

Longford Parish Press

LONGFORD FETE

Friday 5th June 6pm

Raising funds for St Chad's Church, Longford

- ☞ Tea & Home-Made Cake
- ☞ Bar
- ☞ Barbecue
- ☞ Curry Shack
- ☞ Fairground Rides
- ☞ Bouncy Castle
- ☞ Live Music
- ☞ Sweetie Stall
- ☞ Ice Cream Van
- ☞ Plants
- ☞ Tombola
- ☞ Bric-a-brac
- ☞ Bottles
- ☞ Wood Turning
- ☞ Raffle

FREE Parking plus "While You FETE" Car Wash
 Overnight Camping/Campervans — Booking Essential
 Card Payments Taken

With Special Guests:



4 Acres Field DE6 3AH

W3W: ///pies.safety.picnic



Longford WI is 100 Years Old!!

Scarecrow Competition

Saturday 11th July.



Entry forms available from:
Longford
WhatsApp group or
The Pump Room.

Pump Room Exhibition & Cake Stall
Ice Cream at The Mill
2-4pm

Entry form below. Please return to Helen Jeffreson or Anne Mitchell.

**Longford WI Centenary Celebrations
Scarecrow Competition, Exhibition in Pump Room & Cake Sale
Saturday 11th July 2026, 2-4pm**



Longford WI invites all residents to take part in our centenary celebrations. There will be a homemade cake sale, plus an exhibition of the history of WI in our village at the Pump Room. We invite you all to enter a village Scarecrow Competition. You can make and display a single scarecrow or a group of scarecrows to create a scene. Ideas for Scarecrows could include an era or event during the last 100 years, your favourite hobby, your job or something connected to Longford, the more creative the better.

Your scarecrow will need to be displayed at the latest in your garden location by **Midday on Saturday 11th July** so it's ready for judging by our esteemed Judge, John Wilson. You will have the opportunity to vote for your own favourite scarecrow for the "Village choice" award too. A local ice cream van will be located at The Mill between 2-4pm for you to purchase and enjoy refreshments as you wander round viewing the entries.

Competition Rules:

- Entry is FREE.
- Each scarecrow can be smaller, but should not be larger than 2.0m wide x 2.0m high.
- All scarecrows should be constructed to consider the prospect of inclement weather.
- All entrants are reminded that this is a public village event and all scarecrows must be made and displayed in good taste. The organisers reserve the right to withdraw any scarecrows that they deem unsuitable and they will be disqualified.
- Scarecrows should be placed in a safe location and should be clearly visible from the road.
- They should be secured so that they will not blow away and in a position that will not cause a danger, injury or annoyance to others.
- The organisers will not be held responsible for any damage to Third Party property caused by the creation or insecurity of scarecrows. Owners are held solely responsible for the safety and security of their scarecrow.
- Photographs will be taken of all scarecrows to assist with the judging and may be published on the village website or Longford WI Facebook. The judge's decision is final.

All entry forms must be submitted by **1st July at the latest**, a Village map of the Scarecrow locations will then be created and issued.

SCARECROW COMPETITION – ENTRY FORM

Entrant Name.....
Address for display of scarecrow.....
Contact telephone number.....

I am happy/not happy for photos of my scarecrow to be taken of my scarecrow to be used online (please delete as appropriate)

I agree to the terms and conditions of the competition – Signed

Cookery Corner *by Longford WI***Rhubarb and ginger crumble with a hint of orange****Ingredients**

700g rhubarb
 2 lumps of stem ginger, sliced finely. Also a little of the syrup.
 Grated orange zest
 70g soft brown sugar
 170g biscuits e.g. ginger or digestive
 100g butter
 100g demerara sugar

**Method**

1. Chop the rhubarb into 3cm pieces. Stir it in a bowl with the ginger, syrup, orange zest and soft brown sugar.
2. Place it in an ovenproof dish.
3. Heat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan.
4. Crush the biscuits.
5. Melt the butter, then mix it with the biscuit crumbs and demerara sugar.
6. Spoon this crumble mixture evenly over the rhubarb.
7. Bake for approximately. 40 minutes until the top is golden and the rhubarb has cooked through.

