
UNDER THE EDGE

INCORPORATING THE PARISH MAGAZINE
GREAT LONGSTONE, LITTLE LONGSTONE,
ROWLAND, HASSOP, MONSAL HEAD, WARDLOW

www.undertheedge.net

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Longstone United



For Longstone Week, bunting ran for the first time all the way from the top of Little Longstone to the end of The Mires and up Church Lane in Great Longstone, to unite the two villages. Once again, Longstone School, where classes are named after birds of prey, created Great Longstone's well dressing, while Little Longstone celebrated 75 years of the Peak District.



August Gardening Notes

It is exceptionally dry, with little rain in the forecast, and this seems to be happening every summer now. Maybe it's time to look at what plants thrive in warm sunny weather, and discard some of the ones that struggle to survive. I have a perennial called rodgersia which has beautiful leaves and flowers, but collapses in this weather if not watered, and astilbes are similarly affected. There are dozens of plants well suited to hot dry sunny conditions, such as thyme, lavender, euphorbia, acanthus, sedums, sempervivum and grasses such as stipa.

In the greenhouse, succulents and cacti can be allowed to dry out between waterings, and I water once a week. It is that time of year when I take a lot of cutting from my succulents and pot on plants that have become root bound – they will go into a really gritty compost. We have been gathering tomatoes for a while now, and are set for a bumper crop. My containers have required more watering than I usually give them due to heatwave conditions, but they do look good. My hostas have done well and seem to like these conditions (*see photo*), and they don't have any slug damage.

In the allotment, the spring that supplies us with water has run dry, so watering is quite a challenge. The raspberries and strawberries have been very good, and we look like having another large crop of apples. The vegetables have generally been good, apart from the runner beans and peas, which have struggled. It is nice to come away from the allotment with a bucket full of vegetables and be completely self-sufficient for the next few months. My sweetcorn is ripening well, but I will have to provide some protection as last year, when something ate a few – a pheasant maybe.

Andy Hanna





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Canes in Caelo, per Saecula Saeculorum

It is said that some dogs bear a strong resemblance to their owners, so when I saw the photograph of Lord Roy Hattersley with his dog Jake in last month's UTE, I thought that a case in point. As a lifelong supporter of the Conservative party, I had little time for his politics, but as a great dog lover, it pleased me that he had given a home to several unwanted dogs – one of them being Buster, who he wrote the books about. At the memorial service held for the author Jilly Cooper, HM The Queen expressed her wish that, in the next life, Dame Jilly would find another loyal canine companion. I wish the same for Roy Hattersley.

Andrew Roddis

Great Longstone has a New World Record Holder!



At the Masters International Short Track Games held in Białystok, Poland at the end of March, Fiona Harrison excelled herself once again, winning gold medals and setting new world records for 40 to 45 year-old women in both 1000m and 1500m, silver medal in the 777m race, and silver medal overall. Congratulations, Fiona!



Colour & Clay

An exhibition of recent work by Lorna Cooper and Rachel Purvis

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10am - 4pm

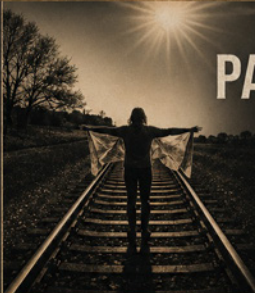
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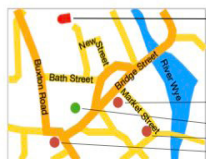
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NatureGlow Skincare will be exhibiting at the Chatsworth Country Fair, 4th-6th September.

Founder Martha Barbieri (*above*) will be on hand with her range of botanical skincare, suitable for all skin types and especially loved by those with sensitive or problem-prone skin.

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Martha Barbieri



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"I have been using the NatureGlow Skincare Revive & Restore Cream morning and night. The cream smells fabulous and is very silky. My face feels very soft and smooth, and I'm sure that some of my fine lines are disappearing. My skin is more radiant and glowing. I would certainly recommend it to anyone." Wendy, Great Longstone

"I have dry, sensitive, and sun-damaged skin and the NatureGlow Sensitive Skin trio (Lumen Cream Cleanser, Essential Repair Cream and Barrier Repair Rescue Balm) has given my skin nourishment and protection."
Frank, Great Longstone

Little Longstone Parish Notes

The following are extracts from the official minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28th May in Little Longstone Chapel.

Attendance

Mr J Cotterill (Chair), Ms G Blair (Vice Chair), Mr J Longsdon, Mrs C Cotterill, Mrs E Lee, Mr and Mrs N Morgan, Mr and Mrs K Adamson, Mr S Headington, Ms J Elliot, Mrs R Edwards, Ms K Askew, Mrs J Gledhill, Mr S Robertson, Mr and Mrs M Swift, Mrs A Plowright, Mr G Brooke, Mrs J Blair, Mrs A Whittlestone, Mr P Davey and Mrs S Stokes (Clerk). Apologies were received from Ms L Statham and Mrs M Longsdon.

Declarations of interest

Mr S Headington (Clerk to Great Longstone Parish Council) and Mr and Mrs N Morgan not on the electoral roll. Mrs N Morgan declared an interest in the car park lease (surrender of deed) and Ice cream van (request by Fredericks to sell drinks). The chair advised the meeting that only those on the electoral roll have a right to speak and vote, but that K Morgan would be able to speak, by invitation, on the items of declared interest.

Elections

The current Chair wants to step down by May 2027 latest. The role does not just consist of chairing meetings, but has responsibilities for governance, accounts as LLPM's Financial Officer, and dealing with leases and tenders. The Chair suggested he stays as Chair for six months, with a Vice-Chair alongside, learning the procedures and responsibilities, in preparation for becoming Chair. Alex Longsdon had put himself forward for the post of Chair, but he was not present at the meeting. Mr J Longsdon stated that Alex had decided against it for the time being. Mr J Cotterill was then proposed and duly re-elected as Chair for six months. Ms G Blair volunteered to be Vice-Chair, and was then proposed and duly elected. The Chair thanked Mr J Longsdon for his support as the previous Vice-Chair and offer of back-up for the Vice-Chair.

Financial matters

Payments approved: Dalc subscription £15, Clear Insurance Management Ltd insurance £588.68, Little Longstone Congregational chapel room hire £80, Sarah Stokes (Parish Clerk) Admin £1755.50 Expenses £99.21, Clay £240.54 (Clerk's expenses include plastic boxes for new bunting).

'Local Councils insurance' had been renewed. RBS bank accounts: current £1000, reserve £9948.

Governance and Accounting statements: The Annual Governance statement was approved and signed by the Chair. The Accounting statements were approved and signed by the Chair. Expenditure on community groups and projects had been GL Rec MUGA (£6000), S137/Chair's fund to LASRA, and subscriptions to BECT (£1000), LEAP and UTE (£850 each). It was noted that a Parish Meeting has strict spending limits. The Clerk will send these documents off for the external audit and display them on the noticeboard.

