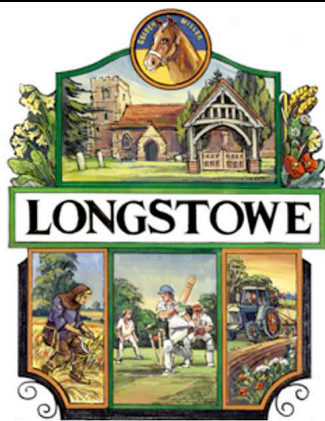




*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to
All our Readers*

THE SKYLARK

Longstowe Parish Newsletter

December 2021



Covid 19



Just because restrictions are off doesn't mean that Covid has gone away. Cambridgeshire is still one of the top areas for infection. Please continue to take precautions when out and about.

Regular testing will make sure you do not carry infection around. Get your booster vaccination if you are eligible.

Lateral flow testing is freely available to all and regular testing is recommended, especially if you are regularly in contact with large groups of people in clubs, pubs or organized events, etc.

Tests can be obtained from chemists and locations in Cambourne. If you are unable to collect, you can order online to be delivered to your home:
<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> or by calling 119. Remember to get your collection code if you are getting your kit from a chemists. You can get the code online from the NHS website. You don't have to create an account but it's quicker next time if you do. You can also get a collect code by calling 119 (free from landlines and mobiles). Lines are open from 7am to 11pm. You will be sent your collect code by email or text. You can print your code to take with you.

Covid 19 Co-ordination Hubs

Cambridgeshire County Council:
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/coronavirus
Use the NHS website
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or call 119.

Longstowe Volunteer Help: Parish Council and Volunteer Group contacts:

Clerk, Sharon Brown 07587 781217 or
Longstoweipc.clerk@hotmail.com
Chair, Barbara Cooper 07803 903047 or
bcconfidential@caw.ac.uk
Maddy Crowther 01954 718303 – for urgent food, supplies & prescriptions
Victoria Bevan 07832 100441 – a 'phone call for a friendly chat.

Longstowe Post Office

Opening times: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00–12:30 for the sale of stamps, issue of pensions, posting letters and small parcels, obtain an account balance and issuing cash via debit card. Collection point for some parcels. Use it or lose it!

Last collection times: High Street Mon–Fri: 16:15, Sat: 10:30 and Fox Road: Mon–Fri: 09:00, Sat: 07:00.

NHS Priority Collections are now made from the local post boxes on a Sunday.

Last Posting Times for Christmas

Wed 1 Dec: Caribbean
Mon 6 Dec: Australia, Greece, Italy, New Zealand and Portugal
Wed 8 Dec: Africa, Central and South America, Asia, Far and Middle East
Fri 10 Dec: Cyprus, Malta and Sweden
Sat 11 Dec: Eastern Europe (except Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia), Turkey
Mon 13 Dec: Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Poland and USA
Thurs 16 Dec: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland
Fri 17 Dec: Royal Mail Bulk Mail Economy
Sat 18 Dec: **2nd Class**, 2nd Class Signed For, Royal Mail 48®
Tue 21 Dec: **1st Class**, 1st Class Signed For, Royal Mail 24®, Royal Mail Tracked 48®**
Wed 22 Dec: Royal Mail Tracked 24®**
Thurs 23 Dec: Special Delivery Guaranteed®

The Village Hall

Village Hall Monthly Teas



The monthly Village Hall tea party started up in November and was a great success. There will not be one this month as it clashes with Christmas but it is hoped to start again in January. Watch the noticeboards for details.

Christmas at the Village Hall

Saturday 4th December 2pm to 4:30pm

Refreshments including Mulled Wine and Mince Pies on the house.

Raffle – Prizes welcome

Village Hall hire charge per day £120, per hour £12.

For further information and bookings, contact
Mrs Caroline White: telephone 01954 719669 or
email LongstoweVillageHall@outlook.com.

