

The Sexton's Wheel

Issue 205

The magazine for Long Stratton & Wacton



Floods in Stratton

February 2021

Long Stratton Village Hall - Booking information



The hall can be booked as follows:

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- Via our website www.longstrattonvillagehall.org.uk
- Email us at longstrattonvillagehall@outlook.com
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Wacton Village Hall - Booking information

The meeting room has seating for 22, suitable for small functions. The main hall has a semi-sprung floor with capacity for 80 seated or 120 standing. There is a fully equipped kitchen and a full complement of tables and chairs. All areas are accessible for wheelchairs, there is a baby changing station. Hourly rates are £6 and £10 respectively or £13 for the hire of the whole hall. Christine Goreham 01508 530823 or Wacton.VH@outlook.com

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June Braddock 01508 470701

Church Parish Office

The Parish Office is situated at the Rectory, 8 Flowerpot Lane is currently not staffed, but we are available for enquiries at anytime. Please ring the doorbell (by the front door) or ring 01508 530238 for all enquiries.

If you know of anyone who is unwell or would benefit from a visit from a member of our ministry team please contact the Parish Office (01508 530238).

Long Stratton Town Council, The Pavilion, Manor Road, Long Stratton

Usual office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday between 10am and 1pm and by appointment at other times.

Tel: Clerk Becky Buck 01508 530524 E-mail: clerk@longstrattoncouncil.info

The Editors reserve the right to edit or decline any material submitted for publication. While every effort is made to ensure that the contents of the magazine are accurate, no responsibility can be taken for errors and omissions. The material printed does not necessarily represent the views of the magazine committee and no recommendation of products or services is implied. While the committee take reasonable care when accepting advertisements for publication, it cannot accept responsibility for any unsatisfactory transactions. Errors and omissions excepted.



Sadly, 2021 is carrying on from where we left off in 2020. Here we are in another lockdown, hopefully you are all keeping safe and well. The vaccine has been rolled out, so let's hope in a few months we should all be feeling a lot safer.

Due to the virus, many activities have had to be either put on hold or cancelled, this has led to a shorter edition than usual.

While we are talking about the virus, on page 25 there is a clinical study recruiting volunteers to take part in a study to combat COVID-19.

The Sexton's Wheel Team

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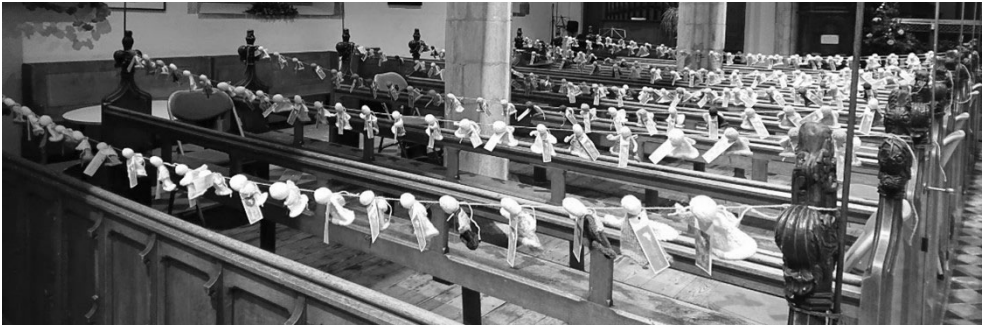
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Twass the night before Christmas Eve ...

... and more than 450 angels were painstakingly tagged and attached to string, whilst the heavens opened and the rain poured down. The gravity of the situation not becoming clear until a fireman came into the church to ask if we had any flooding!

Thankfully the churches were fine, but sadly as we know many people did suffer flooding over the next few days.

Twass the night before Christmas ...

... and the angels were due to be hung around the village ready for Christmas morning ... but the rains continued to fall, every time we thought the rain had stopped and attempted a mad dash to get them ready, the rain came again, and apart from knitting them all little umbrellas, we didn't want them getting wet and bedraggled.