Funding for FOLS: Dalc has advised funds can only be given for things additional to the curriculum. Further clarification is still being sought. No request for funds from FOLS at present.

Monsal Head

Lease: No objections received following the notice published, pursuant to section 127 of the Local Government Act 1972, stating that objections to the land at Monsal Head disposal to be considered (deed of surrender). DDDC's Solicitor raised the need to issue the public notices, one for LLPM and one for DDDC. DDDC organised both – published on 24th February, objections by 5th March. DDDC reported no objections had been received on 9th March. The Chair stated that the Parish own the land, DDDC lease it and manage it. The meeting was then notified that a late objection was being submitted, so it was agreed the lease approval should be postponed.

Power take off point: DDDC are putting in a new payment machine in September, plan is to do some of the power take off work for the ice cream van electrics at this point. Aim is National Grid to do the work on the new electrics this side of the summer holidays in good time for the new ice cream tender. The tender document for 2027-29 will not specify electric/no electric, as only so many vans are electric, and some operators bring a trailer and hook up for freezer. It was suggested the hatched area be painted red, not white, to define it more and stop people parking on it. DDDC have a new generic sign which could be used to 'reserve' the ice cream van area. Road should not need to be closed for the National Grid works; ice cream van to be relocated to the rear car park

while work is carried out.

Litter/bins/benches: The Clerk was made aware of the rubbish situation over the bank holiday and had been on site to look. Bins were full and overflowing with numerous bags around them, in particular the one nearest the ice cream van. The Clerk is to ask Fredericks if they have to use the little holders for the ice cream, as this would reduce some rubbish, with hygiene noted as a reason for using them. DDDC had not replied to a request to increase emptying frequency of the emptying at bank holidays.

Fredericks' request to sell drinks: Hobbs' Cafe now have a van selling drinks; Monsal Canteen sell drinks; free to trade; Fredericks pay to sell ice cream not drinks; further litter from selling drinks from the ice cream van was raised; other businesses would be negatively affected. Ice cream licence states 'The licensee may sell from the van only ice cream and ice lollies. He may not sell any other class of goods from the van other than ancillary items with written consent of the Little Longstone Parish Meeting'. The meeting voted not to accept Fredericks' request to sell drinks.

Monsal Dale/Viaduct

Meetings had been held between Peak Park/DCC/Clerk/K Adamson and Sara Barrett (Neighbourhood Plan) to discuss steep steps and a plan moving forward; nobbles on weir path; viaduct trees and trees management generally; fire signage; Peak Park piloting out of hours signage; woodland management plan to enjoy the view of the viaduct area. Step area and view point being visited by Peak Park Management along with member of PM. K Adamson reported the bank holiday litter in the dale, working with the river keeper to remove a van load of litter and 20 disposable BBQs. Clerk to ask for a Peak Park presence with regards to litter and signage (BBQs) to go up.

Other Matters

Recruitment of Parish Clerk: Chair and Clerk have had an informal discussion with Simon Headington, who is interested in being Parish Clerk. He is Clerk to Great Longstone Parish Council and has recently become CILCA qualified (Certificate in Local Council Admin). The Clerk highlighted any appointment would be subject to approval at a meeting.

Generic email: The Clerk is merging the emails across. The new email has been set up.

Village Week 11th-19th July: Well dressing group have come up with a design. Blessing by Lorna Cooper at 12 noon and parade in GL on 11th July 2026. No local bands were available when asked. Installation of bunting booked, hoped to join the villages up. Open gardens, plus container and scarecrow competitions.

Parking/speeding/streetlights: Much discussion on entrance markers and white lines, due to issues over the bank holiday with cars parked on the passing places white lines, and in front of people's entrances. Clerk to contact Cllr Sutton, Cllr Froggatt and PCSO Boswell on help with policing. Mini-Switzerland bus and rail project moving forward, may help parking issues in L Longstone.

Footpaths: Culvert work has been carried out on field near The Hollow. The Clerk also reported the directional marker on the footpath sign on the GL/LL border, and the gate across from Cherpit Lane (now actioned). The Peak Park are looking into work on the steps near Nether Dale Farm.

Trough area: Awaiting new trough pump from contractor. The Chair had inspected the benches and the Clerk will get a quote for removing algae, clean and restaining, and paint touch up on left bench.

Mowing and maintenance contract: Clerk to review for 2027 tender document. Contractors have been asked to provide a breakdown of costs. Mrs A Whittlestone has strimmed the path behind the Packhorse.

Biodiversity: Team have planted wildflowers down from the chapel, starting to see the results, thanked the community for their help and plants, all going well.

Pinfold: The pinfold is a heritage asset. Mr K Adamson is to form a subgroup (lots of members volunteered) to look at costings/info, to be brought to the meeting. If LLPM has ownership, it can get grants. Neighbourhood plan team are looking at such matters, sub group asked to involve them.

Neighbourhood plan: Ongoing, working towards draft policies, then submit those as proposals towards the draft neighbourhood plan.

Date of next meeting: August.

Contact Details: Sarah Stokes, Clerk to Little Longstone Parish Meeting, Longstone Byre, Little Longstone, Bakewell DE45 1NN. Tel: **01629 640851**. Email: clerk@littlelongstoneparishmeeting.gov.uk

Longstone Chase Fell Race

Just a reminder that this year's fell race will take place on Friday 4th September at 6.30 pm.

To make this event happen, we need marshals, so could previous volunteers and anyone else who is willing to led a hand please contact Nigel Garfield, the new organiser, on nigel.garfield@btinternet.com.

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Parish Council Notes

The following are extracts from the official minutes from the GL Parish Council meeting on 13th May. These are published on the Parish Council noticeboard outside Longstone School as well as the village website greatlongstone-pc.gov.uk.

Attendance

Cllrs J Rigby (Chair), A Douglass, S Hornsey, S Headington (Clerk). Apologies for absence received from Cllrs J Cox and P Barrett.

Elections

Cllr Rigby was elected as Chair; proposed by Cllr Douglass and seconded by Cllr Hornsey. It was agreed not elect a Vice-Chair. Parish Council elections will take place on Thursday 6th May 2027.

Committees

It was agreed to reappoint the Staffing Committee with the same terms of reference and Cllrs Rigby, Douglass, Barrett and Hornsey as members. No other committees were proposed.

Reviews of documents

Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Publication Scheme, Code of Conduct were re-adopted as on the GLPC website.

Representation on external bodies

Great Longstone Village Hall – Cllrs Barrett and Hornsey; LASRA – Cllrs Barrett and Douglass; Holme Meal Trust – Simon Headington, Wendy Long and Peter Thompson. There was concern communications between these bodies and the Council was too *ad hoc*. In future, requests for important information must be sent in writing through the Clerk.

Inventory of land and other assets

The principal assets include: Outrake Quarry (Field 7340) (1.34 acres), Field 6552 (0.57 acres), Guilders (Builders) Quarry, Village Greens (DY482175), West Green and Allotments (DY318854), Recreation Ground (DY461279), Tea Hut and Pavilion (lie within Rec, leased to LASRA), War Memorial (Grade II), Market Cross (Grade II). The full List in the Asset Register was reviewed.