Revised bin collection date for the Christmas Holiday:

Usual day	Revised day	Bin		
		Black	Blue	Green
Wed 22 Dec	No change	✓		
Wed 29 Dec	Fri 31 Dec		✓	
Wed 5 Jan	Sat 8 Jan	✓		
Wed 12 Jan	Fri 14 Jan		✓	✓
Wed 19 Jan	Thurs 20 Jan	✓		
Wed 26 Jan	No change		✓	

All other dates remain the same as usual.

Green bins are collected monthly from December to March

Papworth Team Ministry

Church Services

December

12th December : Morning Prayer 10.30am

19th December : Carol Service 10.30am

Christmas Morning: Holy Communion 9.15am

We are NOT organising a service for public gathered worship on Sunday 26th December.

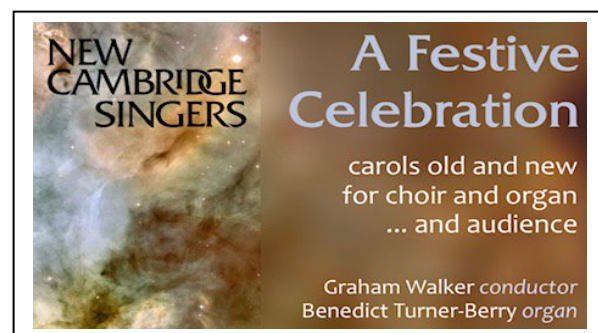
January

2nd January - Team Service to be via ZOOM at 10.00am.

9th January - 10.30am Holy Communion Longstowe Church (NP)

23rd January - 9.15am Morning Prayer Longstowe Church (SD)

30th January - (5th Sunday), Team Service at ELTISLEY commencing at 10.30am; also a service of Evening Prayer via ZOOM at 6.00pm



The New Cambridge Singers

St Bartholomew's Church, Great Gransden

Saturday 11 December 7.30pm

The New Cambridge Singers perform stunning concerts throughout Cambridge and the surrounding villages, averaging ten concerts a year. This year they are bringing their village Festive Celebration to Great Gransden in partnership with the Bluebell Benefice. The programme will feature Christmas favourites and sensational arrangements, along with audience carols.

Tickets £10 – Concessions £8

www.ticketsource.co.uk/revellers

Longstowe PCC officers:

Dr Sheena McRae: Church Warden

Mr Nicholas Jenkins: Treasurer

Other members of the PCC: Mr Anthony Clay, Mrs Maddy Crowther, Mr Stephen Owen, Mr Peter White.

For day to day communication about the Church in Longstowe please continue to contact Maddy Crowther on 01954 718303. She has stepped down from the "legal role of Church Warden" for this coming year and is acting on an informal basis as Church Warden's Assistant.

Longstowe Parish Council report

November 2021

I cannot complete this report without first recognising the impact coronavirus has had on everyone's lives and the function of Longstowe Parish Council. Things have been challenging, and everyone has worked hard to make the new "Un-normal" as near to "Normal" as possible.

From March of 2020, in line with Government guidelines, all meetings were held online using "Teams" as a meeting platform. I wish to thank all Councillors, the Clerk Sharon Brown, Bobbie Coe and Christine Morton for the way in which they have approached this new method of working and tried to ensure that wherever possible business continued. Additional Skylark supplements were distributed to maintain communications and notify everyone about the support available during the pandemic. The Parish council meetings are now back to holding meetings face to face with appropriate social distancing and COVID 19 prevention measures in place in line with restrictions and public health advice in place at the time. In practical terms, Longstowe has no choice but to control the numbers of people physically in the village hall at any one time in order to comply with the Government's Covid restrictions. This has not been an issue to date.

Unfortunately we do not have the facility to live stream and have discussed the possibility of applying for funds to enable this in the future but have concerns about storage and theft. It would however make the meeting available for you to observe proceedings. We would actively encourage you in the meantime to make written representations on issues rather than attending in person if you prefer.