And so they waited, until it **Twass the night before New Year's Day ...**

... and a crisp and clear evening, albeit very cold, 450+ angels sprang into action to send their blessings around the town.

Over the next few days most were taken into their new homes where we pray they will continue to bring their blessings year after year.

So a huge thank you to all the wonderful knitters who made this possible. And who knows, they might wing there way to us again another year

VANDA and TED

As'Vulnerable' pensioners wish to express their heartfelt thanks to SARAH, NEIL and their daughters GRACE and BETTY for looking after us so well and for doing all our shopping every week since March 2020 whilst we have been in 'Self Isolation'

We would also like to nominate them as the best local ' Good Samaritans'.



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who have individual votes. These votes are collated, discussed at the national AGM and presented to the government. Then campaigning starts on the most pressing issues and the national W.I. produces a variety of resources. January is the month when women all over the country will have been advised of the various ways in which they can vote this year when actual meetings have not been possible. The resolutions they have been considering are (1) A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer; (2) Stop women dying prematurely from coronary heart disease; (3) Racism and discrimination; (4) Protect your nature space to create wildlife friendly communities; (5) Stop the destruction of peat bogs to tackle climate change.

We will know which resolution(s) have been chosen later in the year. It is good to know that the wheels continue turning and we are a part of something bigger, even if we are unable to meet up socially.

In the past, change has been achieved on hundreds of issues that affect women and their communities such as equal pay for women, AIDS awareness, calling for more midwives, Fairtrade, climate change, mental health stigmas, food waste, food poverty, microplastic pollution and climate change.

If you want to find out more try the national W.I. website www.thewi.org.uk/campaigns.





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As we begin the Spring Term, we find ourselves back to our online programme of activities across the Scout Group using zoom & supported activities at home offline. We have welcomed some new young people, and also some new volunteers, to the Scout Group and we look forward to them all getting more involved as the weeks continue. If you want to find out more about the things we do, please visit our Facebook Page - www.facebook.com/1stlongstrattonscoutgroup

Peter, Group Scout Leader



2nd Long Stratton

During January, we have started our Brownie meetings back on zoom. We are going to work on our Take Action – Influence Stage 2 – Skill Builders Badge this term. Alongside fun Brownie quizzes, games & activities that the girls can join in with at home on zoom.

Brown Owl, Josie

LONG STRATTON YOUTH CAFE

Youth Cafe is now closed until further notice, as soon as we have any updates on when we can safely open up again we will let you know.

Stay safe.

Mat, Wil, Tina, Doug and Joanna.





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Long Stratton Town Council

The Street, Long Stratton, Norwich NR15 2AH

Chairman: Mr Kevin Worsley Clerk: Mrs B Buck

01508 530524 clerk@longstrattoncouncil.info www.longstrattoncouncil.info



Flooding

The Town Council would like to thank everyone who volunteered just before Christmas in helping those affected by the flooding. They would like to thank the businesses that provided hot food and drinks, the fire fighters, the police, District Councillors and the community for all pulling together.

The Local Lead Flood Authority at Norfolk County Council have launched a County wide investigation and the Council will keep you updated as the investigation unfolds.

If you require any help, the help hub at South Norfolk District Council are doing what they can and are on hand to offer advice and guidance.

Covid19

Another lockdown! This is frustrating for everyone, please can I ask everyone to be respectful, keep social distancing, wear facemasks and keep washing hands and/ or using hand sanitiser. The playgrounds remain open, however in line with legislation the MUGA and skate park have been closed.

Dog Fouling

We have noticed dog fouling again is on the up. If you are aware of anyone not clearing up after their dog then please contact me and I will in turn pass the information to South Norfolk District Council.

Summer event

The Council are remaining optimistic and will be planning a summer event, if you would like to be involved please contact me.

I am also pleased to confirm Gray's funfair have booked to return to Long Stratton in the summer.