Insurance cover

The Council's Insurance is due for renewal on 1st June; the Clerk's recommendation to remain with Zurich Insurance was approved. The premium is unchanged at £695. The Clerk will look into obtaining insurance valuations for the War Memorial and Market Cross.

Membership fees for other bodies

Derbyshire Association of Local

Councils (£351), Society of Local Government Clerks (£158), Peak Park Parishes Forum (£12).

Clerk's Report

Finance and Administration: set up and obtained authorisation for salary payments and HMRC payroll tax payments, including establishing HMRC as a new payee; submitted year-end HMRC return for 2025/26; prepared year-end figures and earmarked reserves summary for the Council; supported internal audit process (documents submitted and report received); opened new Unity Trust savings account and transferred funds to earn interest; progressed closure of RBS accounts after 131-year banking relationship.

Planning and Housing: monitored and reported on planning applications; hosted Housing Needs site walk-around on 6th May with DDDC, PDNPA and Peak District Rural Housing Association; received and reported the PDNPA Settlement Character Analysis, including identifying factual inaccuracies in the report relating to Great Longstone.

Community and Events: organised and administered the Annual Parish Meeting on 29th April; supported the Churchyard Project – grant received, materials ordered; reported and followed up on highways issues including potholes, blocked gulleys and Moor Road verges; received and reported the Mini-Switzerland transport proposal and subsequent £6m government funding confirmation.

Governance: prepared Allotments Policy and updated Tenancy Agreement for councillor and allotment holder review; prepared Village Hall paper for May meeting; arranged Council insurance renewal and flagged question about reinstatement values for listed monuments.

Allotments

The new allotments policy and updated allotments tenancy agreement were approved after adding an additional note making it clear that the allotments are not suitable for children.

Neighbourhood Plan

First drafts of potential policies are being prepared. The Steering Group is also starting to investigate ideas for a '10-year vision' for the villages.

Housing Needs Survey

Officers from DDDC, PDNPA and a local housing association walked around the village, accompanied by the Clerk and Chair of the Neighbourhood

Plan Steering Group, to look at sites that might be suitable for affordable housing. A report is now being prepared.

Village Greens

The Clerk confirmed that the Cherry Tree on Letter Box/Long Green has been cut back by approximately 30% to reduce pressure on a tension crack on one limb (permission was granted by PDNPA). A resident contacted the Council about a notice placed by Openreach on 11th May about their proposal to erect a 10m high wooden post, on the triangle Market Cross Green. The Clerk is to contact Openreach to advise them that this is Council owned land, registered as a Village Green and not part of the highway. Whilst the Council is sympathetic to the plans to improve broadband access, they do not believe that Openreach have permitted development rights in this specific location.

Closed Churchyard

A grant of £590 has been received for the conservation project and expenditure of £325 committed to date for seeds and hire of a wood chipping machine.

Village Hall

The Clerk had prepared a paper 'The Village Hall: The Council's Legal Obligations' for members' consideration. The Council noted the distinction between its role as Custodian Trustee of the Village Hall charity and its separate Clause 13 duties under the 1995 Conveyance and Trust Deed, and that the annual review required by Clause 13.3 of the Deed has not previously taken place – a review process will be established. The Clerk is to write to the Village Hall Management Committee to propose a joint Clause 13.3 review meeting in September or October, with an agenda covering maintenance responsibilities, a five-year rolling maintenance programme, the Council's budgeting cycle, insurance arrangements, completion certificates for recent works including the electrical upgrade, and mutual notification of significant grants and works. The Clerk is to progress quotes for the window re-staining and window replacement, subject to planning requirements, and will establish the current insurance position. The Village Hall Management Committee's contractor has completed the rewiring of the Village Hall. The flooding problem in front of the Village Hall is due to a blockage in a Derbyshire County Council highways

drain. Repeated approaches have been made to DCC, by the Clerk and by our County Councillor, requesting that this be dealt with as a matter of urgency. To date there has been no response from the DCC Highways team.

Recreation Ground

Annual Inspection of the Playground equipment, by RoSPA Play Safety Team is booked for May. The Tennis Court Terms and Conditions of Use have been updated to make it clear bookings must be made at least 48 hours in advance. Cllr Douglass is to discuss work required on the football goal mouths with LASRA Committee. The LASRA Committee wish to look into installing a Pétanque court 15m x 4m on the Rec. This was agreed in principle, subject to more detailed investigations and the proposed location. Cllr Douglass reported that whilst undertaking recent repairs to the Tea Hut floorboards, the Tea Hut was found to have quite extensive woodworm. He also reported that the LASRA committee felt that the pavilion was not suitable for simultaneous mixed gender use. The Council is open to ideas for how the buildings can be improved, and welcomes ideas about what can be changed and how this is funded. An joint Annual Review meeting with LASRA is to be held each Autumn, so plans for the following year can form part of the Council's budget setting process.

Old Infant School Building

An interested party is looking at opening a Children's Nursery in this building, subject to planning and OFSTED approval.

Highways

No progress with issues raised with DCC Highways Department over blocked drains on Church Lane and unnamed road before Longstone Hole Bridge. Residents had complained about the poor quality of the resurfacing work, carried out in areas to the south of Main Street, by contractors working for DCC Highways Department. Moor Road is to be closed 6.30-10.30pm on 17th June for the Longstone Edge Hill Climb Cycle event. No updates on the situation regarding Camper Vans on Moor Road.

Village Week 11th-19th July

A villager has offered to put up the bunting. Council approved a donation towards their fuel costs. FOLS have proposed a Scarecrow Competition be organised, to run across the two Longstone Villages. The Council

is to provide three vouchers, that can be used in the Village Shop or a participating pub as prizes, and will look into options for judging entries.

Annual Parish Meeting 29th April

The event was very successful – a similar format will be adopted for 2027, details to be agreed in the New Year. The Clerk is to book the Village Hall for 28th April 2027 for the meeting.

Community Communications

Following a request from the managing committee of *Under the Edge*, Council agreed a donation of £250. A new Longstone Community WhatsApp group has been launched. The Longstone Facebook group now has 991 followers; there are plans to launch an Instagram feed in the near future. The Council's newsletter mailing list now has 150 members.

Planning Matters

22 The Meadows, Grisedale Road West NP/DDD/0326/0237. Alterations and rear extension. **Approved**

26 The Meadows, Grisedale Road West NP/DDD/0126/0096. Single storey side extension. **Approved**

Longstone Hall NP/DDD/0725/0657, NP/DDD/0725/0658. Multiple changes. **No decision yet**

Auditor's Report

Internal Auditor's report for 2025-26 was accepted by the Council.

Annual Governance and Audit Review

Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements were approved and signed. These are available for public access from 3rd June to 14th July. The Clerk is to return the required paperwork to the External Auditor.