We have met each month, with the exception of August, during the past 12 months. At these meetings we have discussed matters raised locally, planning matters referred to us by the District Council, local environmental issues, correspondence received, and our finances. In addition, we have attended a variety of additional online meetings, both within the District and more locally, for training, information, or as part of the ongoing Planning process for the area.

My thanks also to all Councillors who continue to give their time and effort in trying to ensure Longstowe continues to remain the place we and its residents want it to be.

Update on a few ongoing projects/activities:

The Parish will continue to campaign to reduce the speed limit through Longstowe. The Parish have in the past been successful in securing grants towards speed reduction and new signs for the village and village hall. There are additional funds we will be seeking this year and we would love to hear from you all about what you think is needed in the community. Cambridge District Council are very clear that they want to see safe roads which meet the needs of everyone, so it is vital that they have clear and consistent guidance to help them set appropriate speed limits on the roads. This is supposed to be based on their local knowledge and on the views of the community. One of their primary objectives is to ensure improved quality of life for local communities and a better balance between road safety, accessibility and environmental objectives,

especially in rural communities. The success of a speed restrictions scheme relies on local support so we need to see evidence that there is majority support for a scheme before we begin working on it. This may be a signed "pledge of support" from Longstowe residents. Views are welcome !

Longstowe has sought funds for installing a defibrillator. The defibrillator is a potentially life-saving device which delivers an electrical current that shocks the heart back into a normal rhythm following a sudden cardiac arrest. They are safe and easy to use. The units cost up to £2,000 each and are wall-mounted in bright yellow metal boxes. It is likely however that we will need to have matched funding and are therefore looking for donations towards this important piece of equipment. Several suggestions have been made regarding where this should be located. The defibrillator needs to be located somewhere that it is clearly visible and easily recognisable. There needs to be sufficient light so that people can see the cabinet and lock mechanism. There will also need to be an accessible power supply on the outside of the building it is attached to with an electricity supply to power a heater, which ensures that the defibrillator is kept above 5°C, so that it remains operational. Please do contact me if you want to suggest or even offer a location for it to be placed. The box would belong to Longstowe Community however we would need at least two volunteers to act as guardians and check the machine on a monthly basis to ensure it remains in good working order. Maintenance and electricity costs (£30 per year) are low however it is recommended that insurance is taken out against theft or accidental damage. The Parish Council would be responsible for the ongoing costs of maintenance and replacement of the units with funds coming from the parish budget. We welcome donations from residents and local businesses to help fund this vital service. If you would like to make a contribution please contact the Parish Clerk or any of your local Parish Councillors.



Longstowe Parish Councillors extend their Good Wishes to the Community for Christmas 2021. We hope that everyone has a very happy and joyful Christmas. To those who have lost loved family members during this year, we extend our condolences and hope you cherish happy memories of former Christmas days spent with all your family. We hope 2022 will bring you happiness and peace.

You can contact the council by emailing the Clerk on longstowepc.clerk@hotmail.com or contacting the Chairperson at bcconfidential@caw.ac.uk or by phone on 07803 903047 or by post at The Dene, Old North Road, Bourn, Cambridge CB23 2TZ.

The Bourn (and Longstowe) Car Scheme

The Bourn car scheme has long supported residents in Longstowe which does not have a scheme of its own. Volunteer drivers take residents without a means of transport to medical appointments. The scheme is supported by Care Network Cambridgeshire and Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) and has been running

for many years with a small, but dedicated, band of drivers who provide a valuable and welcome service to both Bourn and Longstowe residents. We have continued that service throughout lockdowns taking residents to vital hospital and GP appointments.

One of our drivers very sadly died in October and two of our drivers have had to temporarily step back from driving due to health issues. Therefore, we would love to welcome some new drivers into the scheme, especially now residents are asking for transport for Covid boosters, and more hospital appointments are happening. Many cars make fewer drives each!