Stay safe

Becky

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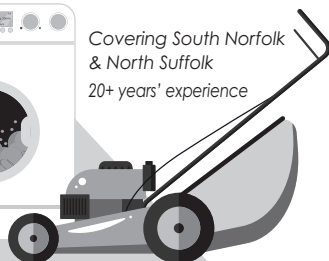
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SEEKING SHELTER

We live in difficult, stormy times. American democracy has been challenged. We are in lockdown. Many are dying. Experts have warned of the NHS being in the middle of a great storm, facing unprecedented pressure with staff threatened by burnout. Parents are bearing the stresses of home education. Many are lonely, with others afraid for their lives, waiting in hope of being vaccinated. Many have severe financial problems. Foodbanks face great demand.

The Bible tells of the prophet, Elijah, who was facing a kind of storm. Israel was in turmoil, and people were seeking to kill Elijah. His world was being turned upside down. Even though God had at times spoken through him, he had temporarily lost confidence, lost his sense of being secure in God, and had fled to preserve his life. And then, when he was in a cave, Elijah experienced the sense of a powerful wind, then of an earthquake, then of fire. But only then did God come; he came through gently whispering to Elijah. God is often heard in the place of stillness, the place of really listening for God's voice. Elijah had sought shelter in the cave, but he is reminded that the true place of security comes from hearing God's voice and knowing of God's affirmation and acceptance. God confirms to Elijah that he has a plan for him and for his nation, and that the evil facing his nation will not prevail.

I do not know why God allows evil, but the Bible clearly says God will finally overcome it. There will be a Day of Judgment when injustices will be resolved and God's opposition to evil will be clearly revealed. God raised Jesus Christ from the dead as a sign of this and as a confirmation of Jesus's decisive personal victory over evil. Christians believe that Christ himself is God's 'voice', or 'Word', in human form: truly human and truly God. We can hear God through him as we reflect on the Bible and wait in stillness, attentive to God's presence. Christ is a shelter in the storm.

Even so, Christians also struggle in these stressful times. It is good to remind ourselves of God's affirmation and acceptance. 'In the day of trouble, he will keep me safe in his dwelling, he will hide me in his shelter' (Psalm 27:5). 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved' (Acts 2:21). The promise is for all who ask God for salvation: our bodies may perish, but our souls will be kept safe. We can look to Christ to shelter us and bring us into his resurrection life.

Dr. Rolfe King
Long Stratton Congregational Church




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We have welcomed in 2021 with great expectations that the vaccination roll out programme will finally lead to the end of the pandemic that has been part and parcel of our lives for nearly 11 months. We are in national lockdown again as I write this article. Today PM Boris Johnson announced that over a million people in the UK have Covid. This is a scary figure and we must continue to exercise caution and follow social distancing measures.

This month I want to look at screening tests and in particular will focus on cervical cancer screening.

1. What is a screening test? The NHS website gives us a beautiful answer: 'Screening is a way of finding out if people are at higher risk of a health problem, so that early treatment can be offered or information given to help them make informed decisions.
2. What makes a screening programme reliable? Almost 53 years ago, the World Health Organisation commissioned a report on screening from James Maxwell Glover Wilson, then Principal Medical Officer at the Ministry of Health in London, England, and Gunner Jungner, then Chief of the Clinical Chemistry Department of Sahlgren's Hospital in Gothenburg, Sweden. The report, published in 1968, was entitled: Principles and practice of screening for disease.

In this advanced technological 21st century, we follow the principles laid out by Wilson and Jungner as they have proven again and again that these principles still stand true when it comes to screening programmes throughout the world.

