



# THE SKYLARK

## Longstowe Parish Newsletter

July 2016

### Village News

#### Local Hero

Peter Hemmins leaves for the short trip to take part in the recent Cambridge Young Farmers' Country Show at Wimpole Hall.



Peter is driving a Diesel Fordson Major. Freddie Hemmins accompanied him on another Major so Longstowe was represented in the vintage tractor class.

#### Diary Dates

Fun Dog Show @ Village Hall, 7th August, in aid of VIP Companionship for Older People. All pooches and owners welcome Home made teas. Gates open 12.30pm

Pet Service Sunday 11th September 10.30am. Outside service unless it rains. Please nominate a charity you would like to receive the collection – something with children and animals would be lovely. Please let the Church Wardens Sheena McRae or Maddy Crowther know (previous collections have included Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, Sniffer Dogs for Cancer Research)

Harvest Supper 15th October.

#### ***Longstowe Hall Estate is Accepted into the New Countryside Stewardship Scheme.***

Following our recent acceptance into the new government environmental scheme, Longstowe Hall Estate will be creating a considerable number of field margins variously to provide habitat, pollen, nectar and winter bird seed, to benefit all forms of wildlife.

They will cover an area of some 50 acres spread around the estate.

Work on these will start prior to harvest, but the majority will be created during the summer/autumn as fields are cut by the combine.

They will take a year or so to establish, and will be vulnerable in these early stages. We expect them to be in place for 5 years initially.

Whilst these grass and flower margins will not prevent proper access to public rights of way, equally these margins are for wildlife, and therefore it will not be allowed to ride horses, walk or exercise with or without dogs etc. on these margins.

We hope to see measurable increases across a broad range of species, as the project develops, and we will endeavour to highlight some of the successes of this nature conservation scheme.

*Will and Mercedes Bevan*

#### ***New Look Longstowe History Society***

Over the past few years, the History Society has held a number of successful local history events in the village hall, many linked to Dick Murden's wonderful collection of photographs. Using his collection, we have created a digital archive on the internet, and this continues to be updated with recent events held in the village. Last year saw the publication of the Little Book of Longstowe. 100 copies were

sold, one even reached the shores of Australia. Its success means a reprint is scheduled for this year.

We are now in the process of creating a formal History Society for the village. The first event being an illustrated talk by Stephen Owen on the Bedford to Cambridge Railway line. This was held on 28<sup>th</sup> June, unfortunately the deadline of Skylark news prevented us on reporting on the event. We will however give you an update in the September edition. A program of four more history talks by local historians are being organised for the next twelve months, they all take place on Tuesday evenings in the village hall. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September, a talk by Martin Davies on 'Lines in the Landscape'. We also hope to organise visits to local places of interest. Membership costs £10 per year, visitors are welcome, entrance fee is £3. If you are interested in joining the society contact Viv on 01954 710019. An update of these future events will be kept posted on our digital archive at <http://longstowe.ccan.co.uk>.

### ***Longstowe Art Group hangs up brushes for a summer break.***

The art group have had a busy year, holding a selling exhibition last June, and an Art and Craft fair last November. During the past 12 months some members have been experimenting with lino printing and textile crafts (what next?). But if you are not into that type of stuff we still do practice more traditional styles of art.

Sorry, we have no 'Summer Exhibition' this year, but come and see our work at the Longstowe Fete on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September (we have a stand in the main hall). If you are interested in joining the group and sharing your art experiences, we meet on Friday mornings at the village hall, between 10am and 12 noon. The autumn terms starts on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

For more details contact Viv on 710019 or Lorraine on 715440, or by email [longstoweartgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:longstoweartgroup@hotmail.com)

## **Church News**

### ***Moving Forward***

I have a lot of meetings. I am not unusual in this. One thing I notice, however, is how the culture of an organisation or group affects the way meetings work.

Some devote most of their meeting time and conversation to looking back, taking note of what has happened – often with a sense of thanksgiving, sometimes with regret. That is good, often helpful and always instructive but with the attendant risk of achieving very little as a result of having met together. Others have meetings which are more inclined to look forward at what is coming or what might be; happy to learn lessons from what has taken place but more intent on shaping things that they have influence over. If you need to know, my style and preference is with the latter rather than the former.