Enjoy with custard or ice cream.

W.I. Diary

Spring has been a lovely time for us at Longford WI, as always we've had some interesting speakers, and lots of chat, friendship, tea and cake.

In March Barbara taught us how to make Dream Catchers. We all loved our creations, Barbara was a great, patient teacher! In April Annie Maudling from On a Wick and a Prayer in Tissington came to talk to us about her wonderful candle business. And this month John Wedgwood, gave us a brilliant talk called 'From the Surgery to the screen'. After retiring from his career as a local GP, he told us all about his new career as an extra on films! Fascinating!

Coming up, in June we have a joint meeting with Sutton on the Hill, welcoming Melanie Heard, a peony farmer.

Please do pop along to a meeting if you're interested, you'll be most welcome. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month, at 7.30 at The Pump Room.

Scarecrow competition

Our scarecrow competition is going ahead on 11th July. Please see the poster and entry form for more details.

Longford Parish Press

This newsletter is published quarterly on the parish council and village websites. If you have something to add to the newsletter please submit it to parishpress63@btinternet.com



Longford & District Pumpkin Club



Thankyou to all who purchased Pumpkin Seeds with the aim of growing the biggest pumpkin Longford has ever seen.

I am pleased we have nearly 30 entries, so am really looking forward to seeing pumpkins of all sizes, shapes and colours at the 'Big Show' on the 3rd October at Wyaston Village Hall.

Your seeds should now be healthy plants, each in their own individual pot and growing nicely in a frost free environment ready to be planted outside when all danger of frost has passed.

Our charity this year is MIND. Last year we raised £1,200 for Cancer Research UK, which is a fantastic amount from such a small group of people. Thank you very much.

We have made a few changes to the organising committee. Garry Sands the Down Under Loadmaster has left us, I have taken a step back and am now the 'Grower's Gaffer Without Portfolio', while James Frost with his enthusiasm, commitment and of course his youthfulness is the 'Grower's Overseer'.

Our other elderly members will consider stepping back also if we can find some younger enthusiastic replacements (we definitely need feminine input, so come on you Ladies of Longford come and join us, you will enjoy the experience I assure you).

Growers Gaffer Without Portfolio

St Chad's News

Fete

The fete will be held on Friday 5th June at 6pm. See the poster on the front page for more details.

Services (St Chad's Longford and Christ Church Long Lane)

7th June	Holy Communion Long Lane 10.30am
14th June	Morning Prayer Long Lane 9.15am
28th June	All Age Communion Longford 11.15am
5th July	Holy Communion Long Lane 10.30am
12th July	Morning Prayer Longford 9.15am
26th July	All Age Communion Longford 11.15am
2nd August	Holy Communion Long Lane 10.30am
9th August	Morning Prayer Long Lane 9.15am
23rd August	All Age Holy Communion Longford 11.15am

Please check Longford village website or noticeboards in case of any changes.

PCC vacancies

The PCC is still in need of a Chairperson and a Churchwarden so please contact Myra Johnson or Dave Vincett or get in touch via the Parish Press email if you can help.

Coffee morning

A big thank you to everyone who supported the coffee morning on 14th March and enjoyed a chat accompanied by coffee and delicious cakes. Just over £360 was raised for church upkeep funds.

A note from Frances Rymer

I take communion to two housebound people in Long Lane. If you know anybody else who would like this service, please get in touch.

Also we have a small prayer group who meet by Zoom every Thursday from 9.30am - 10.00am. If anybody would like to join us they would be very welcome. Again, get in touch.



The Longford Book Group *by Angela Churchill*

We've read a light, fun book and a more serious and compelling story. We enjoyed both and each gave us lots to talk about.