If you, even if it's only occasionally, think you could spare an hour or so to act as a driver, please do consider it. It is not an onerous role and there's no fixed time or commitment to make - you need only do a drive if it fits in with your schedule and commitments. It's a lovely thing to do for our communities. You will require a DBS check first, a very quick and straightforward process - just an on-line questionnaire sent to Cambridgeshire County Council and then a brief visit to Shire Hall to meet the, very friendly, county coordinator with a photo for your ID badge and a couple of utility bills to prove who you are. Then you are set to go! You are reimbursed for your mileage (30p per mile by the client and CCC top this up by another 15p) and any parking fees - it is only your time you give freely. We operate in a Covid safe way, disinfecting our cars, wearing masks, and asking clients to sit in the rear.

If you are interested to know more about being a volunteer driver, please call the coordinator number 07948 112531 for a chat.

If you live in Longstowe and need transport for any type of medical journey, be it GP, hospital, eye or hearing tests or any other medical therapy please do not hesitate to call us on 07948 112531 giving, several of days' notice and we will help if we can. Your driver will take you as near to your appointment as possible and will wait for you to return. Several of our drivers can also accommodate portable wheelchairs or walkers in their cars.

GCP -Greater Cambridge Partnership Consultation on move in and around Cambridge more sustainably

The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) has launched two public consultations on proposals to help people move in and around Cambridge easily and more sustainably. The first – Making Connections* – is asking for people's views on proposals to radically enhance bus and active travel journeys, while the second – Cambridge Eastern Access – offers more specific proposals for improving cycling and walking journeys along Newmarket Road. Please see below the link for the consultation, should you wish to complete

***The Making Connections consultation closes on 20th December and more information can be found at www.greatercambridge.org.uk/making-connections-2021**

🗣️ "I worry about ridiculous things, you know, how does a guy who drives a snowplough get to work in the morning... that can keep me awake for days." – Billy Connolly

Shire Homes Lettings

Our Private Sector Leasing Scheme at South Cambridgeshire District Council, Shire Homes, offers home owners a hassle-free way to rent out their properties. We are looking for good quality properties, in a lettable condition in South Cambridgeshire.

Whatever size property you have, from a bedsit to a four-bedroom house, we are interested in hearing from you.

Benefits of our private sector leasing scheme include:

- guaranteed rental payments - even when your property is empty
- no management fees
- day-to-day maintenance
- regular property visits
- full management service

At Shire Homes, there are no hidden extras.

It's easy to do, there are no hidden fees and we guarantee your rental payments - even if your property is empty.

This scheme allows us to provide secure, affordable and good quality housing to people looking for a new home.

For more information, contact Louise Moulding – Shire Homes Lettings Manager via email:

shire.homes@scambs.gov.uk

Free Places For Children At Christmas Holiday Schemes In Cambridgeshire



CCC has ongoing funding from the Department for Education to enable families, who receive free school meals due to the benefits they receive, to book free places at a local holiday scheme this Christmas. An eligible child will be entitled to up to 16 hours for free at a participating holiday scheme. A nutritious meal is also provided as part of the programme and children and young people will have much needed social contact and opportunities to engage in physical activity. Parents can book places directly with participating holiday schemes, more information can be found at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf

Anagrams

First, the clues! All are one word answers unless indicated in brackets.

All items are things you might expect to find in a garden shed.