Staff Administration

The Council's year-end HMRC submissions have been completed. The Clerk is to notify the Pensions Regulator that the Council does not employ any staff who earn above the minimum threshold (£833 per month). National Employers had tabled a pay offer of 3.3% for 2026/27, though this had not been accepted by all unions. Council proposed to increase the Clerk's pay, backdated to 1st April, with adjustments to be made later in the year once the final settlement has been agreed. The Clerk has completed the Certificate in Local Government Administration (CiLCA) course. As a result, it was agreed the Clerk's salary be moved from SCP 7 (on range SCP7-12) to SCP13 (on range 13-17) as agreed in January. After the 2027

Parish Council elections, the Council will be able to adopt the 'General Power of Competence', if at least 6 people stand for election as Councillors.

Financial Matters

The Council's reserves at 31st March were £30,531, inclusive of £9,156 of Earmarked Reserves as follows: Election reserve £450.00, Village Hall Repairs Reserve £2,700, Tennis Court Resurfacing Reserve £2,686, Playground Equipment & Repairs £850, Holme Meal Charity Funds £326.05, Community Nature Fund £590, Office Equipment £750, Little Longstone PM Recreation Ground Reserve £804. Total for all bank accounts at 30th April is £51,414. The new Unity Trust savings account has been opened and the Clerk is permitted to move funds, as required, between the Unity Accounts to maximise interest that can be earned. It was agreed after a banking relationship lasting 131 years to close the Council's Royal Bank of Scotland accounts. The original bank account was opened with the Bakewell branch of Sheffield & Rotherham Joint Stock Banking Co Ltd in January 1895. This branch was taken over by William Deacon's Bank in 1907, which in turn was taken over by the Royal Bank of Scotland in 1970. With no local banking facilities available the Council has been moving its accounts to the specialist online provider Unity Trust Bank.

95/26 To note forthcoming meetings

• Wed 8th July 2026

Items from Councillors

Cllr Hornsey reminded the Council that at the Staffing Committee it has been agreed to complete the missing staffing policies at the rate of 1 per Full Council meeting. The Clerk will action this.

The following are extracts from the official minutes from the GL Parish Council meeting on 10th June. These are published on the Parish Council noticeboard outside Longstone School as well as the village website greatlongstone-pc.gov.uk.

Attendance

Cllrs J Rigby (Chair), A Douglass, S Hornsey, P Barrett, S Headington (Clerk)

Planning Matters

Longstone Hall NP/DDD/0725/0657, NP/DDD/0725/0658. Multiple changes. **Rejected**

The Old School, Main Street NP/DDD/0526/0510. Change of use from F1 (Local Community and Learning) to E(f) (Creche, day nursery or day

centre). There was strong support from the community at the recent Annual Parish Meeting. This application has addressed the concerns raised in 2025 by the planning inspector, in response to application NP/DDD/0524/0534 appeal. The Clerk will write a letter of support to PDNPA.

Footpath Maintenance

The Parish Council participation in the DCC Rights of Way Minor Maintenance Scheme for 2026/27 was approved.

Full Fibre Broadband

The Clerk has been in contact with BT Openreach. They have been contracted to prepare the parish for full fibre broadband, with a completion date of 31st March 2027. Fibre will be run to the closet node (telegraph pole or underground chamber) to each property. The final connection across the property boundary, from the node to the individual buildings, will be done

when individuals order an upgrade from their current copper-wire service.

Charity Payment

The Trustees of the Holme Meal Trust requested a payment of £130 be made to the Village Hall Management Committee, from the charity's funds held on their behalf by the Parish Council, to cover the cost of the new Toddler group's room hire fees for its first 10 weeks. The Clerk will prepare the payment.

Late Items of Correspondence

Mole hills on West Green – Clerk will ask Cox Pest Control to deal with this. There will be Ultra Challenge sponsored walks over weekend of 4th-5th July. The Clerk will pass on to PDNPA a request to trim the footpaths in The Willows.

Items from Councillors

The Clerk is to review the recent RoSPA report on the state of the

Playground equipment before the next meeting. Particular concern was expressed about the state of 'Nellie'. The Clerk will investigate options for managing the weekly checks of the playground equipment, using online apps. Cllr Douglass reported that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee are planning to have information displays at events during the Longstone Week celebrations in July.

Dates of next meetings

Wednesday 8th July, 9th September, 11th November, Wed 13th January 2027, Wed 10th March 2027, Wed 12th May 2027. Annual Parish Meeting 28th April 2027.

Contact Details

Simon Headington, Clerk to Great Longstone Parish Council, Church Croft, Church Lane, Great Longstone, Bakewell DE45 1TB. Tel: **07968 295258**. Email: **clerk@greatlongstone-pc.gov.uk**

Great Longstone Village Hall has a new online calendar



GREAT LONGSTONE VILLAGE HALL

Registered Charity 1048410

We have a new online and interactive booking system that allows customers to easily request, track, and manage room bookings. Hallmaster hosts the calendar and it is personalised by the Village Hall. It also enables us to send invoices.

We are emailing our regular users to explain the changes and will be on hand to help.



Scan QR code to
see & save the
calendar

Links to the new calendar can be found:

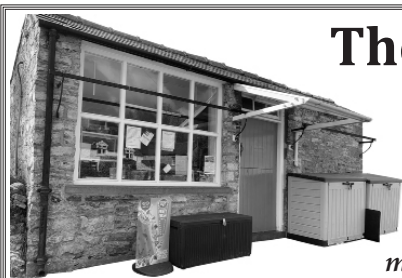
- On the Parish Council's webpage:
greatlongstone-pc.gov.uk/village-hall-information/
- Google search Great Longstone Village Hall.
- Scan the QR code.
- Great Longstone Village Hall Facebook page.

Any questions please just email us:

greatlongstonevh@gmail.com

Village Hall Hire Charges 2026

Private hire	£12 per hour
Residents private hire	£8 per hour
Regular Village User Groups	£13 per session
Charities	£8 per hour
Business (half day) (3 – 4 hours)	£50
Business (full day) (6 – 8 hours)	£100
Use of the Alcohol Licence	£10
Use of the PA System	£10



The Village Shop

Opening Times

Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am-4pm
Sunday 10am-1pm

*Fresh vegetables, fruit, biscuits, bread,
milk, cheese, yoghurts, ice cream, pastries,
puddings, raw & cooked meats, logs, household supplies,
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Thunderstruck!



On Friday 26th June, the village had a rude awakening just before 7am. I had just got out of bed and was greeted with a blinding flash of light and colossal clap of thunder. Both my husband and I experienced the rush and surge of air in our bedroom and felt certain that this was a lightning strike. Our room faces onto the school entrance and I suspected that the pole standing just outside, carrying the broadband into our house, had been struck. We were not surprised to find that not only was the computer not operational but there was no signal for the TV or the landline. Our mobiles managed to keep working, provided we could find a spot in the garden to pick up a signal.

