

LONG SUTTON AND LONG LOAD NEWSLETTER – March 2023

Visit the official Website: www.longsutton.org.uk
Email: lsnewsletter@btinternet.com

Sunday Services in the Levels Arc Benefice

Sunday 5 th March	10.20am Online Zoom* Morning prayer 11.00am Holy Communion at St John the Baptist Pitney 6.30pm Evensong at Holy Trinity Long Sutton
Sunday 12 th March	9.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Long Sutton 11.00am Holy Communion at St Catherine's Drayton
Sunday 19 th March, Mothering Sunday	10.30am Café Church at Pitney Village Hall 10.00am Mothering Sunday service at Drayton 11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter and St Paul Muchelney
Sunday 26 th March	11.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Long Sutton

* Morning Prayer on Zoom – contact Sue Creegan 01458 241554 for details.

Every Wednesday at 10.00 am – Holy Communion or Morning Prayer at HT LS

Every Friday at 6.30 pm – informal Prayers at HT LS

Coffee mornings at Holy Trinity Church, Long Sutton

Thank you to all who supported our February coffee morning on **Saturday 4th February** which was in aid of our local charity **Friends of Long Sutton Church (FOLSC)** and we are delighted to report a fabulous **£1,130.00** was raised. This will help enormously with the planned upgrade of the Holy Trinity wiring, that FOLSC have agreed to fund. The Trustees would like to thank all who supported this event, helped with the arrangements and who made donations to the produce stall that proved a sell out!

Next month's coffee morning will be held on **4th March** and will be in aid of **the Stroke Association**. This is being organised by Elaine Cashmore (and friends), who sadly lost her husband Mike to a stroke last year, so we are hoping for another amazing turnout.

Whilst a little way off the following month the coffee morning will be held on **1st April** and will be in aid of **Long Sutton Cricket Club** who are raising funds to upgrade the rather 'tired' pavilion.

A proposal was put forward and approved by the PCC, after consultation with the team who run the tea/coffee/cake stall, that with effect from March 2023, 25% of the takings from the Tea, coffee and cake stall plus the Produce stalls (excluding money given via Yellow Gift Aid envelopes), will be donated to the Holy Trinity Church funds. This is not a decision that has been taken lightly and there has been considerable discussion prior to implementation. Please continue to support the coffee mornings which are an important community asset of the village, as well as raising much needed and appreciated funds.

Churchyard Tidy - Sat 18th March

We are planning to hold the spring tidy-up of Holy Trinity churchyard on Saturday 18th March, starting at 10 am. Could those with an hour or two to spare kindly lend a hand to help tidy the churchyard after the winter. Please bring your own tools. Coffee and biscuits will be available to sustain the workers.

Flowers and Brasses rota

March 4 th , 11 th , 25 th	No Flowers -	Lent
April 1 st		Mrs Bond and Mrs Ellerbeck

Food Bank

There is a box in the church for donations. Please don't think you must donate a full shopping bag. Single packets or tins are

welcome contributions, as are toiletries and hygiene items. Everything goes regularly to the Lord's Larder in Yeovil. This is a simple way to help people who are going through a hard time.

FOLSC Spring Update

These words are being written with snowdrops, crocus and daffs coming into flower and with days lengthening, Spring is definitely in the air. First off, this month, and as reported elsewhere, the FOLSC sponsored coffee morning held at Holy Trinity on February 4th raised a staggering £1,130 for our charity. When gift aid is added, the total should rise to an even more impressive £1,221. Many thanks to all who attended, those who helped supply our produce stall and of course Jean, Marion, Shirley & Gerry as ever for serving coffee and cakes to keep us all fed and watered!

Next up the **FOLSC 2023 AGM** is to be held at the village school on **Monday 6th March**. Doors open at 6.00 and the meeting starts at 6.30 and is open to all (non-members in a non-voting capacity) so come along and hear what we achieved in 2022 and our plans for the current year. If you are new to the village, you are especially welcome!

