



The Skylark

Longstowe Parish Newsletter

January 2019



Season's greetings to all our readers

Longstowe Parish Council: webpage address:

<http://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/mgParishCouncilDetails.aspx?ID=360&LS=4>

Dates for your Diary:

Parish Council meetings:

Thursday 17th January 2019

Thursday 21st February 2019

Thursday 21st March 2019

and the **Parish Open Meeting** on
Thursday 18th April 2019

Neighbourhood Watch

Your co-ordinators are:

Deborah Hemmins 719638

Peter Hemmins 719372

If you see an incident, please take all the details and jot them down.

Numbers, dates, times, descriptions. If matters are urgent dial 999. Otherwise telephone 101. You can also report incidents at www.cambs.police.uk.

Broadband and mobile coverage in Longstowe

The Connecting Cambridgeshire programme, led by Cambridgeshire

County Council, is rolling out superfast broadband access to areas that are not being covered by commercial providers.

Most residents in Longstowe can now upgrade to get superfast broadband speeds of 24Mbps. Premises that cannot access superfast broadband yet are included in the current phase of the rollout and are due to be covered during 2019.

Residents can see if they can get superfast broadband using the postcode checker on the Connecting Cambridgeshire website at www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk, which also has advice about upgrading with your chosen Internet Service Provider (ISP).

Some premises may be able to get the newer Fibre to the Premise (FTTP) services offering faster speeds up to 300Mbps, but is currently only available from a limited number of ISPs – which are listed by area on the Openreach website

[www.homeandbusiness.openreach.co.uk/fibre-roadband/ultrafast-broadband/ultrafast-fibre-buy-it-now]www.homeandbusiness.openreach.co.uk/fibre-roadband/ultrafast-broadband/ultrafast-fibre-buy-it-now].

Connecting Cambridgeshire is also working with mobile operators to improve coverage across the county and has noted the Parish Council's report of poor mobile reception in parts of Longstowe.

If you have further queries, please email connecting.cambridgeshire@cambridgeshire.gov.uk including your full address and postcode.

Heidi Allen, MP

If you would like to contact Heidi, please email heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk or call her office on 01223 830037. For either drop-in or appointment surgeries, please visit her website <https://www.heidisouthcambs.co.uk>, where you will find a great deal of information and newsletters.

Cllr. Dr. Tumi Hawkins

Elected Member for Caldecote Ward
Caldecote, Childerley, Kingston,
Bourn, Longstowe & Little Gransden
tumi@tumihawkins.org.uk
07802 323269
01954 210840
<http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk>
<http://twitter.com/CouncillorTumi>
<http://www.facebook.com/itsCouncillorTumi>
<http://www.linkedin.com/in/tumihawkins>

	Fen Feeds Ltd	
Pet & Livestock Feeds, Bedding, Hay & Straw, Wild Bird Food		
	FREE DELIVERY	
Telephone: 01954 269259 Email: judy@fenfeeds.co.uk www.fenfeeds.co.uk		

Longstowe's History Society

recently made history by holding two 3D events in the village hall!

In September, Peter White gave an illustrated talk on the history of 3D photography, his interest in the subject from his teens to the present day. He then presented a 3D slide show entitled "A year in Longstowe" projected onto a big screen featuring over 200 full colour images shot over a period of twelve months and showing many local views, events, harvests, ploughing etc. taken in all weathers from blazing sunshine to falling snowflakes.

Peter provided the audience with "active switching" 3D glasses which gave the very highest quality experience and drew many gasps of amazement as the images seemingly appeared out of the screen.

The following meeting in October, featured a 3D film entitled "Im Krieg" which Peter projected onto the big screen with full high quality sound. The film gave a view of WW1 from "the other side" as seen more by the man in the street than the military. The film was primarily composed of 3D images, many shot in trenches and of troops

preparing for, enduring, and in some cases, surviving conflict.

Thanks went to Jane Bowden for contacting the producers of the film who gave the society permission to show it in the village hall.

Both events were well supported with many positive comments being made. Peter's passion for 3D photography was apparent and he is willing to help others who may have questions. Peter can be contacted at mrpeterwhite@btinternet.com

Harvest Supper

This year our Harvest Supper was held on 6th October. The event was very well supported with 54 guests. The mood was a happy and jolly one with much merriment!

Many had kindly donated delicious food and raffle prizes as in previous years. So good to see this traditional village event remaining both popular and so well supported.



The evening raised a total of £652 which has been donated entirely to the fabric fund of our village church. It will be used to support maintenance and repairs of this special building.

This event was so well supported that in terms of funds raised, it exceeded

the income raised by our Harvest Supper in any previous year.

Thank you so much, all who took part, for your support and generosity.

At the next PCC Meeting we will discuss if we can make the evening a fixed annual date, say the 1st Saturday in October – so everyone gets the chance to attend rather than missing because of diary clashes.