This leads to my topic of the month - the robust cervical screening programme in the UK. The number of women dying of cervical cancer has been halved since the introduction of the programme. It is estimated that around 4500 lives are saved every year in the UK. One must remember that cervical screening is not a test for cancer. It involves identifying the high risk Human Papilloma Virus (hrHPV) which can cause cell changes that lead to cancer. If the hrHPV is detected, then a further test is done on the cervical smear sample to check for cell changes. If there are cell changes, then treatment is essential. Otherwise, these cell changes can lead to cervical cancer. Every person has the freedom to make informed choices. It is important to have as much information as possible before making a decision and the NHS website has a wealth of knowledge about screening programmes. However there is also the opportunity of discussing it with a clinician if in doubt. I take this opportunity to encourage you to take up the screening programmes when invited to do so.

Stay Safe - Dr Mini Nelson

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Winter Walking.

Local Walk)

(rather than

Sadly, no group walks are possible at the moment but we regulars are still walking, albeit in ones and (socially distanced) twos. We are so lucky in Long Stratton to be able to access the countryside without resorting to a car. We are well off for footpaths, although after so much rain many of the more popular ones are now a bit of a nightmare. Still, there are quiet lanes too, and already the afternoons are lengthening; I've even seen a primrose and lots of winter heliotropes, not very showy but welcome all the same. By the time you read this, I expect snowdrops and winter aconites will be flowering. Do visit Morningthorpe churchyard where there is always a wonderful display of these in late January and February; it's well within the reach of most reasonably fit people. Gradually in these coming months we shall see Spring unfolding before our eyes. There is so much to look forward to. Happy walking, everyone.

Why not join us on the first Monday of every month. We meet in the Long Stratton car park at 10am ready for a 4 mile (approx) walk. Everyone welcome.
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CARING FOR OUR FOOTPATHS

Three years ago I answered an appeal for a Parish Footpath Warden in the Sexton's Wheel. I must have been the only applicant as I was immediately appointed. It is a voluntary post and it seems to be up to the individual warden how much he or she is prepared to put into the job. Basically the idea is to keep the Council informed on the condition of the public rights of ways – PROWs for short – in the parish. This includes the path surface, gates, stiles, vegetation growth, bridges (usually planks over ditches) and signposts. I do prepare a periodic report for the council but when I find a defect I report it straight to Norfolk Highways Dept of which PROWs are a sub-division. There is an interactive map on-line on which you can pinpoint the exact position of the problem and then fill in a form with details. It is fairly easy to use with practice. You don't necessarily get quick results; they have a very small budget. A deteriorating plank bridge I reported eighteen months ago is still languishing in the "schedule" (the pandemic has not helped here of course) and the stile near St Michael's Church is still very unsatisfactory, although signposts usually get replaced pretty quickly. I suppose that is a routine, straightforward, thing to do. It is amazing how often posts are uprooted, either by vandals or by accidents with farm vehicles.

My footpaths are numbered 1 – 27 although a couple have been incorporated into regular pavements, for instance the little walkway from the A140 to St Michael's Road beside the car park. I try and inspect the paths at least 4 times a year and when plant life is thriving, I always take a pair of secateurs with me to try and keep the way clear; blackthorn, nettles and (especially) brambles grow at an incredible rate. Technically this is Highways job but no way have they the manpower: even field edge paths only get mown once a year now. I believe some parishes have purchased equipment to supplement this but I am not nearly strong enough to manage a strimmer man enough for the job.

Anyone can report a defect – you don't have to be a warden. However, if you come across something that should be dealt with, I would be more than happy to report it for you. My email is **bonnie.wade@tiscali.co.uk** or **phone 01508 531406**. 10 to 1 the footpath will turn out to be in Tharston or Morningthorpe as Long Stratton is long and narrow but I notify anything I find, recent successes including signs at Shelton and a stile in Hempnall.

It was good to see the footpaths being used more last year, a beneficial side effect of this dreadful pandemic. That helped to keep down the surface growth and made my job easier. I do hope people have enjoyed getting out more and will continue to do so when things are back to normal.