The People on Platform 5 by Clare Pooley (Transworld Publishers Ltd), Book Group Score 8

Iona boards the train to London Waterloo every day, giving her fellow passengers made-up names that she thinks suits them. She has no idea of what they're really like, because commuters must absolutely never acknowledge one another with even so much as eye contact. That changes when "Smart But Sexist Surbiton" nearly chokes on a nut. Against their better judgement, a small band of passengers have to speak to one another and find themselves becoming more and more involved in each other's lives.

Despite some of us finding the parts of this book bit silly and superficial, we all were drawn in. By the end of the story we felt it was a light, fun, uplifting read, which left us rooting for the characters, with a smile on our faces. Amongst other things we talked about which character we'd most like to sit next to on a train, people being surprising, Iona's work environment, how youth informs age and vice versa and how the use of stereotypes worked in the story.

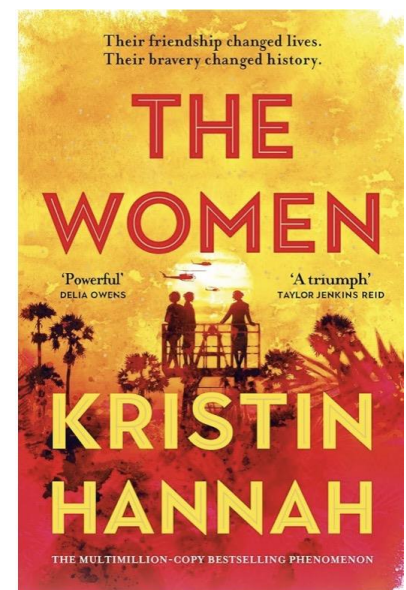
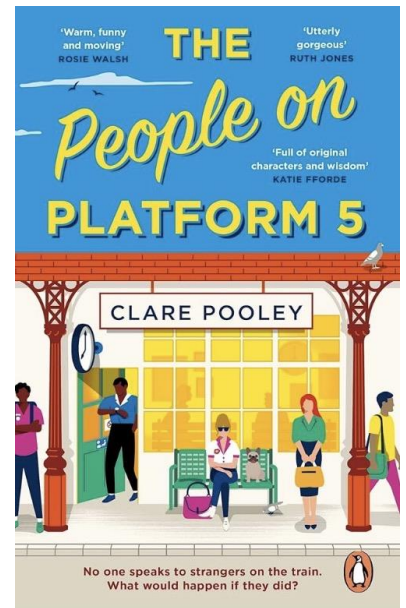
The Women by Kristin Hannah (Macmillan), Book Group Score 8

Beginning at the start of the Vietnam War, this is the story of Frankie, daughter of a wealthy American family, brought up to follow the traditional path of making a good marriage and starting a family. When her brother is killed in the war, Frankie enlists as a nurse. The story, is based on a great deal of research into both the war and society in the USA during this era. It follows Frankie's work, life and friendships during her war service, then takes us back to America, into her troubled post-service life.

Despite some of us being prolific readers, this was the first book any of us had read about the Vietnam War. Frankie's war service is only the beginning of her story. She returns to an America which wants peace and has either little interest in, or disgust at those returning from tours of duty. Frankie also wants peace, especially after what she has seen during her army nursing experiences but she is shocked by American citizens reaction to her service. This includes the determination to believe no women were involved in the conflict, her parents' total refusal to talk about her experiences and the civilian nursing profession preventing her using the skills she has gained. Frankie finds her way forward after many difficulties with the help of two good friends from her Vietnam years.

We discussed how support and acknowledgement of her service might have helped healing after the terrible experiences of war nursing, Frankie's relationship with her parents and two best friends, the men in her life and their impact on it and whether the ending of the book indicated a "happy ever after" or not. We shared Frankie's shock at the behaviour she received on her return. We also talked about the writing style and plot twists, noting that Kristin Hannah has a habit of repeating descriptions almost word for word, but also that the author states her focus is on telling the story rather than her prose style. Whatever its defects, this book kept us engaged throughout.