I remember talking, almost 20 years ago, with a very sincere man who had at one time – when younger and more active – been the treasurer for the church I was serving then as Vicar. He told me he had always seen his task as receiving what had been passed down to him carefully, stewarding his responsibilities diligently and then passing on roles (meaning the books in his case) in exactly the same condition in which he had received them. He saw his job as keeping things just as they always had been. Both of us realised (quite cheerfully in fact) we worked with different perspectives.

When saying goodbye to his friends – in the run-up to what Christians know as the Ascension – Jesus cast a vision for what the future of their lives, their impact and the spheres of influence would be. It was anything but a call to 'keep things as they are right now'. He told them to travel to places they had never been to hitherto and to fulfil responsibilities they barely understood. At the same time he left the strategy (the how-to) up to them, whilst promising the where-with-all (the divine resources) that would make the unknown become possible. It did; it's the story of the Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament section of the Bible.

Sitting in a meeting of trustees one day (in another part of the country) we were looking at the large fund we were trying to steward wisely. Previously the trustees had managed the investment well, seen the value of the

fund grow reasonably but without achieving any other objectives. As the newcomer I asked a question: what might happen if things carried on in that way ad infinitum. Eventually another trustee said: "I suppose it would a bit like the parable of the talents that Jesus told". His insight became a defining moment. In the next few years the same group saw record growth in their investment returns and invested in a property that enabled the parish church to house a youth worker. They had decided not just to bury what they had and be fund managers; they wanted to make a difference and they did.

*Nigel di Castiglione  
Team Rector*

## **Longstowe Parish Council News**

### **Summer at the Museums 22 July – 31 August 2016**

[www.cam.ac.uk/museums/summer](http://www.cam.ac.uk/museums/summer)

Taking place in venues throughout Cambridge and the county, Summer at the Museums brings you everything from craft activities and storytelling, to drop-in events and museum trails, many of which are free. For up-to-date information on what's happening when:

<http://www.museums.cam.ac.uk/whats-on/summer-at-the-museums>

<https://www.facebook.com/cambridgeuniversitymuseums>

<https://twitter.com/CamUnivMuseums>

### **Stress-Less, Take 5**

MIND in Cambridgeshire has some very good, practical advice geared to students aged 12–18, about how to manage the exam period with less stress. Indeed, these are useful common-sense tips for anyone trying to cope in a pressured environment.

[www.mindincambs.org.uk/Services/StressLESS](http://www.mindincambs.org.uk/Services/StressLESS)

Mind continues to run a free wellbeing service at the Melbourn Hub – please ring Mind on 01223 311320 to make an appointment. There are lots of ways you can support Mind, all listed on their website. These services are funded by Cambridgeshire County Council.

### **Free home fire safety checks**

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service offer free home fire safety checks to anyone who might be at risk. The checks include smoke

alarms provided and fitted for free if necessary; and advice on fire safety. The Fire and Rescue Service will visit older people and people with disabilities in their own homes to discuss the risks of fire and to look for any visible warning signs. They can also provide advice in relation to promoting the health and safety of individuals with hoarding considerations. If you are unable to apply online, advice on fire safety checks is available by telephone on 0800 917 9994.

[http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/site/custom\\_scripts/fid/fid\\_details.aspx?ID=159411](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/site/custom_scripts/fid/fid_details.aspx?ID=159411).

### **Available NOW for a limited time – free**

Action on Energy Cambridgeshire has a number of offers available to South Cambs residents living in their own home or privately renting who are on certain benefits and/or a low income (less than £20,000 in savings and household income less than £13,000 (single person) or £26,000 (couple) per year). Offers include free gas boilers (to replace inefficient boiler or electric heating (in properties where gas is available)), free loft insulation, free cavity wall insulation or free solid wall insulation.

If you think you are eligible and may require some or all of the above energy saving measures. Project Officers: call Siobhan Mellon on 01954 713395 or Liz Davy on 01954 713111 or email [Siobhan.mellon@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Siobhan.mellon@scambs.gov.uk) or [Elizabeth.davy@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.davy@scambs.gov.uk)

### **UK Power Networks: Priority Service Register**

In the event of an emergency, whether that is a power cut, issue with our equipment or even roadworks, it is important that people (especially vulnerable residents) have easy access to our emergency contact details. We run a free Priority Services Register (PSR) for those who may need more support in the event of a power cut.