- 1 FROK
- 2 SKARE
- 3 BBRIDE
- 4 CURE SEATS

5 LOWRET
 6 NEW LONG LIST
 7 TRIFLE SIRE
 8 LIKE WELDER (2)
 9 FLESH
 10 DENTS RIBS (2)
 11 SNACE
 12 VOGELS
 13 WAS CHINA
 14 BY CECIL
 15 HOW WE BARREL
 16 BBC WOES
 17 RED SIPS
 18 WROTE FLOP
 and to end . . .
 19 A PIPE TRUNK RECRUIT (3)
 PW

Wildlife Trust West Cambridgeshire

Young People's Forum

Young voices inspiring action for wildlife

Help the Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants make even more of a difference for wildlife. We're looking for passionate volunteers to join our Young People's Forum. You need to be aged 11-24, concerned about environmental issues and local wildlife, and interested in helping the Trust support other young people to take direct action. Could that be you? Find out more and apply online: wildlifebcn.org/young-peoples-forum

Hundreds Update: Dec 2021

During lockdown, our nature reserves received a large increase in visitors, and these numbers have remained higher than usual. This has added to a general upward trend, which has been building for several years. Climate change has meant winters have been getting warmer and wetter in recent times, and last winter was the wettest for many years. Our ancient woodland reserves in the West Cambs Hundreds area are on impermeable soils and get especially muddy. When large numbers of people walk on waterlogged paths, they become churned, and it can take years for them to recover. People also naturally try to walk around muddy areas and significantly increase the width of the path, damaging sensitive plants on the edges and compacting the soil. The wider rides are a habitat in themselves and are part of what makes the woods special; they are often managed like a meadow.

A large proportion of damage to our woodland happens in the winter. Our changing climate is already responsible for extra damage, and over the last few years we have seen trampled areas on paths get wider, and more vegetation lost. As time goes by, this is likely to get worse. We have also seen increasing problems during bluebell season when people and dogs stray off the paths.

Winter is the time when tree management is carried out. Over the next few years, more trees will need to be felled to keep the woods safe due to the spread of ash die-back disease and the prevalence of ash trees in our woodlands. Our primary concerns are protecting precious places for wildlife, and engaging people with nature safely. We have a legal and moral responsibility to maintain these ancient woodlands in a safe, favourable and improving condition. In

order to ensure these woods remain special for generations, the Trust may be restricting access during the winter and bluebell season. At Gamlingay Wood, guided bluebell walks will be run in April with a discount for Wildlife Trust BCN members, and parking will be made available near the northern entrance for these organised events.

We would like to thank everyone in advance for your understanding as we carry out this vital work and ensure our beautiful, and vitally important ancient woodlands are protected.

Cambourne Nature Reserve will remain accessible through the winter and has some surfaced paths.

If you are interested in volunteering, please get in touch. There are work parties that happen on several nearby reserves.

You can find out more about winter closures on our website www.wildlifebcn.org/reserves-access

I'm Rebecca Neal and work with communities surrounding our West Cambs Hundreds reserves, delivering events and working with all ages.

E-mail: rebecca.neal@wildlifebcn.org

Facebook: @BeccaBadgerWTBCN

BCN Facebook/Twitter: @wildlifebcn

Visit: www.wildlifebcn.org

The West Cambridgeshire Hundreds are a group of nature reserves owned and/or managed by the Wildlife Trust for Beds Cambs and Northants: Hardwick, Gamlingay, Hayley, and Waresley and Gransden Woods, Buff wood plus Cambourne Nature Reserve.

Nature Notes – 13/11/2021 - from Sharon

The autumn colours came slowly this year and lasted a while, with the glorious deep yellow of the Field Maple outstanding amongst the other orange, brown and crimson leaves. This is also the time when a walk out along the



hedgerows is a must, because the Fieldfares begin returning to find the hips, haws and Sloes. Some of the best hedgerows to follow around here, are those out towards Hayley Wood. These

nervous birds, slightly larger than a Song Thrush, are often in flocks of a few in early winter to 100 or more in mid-December, at least around here. They wheel up and across the arable fields if one comes up to them too quickly, chattering and chuckling and then it is possible to catch glimpses of their beautiful dove blue head, russet back and Thrush speckled chest. If you haven't seen them yet, check out where their favourite berries are most abundant. Curiously, they prefer Hawthorn berries, eating all, before they really start on the Sloes. Sloes are of course far less tart after some good frosts; the Fieldfare maybe knows this! The second curiosity is the way they eat all they can find, with rosehips as the final dessert and then they go! Around Hayley, they often disappear around Christmas week to where they know another range of thick, berried hedgerows.