Longstowe Remembrance Sunday 11.11.18 by The Rural Dean Sue Wyatt

Ours is, of course, one of a huge number of gatherings across the world, the centenary of the end of The Great War. At each of these gatherings similar, familiar words of Remembrance are used. Yet every gathering is unique, personal – as we, here, recall the names of those from this community who died serving their country – especially mindful of those who died in WW1 – the Great War, ‘the war to end all wars’.

11th November is a day for us to hold both the enormous scale of the impact of WW1 and the particularity of the pain that it caused to families of this community. It is a day also to try to appreciate the relief that was felt by the nations **and** the relief felt by parents, mothers, wives of soldiers of the time – that no more lives would be lost.

It is rather special here in Longstowe that as well as the memorial in church to those who died, there is a Roll of Honour on the left side of the lych gate as you enter the church. On this are recorded the names of **all who served** in the Two World Wars, those who died being marked with RIP, Rest in Peace.

- **67 names are recorded for WW1 – 7 deaths**

Now more than ever we are aware of the hidden costs of war that, I am sure, have been amongst the 60 men who returned, those whose lives were, in many ways 'lost' – because of the impact of the horrors they had experienced, because of the physical and mental scars of war.

The roll of honour helps us remember **their** sacrifice, and the sacrifice of their families.

I have visited some of the cemeteries in Northern France, as well as the Menin Gate and Thiepval memorial, but I was unaware of much of the history of the war graves and memorials. Some of these cemeteries are huge, some much smaller; all are close to where the soldiers died. But they are not there by chance. They are there because of the remarkable vision of a man called Fabian Ware who, with others, recognised the need for systems to be in place amongst all the carnage, to record not only the names of the dead but the exact place of burial. It was brave work to give dignity to those who had died and to give a small comfort to their loved ones. And the visual appearance of the cemeteries is also not by chance, it is as a result of decisions that were made – some very hard decisions. The decision to bury the fallen close to where they had died and not to repatriate the bodies was, in part, because it was felt that the comradeship that was part of these men's lives in battle should be there in the commemoration of their death, and that repatriation, which could only have been afforded by the more wealthy,

was not appropriate. There was, of course, much opposition to this from those who wanted the bodies of their loved ones brought home.

We are familiar with the uniformity of the headstones, the simple inscriptions all in the same font – a font specially designed for the headstones and for the memorials for those whose bodies were never recovered.

It was hoped that these cemeteries and memorials would be a strong advocate for peace. The sheer size of the cemeteries, ever since the 1920's, has brought home to people the nature and scale of death in World War 1

King George V, when he visited Western Front cemeteries in 1922 said 'I have many times asked myself whether there can be more potent advocates of peace upon earth through the years to come than this massed multitude of silent witnesses to the desolation of war'.

The cemeteries are certainly very strong visually. I challenge anyone not to be moved by their scale and number. Each one of these lives mattered – regardless of rank, regardless of manner of death – and, as Christians we would say they mattered not only to those who loved them and felt the pain of the loss, but they also mattered to God.

I know that the reasons and justifications for war are complex and today is not the day for such discussions. But one of the tragedies of war is that it can only happen when some lives are seen as expendable, as **of less value** than other lives. Perhaps as I say that, in our time, we think of the shocking images of children in the Yemen – starving as the result of war –

expendable lives in the eyes of some. To say that war can only happen when some lives are seen as expendable is in no way to diminish the gallantry and bravery of those we remember today. But, as we move in this service towards a commitment to **peace**, we can perhaps take a moment to consider what we mean when we talk of **everyone** being made in the image of God, every life mattering to God.

Informal Wedding and Events Photography

All donations will go directly to charity. I am raising money for Restless Development, who I will be volunteering with for three months this spring.



To contact me, email: sophienorman99@outlook.com



To make a donation or find out more about my volunteering go to:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sophie-Norman4

Quiz night

A quiz, fund raiser for the village hall was held on evening of 24th of November. The event was well supported and featured lots of easy questions which were well received. The theme of the evening was "Indoor picnic" which gave all contestants the

chance to bring in their own choice of food and drink. This always contributes to the "merry atmosphere" of the evening. Very merry.



Lynne Gordon kindly managed the scoring, she is so good at it! Lynne's husband Dan kindly generated a sports round, a feat totally beyond the skills of the organiser! Sheena kindly sold raffle tickets and assisted with the distribution of prizes.

Due to the generosity of participants, not only taking part but also donating toward the raffle, we raised £300 which will all be used toward the running of our Village Hall.

A sincere "Thank you" to all who supported this event and contributed in any way.

Peter White

Christingle service

This year our Christingle service was held on the 2nd December. Always a happy event and well supported by both children and adults. The congregation comprised 14 children and 27 adults. The service was led by the Revd Stephen Day.

There were three readings by children, Harry, Sam and Lily. Popular carols were sung and the children held lighted

candles (under supervision!) during the service.

The traditional Christingles were handed out to the youngsters during the service, these had been made by Daphne and a group of her friends.