Finally, our first social/fundraiser of 2023 will be held at the Long Sutton Village Hall on **Saturday 25th March** when the fabulous **Wessex Big Band** and their singer Kelly Dale will perform for us. They cater for all musical tastes and typically include big band favourites made famous by Count Basie, Stan Kenton, Glenn Miller and others. Those who wish will have the opportunity to dance and all for just £10.00 per ticket. These are available now from David Aitken (tel 01458 241335), any of the FOLSC Trustees or from Charlie Walford and his team at the Upton Bridge Farm shop. What better way to celebrate the arrival of British summer time, so let's make this another sell out event!

Long Sutton W.I News

On Thursday 16th March, we are looking forward to a Wild West Night with Keinton Mandeville W.I at Barton.St David village hall with author Marcus Paul 'Ireland to the Wild West'. Dressing up is optional so dig out your checked shirts and cowboy boots for extra fun! Skittles continues until Easter. The trip to Shepton Mallet Prison is on Friday 24th March with lunch beforehand. In April Subs are due and we are having a talk by Long Sutton friendly Society and the competition is a local artefact. Please also start collecting crisps packets - all will be revealed at the next meeting! (please eat them first!). If you are interested in joining our W.I. and extending your Growth Mindset do please come along to a free taster session with no obligation to join, in the village hall at 7.30 p.m. Thank you also to all the new members who have joined recently and the two new Committee members. Please contact Joint Presidents: Jane 07823 559175 or Caroline 01458 241159 for further information.

The Great British Spring Clean is taking place from 17 March to 2 April. Long Sutton WI will be joining a national army of #LitterHeroes who will be pledging to pick nearly half a million bags of litter from the places and spaces we live in and love.

We would like to encourage residents to join us, to record and share their success and feed into the National campaign. Please register your pledge to longsuttonwi@gmail.com by 17th March to enable us to send you details and links to the national campaign, and guidance on picking and recycling SAFELY.

We hope we can count on you to join us. 🙌 out for Long Sutton WI members who will be out and about during the campaign.

#LongSuttonlitterheroes

Parish Council

Investment on Sport & Leisure Facilities

The Parish Council is excited to be delivering a major improvement plan for the sport & leisure facilities in the parish. The Council believes that the health and well-being of our

community is important so investment in these projects goes some way to supporting this.

LONG LOAD

With this in mind the following projects are being delivered over the next 2-3 years: -

1. Resurfacing of the tennis courts and the provision of a better booking and security system. Little has been invested in the courts for many years, so now they are becoming a challenge to play on at a time where demand to play tennis is increasing.
2. Refurbishment of the children's play area. Our village has a long history of providing play facilities for our younger residents and now is no exception, except the present equipment is showing distinct signs of aging to point where some of the kit is not passing the regular health & safety checks. We will not allow this facility to close, so we must invest in its refurbishment.
3. Refurbishment & extension of the Sports Pavilion. The Sports Pavilion was built in 1977 to meet the expectation of its users at that time. It is now no longer completely fit for purpose with not just changes to regulations, but also an increase in youth and female sport meaning that the facilities no longer meet the expectations of the 21st century.
4. Continued improvements to other leisure and sport opportunities in and around the playing field including, as examples, pétanque courts and an outdoor table tennis table to encourage as hoc informal activities for all ages.

While the funding of these projects is over 2-3 years, the Council has had to make the decisive decision to increase its proportion of the Council Tax over the next 2 years to make sure we can make a suitable contribution to the total budgets when asked by external funders and grant sponsors "how much is the community contributing".

While the funding of these projects is over 2-3 years, the Council has had to make the decisive decision to increase its proportion of the Council Tax over the next 2 years to make sure we can make a suitable contribution to the total budgets when asked by external funders and grant sponsors "how much is the community contributing".