Q: What is the tallest building in the entire world?

A: The library, because it has so many stories. 📖

A Sudoku Puzzle for you

(Solution on the back page)

	3							
	2		1		3			
		9					4	6
		6			1			
	7		2		5			
						8	9	
9	8	4						
			9	8				2
				7				5

Shopping safely on-line

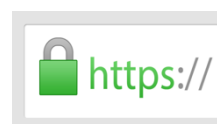
That time of year has arrived. Halloween decorations are barely in the recycling and Christmas is well and truly in our minds and sights. Along with it comes a time of spending, in particular online shopping. With the pandemic last year, cash use is now used in just 15% of transactions¹ in retail. For obvious reasons, eCommerce (or online shopping) is most common way to buy goods now.

Whether you're trying to find the best deal on an expensive present or children/grandchildren send links to this year's must have present, fraudsters try to take advantage. When purchasing online, whether it's Black Friday or the last few days before Christmas it's important to shop safely online.

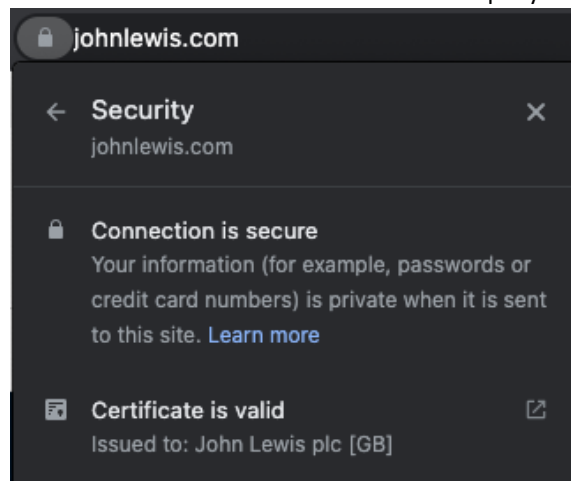
Here are some common safety tips when shopping online

1. Research retailers online to make sure they're legitimate.
Whilst most purchases can be made safely from online retailers like Amazon, John Lewis and PC World etc. there are many independent, legitimate sellers online. If you're using a website you've not used before, do some quick checks:
 - Look for the contact details if you can find them. Often fraudulent sites will have no details or have company registrations in different countries.
 - Search on google for reviews of the site.
 - Make sure the website is secure.
2. Know your rights and the company's returns policy. Work out the returns policy, if something arrives not as described or broken, you'll need to know what the policy is to be confident of addressing any issues.
3. If a deal looks too good to be true, it probably is. If you've found a deal which means a brand new, must have product is much cheaper on a site you're not familiar with then it's quite possibly a fake site. If in doubt, don't take the risk.
4. When entering your card details, ensure that the site has a secure payment page.
Look for the padlock symbol and https:// in the website address. The 'S' stands for secure. If you click

the padlock, it will give you the websites certificate.



Here is John Lewis', you can see the connection is secure and the certificate is valid and matches the company name.



5. Pay using a credit card, particularly for large purchases. With a credit card, you'll have more protection for larger purchases. Under section 75 of the Consumer Credit Act, paying by credit card will also give you added protection on purchases over £100 up to £30,000. For purchases under this a debit or credit card have the same protection, as your bank will try to recover funds through a process known as "chargeback".
6. Keep software and virus protection up-to-date and use strong passwords for online accounts.
Do not use the passwords you use for important things like bank accounts for other items such as your John Lewis online account. Consider a password manager to have strong and unique passwords for every online account (such as Apple Keychain or paid versions such as LastPass or 1Password).
7. If your bank supports it, enable extra security. A lot of banks have added extra security for shopping online, called "Multi-factor Authorization" (MFA or sometimes 2FA). This involves using a card reader, receiving an SMS or logging into mobile banking app to authorise a purchase.

