The Sexton's Wheel

The magazine for Long Stratton & Wacton



December 2024

Long Stratton Village Hall -Booking Information

The hall can be booked as follows:

Via our facebook page, search Long Stratton Village Hall Via our website www.longstrattonvillagehall.org.uk Email us at longstrattonvillagehall@outlook.com Call Kirsty Dye on 07986942804 and leave a message Hire rates from as little as £7.50 per hour.





Wacton Village Hall - Booking Information

Attractive and welcoming community space available for hire: hall or meeting room Hire rates start at £6.00 per hour. To book go to wactonvillagehall.co.uk

Email: bookings@wactonvillagehall.co.uk, orTel: Maz Richardson 07932269693

Licenced bar available through Wacton Social Club. Contact taylor169@btinternet.com

Church Contacts

St Mary's Rev Becki Bensusan - (01508) 813900

St Michael's Rosemary Bennett - (01508) 530296

All Saints' Re John Madinda (01953) 789240

Congregational Church June Braddock (01508) 470701

Church Parish Office

Due to a change in circumstances the Parish Office will no longer open.

If you know of anyone who is unwell or would benefit from a visit from a member of our ministry team, please contact Rev Becki Bensusan. (01508) 813900.

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

Usual office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 10am and 2pm and by appointment on Wednesday.

Tel: Clerk Becky Buck 01508 530524 E-mail: clerk@longstrattoncouncil.info For general enquiries Email: office@longstrattontowncouncil.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.



Merry Christmas

The Sexton's Wheel Team

- Booking information Long Stratton & Wacton Village Halls. Church Contacts. LSTC opening hours.
- 5. Advent Thoughts.
- 6/7. Long Stratton Medical Partnership.
- 7. Community Christmas Day.
- 8. Long Stratton Lions.
- 9. Tales from the belfry: Ring out Christmas bells
- 11. 2nd Long Stratton Brownies. Borderhoppa.
- 12. Long Stratton W.I.
- 13. Messy Church.
- 15. Long Strattton Youth Activities.
- 18. BikeActive Norfolk.
- 22/23. Calendar.
- 24. Business Awards.
 Long Stratton FireFighters.

- 25. Wacton Parish Council.
- 26. Harleston Choral Society. U3A.
- 40. Local Walks.
- 41. Library.
- 42. Church Services.
- 43. Contact details & information on the Sexton's Wheel.





Richard Walpole Roofing RV



- New Roofs
- Re Roofs
- Roof Repairs
- Leadwork
- Chimneys Repointed
- Fascia, Soffit and Guttering **FULLY INSURED**

Contact Richard on 07747 784742

Caroline's Curtains



Customers Own Fabric

Made to Measure Curtains, Blinds, and **Curtain Alterations**

Local, Affordable, Professional Hand-Sewn Services

Contact Tel: 07848 463344 Email: carolinescurtains01@gmail.com Web: www.carolinescurtains.co.uk Address: Thistle Do, The Street, Fritton, Norwich, NR15 2QT

Advent Thoughts

Welcome to December. I gather "It's the most wonderful time of the year..." or perhaps for some of us it is simply the busiest time of year!

December has us in the season of Advent and it is a season of many preparations. However, this time of year is not simply about feeding our Christmas cakes, buying and wrapping presents, writing letters destined for the North pole, attending the "Office Christmas Party", getting ready to travel and sorting the food for the Christmas dinner. This time of Advent is not simply about the practicalities of the events of Christmas Day. Advent is about the preparations of ourselves as whole people; our hearts and our minds as well as our bodies.

It can be so easy to get lost in the whirlwind of events and busyness of the season, including the Carols and Nativity plays. But when the day comes are we really ready, or are we in even more desperate need of a break.

The idea of an advent calendar may be of help here. No, I don't mean that chocolate for breakfast makes everything seem better...! Rather that the act of prioritising opening a window on a calendar is a practice we can harness at this time of year. Stopping for a moment every day can be an opportunity for a spot of mindfulness, of grounding, of prayer, complete with a little chocolate or whatever your advent calendar might contain. It is not simply a window on a calendar, it is the gift of a moment from God that can enable us to re-centre ourselves in the midst of a busy season.

As we open ourselves in these moments to prepare our hearts for the gift of love himself at Christmastime it can make all the world of difference to our day, to our hearts and minds and to those around us. During advent I encourage you to consider the opportunity available to you for one moment each day to reconnect with God and with the person he made you to be. Then it truly can be a wonderful Christmas as we are ready to receive afresh the light and life of God in Jesus.

God bless you this Advent

Rev Becki B

LONG STRATTON MEDICAL PARTNERSHIP Swan Lane Surgery, Swan Lane, Tharston, Norwich, Norfolk, NR15 2UY Tel: 01508 530781

We are at the doorstep of Christmas 2024. I keep repeating myself that time has flown a wee too quickly for us at LSMP. It has been an extraordinary year. We have had many a high and many a low with staff change overs, external pressures that have meant changes that are just too quick to assimilate and sickness. Yet I call it an extraordinary year as there have been so many good things happen to us. I start with the state of the art and modern extension of our building which was much needed. It has given us an extra 7 clinical rooms and our Nurses and HCAs are using it effectively.

We have an array of allied health professionals working with us including the First contact Practitioners, Mental Health Practitioners, Pharmacists, Pharm Tech, Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Emergency Care Practitioner and Social Prescriber. They have added to the skill mix within the practice. Training is in full swing in the practice. We now have 4 GP Registrars training in the practice as they work towards becoming GPs. We also have a Foundation Year 2 doctor (junior doctor). After a break of two years during the pandemic, we have brought back our medical students from the UEA.