Bonnie Wade

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by Robert Maidstone

This month we look at:

ALBERT WILLIAM PIDGEON

Private 14693 9th Battalion Norfolk Regiment

Although baptised Albert William Pidgeon at Tharston on 23rd February 1890 as the eldest son of Charles and Jane Pidgeon, on his attestation papers when he enlisted in the army he gave his birth place as Wacton and that he was the son of Robert Pidgeon of Wacton. Charles and Robert were brothers living at Wacton when Charles married Jane Seaman in 1889. By the 1891 Census Charles and Jane had moved into a property on the Street at Tharston with Albert but after that he was always referred to as William. After ending his schooling William worked as a bricklayer's labourer at Tharston.

On 7th September 1914 William enlisted at Norwich as Private 14693 of the 9th Battalion the Norfolk Regiment. After training they landed in Boulogne in August 1915. and moved to Loos then to the trenches overlooking the Quadrilateral near Ginchy by September 1916. On 15th September when the assault was ordered they were supposed to have support from three tanks, two failed to arrive and the third drew enemy fire and was diverted. The soldiers encountered un-broken barbed wire and the assault petered out. William was one of the many that lost their lives that day.

ALBERT PECK

Private 241030 Labour Corps

Albert Peck did not enlist until 1918, he was then 54 years old and joined the Labour Corps who provided support to the fighting men - cooking, laundering and moving supplies as well as maintaining roads, railways and buildings. Albert was a brick layer by trade so his expertise was needed in the rebuilding on the Continent. Listed as an absent voter (NM) in 1918 and not registered to vote in 1919 suggests his service lasted until 1920 when he returned to Wacton.

He was born in Wacton and was one of the first councillors of the Parish Council then acted as Parish Constable or several years. He probably lived at North End Farm on the Common until 1908 when he moved to the Victoria Cottages, the Green.

He was a married man with five grown up children, of which two boys were already in the army and one a police officer in London.

Of the two boys who enlisted only Ernest Albert is mentioned on the Wacton Roll Of Honour.(172w)

ERNEST ALBERT PECK
Private 77739 Royal Field Artillery

The youngest of Albert's boys, Ernest Albert, was working as a barman when he enlisted on 23rd June 1914 in London and by April 1915 was in France. Throughout his wartime service he appears to be a 'driver', one of the men who rode and guided one pair of horses moving artillery guns and other wagons.

By the end of that year he was in Salonika and spent a year there, transferring to the Royal Sussex Regiment in February 1917 then in June to the Labour Corps, which suggests he was recuperating from injury and not 'A1' fit. In 1918 he was in the UK and married Marjorie Winslade in Chichester. He returned to active service in August with the Suffolk Regiment before rejoining the RFA. He remained in service after the war, re-engaging in 1926 and finally being discharged in 1934.

He is on the 1918 register of electors as an Absent voter (NM) at the Green, Wacton, and at 6 Victoria Cottages, now 11 Hall Lane, in 1932 although that was also his parents' address. The military records show he was discharged to Bustards Green, Forncett. He was buried at Wacton in 1969. (193w)

[If anyone has further information about any of these men, or would like details of the family, I can be contacted at robertwmaidstone@gmail.com]

Wacton Footcare

As you all probably know, the last session of Wacton Footcare scheduled for January did not take place for many of us owing to the current situation with COVID-19 situation. Our footcare specialist, Clare, hopes to continue with footcare sessions before too much longer but has had to face ongoing travel restrictions. She has provisional travel arrangements in place booked for 22nd February but may have to be cancelled at the last minute. In light of this, Clare will phone to confirm ongoing appointments with everyone as the situation becomes clearer, although this may not be until much nearer the time. In the meantime, best wishes, take care and stay safe.

Footcare Specialist Clare -- **07785 295358**. Further information Rita **01508 218407**.

WACTON COFFEE MORNINGS

Hello again everyone – Unfortunately, it is still not possible for us to plan when we can start meeting again. Hopefully, as we start to receive the vaccine we may be able to get back to some sort of normal.