Every resident over the age of 60, those residents with a disability, are blind or visually impaired, are chronically sick, dependent on medical equipment, or have young babies, would be eligible to join the register.

Contact details: Text POWER and your postcode to 80876; Telephone 0800 31 63 105; Mobile 0333 32 32 105, [www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut); Facebook / Twitter @ukpowernetworks

## **Longstowe Parish Council**

Your councillors for 2016–2018 are: Barbara Cooper (Chair), William Bevan, Geoff Hemmins and Ben Holland. Peter White has agreed to be co-opted as an additional councillor. Meetings are usually the third Thursday of each month (except August) and the Agenda and Minutes are placed on three noticeboards and on the webpage. The public is welcome to attend all meetings.

Please note there have been a number of thefts of lead from church roofs recently at Churches in Swavesey, West Wrating, and Conington. If you notice suspicious activity in churchyards, such as vans or trailers visiting after dusk do contact the police.

We have received a number of messages from the Police about various scams and other problems. Short versions of these will be put on the Longstowe web page at **[www.scams.gov.uk/content/longstowe](http://www.scams.gov.uk/content/longstowe)**; please contact the Clerk if you want further details.

### **Important notes:**

Action Fraud Tel: 0300 123 2040 **[www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)**. Twitter Follow @actionfrauduk Facebook Like/actionfraud

Do not give anyone your full password, pin numbers or bank account details. A legitimate company will not ask for any of these.

If the scammer claims they have sent you money to your bank account never send money back. Especially if they ask for it to be paid via PayPal or a money sending service.

Run an up-to-date anti-virus and anti-spyware program to detect and eradicate any malware and spyware. Alternatively seek help from a trusted vendor.

Always contact banks on a trusted number found on their website or correspondence that is known to be authentic to confirm whether a cheque has cleared.

Never give out personal details / bank account details over the phone to an organisation you cannot verify is genuine. If you are suspicious or have concerns that the caller is a fraudster, you can contact the police, or report the details to Action Fraud.

If you think you may have compromised the safety of your bank details and/or have lost money due to fraudulent misuse of your

cards, you should immediately contact your bank, and report it to Action Fraud.

If an email appears to have come from a person or organisation you know of but the message is unexpected or unusual, contact them directly via another method to confirm that they sent you the email.

Payments via bank transfer offer no financial protection; consider using alternative methods such as a credit card or PayPal which offer some protection and avenue for recompense.

Always check uninvited callers: ask for I.D. and check with the organisation they claim to be part of, i.e. water, gas or electricity supplier. Criminals will use many different cover stories to provide an excuse to enter your home such as a water leak, or gas explosion, and may pretend to be from an official organisation. Always keep the door shut until you are satisfied they are genuine, if you have any doubts contact the police. **Not sure? Don't open the door.**

# **Longstowe Fete and Village Show**

**Sunday 18th September 2.00pm**

**Show Exhibits**

**Bar**

**Stalls**

**Entertainments**

**BBQ**

**Teas**

**Fire Engine**

**Rifle Range**

**Games**

**Donations will be collected during the evening of Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th September, or can be delivered by Thursday 15th to: Peter White (80 Old N Rd, 719669) or Jane Bowden (Glebe House, 719737)**

- pre-loved teddies • bottles • toys • books
  - raffle prizes • bric-a-brac (no clothes, thank you)
  - plants • cakes • home produce
- (can also be delivered to the Village Hall on the day)**



# LONGSTOWE HISTORY SOCIETY

talks/events planned for 2016-17:

***Tuesday 27th September 2016,  
7.30 for 8pm***

## **‘Lines in the Landscape’**

Martin Davies



*With maps, and historic and recent photographs, Martin shows how the parish landscape and wildlife of the locality has evolved from prehistoric times; including medieval field systems, and the later consequences of enclosure and modern agriculture.*

*Examining the patterns in the landscape helps reveal the history of our use of the landscape, our impact on the world around us, and how this influences where wildlife now survives*

***Tuesday 18th October,  
meet at caves at 7.15***

## **Visit to Royston Caves**

**(Booking essential: charge in the region of  
£6 per person)**

*A guided tour of the fascinating caves under Royston; thought to be of medieval origin and reputed to have connections with the Knights Templar*