To add to all this excitement, we have been lucky to recruit 2 salaried GPs. Dr Ong is a very experienced GP who had spent some time in Malaysia setting up the primary care equivalent training for the university. He returned to the UK and we were lucky that he approached us. Some of you have met him. He will become a full-time partner as of February 2025. Dr Richard Draeger returns to the LSMP fold and many of you will remember him as GP Registrar, and then as a salaried GP. We are thrilled that he is rejoining us on the 18th of November as a full time GP.GPs have been featured regularly in the news. We are under pressure just like the rest of the NHS. We want to do our best at all times but I have to admit, it has been an extremely tough few years. Let us learn from the past, live the present and look to 2025 with hope.Our Patient Participation Group organised an excellent educational event regarding Diabetes in early October. There were 6 guest speakers and it proved to be a good opportunity to engage with services relating to diabetes. Did you know that we have a total population of 11,300 patients on our books – of whom 2,300 are either diagnosed as diabetic, or pre-diabetic – a total of 20% or 1 out of every 5 patients!

LSMP Cont from p6

They are keen to run 2 events per year, one in Springtime, and 1 in Autumn and we would really like to know what you – our patient population – would like us to focus on. Ideas so far are Heart Health, The Digestive System, Dementia, or even an open Q&A session where you can engage directly with Keith, the Practice Manager, and maybe one of the Partners, in order to ask questions about Primary Care in our catchment area. Please do let us know if there are any other subjects you may wish us to focus on.

Along the theme of our Patient Participation Group – they are actively trying to recruit more members onto the committee so – if you are interested in joining us, please contact the Practice on our generic email address which is lsmp.d82037@nhs.net or ask our Reception Team for more information. Finally, from us all at LSMP we would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy festive period and we are looking forward to 2025 in anticipation.

Dr Mini Nelson	

Community Christmas Day

On Christmas Day local volunteers and businesses will be organising Christmas Dinner at the Pavilion community room at Manor Park from 11am to 3pm

Invitations are open for up to 30 local residents who would otherwise be isolated or lonely on Christmas Day to enjoy some company, a fabulous festive dinner with entertainment all for free

However additional Volunteers are also needed to make the event happen – some prep is needed on Christmas Eve – but on the Day any time is appreciated & doesn't have to be the whole day

Currently Abacus Accountancy, The Butchers House, MD Wealth Management, Urban Interiors Norfolk , Saffron Housing & the Town Council have committed to assist – but don't wait to be asked – please come forward with any support or donation – and make it a great event involving the whole local community.

To make a donation please contact: Peter Bussey on 07851 600355 or Patricia Pearce 07399 675502

Long Stratton Lions

Long Stratton Lions was formed over 38 years ago and we still have two founder members working with us. Our major annual project used to be the Long Stratton Carnival which some of your will remember. With a little help from the police, we closed the A140 for some time to allow the Carnival parade to pass through.

These days we are much smaller in membership and our fund raising is more varied. I would like to say thank you to those who have donated to us and those who have helped us raise the money for the services we provide for our local area, many of which are ongoing.

The Co-op have always allowed us to take a Christmas Collection at their premises and as icing on the cake this year named us for a period as their chosen charity, collecting for us and donating to us. In this I include the Co-op Funeral Service who also chose us as their charity. It made us feel good to know we had been noticed and appreciated. Similarly, we are always pleased when a parent who, with her child, has received one of the overnight washing packs which we supply to the Children's Ward of the N & N. Hospital emails a thank you to us. It really makes our meeting when Matilda an Adventure Scout and her mother attend and we learn how busy she is with all her incredible activities and adventures, yet she always asks if she can help the Lions in any way. Now we have Nicola who is involved with the by-pass attending a meeting to talk about the by-pass and to offer assistance on behalf of the workforce. We do welcome visitors; some have subsequently joined us. You will find our meeting dates and contact number in the middle pages.

Roy Woodhouse Secretary	
	 _

DIGGERS & DIBBLERS GARDENING CLUB

There will not be a Tuesday evening meeting for Diggers & Dibblers in December, we'll be back on Tuesday January 14th 2025.

Tales from the belfry: Ring out Christmas bells

On 24th December the bells at St Marys church Long Stratton will be ringing for the annual Christmas Eve peal. This will be the 70th consecutive year that the peal has been rung, making it a unique event, testament to generations of bellringers who have taken part. A full peal of bells incorporates ringing 5,040 changes (different sequences of the 6 bells), it lasts around 2 hrs 45mins.

The sound of church bells is a special one, deeply rooted in English cultural, social & religious history. Here in Long Stratton our fourth bell is of significant historical importance, being cast over 700 years ago in 1320, making it one of the oldest bells in the Country still being used for full-circle ringing. For context, it was in the reign of Edward II & predates the black death which swept the land in 1347.

During the 17th century, the way bells were fitted for ringing evolved to incorporate a wooden wheel, allowing bells to swing in a full circle giving more control and enabling sequences to be rung. In an age of limited recreational activities, the popularity of bellringing nationwide grew rapidly, with competing bands arranging competitions with each other. These events were often sponsored by local pubs, with publicans keen to take advantage of all the intrigued locals & ringers who'd gather to listen & perform! Ringing (with silenced bells) was also used as a form of exercise, resulting in the term 'dumbbell' which later evolved into the weights we know today.

For Centuries the bells of St Marys have been heard across Long Stratton and the South Norfolk countryside beyond, calling locals to prayer, ringing out for weddings, celebrations and national events along with more sombre occasions like commemorations and funerals. Those of us who ring at the tower are very proud to continue this special tradition today.

Matthew Thornton











At The Mayfields Care Home, we believe in a healthy, active lifestyle – one in which our residents can feel like winners. That's why we personalise each day to meet the individual activity needs of our residents and their families.