In the meantime we hope you are all keeping safe and well. Please get in touch if you would like a chat on the phone.

Caroline 01508 530111, Rita 01508 218407

Worship continues ... even when the churches are in lockdown!

Did you know, you can still access at least one service every week from the Parish churches through our Youtube channel -

Long Stratton and Pilgrim Team

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8uWaAvXxnfhOG4KEDnqZg>

The services can also be found on our website: **longstrattonandpilgrimteam.co.uk**

In addition to Youtube, we have regular events through ZOOM

Tuesdays at 7.30pm - weekly Bible Study

Wednesdays at 9.30am - weekly prayer meeting

Sundays at 6.30pm - weekly Evening Service

Every 2nd Thursday at 7.30pm Girls Night In for fun and fellowship

Fortnightly on a Sunday at 8.00pm EPIC Youth Group meets

For more information on any of this or if you would like a zoom link please contact Heather: **01508 530238 /rev.heather@btconnect.com**

Using our Facebook group **Messy Church @ Home** continues to meet on the last Saturday of every month

Our churches are still open for individual private prayer

St. Mary's - Wednesdays: 2pm—5 pm

All Saints Wacton - Thursdays: 9am—4pm

St Michaels Tuesdays - 8.30am to 4pm

And prayers are said in the churches regularly

If you live in Long Stratton and have a prayer request please send them to Heather, using the details above

If you live in Wacton and have a prayer request please send them to

Angie Baldwin at angiekbaldwin@gmail.com/07771 438062

At the point of writing, it is not clear if our churches will be open again in February, we pray they will be, but if they are not, the church is still here for everyone who needs it, please get in touch with us.

Reverend Heather

C-19
COVID Symptom Tracker

PRINCIPLE

Platform Randomised trial of Interventions
against COVID-19 In older peoPLE

PRINCIPLE is a nationwide clinical study from the University of Oxford. It aims to find Covid-19 treatments for the over 50's that can be taken at home. It's looking for medicines that can help people with Covid-19 symptoms get better quickly and stop them needing to go into hospital. Anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, which started within the last 14 days may be eligible to join the PRINCIPLE trial if they are aged over 65; or over 50 with an underlying health condition.

The trial is recruiting participants directly through its website <https://www.principletrial.org/>

Join the PRINCIPLE Trial — PRINCIPLE Trial

We are looking for medicines that can help people with COVID-19 symptoms get better quickly and stop them needing to go to hospital. PRINCIPLE is recruiting participants through this website and also through GP practices across the UK.
www.principletrial.org

Come and join us for.....

The next *Messy Church* is on **Saturday 27th February**
from 9am until 10.45am



Messy Church continues to meet through Facebook, with crafts uploaded in the week before Messy Church and then on the day, the story and worship are delivered through livestreaming and everyone is encouraged to upload pictures of their crafts



Long Stratton Messy Church

You can find out more by phoning Heather Wilcox at The Rectory 530238

Free virtual activity programme for 0 to 5s in Norfolk



The Early Childhood & Family Service (ECFS) is still running, offering extra help to families who need it. Right now, due to Covid-19, we're providing a programme of virtual activities and groups that are available to families with children aged 0 to 5 years.



Early Childhood and Family Service

Activity Programme

October to December 2020



New videos every week at facebook.com/EarlyChildhoodFamilyService and on our [YouTube channel](#). First view on the day/time shown or watch anytime later



Baby Days Bitesize

Information and ideas for activities, suitable from birth, which will help encourage your baby's brain development and strengthen your bond

Monday

1.30pm

Toddler Days

Inspiration for fun, learning activities, plus tips to get your toddler talking

Tuesday

11.00am

Talk & Play All Through The Day

Easy to use ideas for you to talk and play with your child, as you go about your every day lives, helping them build good language.

