

LONG SUTTON AND LONG LOAD

NEWSLETTER – May 2021

Visit the official Website: www.longsutton.org.uk

Email: lsnewsletter@btinternet.com

Services in Holy Trinity Church Long Sutton

May	
2 nd *	11am HC at Muchelney
9 th	8am HC at Long Sutton 11am HC at Drayton
16 th * 21 st	11am HC at Pitney Christian Aid Supper in Pitney (outdoors)
23 rd	11am HC at Long Sutton (Pentecost)
30 th	11am HC at Long Sutton (Trinity Sunday)

*Zoom services will take place on 2nd and 16th May at 10.20am (with joining from 10am). If you want information so you can dial in, please contact Sue Creegan on 241 554 or suecreegan@outlook.com

Wednesday HC or Morning Prayer services will take place at 10am each week in the Church.

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

– we are looking for some new members to join the PCC – would you be interested? We meet every 2-3 months to review services and update one another on the various projects underway. Please contact Tim (241 554) or Heather (241 737).

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held on Wednesday 26th May, 7.30pm (in church).

Welcome

to the new Vicar of Martock, Revd. Paul and Mrs. Tracy Fillery, who have temporarily moved into the Vicarage with their dog, Finn. We are not sure how long they will be staying in Long Sutton, but please make them welcome.

This month you should see **scaffolding on the church tower**. This is for much needed repair work on the south and west facing walls of the tower. The work is expected to be finished by August.

Thank you to all those who came to help with **cleaning up the churchyard** on Saturday 17th April and a particular thank you to Dan Shorland Ball for organising things – he was very pleased with the turnout and the amount of work that was achieved. Thank you also to Yvonne Aitken who keeps the border near the kissing gate always looking beautiful.

Diary Dates for May

Subject to Government restrictions allowing:-

21st May: Christian Aid Supper in Pitney (outdoors)

9th -16th May: Wandering Plant Sale in Muchelney

Long Sutton WI

On Thursday 20th May at 7.30pm (via Zoom) we will be joining Keinton Mandeville W. I. and putting a smile on your lips and hips! 'Every Journey Begins with a Dance.'
Hannah Murphy will be delivering a Bollywood workshop, which can be enjoyed safely, from your armchair or on two

feet. The dance routines, will inspire you to dance in ways you never imagined. Warning: dancing (& chair dancing) can boost your mood and make you feel good 😊 suitable for all levels of fitness.

If you would like to join us for this experience, please phone either of our Presidents for details:

Jane 01458 241237 or

Caroline 01458 241159

Local Community Support

As restrictions lift slowly, and we move carefully toward some normality, a reminder that support is still available.

Sue Creegan & Yvonne Aitken are coordinating the local support group for Long Sutton, Long Load and Upton, so if you need help with shopping, prescription collections, posting letters, lawn mowing, prayer, dog walking, transport or anything else, please make contact and they will arrange for one of our kind volunteers to assist.

If you are aware of anyone who is in need of help, or maybe you support someone and would welcome help to spread the load, please get in touch.

Contact:-Sue Creegan (241 554) or Yvonne Aitken (241 335)

WEA SHOWCASING LONG SUTTON.

Like me, I am sure anyone who saw the display at No 1 The Green cannot fail to be impressed by the talents of the craftsmen and women of Long Sutton. There is much hidden talent too.

The WEA would like to continue with Sue Smallwood's idea and work with the village to mount an exhibition in the village hall in the autumn.

Our aim would be to showcase the village and the achievements of its residents past and present. We would display anything made/achieved in Long Sutton during the last two years, this could include a written description a painting or photograph. We do have some other ideas too which we are still formulating. We plan to make a permanent record of the exhibition to be added to other information that has been collected about the village. We will, of course, work within the current Government COVID rules at the time of the exhibition.

Doreen for Team Long Sutton WEA

Your thoughts on this idea would be much appreciated. Contact Doreen Harvey on doreen-royharvey@tiscali.co.uk or phone 01458 241711

FOLSC Update: Spring into Summer

Further to last month's report outlining issues picked up in the Quinquennial Survey, things have now moved forward significantly. In revisiting the FOLSC entry on the Parish Website this states 'Our charity's single aim is to raise funds to ensure the structure of Holy Trinity, our fine Grade 1 listed church is maintained and so remain focal point of our village, both today and for the generations to come'.