And hearing their laughter is music to our ears.

The Mayfields

SWAN LANE, LONG STRATTON, NORFOLK, NR15 2UY CALL 01508 535 500 TO ARRANGE YOUR VISIT



www.castlemeadowcare.co.uk

RESIDENTIAL CARE | DEMENTIA CARE | RESPITE CARE | SHORT BREAKS



WE FOCUS ON THE NUMBERS SO YOU CAN LOOK AFTER YOUR BUSINESS

- Sole Traders & Ltd Companies
- Tax & VAT Returns
- · Management Accounts
- · Book-keeping
- Payroll Services
- · Auto-enrolment
- · Company Formation
- · Business Plans & Forecasts
- Independent Examinations
- Construction CIS
- · Charity Accounts
- IR35 Contractors



CONTACT US TODAY

TEL: 01508 333040 EMAIL: office@abcabacus.co.uk The Willows, Ipswich Rd, Long Stratton, NR15 2TG

Happy Feet



Qualified Foot Health Professional

Treatment of corns, calluses, nail infections and much more.

To arrange a home visit please call Wendy Latoy MCFHP, MAFHP on

> 01379 676872 or **079 2345 4646**

2nd Long Stratton Brownies Parachute Challenge Winfarthing Village Hall October Sleepover

First when I got there I thought it would go quickly but it felt like a camp. One thing I loved about it was getting ready for bed because we had to get dressed in the dark. I got to sleep and ate the dinner and liked everything. I loved washing the dishes too and making my own lunch and a fruit salad

for me and my friends.

Further more I loved playing with a giant parachute and a game called popcorn which is where we put a bunch of balls on the parachute and also a game called washing machine where someone sits in the middle and we wrap them up and then we pull and they spin round and get all dizzy. We played with it for a long time. We also decorated parachute cookies and a butterfly too.





I think the sleepover was really fun and I enjoyed being with other Brownies and I liked all the games we played.

Thank you Rabbit for cooking for us all and Hawk Owl for leading many games.

We all received a Parachute Challenge badge at the end. The Brownies also worked for their Inventing interest badge, making a small parachute and some also gained their Skills for the Future theme badge afterwards too.

Brown Owl, Tawny Owl, Jessica, Anya, Elia, Eliana, Ella, Evie-Mae, Molly, Nicola, Sophie, Violet.



- Door to door dial-a-ride service into the local towns.
- Weekly members outings throughout the year
- Group hires for not-for-profit organisations

Borderhoppa Outings for December 2024

Mon 2nd – Highways Nursery & Shopping Centre - £15.00

Mon 9th - Thetford Town & Garden Centre - £15.00

Mon 16th - Beccles - £15.00

Mon 23rd – Christmas Lunch at The Jolly Farmers, Forncett - £35.00 (includes three course meal and transport)

To book or for more information please *call 01379 854800 or visit our website www.* borderhoppa.org



LONG STRATTON & DISTRICT WI

In mid October, with signs of autumn all around, our members enjoyed a harvest supper and games evening. The Ploughman's Supper had been prepared by the committee and Rosemary contributed delicious apple crumbles and custard. She also organised our games which made a jolly end to the evening.

During October our quiz team entered another three local quizzes two of which included suppers at half time. We have done quite well at each one, our best result coming third. Well done regular team members Christine, Bonnie, Shirley, Louise and Alice.

Two of our members had an interesting evening with Diss W.I. who had invited visitors to hear a speaker talk about chemistry in the kitchen. It sounded an odd topic but we hear it was brilliant.

November will be our annual meeting and in December we will have our Christmas party. We meet in Long Stratton village hall at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday each month but in December we meet on the second Wednesday as members are often busy with preparations for Christmas.

In January we start a new and exciting programme of speakers and events. Look out for more details in later magazines.

On Saturday 7th December from 1 to 5pm we will have a stall in St. Mary's Church during the town's Christmas festival. Do come along and talk to us, have a go at our competitions and see what we have to sell.

If you want further information telephone 01508 531154.



In November we had a great session of Messy Church where we focused on the idea of Jesus as the light of the world. We had a brainstorm about light, and our crafts were linked with different sources of light. The mixed colours of the painted fireworks were particularly beautiful. It was good to sing My Lighthouse by Rend Collective again with

actions and musical instruments. We also heard about how we can be witnesses to Jesus, the light, in our own special ways. As usual, we shared our tea together complete with our ever-popular muffins and surprisingly sought-after carrot sticks. This month the fun continued at home as the cookie dough stars could be cooked at home after the session.

In December we would like to invite you all to our different Christmas services, especially the Christingle service at Stratton, St Mary's, on Christmas Eve at 4pm. (Some of us will be getting together to prepare the Christingles at 9am with Breakfast Butties and if any families wanted to assist with this please do get in touch.) We look forward to seeing you there.

Then watch this space for the news about our Messy Church plans in the New Year!

Contact: strattonmessychurch@gmail.com







Long Stratton Youth Activities

Our wonderful Youth Worker, Anastasia, has been incredibly busy this year running Youth Cafés for various ages and taking young people out on fantastic day trips on the Norfolk Broads over the summer holidays. In our 'Autumn newsletter' you'll find more information and photos of the great time we had. And they'll be lots more to follow, including Christmas activities!

Drop in to the Youth Café, Wednesdays 3.30-5.30pm, for young people school years 7+ (ages 11+), at The Pavilion, Manor Road playing fields, Long Stratton.

 Chat, play games, relax and enjoy a free drink and snacks plus more to buy from our coffee bar 'tuck shop'!

- Get involved in a range of activities. Cooking, arts, crafts and team games.
- Opportunities to have your say about what's happening for young people locally.
- Information and support on topics of interest to young people.