It's important to remember that even acting safely online by following the steps above it's possible that card details are stolen, or accounts are taken over.

1. Check your bank transactions regularly (internet banking and banking apps make this easier) for anything that looks out of place.
2. If you identify anything amiss, or think you've been the victim of fraud, don't be embarrassed. Over 4.6million people are affected by fraud each year.
3. If you've used a credit card, then in all likelihood charges can be reversed or if not, the bank will go through a chargeback process to get the money back to you if confirmed as fraud.

What to do if you think you've been a victim of fraud

1. Immediately contact your bank. All banks have a team of specialists to deal with your call.
Note. Scammers have been known to ring you pretending to be the bank. Always hang up and ring the bank's phone number on the website.
2. Report the fraud to Action Fraud².
Whilst unlikely in online shopping, remember if there is a crime being committed right now or if you feel you are in danger you should call the police on 999.

Scams

There are always new scams popping up to look out for. Most recently, I have come across.

1. Post office/Courier scam
You receive a text message saying that the courier can't deliver your parcel and to click a link in the text to fill in for delivery. The fraudsters send this out to millions of people in the hope that someone will be expecting a parcel that day and will click the link. The link would take you to a website to fill in details (like credit card details or usernames and passwords).
2. Amazon delivery "brushing" scam
You receive an Amazon delivery that you never ordered and then a review is posted in your name. It sounds great, but you are being used in a scam by sellers to improve their ratings (and hence people buy things for real from them). Whilst the Amazon account isn't yours, the scammers at least have your name and address and the beginnings of identity theft.

In the next issue, I'll write more about scams, one of the biggest growing areas of fraud. Whilst they've been around for many years, social engineering and convenience create opportunity for fraud.

I currently work in the fraud and financial crime industry. The best way for you to prevent fraud is to learn about being safe, spot the signals and contact your bank immediately if you think you might be a victim.

Cei Sanderson

Don't Get Complacent With Home Security

We are urging our residents to take extra home safety precautions during the darker winter months ahead of the clocks going back on Sunday (31 October).

We work hard around the clock to catch criminals and burglaries overall are continuing to decrease, however there is typically an increase in reported break-ins during autumn and winter especially around Christmas. Last year, figures did not increase over the winter, which is likely to be due to the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown restrictions, but with fewer restrictions in place this year, the force is urging people not to get complacent with their home security.

We recorded 600 burglaries across Cambridgeshire between October last year (2020) and March this year, a 44 percent drop compared to the same period in 2019-2020

(1,071). A total of 101 of these were in South Cambridgeshire, compared to 200 the previous year. While the figure dropped a further 21 percent between April and September this year, from 642 down to 510 overall, (and from 85 to 65 in South Cambridgeshire), we are warning the public to increase precautions as the nights start to draw in.

Detective Sergeant Justin Parr, from the force's Acquisitive Crime Team, said: "While it's reassuring to see the number of dwelling burglaries falling, we do usually see an increase in incidents at this time of year.

"Most burglaries are a result of a thief spotting an opportunity and although we continue to target burglars and bring offenders to justice, often a lack of security, empty homes and the cover of darkness is all the invitation a thief looks for.

"Simple things like installing good interior and exterior lighting, used together with timer switches or motion sensors, keeping valuables hidden and entry points secure are all ways to put off a burglar."

Other advice includes:

- Closing your blinds or curtains at night to prevent people from looking into your home
- Not leaving spare keys hidden outside – a burglar may look for these first
- Not leaving car keys near the front door or anywhere easy to find
- Installing a driveway alarm
- Installing a visible burglar alarm

DS Parr added: "Tackling burglary is a priority for the force and while my team works tirelessly day-in-day-out, it's just as much about prevention than anything else.