As the day progressed, we began to hear reports of just how widespread the damage was. Heather's shop that morning was buzzing with news. By the beginning of the following week, we could see Openreach hard at work and further facts emerged. The engineer who visited us on 2nd July confirmed that we would need a new router and straightaway ordered one. He told us that the internet cable attached to the post just opposite the White Lion had totally burnt out. Later on in the week, I spoke to Deborah Henley, who has this post just outside her house, and she also had a story to tell. She had been in bed when the strike occurred and she described how she heard the sizzling of the burning cable. Later on, whilst inspecting what other damage there was, she was amazed to discover a window box had been blown off the sill and landed on the hedge below from the explosive force of the strike.

Across the road in the White Lion, the new licensee Stella and her colleague Hannah were also just waking up that morning. Hannah told me she saw an intense vivid orange flash and heard the bang. She felt very shaken and wondered momentarily if it was a bomb. The strike took out their internet, router and printer. If this wasn't bad enough, they were expecting a large group of hikers on a charity walk and for a while were having to hand-write receipts and add up bills in their heads. Openreach and the brewery came to their aid with a new modem and cables replaced, so gradually they got back on track. Hannah asked me if this was typical Great Longstone weather so I was happy to report that I had never experienced a lightning strike like that in my entire life.

Our neighbour Polly Fisher lives in South View, barely 50m from us. She was up and about with her back door open when the strike occurred. Polly saw a vivid yellow/white flash across her kitchen; this, and the accompanying massive thunderclap terrorised her dog Archie, who dived

under the table. Her router was also knocked out but her supplier quickly rectified that, and from Tuesday 30th June, everything was working again.

The Village WhatsApp group had also been busy with messages and photographs of the damage. At that point, I had mainly heard only of burnt-out cables and routers, so it was an eye-opener to see pictures of shattered fragments of hardware. The photos above came from Rachael Garfield, who lives up near St Giles Church. She described how disturbing the flash and thunderclap had been to them all, including their 12-year-old daughter. Rachael told me that she and her husband carefully checked through their house for damage and found the ADSL filter in pieces across the hallway. The TV in their bedroom was irreparably damaged and of course there was no internet. Later inspection around the house and garden showed other effects of the strike where cables had burnt through.



Adam Edwards' post van full of new routers

It is now two weeks since the event and we have been able to fully assess the impact on our own household. Our old computer was totally wrecked, with nothing retrievable. The new router eventually arrived on 6th July and Adam Edwards, our postman, told us that over the previous week, he had probably delivered 50 or so new routers over quite a wide area around Great Longstone. It was an indication of just how widespread was the damage from the strike. I realise that this short report is anecdotal and only from a very small sample of the houses in the village, but everyone I spoke to agreed that there seemed to be only one intense flash of lightning and one colossal clap of thunder, at the same instant. Was it really possible that this single bolt of lightning did so much damage over such a wide area? It looks like the answer is yes. Perhaps somebody with more knowledge of meteorology can shed some light on it and write in to *Under The Edge*.

Janet Byrne

A Restorative Win in the Heat for GLCC at Chatsworth CC

In the 1930s, when Bob Boothby began a 30-year affair with Dorothy, the wife of the future Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, he declared the need to visit Chatsworth for some 'restorative civilisation'. This he found in the grounds of the estate. The same holds true today, when playing cricket in those very grounds Boothby frequented, particularly when walking away with an impressive and confident victory over an opposition with home advantage.

On a hot and humid night of Tuesday 23rd June, and playing to local rules that require all players to bowl two overs each, Longstone took to the field, with Elliot Street and Luke Jones opening up at either end. Despite some steady and accurate bowling, the early breakthrough did not arrive, even as a number of streaky shots disappeared through the slip cordon.

The partnership breaker came from skipper Pete Street, showing how it is done in the field and throwing down the stumps from a good 25 yards to effect a run out in the fifth over, with the score on 29. This heralded a steady flow of wickets spread throughout the bowling attack. Charlie Hibbs nipped in with a nice inswinger in the next over to clean bowl the other opener, ably supported by first the two Toms (Neale and Agutter), then the two Streets (Elliot and Toby), and finally Jenson Jowett, who all had a share in the wickets.

They were assisted by some excellent catching by both Toby and Jenson, though this was somewhat offset by a bit of a curate's egg performance in the field, with chances that should have been held instead being spilled. Nevertheless, Longstone limited the home side to 121, which on a large and fast outfield was more than attainable, particularly given the first innings average on the ground is over 160.

A new opening pair of Bunting and Jones saw Longstone off to a steady start with a partnership of 14, including Ian

bringing out his trademark whipped pull shot. Both fell to decent catches. The next partnership of George Askew and Adam Knightley was a brief one, as confusion over calling led to the latter being well run out. This, though, was not a dismissal that garnered the same controversy as Botham running out Boycott in the first Test of the 1979-80 Ashes series in Perth.

Longstone swiftly consolidated as the master batsmen Askew and Jowett played some delightful shots, before both were required to retire not out on 27. Neale and Hibbs also swiftly found themselves back in the hutch to loose shots.

But cometh the hour, cometh the man: Longstone's own idiosyncratic but highly effective Billy Whiz – Tommy Agutter (*see photo below right*). Striding out to bat with no box or gloves may appear a fool's errand, but who can question either the logic or vim Tommy injects into an innings, one accompanied by a Marnus Labuschagne-style self-commentary? The opposition didn't know what to make of him, especially when, gloveless and sweaty, his bat flew to midwicket following one of many whirling dervish shots.

But batting is about getting your team over the line, and Tommy chipping away with an all run 13 was exactly what the innings required, with lots of well run ones and twos. These were taken in partnership first with Toby Street on 12, who crashed a couple of lofted blows to the boundary, and then the Skipper with 9, ensuring the result was never really in doubt as Longstone romped over the line with seven balls to spare.

A restorative win, then, at Chatsworth on a beautiful evening – one that, sadly, England could not match in their own World Cup game that immediately followed.

Dave Richards



GLCC Women's First Cricket Festival of 2026 Season



Sunday 14th June dawned bright and warm, and the Great Longstone CC Women's cricket team travelled to Darley Dale cricket club to take part in their first cricket festival softball event, organised by the Derbyshire Cricket Foundation. Nine teams of eight women aged from 12 upwards participated and each team played four matches. The GLCC women contested their matches keenly, but were unable to beat any of their more experienced opponents on this occasion. However, they all enjoyed the competition and learned a lot from their opponents' approach to the competition. As one might expect, the main points of note were the tactics adopted by the experienced teams, which GLCC women will undoubtedly learn and assimilate quickly.

Two other factors, which were immediately noticeable, were associated with the kit and equipment that all of the other teams had the benefit of. Our women provided their own sportswear, whereas all of the other teams were kitted out in colourful cricket shirts emblazoned with their team names, and in some cases team sponsors, and there

is no doubt that this helps teams to bond. This has now been rectified by a generous donation from RE:Internet Systems Ltd, facilitated by Chris Clarke, for which the club is extremely appreciative – the result can be seen above.