We also offer monthly Junior Youth Café sessions, and we are trialing a monthly evening time Youth Café.

We are always looking for new volunteers to help support and develop our offer to young people locally, so please get in touch if you have a few hours to spare and enjoy working alongside young people. We'd love to hear from you.

For further information contact: **Anastasia Twigg on 07743 938147 or email: Anastasia.twigg@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk**





Unit 2 | Robert Harvey Way

Tharston | NORWICH | NR15 2FD

www.ymark.com | info@ymark.com



Family Run, Private Hire Taxi Based in Long Stratton

Offering a friendly, reliable service
Short and Long Distances
Airports and Stations
Courier Service
6 and 8 seaters

It is highly recommended to pre-book

Please call or message on 07464736667
Or visit www.kandjcars.co.uk



Handyman Rob

For the little jobs around the home that you don't have time for.



Plumbing, electrical, carpentry, garden projects, general house maintenance

Email: handymanrob2@gmail.com

Phone/Txt: 07460 116296 WhatsApp: 07460 116296

20+ years experience



Independent and Family Run

Serving Eye, Harleston, Diss and the surrounding areas since 2004 We offer a range of services to suit your individual needs

- Funerals tailored to your needs and budget
- Full estimates given at time of arrangement
- Pre-Paid Funeral Plans available
- Direct Cremations
- Support Groups
- Memorials

We provide an efficient but friendly service through our professionally qualified staff

- Chestnut House, 12 Progress Way, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7HU
 - Tel: 01379 871168 (24hr)
- Ley House, Ila London Road, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 9BH
 - Tel: 01379 851253 (24hr)
- Denmark House, 1 & 2a Carmel Works Park Road, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 4AS

Tel: 01379 831332 (24hr)





See our customer reviews at

www.susanwhymark.co.uk Email: susan@susanwhymark.co.uk

BIKE ACTIVE NORFOLK

BikeActive Norfolk concluded its 2024 Junior group sessions on the multi use games area at Manor Rd playing field, Long Stratton on October the 30th during Norfolk schools half term

The final session saw seven children with disabilities undertake rides with our group. We were then joined by eleven members of the Long Stratton Youth Group led by Long Stratton Youth Worker Anastasia and her helpers . The mixture of young people and those with a disability all enjoying specialist trikes, karts,

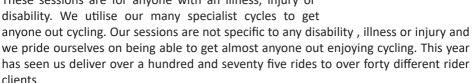
quadracycles, rear steer tandem trikes and side by side tandems led to a truly vibrant session that everyone really enjoyed. It is a session we all hope to repeat in 2025.

2024 has proven a great success for our Junior group, having delivered over seventy rides to forty Junior client riders in our first year running the Junior group.

Dates for our 2025 Junior sessions at Long Stratton, Manor Rd playing field will be published in The Sexton's Wheel in the next few months

Our adult groups have continued to attract large numbers having grown progressively in popularity. Over the spring summer and autumn we have run alternate Fridays and Mondays on quiet low traffic routes at Topcroft and Earsham. As of November we revert to winter running with sessions mid month on a Friday then the following Monday at Earsham, this gives time between sessions to get our specialist cycles serviced.

These sessions are for anyone with an illness, injury or



If you are interested please take a look at the website, BikeActiveNorfolk.org and get in contact

BikeActive Norfolk ALWAYS needs volunteers for both our Junior and Senior groups. Cycling is not a necessity for volunteering, just a desire to help and be helpful. The group is a friendly and fun bunch and the sessions bring much joy and give everyone a sense of happiness and wellbeing, Come join us by getting in contact:

Jez Briggs, Chair, BikeActive Norfolk T07716103072 Email BikeActiveNorfolk@gmail.com Website BikeActiveNorfolk.org





FROM ALL THE STAFF AT CTS













Our leading brands include: Dulux, Best Of Lime, Monarch, Stanley, Dewalt, Savolit, Knauf, Recticel, Harris, Timco, Everbuild, Mannok, Faithfull, Irwin, Makita, Pavestone, Deta, Tetrion, Sandtex, Sadolin, Brett Martin, Bradstone, Kent & Stowe, Walsall, Bedec, Simpson Strong Tie, Buckbootz, Evergreen, Zinsser, CT1, Tarmac and many more.

Open Monday to Friday to the public and trade 7.30am to 5pm, and Saturdays 8am to 12pm. www.ctsdiy.co.uk 701379 415161 7 sales@ctsdiy.co.uk





Sell smart: think Howards, call Janette.



Thinking of selling?

Janette and her team use a fantastic approach to selling-making the whole process easier for her clients in every way and achieving amazing results.

Three decades of service to our local area has given Janette a unique insight into the local housing market and a depth of knowledge that is paying dividends to her clients in achieving sale after sale at great prices.

The New Year is a fabulous time to launch your home, it being one of the busiest times of the year. We know exactly how to harness that opportunity using the best marketing strategies – our success is proven year after year!

Please call me for a free valuation and to discover what just might be the best move you could ever make!



Janette Churchill
Partner & Long Stratton Property Expert
01508 532 244
janette.churchill@howards.co.uk

HOWARDS



Over 20 years experience!

Building Work
Demolition Work
Extensions
Fascias & Soffits
Fencing
Garden Timber Framed Buildings

Groundwork
House Clearances
House Renovations
Driveways & Patios
Roofing
Painting & Decorating

Based in Harleston

Call Justin on 01379 308146 / 07917 468917

Or visit our website for a free quotation www.jhuntpropertyandlandscaping.co.uk



FREE-RANGE TURKEYS & GEESE

For the centrepiece of your Christmas meal!