The tower is the dominant feature that can be seen standing proud from miles around, stretching 100 feet into the air. The more observant of you may have spotted the grotesque carved stone figures known as 'Hunky Punks', a local name for these carvings. They are unique to the West County and specifically Somerset and date from the late medieval period. The name derives from a combination of the old English terms 'hunkers' meaning haunches, and 'punchy' meaning short-legged. Their origins reflect the balance between good and evil, reminding worshippers of the narrow path leading through life. Sadly, these carvings have not assisted in preventing the ravages of time and parts of the tower stonework is now showing its age and serious restoration is required.

Those of us who live in old houses know the associated costs do not come cheap and more so if they carry listed status. So, against this background, FOLSC are delighted to report we have confirmed to the PCC we are able to assist with the partial funding of the current works to the extent of £30,000. This clearly would never have been possible without long years of fundraising, both through membership and by the support of many in the community, of our regular (pre pandemic) fundraising events. Whilst the Trustees have faced criticism from time to time, for being proficient at raising money but less good at allocating it, we believe our ability to support the PCC today in their hour of need confirms the validity of the adopted strategy. We understand contractors have been appointed and shortly the tower will be encased by scaffolding and the necessary works will commence. Clearly without the support of members and the local community none of this would have been possible so many thanks to you!

Membership is certainly our life blood and we are delighted to have had new arrivals to the village sign up last month, but we need more to maintain continuity. Our contact details are on the FOLSC page of the Parish Website or just speak to our Chairman David Aitken, or any of the trustees, for further details. In addition, as mentioned last month we need a new Treasurer to join the team. We have so far not been swamped by applicants, so please get in touch regarding this not too demanding position and join a team of very social trustees and help put something back into our village!

LONG LOAD

Learning, Laughing and Living with Martock & District u3a.

Although there are signs of lockdown restrictions easing gradually, for now Martock & District u3a continue to meet online for talks, social events and interest groups. Hopefully it may soon be possible to introduce face to face meetings in small groups, especially as the weather (fingers crossed) begins to warm up. Whatever the means of meeting, the focus continues as always on finding ways to share information, learn together and have fun in the process.

In April, the monthly online talk on Fraud Protection was made available to non-members as a way of sharing important information and also introducing the u3a to those who might be considering membership.

It has been decided to extend this open invitation to our monthly online talks until such time as we can commence the face to face meetings where an invitation is routinely extended to non-members to try one meeting before making a decision about membership.

One of the first questions is usually 'what is the u3a?' The title of University of the Third Age can be off-putting. But the word 'university' is simply used to describe a group of people coming together to start or follow interests and to socialise. The reference to 'Third Age' is describing the fact that the group is aimed at those who are no longer in full-time employment. The u3a is a flexible organisation working together under the banner heading of Learn, Laugh, Live.

So if you are interested in giving it a try:-

On May 12th. the speaker will be a representative of Trinity House who own and operate lighthouses, beacons and buoys to aid the safety of mariners at sea and around our shores. Forthcoming speakers will include The Crane Project, Brimsmore Gardens and John Craig from the Fire Service. Anyone interested in membership, please contact the Membership Secretary on 01460 240788. Or you can find out more about the activities of your local u3a by visiting the Martock & District u3a website.

If you are not yet a member but wish to access the online Zoom talks, please send your email details to martocku3achair@gmail.com.

Reminder: free bereavement support available in Somerset

The Somerset Suicide Bereavement Support Service and the Somerset Bereavement Support Partnership are here to help.
Bereavement by suicide

Somerset Suicide Bereavement Support Service

24hr Helpline: 0300 330 5463

Email: bereaved@mindinsomerset.org.uk

Website: <https://suicidebereavement.wixsite.com/somerset>

For professionals

- Signposting and information
- Help and advice on how to support someone who has been bereaved by suicide
- 1-2-1 Specialist Suicide Bereavement Support if you have been bereaved, or affected, by suicide as part of your role.

For individuals bereaved

- Signposting to additional resources
- Monthly online facilitated Peer Support Group
- 1-2-1 Specialist Suicide Bereavement Support sessions (ages from 5yrs+)
- Bereavement Buddies

Bereavement during the pandemic

Somerset Bereavement Support Partnership

Helpline: 0800 3047 412 | 9am-5pm

For professionals and clients

3 telephone support calls through Marie Curie Companions

6 further bereavement support sessions through Mind in Somerset (our team + external support workers) if desired

Please pass on our details to anyone you know who has been bereaved by suicide, or who has lost someone during the current pandemic.

Please contact us for further information about any of the support available.

Take care and stay safe.

Best wishes

Alison, Emma, and Susan

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