Also, it was noticeable that the cricket bats used by all of the other teams were not the traditional wooden bats, but instead synthetic material which made the bats lighter, easier to swing and handle efficiently. GLCC will strive to address these equipment/kit issues without delay, so that we can 'level out' the playing field.

The next fixture for the women is Sunday 9th August, when Apperknowle will visit the Rec for a softball match. More details will follow nearer to the date, but if you were one of the many people who attended the fixture in May at the Rec, when Grindleford visited and GLCC women were victorious, you will recall that the barbeque and bar provided fine fare to accompany the fantastic sport on view. I am sure that we will put on a similarly entertaining day of sport and relaxation on 9th August, and we hope to see you there. **Martin Pinder**

Cricket Update



After a slow start to the season GLCC have now won six of their last eight fixtures, and are hopefully heading for more success in August.

The women's team have three softball fixtures in August, with their final home appearance scheduled for Sunday 9th August, versus Apperknowle, starting at 10.30am, with a BBQ and bar from 12 noon to celebrate their inaugural season – so please come and support us, and enjoy a fun day out. They then have two further away games, on Friday 21st August at Apperknowle, and Bank Holiday Monday 31st August at Grindleford.

Martin Pinder
GLCC Fixtures Secretary

UTE AGM

Four residents joined UTE's management committee for its AGM in the White Lion on 2nd July (a record for recent years!), where Stella Martin had put together a great selection of cheese and ham baguettes, bowls of chips, and Danish pastries to aid our cogitations and deliberations. Our new treasurer, Alan Colley, presented his first set of accounts (examined by John Foster), showing a deficit of £483. This was due to increased printing costs, with eleven 24 page editions being produced, compared to just one the previous year. As usual it was a relaxed affair, providing plenty of feedback and suggestions. The icing on the cake (or should that be pastries?) was gaining two new committee members in Janet Byrne and Jonathan Knight.

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Longstone & District Horticultural & Garden Society Show

Saturday 22nd August, 2026, Great Longstone Village Hall

Open for exhibitors 9.30-11am and members of the public from 3pm

Entries are FREE, One entry per person per class only

Class	Qty	SECTION 1	VEG & FRUIT	✓	Class	Qty	SECTION 4	DOMESTIC	✓
1	3	Potatoes	Any variety		26	1	Loaf of Bread	Wholemeal or white	
2	6	Pea pods	Any variety		27	3	Savoury Scones	On a plate	
3	6	Broad Bean pods	Any variety		28	5	Ginger Biscuits	On a plate	
4	6	Runner Beans	Any variety		29	1	*Cheese & Tomato Quiche	On a plate	
5	3	Beetroot	Any variety		30	4	Flapjacks	On a plate	
6	2	Cucumbers	Any variety		31	1	**Apple Cake	On a plate	
7	3	Courgettes	Any variety		32	1	Jam of any fruit	Jar	
8	5	Tomatoes	Any variety		33	1	Marmalade	Jar	
9	3	Onions	Any variety		34	1	Chutney	Jar	
10	4	Carrots	Any variety		35	4	Eggs	On a plate	
11	1	Tray of Vegetables	1 each of 3 different types of vegetable				SECTION 5	HANDICRAFT made in last 18 months	
12	1	Plate of 1 type of fruit	Own choice		36	1	Hand knitting	Any article	
13	1	Collection of cut culinary herbs	4 different types: flowering or non-flowering		37	1	Crochet	Any article	
		SECTION 2	FLORAL ART		38	1	Cross Stitch	Any article	
14	1	Small wreath Arrangement any shape max.30cm dia.	Fresh foliage and garden flowers		39	1	Patchwork and/or Quilting and/or Applique	Any Article	
15	1	Arrangement on a saucer/sideplate	Fresh foliage and garden flowers		40	1	Canvas work	Any article	
16	1	Green Arrangement	Greenery only		41	1	Embroidery (not in above classes)	Any article	
17	1	Minature Arrangement	No more than 10cm/4ins overall					CREATIVE ART	
18	1	Year of the Book Arrangement	Display of flowers and foliage - <i>bought flowers may be used</i>		42	1	Picture	Art - any medium	
		SECTION 3	FLOWERS AND FOLIAGE		43	1	Photograph	Featuring "a door/s"	
19	6	Pansies or violas	Blooms		44	1	Woodwork	Any subject	
20	1	Sweet Peas	Vase of mixed colours				SECTION 6	OUTDOOR CLASS	
21	5	Cosmos - 5 stems	Any variety		45	1	Decorated Watering Can - Any size		
22	3	Roses	Any variety				SECTION 7	CHILDREN	
23	1	Cut flowers	In a Vase		46	1	Home made muffins	Any flavour	
24	1	Flowering plant	Max 25cm pot		47	1	Painting/drawing of Book Character	A4 size max.	
25	1	Foliage plant	Max 25cm pot		48	1	Garden on a plate	Max. 28cm dia. plate	
					49	1	Animal Magic - made from veg and/or fruit	Cocktail sticks allowed	

*Add label with ingredients ** Recipe to be given in a future UTE

Children's Section (0-5yrs; 6-8yrs; 9-11yrs): Child's Age..... Adult Section 12+ years

Complete forms to be handed in at the Village Shop or Cox's Milk Parlour by 8pm, Thursday, 20th August

I hereby enter the class(es) marked above, subject to the rules and regulations.

Name:Tel.No

Whilst every precaution will be taken, LDHGS cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage

Apple Cake Recipe for Entries to Horticultural Show Class 31

Cake 125g butter 125g caster sugar 250g self-raising flour 1 large egg
Filling 350g cooking apples 50g sultanas 25g chopped walnuts ½ level tsp cinnamon 50g demerara sugar
 Line with greaseproof paper a deep 7" round cake tin with loose base. Melt the butter over a low heat. Remove the pan from the heat and mix in the caster sugar, beaten egg and sifted flour, to make a fairly stiff mixture. Turn ⅔ of the mixture in the tin and spread to the sides, making the surface level.
 Mix the peeled and chopped apples (350g), sultanas, walnuts and cinnamon together and scatter on to the cake. Then sprinkle over the demerara sugar. Dot the remaining cake mixture over the filling – it will not cover completely. Bake the cake in the centre shelf of a moderate oven 325°F/160°C/140°C fan for 50-60 mins. or until the cake is cooked and a light brown colour. Leave in the tin to cool before removing. **Jennifer Rowson**

Longstone Local History Group



It is part of the Longstone Local History Group's usual programme of events to hold its summer meetings (June and July) at outdoor venues of historical interest. This year, the June outing was to Buxton to take part in a guided tour looking at buildings which feature stone carvings known as grotesques – a grotesque is a decorative carving on a building that has no functional architectural purpose. Because of the number of participants, two separate tours were arranged, the second of which took place on a very warm evening, as evidenced by the lightweight clothing worn by most of those present (*see photo*).

Our meeting on 28th July will also be an outing but, this time, to visit the Dronfield Hall Barn, the origins of which are believed to date back to 1430, although the present building is more recent, dating to the 17th or 18th century.