Place your order on our website

www.darrowgreenfarm.co.uk

or contact us direct

COLLECTION FROM FARM GATE

01986 788252

ewdarrowgreen@gmail.com

Darrow Green Road, Denton, Norfolk IP20 0AY



Welcoming children aged 6 months to 5 years

All-Year-Round

8am to 6pm

MULBERRY BUSH DAY NURSERIES

High Quality Early Years Childcare and Education

Excellent indoor and outdoor facilities

St.Edmunds Norwich Common WYMONDHAM NR18 0SP

Tel: 01953 603792

3 Wingfield Cour Norwich Road MULBARTON NR14 8JP

Tel: 01508 570100 nulbarton@mulberrybush.or

M	Т	W	Т
30	New Years Eve		
2 Local Walk - see page 36	3 Let's Chat St Mary's Church 10:00am - 12:00pm Community Sing Wacton Village Hall 1900 Coffee Morning Wacton Village Hall 10.30am Pilates - Hempnall Village Hall see p24	4 Wacton Parish Council Meeting Wacton Village Hall 1800	5 Pilates - Wacton vi see p24
LSTC Meeting Pavillion Community Room Manor Road 19:00	Community Sing Wacton Village Hall 1900 Pilates - Hempnall Village Hall see p24	Cup of Hope Pavillion community Room 08:50am - 11:30am Lions Club Meeting Phone Roy Woodhouse for details on 01508 53140	Pilates - Wacton V see p24 Tharston& Distr Wacton Villag 7:15pm Lunch Club 12:00 Long Stratt Congregational Ch Call 07968716698
16	Coffee Morning Wacton Village Hall 10.30am Community Sing Wacton Village Hall 1900 Pilates - Hempnall Village Hall see p24	18 Long Stratton & District W.I LS Village Hall 1930	19 Pilates - Wacton V see p24
23	Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	Boxing D

	F	S	S
			Hope chuch Service Wacton Village Hall 10:30am. No Messy Church.
llage Hall	6 Wacton Social Club open 7.00pm - 11.00pm with Bingo	7 Long Stratton Community Event. 13:00pm-17:00pm	8
illage Hall ict W.I. e Hall - 2:00pm on urch Hall 3 to book	13	14 Wacton Church Coffee Morning 1030am.	Community Family Breakfast 9:45am at Long Stratton Congregational Church Hall Hope chuch Carol Service St Mary's Junior Acadamy 16:00pm - 17:15pm see page 12
illage Hall	20 Wacton Social Club open 7.00pm - 11.00pm pool,darts etc	21	22
ay	27	28	29



Nominations now open for the Broadland and South Norfolk Business Awards 2025

Nominations are open for Broadland District and South Norfolk Councils' Business Awards sponsored by local law firm Birketts LLP.

Businesses based in the two districts are invited to nominate themselves in any of the ten categories to be in with a chance of winning a prestigious award.

Businesses are invited to nominate themselves in the following categories:

Business Growth, Business Innovation, Employer of the Year, Environmental Impact, Excellence in Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering, Excellence in Insurance, Financial and Professional Services, Food and Drink Producer of the Year, New Business, Small Business of the Year and Tourism Business of the Year.

Residents are also invited to vote for their favourite Retailer of the Year and Pub of the Year. By voting they will automatically be entered into a prize draw and be in with a chance of winning £100 of shopping and pub vouchers. There will be four lucky winners, two from each district.

Nominations close on Friday 13 December and winners will be announced on 19 March 2025 at an awards ceremony at Norwich City Football Club.

To nominate your business, or to vote for your favourite retailer and pub, visit www. southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/businessawards

Long Stratton Fire Fighters

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Long Stratton car wash, £550 was raised on the day through donations.

Norfolk Fire Brigade raised £18,000 for the fire fighters charity through all Norfolk fire stations.

Wacton Parish Council
Village Hall
Hall Lane, Wacton NR15 2UH
Clerk: Mr Alan Arber
Telephone: 07813 190516

Email: clerk@wacton-pc.gov.uk

BLACKS MEADOW

A few more fruit trees will be purchased soon for the orchard. It was nice to see more people taking advantage of using the apples this year, since removing the old fencing.

WINTER FUEL PAYMENTS

Following the government dropping the winter fuel payments, we would like to remind everyone that South Norfolk Council has a help hub, this is available to assist residents who may not be claiming benefits that they are entitled to, which includes pension credit.

For assistance call 01508 533933 or email helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 8th January 2025 at 6pm.

All meetings dates and times are subject to change.

WE WISH EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

HARLESTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Harleston Choral Society — You're invited to join us on Saturday 14 December at 7.00 pm in St John's Church, Harleston IP20 9AZ for our programme of beautiful Christmas music: Haydn's Missa Sancti Nicolai and other seasonal music, and carols, some with audience participation. All with our four soloists and the Harleston Chamber Orchestra. Tickets £15 (including wine or a soft drink and a mince pie) are available from choir members, on the door on the night, or from Harleston Information Plus. Accompanied children go free.



See the About Us and Location and Contact sections of our website www.harlestonchoral. org.uk for more information about HCS, or from *Caroline Rodbourne*, *caroline@rodbourne.org.uk* 01986 782545 or Jo Curry, jo.curry@sky.com 07768 544005

HARLESTON & DISTRICT U3A

Harleston & District u3a would like to remind our followers that there will be no monthly talk in December, but we wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year. We'll look forward to seeing you again when our monthly talks resume on 15 January 2025, in St John's Church, Harleston. For further information please visit our website: u3asites.org.uk/harleston or contact Kim Poulton on 01986 788149.



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH WACTON - A Date for December CANDLELIT CAROL CONCERT Sunday, 22nd December, 6.30pm in the church Mince pies and mulled wine to follow

FRESH FISH, SHELLFISH & MEAT DELIVERED TO YOU

LONG STRATTON & SURROUNDING
AREA
THURS & FRIDAYS

We offer a wide range of fresh fish, shellfish, meat, deli and platters. Stocking a large frozen range too. We use free range and local suppliers where possible.

