1st Henry Warriner 2nd Murphy family 3rd Lucia Palmer

Many congratulations to the above. Please let me know if you would like to have more shares as the club is still short of 100 shares. Of course, multiple shares do increase the chance of winning! All proceeds go to help with the upkeep of the village hall.

Please note there is no draw in August but will continue in September.

James van Helden

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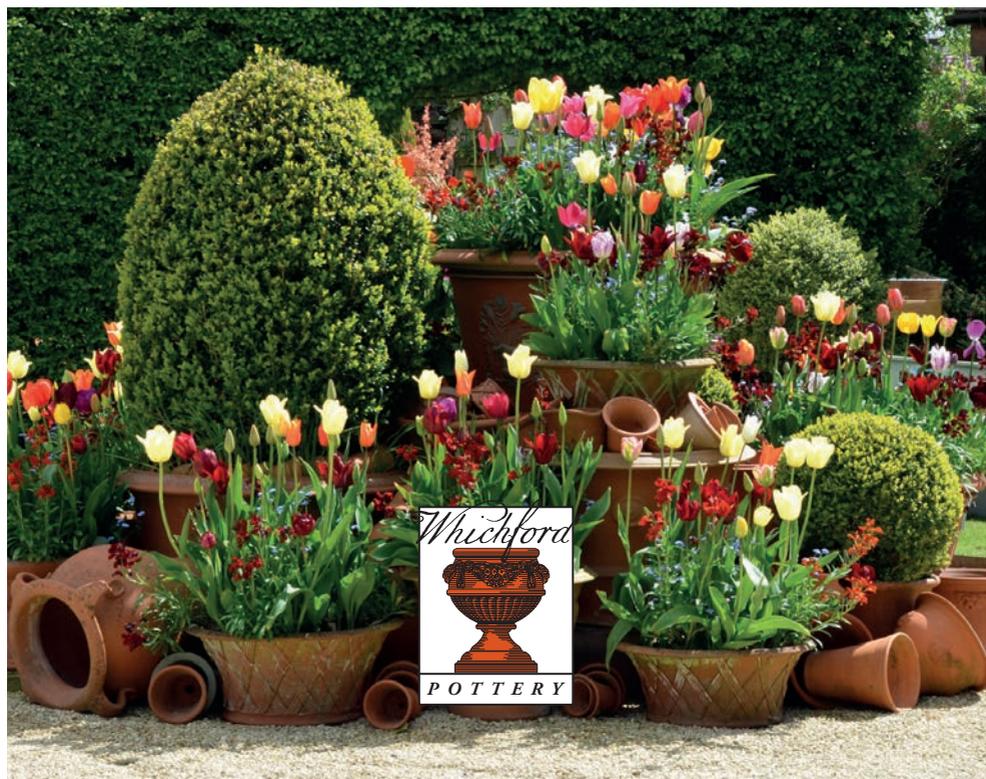
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