The collection brought in £106 which will be donated in its entirety, to The Children's Society. Many thanks to all who supported this happy event.

PW

Sheila Hemmins

Sheila was born on 29th April 1935 and lived in Hardwick, where, as a teenager, she started playing the organ in the local Church. She continued her playing in Longstowe Church, where she was organist for some 37 years, in a church she loved to decorate, and was responsible for the cherry trees planted around the inside boundary. Sheila had a strong sense of duty and took on the role of Christingle-maker, set up and wrote the *Skylark* and became Parish Clerk, positions she held for a number of years, using husband Peter as her backup memory. Sheila was kind and thoughtful, with a strong sense of humour and a love of local history. She always remained cheerful and many people living in Longstowe today do not realise just how much she contributed to this Parish. Sheila will be missed by her many friends and her family.

Longstowe Cricket Club 2019

Wanted: Players for next season. The club has struggled recently for players. If you know of anyone interested, please get in touch. The Club's play-cricket website can be

found at:
<http://longstowe.play-cricket.com>.

Phone contacts:
John Gooch 07950 708019
John Murden 07952 425003

The case for Tinsel

Invented in Nuremberg in the early 17th Century, tinsel predates most other forms of Christmas decoration, including glass baubles, electric lights and foil-wrapped chocolates.

It was originally fashioned from pure silver and was used to decorate sculptures, religious icons and nativity scenes, where it represented a starry, night sky.

Over the intervening 400 years, tinsel has become progressively less desirable and more polarising, with fashion almost completely casting it aside at the start of the 21st Century.

Having discovered very quickly that tinsel made from pure silver tarnishes quickly (can you imagine trying to polish tinsel?), alternative metals such as copper and aluminium were used. Then lead foil came along. By the 1960s lead tinsel had been banned and was duly replaced by PVC film coated with a metallic finish, which is the material mostly used today. Whatever you think of tinsel, it has endured for over 400 years, and is likely to survive another.

Dan Cooper "The Frustrated Gardener"
<https://frustratedgardener.com>

Longstowe History Society AGM

Tuesday 30th January 2019, 7.30 for 8. An opportunity to discuss future events over refreshments.

LONGSTOWE HISTORY SOCIETY

ROMAN CAMBRIDGE



*The town of Cambridge has been in existence since pre-historic times, but
has relocated around the area in response to contemporary influences.
Archaeology can help us understand this story.*

illustrated talk by
Quinton Carroll

Tuesday 26 February 2019, 7.30 for 8pm
LONGSTOWE VILLAGE HALL

Admission: £3 everyone welcome (Members free)
Refreshments included

Longstowe History Society: Tuesday 26th March 2019, 7.30pm:
Social Evening at 'The Red House'

The journey of the magi Godfrey Rust

Coming as they did from the first century
they had a few problems with London traffic
and were seriously misled by signs
to the Angel and King's Cross.

Inquiring diligently about the star
they were referred to Professor Brian Cox,
who thought it was *amazing*
while smiling in a constant and strangely
unsettling way.

In Harrods the camels
made a mess all over Soft Furnishings.

On the Underground
commuters glared at *No Smoking* signs
as incense wafted gently through the
carriages,

and when the great day came
they saw the entire voting population
slumped on sofas by four o'clock,
rendered senseless by too much
dead poultry and the Queen,

while over Liberty's and Hamley's
the flickering angels sang
Glory to God in the High St

and they found him,
with the inns full up once more,
in the old familiar place,
bringing their unregarded gifts
to the empty stable
of the human heart
where the infant Christ is born
again and again.

Jottings from The Longstowe Church PCC (Parochial Church Council)

A little note to say how very sad the
PCC are on hearing of the passing of
Shelia Hemmins in the last month. It
was of course Shelia, when she was a
very active member of the PCC,
together with Mary Bevan, who
introduced our little church to the lovely
service of Christingle. You will read
elsewhere in Skylark about our service
this year and various members of the
PCC and friends of Longstowe Church
are determined to continue what is now
a tradition for St Mary the Virgin
Longstowe. Thank you dear Shelia and
Mary for setting us on the way. Also of
course Shelia was our organist for very
many years.

Last Services of 2018:

Dec. 23rd Carols by Candlelight 3 pm

Dec. 25th Holy Communion

First Services of 2019:

January 13th Holy Communion 8.30 am

January 27th Morning Prayer 10.30 am

Bin collections

Date of usual collection	Revised collection date
Wednesday 26 December	Thursday 27 December
Wednesday 2 January	Thursday 3 January
From Monday 7 January	Back to normal collections

Village Hall Hire Charge per day £120, per hour £12.

For further information and bookings, contact Mrs Caroline White:
LongstoweVillageHall@outlook.com / telephone or text 077 32 160 951

Please send items for the April 2019 *Skylark* by Friday 15th March to
LongstowePC.Clerk@hotmail.com