BROWSE & ORDER ONLINE WWW.FISHMONGERSNORWICH.COM

sales@fishmongersnorwich.com or 01603 624928



Howard Son



Oil Boiler Servicing
Oil Boiler Breakdown
Oil Boiler Care Plans
Oftec Registered



07375995198

www.dkcplumbing.co.uk



Computer Problems?
For All Your IT Troubles
Oliver: 07930 137 230

Email: help@oscomputerservices.co.uk

Business & Residential

Sales / Solutions / Setup / Support Tuition Available

On Site Repairs / Wi-Fi Installation / Networking

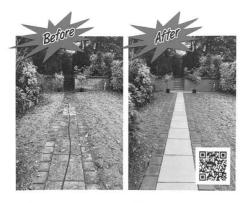
Let's Talk About The Cloud

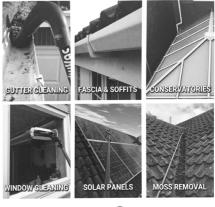
Software, Hardware, Firmware & Wobblyware

PC's - Laptops - Tablets - Smart Phones - Printers - Mesh Syste









© 01508 471 994
© 07796 503 096

www.tasvalleyexteriorcleaningservices.co.uk info@tasvalleyexteriorcleaningservices.co.uk

© 01508 471 994 **(III)** 07796 503 096

www.tasvallevexteriorcleaningservices.co.uk info@tasvalleyexteriorcleaningservices.co.uk

PILATES

Beginners and Intermediate

Classes in:

Wacton Village Hall - Thursday Mornings Hempnall Village Hall - Tuesday Evenings

For further details contact Jo Douglas - 01508 530261 Greenacresfarm@tinyworld.co.uk

YOUR WILL £79

PROPERTY PROTECTION TRUSTS FOR HOMEOWNERS INC. SEVERANCE OF TENANCY

from

LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY

from





ASP Wills has Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) which covers each will to 2.5 million

Other services we offer

- Asset Preservation Trusts
- Probate and Executor Services
- Funeral Plans
- Deputyship

A TRUSTED MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF WILL WRITERS

For Office and Home visits call

01508 494315

email sales@aspwills.co.uk www.aspwills.co.uk

ASP Wills Pentland, Marlbottom, Tasburgh, Norwich, NR15 1NP



- All makes and models of cars, vans and trucks serviced.
- MOT Preparation.
- Brakes, clutches, exhausts.
- Tyre supply and fitting service at competitive prices.
- Cam belts.
- Welding.
- 24hr Recovery.
- Courtesy car available.
- Friendly professional service.

Tel: 01508 489066 24hr Recovery: 0779 664 1881

Mark's Vehicle Services, Unit 1, Red House Farm, High Road, Forncett St Mary, Norwich, NR16 1JR. Open Monday-Friday 8 til 5:30. Saturday 8 til 1. All major credit cards accepted

J.A.T Painting and Decorating

Interior and Exterior

15 Years experience

Friendly, reliable and fully insured

For a Free quotation Call or text us today

07849194890





Norfolk 01508 532200 or 07825 908287 Unit 16 Salamanca Road, Tharston Ind. Est, Long Stratton, Norfolk, NR15 2PF www.mryderroofing.co.uk mryderroofing@outlook.com

ROOFING

- Roofing
- oof Repairs
- eadwork lat Roofs
- Exterior Building UPVC Windows
- Interior Renovations
- ree Consultations Quotes
- Year Guarantee
- Established 75 Years
- 4th Generation
- **Quality Service**
- **Council Approved** Constantly Recommended



Gutter and exterior cleaning services



- > Gutter cleaning, repair and replacement
- ➤ Moss removal and treatment
- > Roof and render cleaning
- > Patio and driveway cleaning and sealing
- > Conservatory and window cleaning
- > uPVC fascias, soffits and gutter washing
- > Tennis court cleaning
- > Tarmac restoration



© 01508 356336/ 07414715719



ricky@norfolkgutterguru.co.uk



www.norfolkgutterguru.co.uk



BARKER FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICES We're all inclusive

Family run with Family values and Family at heart

Provisions of all professional services, an obituary notice via social media, handling of all charitable donations, limousine, motorised hearse and bearers, 3ft coffin spray, includes all fees and choice of coffin.

Total £4329

24 Hour Family Caring
Personal Service
Covering Norfolk & Suffolk

The Simplistic Funeral

Total £1,590

The Street, Long Stratton NR15 2XJ



01508 536117

info@barkerfunerals.co.uk
www.barkerfunerals.co.uk



Are you seeking a professional, reliable

WINDOW CLEANER?



Why choose us?

🖈 Over 10 years experience

🛠 We clean doors, glass, frame & sill

We send an alert before we come

🛠 We have many 5 star reviews

🛠 We use pure water upstairs & traditional methods downstairs





TimS-2053

Great local window cleaners!!!



Great window cleaning couple who I would throughly recommend to anyone in this area who requires one. Always communicates with me before they come and rearranges the appointment if the weather does not allow then to attend. Great standard of cleaning which I cannot fault.





LucyD-451

Excellent service and communication. Great value.



Highly recommend this company for Window cleaning. Great communication, Does a great job and reasonably priced. They also cleaned out our gutters. Best window cleaners we have found.