On the evening of 15th July, as the Group's contribution to Longstone Week, and therefore open to all-comers, we showed a couple of Frank Parker's videos and a collection of old photos in the Village Hall. These were about life in Great Longstone over several decades. In spite of the rival attraction of a football match being shown on TV, our history event was well supported and appreciated by the audience, many of whom expressed the wish to see more of Frank's superb videos. We intend to do so, on dates yet to be arranged.

Peter Donaldson, Secretary LLHG

WhatsApp Group

Scan this QR code on a phone or tablet to join the Longstone Community WhatsApp group (see UTE June 2026)



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Guidance for Showing at the Horticultural Show

Judges of Vegetable classes generally consider: condition (fresh, tender and blemish free); size (relative to cultivar and ready for harvest); uniformity (shape, size, form, colour and development); colour (attractive and natural); staging (cleanliness, attractive presentation).

Beetroot should have a single root (if possible). Cut the foliage to approximately 3 inches.

Carrots Trim foliage to approximately 3 inches.

Courgettes can be round or between 4 and 6 inches if long; leave flowers on if fresh.

Cucumber should be exhibited with about ½ inch of stalk attached.

Leeks should have long barrels with roots washed and not cut off.

Onions should be well ripened with thin necks. Roots trimmed back to basal plate and tops tied with string.

Potatoes should be clean, of similar size and shape shown with rose end outwards.

Runner Beans all of the same length and width and shown with some stalk attached.

Sweetcorn should be shown with at least ½ inch of stalk attached. Exhibit with

outer leaves on one side peeled back.

Tomatoes should have fresh stalk still attached. Show on plate with stalk uppermost.

Fruit fresh and clean, not polished, shown with stalks attached and uppermost where appropriate.

Flowers and foliage should be clean and free from disease and insect damage. Where possible choose vases to suit the height of the stems.

Cookery Cakes should be well risen and even in shape. A domed top with slight cracking is acceptable for light fruit cakes.

Preserves. Use clear jars free from commercial trademarks with unmarked lids. All preserves should be labelled with small labels stating the main fruit used together with the month and year of making.

Jams, Jellies and Marmalades. The jars should be filled to the brim to allow for shrinkage. Use a well fitting wax disc and cellophane, or a twist top (no need for wax disc).

Chutney There should be a ½ inch head space between the contents and the lid and jar topped with a vinegar proof lid, i.e. a plastic lined twist lid. The chutney must be a minimum of two months old.

Summer Picnic on the Rec

Longstone Ladies were blessed with ideal weather for their social gathering on 18th June 2026. A total of 23 Members gathered on the Recreation Ground for a 'Bring and Share' Summer Picnic. A warm sunny evening in beautiful surroundings, with a wonderful selection of delicious food and good company, all contributed to a very successful event. Our thanks to LASRA for the use of the Pavillion.

Sandra Taylor



Open Gardens Thank You

Blessed are the cake makers and equally blessed are the tea servers, car park attendants, Open Gardeners and the organisers of the event. It was another successful year with 18 gardens open both in Great and Little Longstone.

Despite the inclement weather, lots of heat and not much rain, the gardens were coaxed into a fine display and a steady stream of visitors walked their way round with the energetic ones venturing over to Little Longstone. Open Gardens attracts the enthusiastic gardeners keen to pick up new ideas and also to share experiences and offer tips. It also attracts the walkers and holidaymakers who enjoy the village and the surrounding countryside. Hopefully some of them also joined the School Fete. It was noticeable that not many dogs made the trip this year as the temperature was not to their suiting.

Finally, a special thank you to Robert Thornhill for the kind loan of his field for car parking and also to Mad4Ink for their generous support with posters.

If you have any ideas to improve the event or suggestions for local charities to support from the proceeds, please email them to cubanheel26@btinternet.com. The amount raised this year was a generous £3,200 and still counting. Thankyou for all your support.

**Frank Hammond
and Joyce Glencross**



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Open Gardens Weekend



This year saw 16 gardens open in Great Longstone, and 2 in Little Longstone, plus the Morris Family Farm and the Churchyard Wildlife project – slightly less than last year, when there were 23 in Great and 3 in Little Longstone.

This was more than made up by the presence of five new gardens to enjoy, including Milly Holdsworth on Edge View Drive (whose pond contains four toads and two young

smooth newts), Andy and Ann Green on Station Road, Alan and Lynne Macaskill on Moor Road (whose views rival those of Joyce Glencross), and Andy and Lisa Davis on Butts Road.

Winster's version of Open Gardens is known as *Secret Gardens of Winster*, and Sue and Dave MacDonald's absolute gem of a courtyard garden near the school is a perfect example of the genre.

All's Well that Ends Well!



Longstone Week got off to a slightly confused start this year. St Giles' bells rang out at noon for half an hour to mark its beginning, but then – nothing!

Expectant crowds had gathered for Lorna Cooper's pagan blessings of Little Longstone's well dressing at noon, and Great Longstone's at 12.30. Meanwhile, at the end of Croft Road, youngsters had gathered in some amazing costumes, including Stefan Cox-Labo as a Victorian English gentleman, Rowan, Seren and Sean Ephgrave as English Lions, Barnaby Beatson as a Ninja Warrior, and Charlie Butterworth as a cowboy. They were all ready to process up Main Street at 12.25pm, but no one seemed to know what the order of the

day was, except that the police had informed the Council that the parade could not take place on Main Street itself, without all the palaver of obtaining a formal road closure.

Things were starting to get restless, so Simon Headington phoned Lorna, only to find she was relaxing at home, hosting her own Open Garden. It then transpired that the Open Gardens programmes had been printed with last year's blessing times of 1.30 and 2pm, when the School Fair (which opens at 1pm) was held on a different date.

Lorna hastily donned her garland and rushed down to Little Longstone to get the day's events off to a great start, and all wells ended well!

Longstone Scarecrow Competition



Scarecrows once again decorated the streets of Longstone, after a long absence. The competition attracted 16 entries in total, nine from Great Longstone and seven from Little Longstone, with Longstone School itself contributing two. One of these was to be found by the well dressing, beside a display of ten designs the children had come up with. The winner was Olivia Dilks of Owls class, and her design was made reality by children from Eagles and Falcons classes. The other scarecrow was by the sign at the front of the school, and was made by Mrs Trunchbold's class and after school club. The 'Sports' theme received a few rather liberal interpretations – Ali Plowright's lifelike 'Speed Cop' at the entrance to Little Longstone should perhaps be retained as a permanent deterrent, like the two at either end of Froggatt.

Richard Whittlestone judged the competition, and awarded the first prize of £50 to the Ephgrave family for their

scarecrows surfing their hedge up Furnall Avenue.

Second prize of £25 went to Caroline and Jeremy Cotterill of Little Longstone for their homage to a rather rotund Sir David Attenborough and his contribution to sports broadcasting in the UK. As the controller of BBC2, Sir David commissioned the snooker show *Pot Black* when colour television arrived on our screens in the late 1960s, helping drive the sales of colour TV sets through the roof. With the televising of Wimbledon, he realised white balls were nearly impossible to distinguish from the court lines, and his influence led to the adoption of yellow tennis balls in 1972.