SAVE THE DATE - Coronation Plans – 7th May 2023

With the King's Coronation fast approaching it has been decided to celebrate the occasion with another Open Street Party on The Green as we did for the late Queen's Jubilee in 2022.

There will also be a Flower Festival in the Church; the WI will be decorating The Green; and the WI have some imaginative plans for what to do with a wheelbarrow – more news next month!

Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen on Long Sutton Parish Council. For further details see the Long Sutton Parish Council website <https://www.longsutton-pc.gov.uk/parish-council-announcements> or contact the Parish Clerk Lisa Newby via email clerk@longsutton-pg.gov.uk or phone 07561 695671.

Harry's Cider Summer Events

Cider Saturdays, and Friday Night Pizza & Cider Events here in 2023

- Cider Saturday 29th April
- Friday Pizza & Cider Night 19th May
- Cider Saturday 27th May
- Friday Pizza & Cider Night 16th June
- Cider Saturday 1st July
- Friday Pizza & Cider Night 21st July
- Cider Saturday 5th August
- Friday Pizza & Cider Night 18th August
- Cider Saturday 2nd September

Long Load Coronation Celebrations – Sunday 7th May

Join your fellow Long Load residents once again for a **street style garden party** to celebrate the King's Coronation on Sunday 7th May. The format will be similar to last year's celebration for the Jubilee- "Bring your own picnic".

In addition, to celebrate the Coronation and in tribute to the King's love of gardening the theme of the competitions this year will be Long Load in Bloom- Royal/ Coronation /Red White & Blue.

Look out for your invitations and further information dropping though your letter box soon!

Wednesday 1st March Chinese Brush Painting

Long Load Village Hall 2pm – 4pm

If you think you would like to give it a go, pop in and speak with Jane.

For more details please contact Barbara Nieto on 01458 241284 or Jane on 01458 250145.

Refreshments available.

Tuesday 7th March Village Hall Meeting at 6pm in Long Load Village Hall

Wednesday 8th March Craft Club

Long Load Village Hall 2pm – 4:30pm Felt Flower Brooches (Kits)

Please book your place with Marsha ASAP 01458 241415

email Marsha.White2@btinternet.com

Refreshments available as usual

Saturday March 18th at the Village Hall 2:30 – 4:30pm

Tea & Cake Afternoon in Aid of the Earthquake Victims Charity

We are trying to support this charity by making cakes to eat and to sell on the day.

Please let one of the village hall committee members know if you are able to supply cake

Tuesday 21st March Parish Council Meeting in Long Load Village Hall at 7.30pm

Report on Meet & Greet Events

Following the 4-week pilot Meet & Greet Thursdays, we have decided to discuss any possible future events along the similar lines at the next Village Hall meeting on the 8th March.

There were a range of people who popped in on the given days, some for Coffee and Biscuits, some for a Soup and Sandwich lunch and some for both. Those who attended thought it was a good event and enjoyed meeting some of the residents they had not met or that were new to the village – a good ice breaker! Thank you to all who took time to try this new venture.

Report on Long Load Winter Warming Supper on the 18th February

It was a very good evening with good attendance. There were lovely tasty casseroles and a selection of deserts.

Thank you to all who provided the food and those who served up the meals.

Thank you to everyone who helped set it up and especially to those who took the time to help clear away afterwards (*always the worse part*).

Most of all thank you to those who came and supported the event making for a good community spirit.

Profits will go toward the cost of new lighting and future new heating appliances in the hall as well as ongoing maintenance of the building.

Neighbourhood Watch (NH)

I've decided it's time to hand over the role of Neighbourhood Watch coordinator. Messages have been largely distributed via emails but I feel it needs a wider audience. So if anyone feels they'd like to run with this and might consider Facebook postings or logging onto the Long Load website

<https://longload-pc.org.uk> I'd be delighted to hear from you.

Please ring Olwen 014580241244 for further information.

Please send your contributions to lsnewsletter@btinternet.com **by the 20th of the month**. For more information call 01458 241450