Our next book is the one that begins "Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again...", more next time!



Local wildlife by Mick Tunnicliffe

It was really pleasing to hear on our local WhatsApp group that a cuckoo had been heard calling in the village. It is many years since I heard the cuckoo in Longford. When we first came to live here over 40 years ago, we used to hear and see the cuckoo from our house most years.

Perhaps it is my imagination but there seems to be more swallows around this year and our first sighting on the 31st March outside our house was one of the earliest we have had.

A bird that seems to be getting more difficult to see in Longford is the curlew. I have not seen or heard one this year, it is a bird with such a beautiful distinctive call that you cannot mistake.

An exciting recent local bird sighting in the Long Lane/Kirk Langley area was a White Stork spotted by Chris Roworth while working the land. The White Stork is not native to England but are scarce visitors. However, you may be aware that they have been introduced to the Knepp Estate in Sussex as part of a rewilding project and indeed have bred there. There are plans going ahead to introduce them to the Willington Nature Reserve which is also planning to introduce Elk, also known as Caribou.

White Storks are mainly from Eastern Europe and nest on tall buildings trees and chimneys. Can you imagine in the future White Storks nesting on the chimneys in Longford, what a fantastic sight that would be, and of course it is treated as a sign of good luck.

Beavers were introduced to the Willington Reserve in 2021 and have raised young (kits) with at least eight raised to date. It is going to be a very interesting place to visit.



Open Gardens at Longford Hall Farm

 NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME
Garden Open For Charity

**Longford
Hall Farm**

Longford, Ashbourne,
DE6 3DS

**Saturday 23 May
Sunday 24 May
1.30 - 5pm**

Registered Charity No. 1112664

 NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME
Garden Open For Charity

**Longford
Hall Farm**

Longford, Ashbourne,
DE6 3DS

**Saturday 11 July
Sunday 12 July
1.30 - 5pm**

Registered Charity No. 1112664



St Chad's Church Longford

Services

7th June	Holy Communion Long Lane 10.30am
14th June	Morning Prayer Long Lane 9.15am
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Please see the noticeboard outside Longford School and the village website for updates.

A note for your diary:-

The latest date for your contributions to the next Parish Press is **Sunday 23rd August 2026**. Please contact parishpress63@btinternet.com

Events for your Diary

23 rd /24 th May	Open garden, Longford Hall Farm
Friday 5 th June	Village Fete, Four Acres Field
Saturday 11 th July	Scarecrow competition
11 th /12 th July	Open garden Longford Hall Farm
Saturday 3 rd October	Pumpkin extravaganza, Wyaston Village Hall

Regular meetings:

WI meetings – second Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm, Pump Room, Main Street.

Parish Council meetings – see above for the list.

Church services – see above for the list.

Welcome to new residents

Longford Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to say 'hello' and 'welcome' to all new residents of Longford.

Your Parish Councillors can be contacted as follows:

<i>Robert Wakefield</i>	<i>330144</i>
<i>Ginty Leedham</i>	<i>07929 552795</i>
<i>Kevin Johnson</i>	<i>330410</i>
<i>Lara Mosedale</i>	<i>330363</i>
<i>Alan Hall</i>	<i>216300</i>
<i>Darren Fox</i>	<i>07856 098536</i>

Clerk to the Council – *Sophie Goodwin 07530 310650*

District Councillor – *Geoff Bond, geoff.bond@derbyshiredales.gov.uk*

County Councillor - *Steve Bull 01629 535650*

Parish Council meeting

Wednesday 20th May (7.00pm)

Wednesday 3rd June

Wednesday 1st July

Wednesday 2nd September

Meetings start at 7.30 pm and take place in the Pump Room.

Please note these meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

Pump Room bookings

If anyone would like to book the Pump Room please call Kathryn Ferris.