Fully Licensed & Insured & Certified

B BARTRAM'S SERVICES Ltd

Trusted Services At Your Convenience

Soft & Hard Landscaping

-Garden Builds + Designs

- -Patios
- -Driveways
- -Decking
- -Pergolas
- -Turfing
- -Fencing
- -Sleeper Beds

Contact@bartramsservices.com www.BartramsServices.com Professional Commercial, Residential Maintenance

-Garden Clearances
-Hedge Cutting/Removals
-Ivy Removals
-Tree Cutting/Removals
-Regular Grass Maintenance

Office- **01603 552482**Mob- **07402356519**

-Maintenance Contracts Available



LET'S CHAT

The last Let's Chat will be on 3rd December and re-start again in March 2025, when Janet and the team will be there to welcome you again with Tea, Coffee and homemade cake.



Specialists in the supply and install of new and replacement Pvc-u and Aluminium windows, doors, conservatories, secondary double glazing and roofline.

All available in a wide range of colours and styles.

Free surveys and estimates. Trade and DIY enquiries welcome.

For friendly advice and a competitive price.

E: info@moultonwindows.co.uk
W: www.moultonwindows.co.uk

01379 677730

Orchard Farm, Great Moulton, Norwich, NR15 2HA



Big enough to cope, small enough to care





QUALITY & HONEST USED CARS BOUGHT & SOLD

CALL 01508 500208 or 07496 013130 for a genuine, easygoing and straightforward experience

www.mrbautomotive.co.uk

Viewings strictly by appointment only

Unit 3 Game Meadow, Brick Kiln Lane Swainsthorpe, Norwich NR14 8PY

CARRY-ALL

Mel Rogers Mob: 07850 402845 Tel: 01508 536182 e-m carry all@btinternet.com

Suppliers of:

- Mixed hard and soft wood
- Shingle [Natural]
- Sand
- Hoggin
- Ballast
- Crushed Concrete
- Ornamental Granite Chippings
- Top Soil
- Cultivated rolled turf
- Bark Chippings
- Compost & Peat
- Plumb Slate

No VAT - Free delivery



OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK

Monday-Friday:

9.00-13.00pm then

14.00 - 17.00pm

Saturday:

am-13.30pm

<u>0</u>1508 532 669

www.longstrattoneyecare.co.uk

WHAT WE DO

As Long Stratton's community Optometrist we pride ourselves on providing personal professional service and dispensing high quality products at fair prices.

We offer NHS and private appointments. You can also include a hospital grade laser scan for enhanced health checks and the Optometrist will go through this with you at your appointment. We give you the time you need.

We are proud to offer Eyeplan membership for great value and ultimate peace of mind.





FIREWOOD EXPRESS

NORFOLK

Hardwood logs & kindling ready to burn.

Perfect for wood burners, stoves & fire
pits.

Delivering throughout Norfolk.

Contact Us:

07535 025007

firewoodexpress@outlook.com
@Firewoodexpressnorfolk

Marion's Foot Care Foot Health Practitioner

marionfootcare@gmail.com

- Nail trimming
- Corn enucleation
- Fungal and verruca treatmentBespoke mouldings
- Reducing thickness of nails
 - Diabetic feet seen
- Ingrown nail treatment
- Fully Insured/DBS checkedProviding a personal service in
- the comfort of your own home

Contact: Marion Keable, DipCFHP, MPSPract on 07742 722804

Covering: Norwich, Sprowston, Salhouse, Wroxham, Brundall. Blofield Heath, Acle and surrounding areas







AGL Services — Fibrous & Solid **Plastering.**

Painting & Garden Maintenance.







Never enough time to do those little jobs, keep putting them off, give me a call and get them done!

Small Plastering Jobs, Fibrous and Solid, Painting & Garden Maintenance

Phone/Text Andv

WhatsApp: 07568 530990

Email:

andysplasteringservices024@gmail.com

JUMBO BAG DELIVERIES

SAND

TOP SOIL

MULCH



BALLAST

TYPE 1

STONE 10/20MM

MUSHROOM COMPOST

CALL 01508 470674 **Simons Landscaping Ltd**

ELECTRICIAN



A Frendly Family Run Business That Works on All Aspects Of Domestic Electrics

Including removal of storage heaters and replacing with energy efficient heating systems

> Contact Ian or Caroline for all Flectrical Issues on 0779 0273 689 or 01508 813802

icdelectrics@hotmail.co.uk

www.icdelectrics.co.uk







Bailiwick IT Ltd.

Having Computer Problems?

Windows and Apple Mac repairs, upgrades & troubleshooting virus & malware removal, printer supply, data recovery, Microsoft 365 services, 4G Broadband solutions, New & Factory refurbished machines, Security software, Domain names, emails & hosting, Networking services.

> Tel: 01953 718421 Mob: 07928 326008

Email: help@bailiwickit.com Web: www.bailiwickit.com











No matter what size your budget

Our compassion is constant



- Home Visits
- Funeral Finance
- Direct Cremation
- Affordable Choices
- Pre-paid Funeral Plans
- Personal Touches
- Bereavement **Support Groups** and Resources





Middleton Street, Wymondham......01953 601103 (24hr)

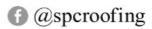
www.rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk



•NEW ROOFS • RE-ROOFS • FLAT ROOFS REPAIRS • CHIMNEY TAKE DOWNS LEADWORK • FASCIA, SOFFITS & GUTTERING FULLY INSURED •

****07577 700184

speroofing86@hotmail.com (1) @speroofing



High quality, secure and stylish.

Garage Doors, Gates, Awnings and Automatic Roller Blinds supplied, installed and repaired.





Diss 01379 651959 **Norwich** 01603 270105

Contact us to arrange an appointment at our Diss showroom to view our range of high quality products and discuss the perfect solution for your home.

Unit 21, Court Industrial Estate, Vinces Road, Diss, IP22 4BF

www.chapeldoors.co.uk



Committed to helping people live independently in the comfort of their own home.