Wednesday

1.30pm

Outdoor Explorers

Videos and simple activities to help you encourage your child's enjoyment and understanding of their natural world

Thursday

11.00am

Cookalong

Step-by-step videos for easy family recipes which are fun to make together and will save you money compared to ready prepared food. No experience necessary!

Friday

1.30pm



Live Online Groups



Baby Days Live Online

Six weeks of free online sessions for babies with their parents/carers. Each session will have a new learning activity to try out with your baby, plus an opportunity to meet other parents and talk to knowledgeable staff.

Courses running regularly

Sessions take place online via Microsoft Teams. You only need an internet connection and a smartphone, tablet or computer to join.

Check dates and book at tinyurl.com/ECFSevents



Norfolk Libraries for Families



Story Week

Monday to Friday

12.00pm

New storyline video every Monday, with activity ideas to bring the story to life Tuesday to Friday. Available on [YouTube](#).

Bounce & Rhyme

Tuesday

10.00am

Available on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

Just a Cuppa:

Babies and Toddlers

Tuesday

11.00am

Social session over Zoom Video Call. Email library@ecfscouncil.norfolk.gov.uk for info.



Family Learning Online



Family Learning Online Cafe

Tuesday

7.00pm

Take part in an activity and find out about Family Learning courses. Visit www.norfolk.gov.uk, communityactionforchildren.org.uk for dates and Zoom access codes

Family Learning Online Courses

Various Days and times

For details and to book visit actionforchildren.org.uk

Need extra help or someone to talk to?

We are here to help with things like:

- Bonding with your child
- Speech and language development
- Parenting challenges
- Mental wellbeing
- Healthy relationships



Please contact us and one of our team will be in touch.

Online form: www.tinyurl.com/ECFSevents
Email: ecfs-families@actionforchildren.org.uk

0344 800 8020 | www.norfolk.gov.uk/earlychildhood | ecfs-families@actionforchildren.org.uk

20200805

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY SERVICE

Happy New Year from us all at the Early Childhood and Family Service . Despite the challenges that we continue to face with Covid 19 we are still here and supporting lots of families in South Norfolk with children aged 0 – 5 years. Please take a look at our virtual programme and Facebook page and contact us for extra support if needed .

- Families can contact the ECFS via 0344 800 8020 or by emailing ecfs-families@actionforchildren.org.uk or by using the green button on the www.norfolk.gov/earlychildhood website.
- The ECFS can be accessed from across Norfolk and here in the South District, our staff work from two bases, Long Stratton and Diss, out in the community and we also provide support to families by telephone and other digital tools.
- All ECFS bases have been closed during the Covid lockdown but we can now offer self-weigh appointments-booked through your health visitor on the Just One Norfolk number 0344 300 123, and outdoor sessions-booked with your allocated Family Support Practitioner through the ECFS.
- The ECFS is sharing activity ideas via our Facebook pages including photos of home learning activities, The Summer Cook-a-long and The Giant Wiggle video clips at www.facebook.com/ECFSSouth

www.norfolk.gov.uk/earlychildhood

Phone: 0344 800 8020

Take care everyone.



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– from a family we have cared for at Rosedale



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Tharston & District WI

Lockdown, lockdown, lockdown with luck, fingers crossed and with the vaccination, this may be the last one we have to endure. Last year really did not go to plan! We cancelled meetings and activities but we did manage to hold some outdoor events during the summer. We enjoyed an afternoon tea, and a quiz with cake afternoon, when we were able to chat although sitting at a safe distance. We have planned a programme for 2021 and hope that meetings will be able to resume later in the year. How we have missed the friendship, laughter, conversation, interesting speakers, and of course tea and cake, that the WI offers at their meetings.

Members of committee travelled round during December to deliver Christmas gifts to members. I hope all were pleased to receive a large tub of sweets and a card, along with our programme and the WI membership booklet. Once again it was really good to stand outside and have a good chat. We have tried hard to keep in touch with our members with phone calls, newsletters and more recently coffee mornings via zoom.