***Tuesday 29th November,  
7.30 for 8pm***

## **‘The History of the Long Case Clock’**

Colin Lattimore

*This lecture covers early timekeepers, starting with sundials and moving through various other methods of timekeeping leading up to the emergence of mechanical clocks; in particular the long case clock. Covering the scientific, artistic and social aspects of this well known item of domestic furniture.*

***Tuesday 28th February 2017,  
7.30 for 8pm***

## **‘The Cambridge dialect’**

Michael McCarthy

*In this talk we look briefly at how dialectologists study different regional dialects and, listening to real recordings of native locals, living and long gone, we will hear some of the characteristics of rural speech in Cambridgeshire; older speakers especially retain features in their speech that can be traced back many centuries.*

***Tuesday 25th April,  
7.30 for 8pm***

**To be confirmed**

***\* Everyone Welcome \****

**Individual talks £3, or £10 annual  
membership for all five talks**

**For more information contact:  
Jane Bowden 719737, [jane@glebehouse.eu](mailto:jane@glebehouse.eu)**

## Neighbourhood Alert



Creating a safer  
**Cambridgeshire**

## The Word On the beat... is eCops.

**Want to know more about what  
Cambridgeshire Police are doing in  
your area.**

**You can receive crime alerts,  
witness appeals, community  
updates, and find out who your  
local community officers are.**

## Register today – it's free

Log onto [www.cambs.police.uk](http://www.cambs.police.uk)  
and click on the eCops link

Or visit [www.eCops.org.uk](http://www.eCops.org.uk)



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[www.fenfeeds.co.uk](http://www.fenfeeds.co.uk)



## Neighbourhood Watch

### *Your co-ordinators are:*

Deborah Hemmins 719638  
Bill Slater 719551  
Peter Hemmins 719372

**If you see an incident, please take all the  
details and jot them down. Numbers, dates,  
times, descriptions. If matters are so urgent  
then dial 999 directly. Otherwise telephone  
01345 456 4564.**

**Website: [www.cambs.police.uk](http://www.cambs.police.uk)**

## A short, prayerful service of Holy Communion

is celebrated  
**Wednesday**  
at **midday**  
in **Bourn Church**



Anyone from around the Team or beyond is welcome to attend.

Month	Sunday	Title	T.E.W	Bourn	Kingston	Caxton	Longstowe	Elsworth	Boxworth	Knapwell	Conington
July	1 03/07/2016	Trinity 6		10.30 am FHC	8.30 am HC	10.30 am W4A		11.15 am FHC	10.30 am FW		8.15 am HC
	10/07/2016	Trinity 7		10.30 am W4A	6.00 pm EP	10.30 am HC	8.30 am HC	6.00 pm EP	10.30 am FHC	8.30 am HC	6.30 pm EP
	3 17/07/2016	Trinity 8	6.00 pm Caxton	8.30 am HC	10.30 am W4A			10.30 am W4A	08.30 am FHC		9.30 am FHC
	4 24/07/2016	Trinity 9		10.30 am FW		8.30 am HC (2)	10.30 am HC		10.30 am W4A	6.00 pm EP	
	5 31/07/2016	Trinity 10				10.30 am Full Team Service at Caxton					
August	1 07/08/2016	Trinity 11		10.30 am FHC	8.30 am HC			10.30 am FHC			8.15 am HC
	2 14/08/2016	Trinity 12				10.30 am MP	8.30 am HC		10.30 am FHC	8.30 am HC	6.30 pm EP
	3 21/08/2016	Trinity 13		8.30 am HC	10.30 am FS			11.00 am W4A			9.30 am HC
	4 28/08/2016	Trinity 14		10.30 am FW		8.30 am HC			10.30 am W4A	6.00 pm EP	

Parish Council website:  
[www.scambsgov.uk/LongstowePC](http://www.scambsgov.uk/LongstowePC)

Papworth Team Ministry



## Team Evening Service

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 6.00 pm  
 at Caxton Church

*Praise, Prayer, Teaching*



Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July  
 at Manor Farm, Bourn,  
 7.45 for 8pm until 9pm

For those who are interested in exploring  
 Christianity in a relaxed and informal way.  
 Please come and bring a friend.

For more information please contact Mike Bigg on 01480 839147.

Please let Sally have any items for the October  
 Skylark by Sunday 18 September.  
 Tel: 719464  
 Email: [theskylark@rocketmail.com](mailto:theskylark@rocketmail.com)