"When someone breaks into your home, it can often leave you feeling unsafe in the place you should feel safest.

"I'm urging the public not to rest on their laurels and to check their home security: it could save you a lot of time, stress and money.

Fun Charity Dog Day Longstowe Sunday 19th September 2021

We had a wonderful response to our invitation for the above event and thank all the dog owners from Longstowe and surrounding villages for coming along. Thank you for your support.

It was an amazing success and we have raised a net sum of **just over £1000 for VIP Companionship for Older People.**

At one stage there were around 200 people on the field and we were just short of 100 dogs registered to take part in the show classes and the competitions. The number of people being borne out by the Tea Tent which sold nearly 200 plus cups of tea and cake!

We would particularly like to thank "James Bond" who dropped in with his very smart cocker spaniel, in full evening attire together with his young friend dressed as a Russian Princess in silver lame and her equally beautiful dog, and our ultimate wining owner of the class of *Dog most like Owner* – trumpets please, Poo Bear and Dougal. The decision was a very close call for our two judges. Unfortunately "Mr. Bond" made a very smooth and rapid

exit as he was obviously going on to the opening of his new film, so we don't have his picture to judge. Pity!
In the meantime you might like to guess the identity of our fantastic wining owner . A clue:



" Dougal is proud to announce that he has just swept the board at this now internationally important Dog Event in the Class "Dog most Like its Owner"

But he wishes his many fans and Twitter followers to know that he is in reality nothing like this false dressing up costume of some childishy imagined teddy bear worn by the idiot who calls himself his owner, which is incomparable with the true Dougal image of a Crafts winning Norfolk Terrier.

He requires you to expunge this image from your electronic devices and, if printed, immediately to shred any such images you have made and to shred and then eat them. He will be making no more announcements to the Press and he wishes to state formally that this issue is now closed.

Signed Dougal by his own triumphant paw"



Children's Christmas Party



Papworth Village Hall – 12th
December – 4pm to 6pm
A few tickets left – £5 per
child
Tickets include buffet, party
games and a meet with
Santa
Adult refreshments
available (cash only)

Tickets obtainable from Sharon Blackburn at
sharonb144@hotmail.com .

Anglian Water's Priority Services Register

Did you know Anglian Water's **Priority Services Register** is in place to help lots of people with different needs and is completely free? By signing up, Anglian Water can:

- Help if there is an interruption to a customers water supply
- Help protect customers against bogus callers
- Communicate in different languages, including British Sign Language
- Send bills in alternative formats, including large print, audio and braille
- Knock and wait, giving customers longer to get to the door

As well as many more Priority Services, Anglian Water also have a range of financial assistance available for customers who are finding it difficult to pay their bill.

Sudoku Solution

5	8	0	4	7	3	2	6	1
2	1	4	6	8	9	3	5	7
3	6	7	2	1	5	4	8	9
1	9	8	7	3	6	5	4	2
4	3	6	5	9	2	1	7	8
7	5	2	1	4	8	6	9	3
6	4	3	8	2	7	9	1	5
9	7	5	3	6	1	8	2	4
8	2	1	9	5	4	7	3	6

Anagrams Solution

1 fork; 2 rakes; 3 dibber; 4 secateurs; 5 trowel; 6 wellingtons; 7 fertiliser; 8 weed killer; 9 shelf; 10 birds nest; 11 canes; 12 gloves; 13 chainsaw; 14 bicycle; 15 wheelbarrow; 16 cobwebs; 17 spiders; 18 flowerpot; 19 puncture repair kit

Please send items for publication in the March 2022 Skylark by
no later than **Saturday 12th February** to LongstoweSkylark@hotmail.com

Longstowe Parish Council: webpage address:
<http://www.longstoweparishcouncil.co.uk>

Printed by Victoire Press, 9–10 Viking Way, Bar Hill, Cambridge CB23 8EL
T: 01954 781919 F: 01954 780977 info@victoirepress.com www.victoirepress.com