Heather Jeary

LETTERS

Response to District Councillors Alison Thomas and Joshua Worley article in the December issue of SW.

Subject: Good Neighbourhood Scheme for Long Stratton

I think we all know that a 'helping hand' scheme is needed locally and I have researched the history of these (Poringland is the most local and of longstanding). However, I am concerned that we are IMPOSING a structure onto the community which has restricted elements built into it which will not address other related needs. AGAIN I REMIND YOU

Your council aim under the localism act is to enable local communities to address issues themselves. I am sure you are aware of my request to tie into our Neighbourhood Plan for Long Stratton, a neighbourhood improvement area (Francis Rd/Manor Rd). So far, LSTC and SNC have offered no advice or a structure of cooperation on my request. I would refer Alison to the Itteringham Community Shop. North Norfolk Council 2017 Emma Duncan report

The Methodist building could be an "Assessment of community value" and be a new income generating opportunity.

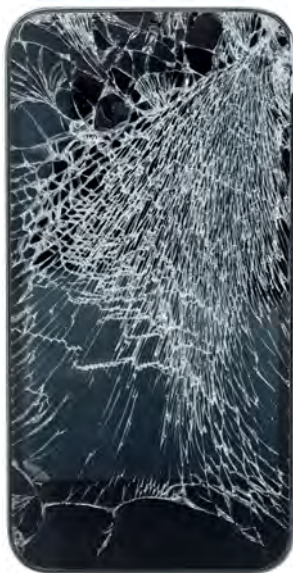
Finally, we increasingly need to work in a partnership of cooperation to deliver community cohesion.

Brian Webb

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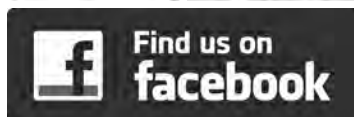
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CHURCH SERVICES - February

St Mary's Church

Services are suspended currently but under review, in the event services do restart in February, we will do our best to communicate this through facebook, notice boards and other means.

St Mary's is open for individual prayer every Wednesday - 2pm to 5pm.

St Michael's Church

Services are suspended currently but under review, in the event services do restart in February, we will do our best to communicate this through facebook, notice boards and other means.

St Michael's will be open for private prayer every Tuesday - 8.30am to 4pm

All Saints' Church

Services are suspended currently but under review, in the event services do restart in February, we will do our best to communicate this through facebook, notice boards and other means.

All Saints' will be open for private prayer every Thursday - 8.30am to 4pm

Congregational Church

All services in our church have been suspended due to the Coronavirus. For further information contact: **June Braddock - details on page 2**

From the Parish Registers

Funerals

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:

Owen Crisp St Mary's Church

THE SEXTON'S WHEEL

If you have something to tell us, an event coming up, an article of interest please contact us **email: thesextonswheel@googlemail.com**

tel: 07518 207494

or send to the Rectory, 8 Flowerpot Lane, Long Stratton, Norwich NR15 2TS
using the form below.

If you would like to advertise any Community Events this is free and we can tell over 2200 households

Editorial: If possible all editorial to be sent by e-mail. This saves time putting the magazine together and more importantly this would ensure names of people etc are spelt correctly. **Deadline for editorial is the 11th of the month**

Images: Any pictures you may have to accompany editorial would be welcome. Please send these as jpgs not embedded in a word document.

Adverts: Advertising rates per issue: -

Quarter page(6cm x 9cm)	£19.20	Half page (13cm x 9cm)	£33.60
Full page (13cm x 18cm)	£60		

Market Place: Advertise items for sale or wanted for £5 per item per issue. maximum 30 words. This is not for commercial items but private adverts only. There is a maximum selling price of £500 for goods and the editorial team reserve the right to refuse any advert they feel unsuitable. The Sexton's Wheel will not be held responsible or enter into correspondence for any transactions between the buyer and seller. No logos or pictures

Deadline for adverts is the 5th of the month

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