We pride ourselves on delivering quality home-care services.

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Covering Long Stratton and surrounding villages.

For an informal chat, please contact Nicola or Naomi 07871 352961 / 01508 813572

email: enquiries@acorn2oakcare.co.uk

(If you are looking for a rewarding career in care, please get in touch, we are always looking for people to join our team).

STRATTON QUICKFIT LTD

TYRES SUPPLIED & FITTED

EXHAUSTS,BATTERIES

CAR/VAN SERVICING & REPAIRS

MOT PREPARATION

CAR & VAN REMAPPING/DELETES

RACE/TRACKCAR PREPARATION

CALL 01508 535133/07765 864249

Walking to Wacton

The day was pleasant for walking and eleven of us met in the car park before setting off in the direction of Wacton. The hidden footpaths that link residential roads in Long



Stratton were a revelation to some of us but our walk leader confidently led us through to Manor road, crossing the playing fields to Chequers Lane. We carefully crossed the road at the junction and took a left turn down a footpath as if entering a driveway off the road to Wacton.

Now we were in the countryside and saw the autumn colours of overgrown hedges



lining Haynton's Lane dripping with sloes and rosehips. The brave ones had a taste. The lane was surprisingly not muddy and led us to Wacton Common where many grazing cows

were scattered over the short grass. They let us pass unhindered to the pond where we paused to admire the thatched cottages and the tranquil watering hole. A lone, shaggy inkcap mushroom growing there was one of several types of fungi we encountered on our walk. Among the usual crows and pigeons we also spotted jays, a magpie, kestrel and finches. Also a shy roe deer in the distance watched our progress.



Over the cattle grid and following Common road we headed to the Wacton village sign and regrouped. Some had stopped to take photos of the autumn Bryony berries and the well on the common. The novel Books and Buses bus shelter holds a library where you can read while you wait for a bus.

Our walk continued past Wacton church and a sharp right turn down a well hidden footpath led us to Buttle's lane. Before the lane joined Long Stratton road we took the footpath, left,

over a rapefield to join Chequers lane near Tharston industrial estate. We soon wove our way back through the houses to the car park.

Thank you to Alice and Bonnie for leading our walk today. Please join us next time if you'd like a leisurely walk of about 4 miles. We meet on the first Monday of the month at 10am near the public toilets at the car park

LONG STRATTON LIBRARY

Bounce & Rhyme – Tuesdays, 2pm Family Lego Club – Tuesdays, 3.45pm Stitches & Knitters – Thursdays, 2-4pm

Opening hours:

Monday: 8am-7pm (staffed 11am-7pm) Tuesday: 8am-7pm (staffed 1-7pm)

Wednesday: 8am-7pm

Thursday: 8am-7pm (staffed 1-7pm)

Friday: 8am-7pm

Saturday: 8am-4pm (staffed 11am-4pm)

Sunday: 10am-4pm

Ryan Watts, Library Manager - Diss, Harleston & Long Stratton Libraries Norfolk County Council Library & Information Service



Our services include:

- Wills, Tax & Probate
- Family Law
- Employment Law
- Residential Conveyancing
- Dispute Resolution

- Debt Recovery
- Agriculture & Estates
- Corporate & Commercial Law
- Commercial Property
- Landlord Advice

C 01379 641221 spiresolicitors.co.uk info@spiresolicitors.co.uk

Attleborough | Aylsham | Dereham | Diss | Norwich | Watton | Wymondham

CHURCH SERVICES - December

- 1st December 11:00am All-Age Worship at Stratton, St Mary. 18:30pm - Advent Carols at Stratton, St Mary.
- 8th December 09:45am Morning Worship at Tharston, St Mary 11:00am - Holy Communion at Stratton, St Mary
- 15th December 11:00am Morning Worship at Stratton, St Mary
 - 16:00pm Carol service at Stratton, St Michael
- 20th December 19:00pm Carols by candlelight at Tharston, St Mary
- 22nd December 09:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at Stratton, St Michael
 - 11:00am All Age Holy Communion at Stratton, St Mary
 - 18:30pm Candlelit Concert All Saints Wacton (see p22)
- 24th December 16:00pm Christingle at Stratton, St Mary
- 25th December 09:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at Stratton, St Michael
 - 11:00am Family Service at Stratton, St Mary
- 29th December 11:00am United Benefice Communion at Stratton, St Mary

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

- 1st December 10:45am Family Service incl. Holy Communion David Moore
- 8th December 19:45pm Family Service Rev Ian Jones
- 15th December 09:45am Community Family Breakfast
 - 10:45am Junior Church Christmas Service
 - 18:30pm Carols by Candlelight Service
- 22nd December 10:45 Family Service Rev Malcolm Simpkin
- 29th December 10:45 Family Service Rev Malcolm Simpkin

Hope Church

- 1st December 10:30am Wacton Village Hall. A service for all ages including childrens activity for school years 1-6
- 15th December 16:00pm St Mary's Junior Academy (see page 9)

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: 07557 990169

or send to: 37 St David's Close, Long Stratton, Norwich NR15 2PP 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 ipgs 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

Fixed charge of £10 for designing and re sizing any advert supplied - we will inform you when the advert is submitted if there is to be a cost incurred. No charge for change of wording if supplied as word document.

ADVERTS and DISTRIBUTION OF MAGAZINES - Ian Hetherington 07557 990169 thesextonswheel@googlemail.com

EVENT	
DATE	
TIME	
PLACE	
BRIEF DETAILS	
CONTACT	



Wish you a magical and merry Christmas, full of sweet surprises

Whittley Parish Estate Agents **01508 531331**

Beatrix Potter Cottage, The Street, Long Stratton NR15 2XJ www.whittleyparish.com