Third prize of £10 went to Ellie Robinson of The Meadows for her scary one-eyed tennis player. Other notable entries included Andy and Lisa Davis' batsman celebrating the revival of Great Longstone Cricket Club, and Simon Headington's contribution to Medusa's bad hair day outside The Monsal.





Longstone School Brings the Village Well Dressing Tradition to Life



Following a meeting at the Village Hall between key village and Friends of Longstone School (FOLS) representatives and Mark Knight, Headteacher of Longstone School, it was agreed that the village's traditional well dressing would once again become a school-led project. The decision was met with great enthusiasm from the children, bringing together pupils, parents and staff to celebrate one of Derbyshire's most treasured traditions.

Taking inspiration from four birds of prey – Owls, Kestrels, Falcons and Eagles – the artwork celebrates the newly renamed classes and represents all of those children who are a vital part of the Longstone community. Working alongside FOLS, the children of Longstone School played a central role in designing and creating the well dressing. Throughout the

week, members of FOLS worked with each class. Owls Class worked incredibly hard to create the beautiful background and Kestrels Class did a fantastic job completing the tree. Falcons Class and Eagles Class worked together brilliantly to create the four magnificent birds, giving every pupil the opportunity to leave their mark on the project, making it a true child-led effort and a great example of what can be achieved when the wonderful pupils of Longstone school all work together on a project that means a lot to them. We are so proud of everyone's effort, teamwork, and artistic talent!

We'd like to say a special thank you to Marcus, a Longstone School parent, for drawing and designing the well dressing image. We couldn't have done it without his incredible skills.

We are already excited for next year! **Team FOLS**

Little Longstone Celebrates 75th Anniversary of the Peak District National Park



There's a lot of work that goes into making our amazingly intricate well dressings, and it's easy to see why it takes the best part of a week from start to finish, thanks to Ali Plowright's photos of it being created.

The patterning being applied to the millstone at the top of the design is to hold the grain between the millstones. If it was flat, more of the grain would be lost. Millstones were

traditionally made from Millstone Grit, a coarse-grained sandstone.

Abandoned millstones can be found all around this region, covered in lichen and moss, beside trails or beneath cliffs in places such as Stanage Edge and Hathersage. Mushroom-shaped mediaeval millstones, which predate the traditional wheel-shaped ones, can be found on Froggatt Edge.

It Isn't Very Good in the Dark Dark Wood...



...but it was swelteringly hot! The theme of this year's Little Longstone Flower Festival was *Into the Woods*, which stimulated some very imaginative displays. Many of these were populated with mini-scarecrows, reflecting the life-size ones to be found sprinkled around the Longstones. The Chapel itself was guarded by two larger and rather jolly

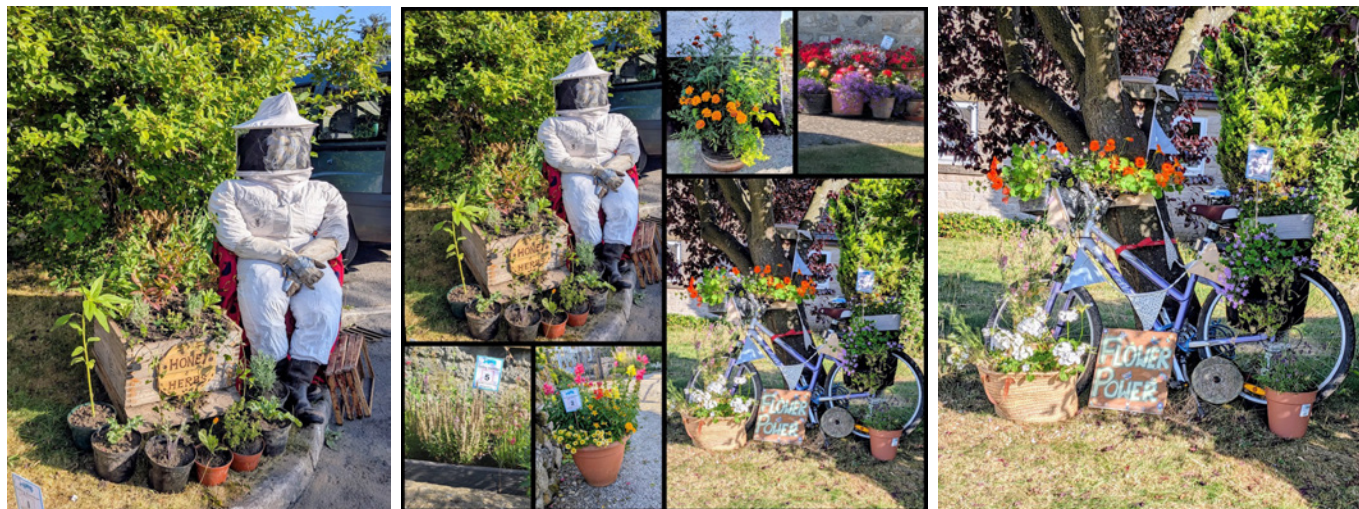
figures, which had been bought for the occasion and so were not part of the competition. Ali Plowright's Red Riding Hood wolf looked suitably demure and granny-like, keeping her teeth firmly out of sight! The flowers survived remarkably well, given the sauna-like atmosphere, thanks to Anna Gregory constantly topping up the water in their containers.

LEAP Garden Container Competition

We had some really beautiful entries to our container competition for Village Week. It was obvious how much thought and effort had gone into them all.

We decided to award two first prizes. Congratulations to the Cadenheads for their *Flower Power* on a bicycle entry and also to Anna Dutch for her *Honey and Herbs* entry. Each winner received a £20 garden centre voucher.

Jane Littlefield



FOLS Summer Fair



Wow, what a wonderful day we had on Saturday 11th July for our FOLS Summer Fair! The sun shone, and lots of fun was had in the game zone and at our stalls. Who knew throwing poo-shaped Playdoh into a potty would be so much fun (*photo top left*)! Yummy cakes, burgers, sausages and ice creams were enjoyed by all. Even the Pimms and beers were flowing. Thank you so much to Pomeroy Farm, Ginger Butchers from New Close Farm and Peak Ales for coming along and donating.

Among the stall holders, we saw Andy Hanna and his wonderful plants, and a former Longstone student Richard with his toy tombola, raising funds for an International Explorer Scouts trip to Switzerland – thanks for coming, guys!

In the game zone, thank you to Martin Pinder for his fun cricket activities, and a big thank you to Soho Equestrian for sponsoring our bouncy castles.

A shout out to our wonderful local businesses for

supporting us with raffle donations – The Crispin, The Ashford Arms, The Woodyard Bakewell, Hassop Station Café, Little Monkeys Darwin Forest, Matlock Farm Park, Thornbridge Estate, Mad4Ink, Chatsworth Farm Shop and John Hattersley Wines.

Thank you to each and every one of you who came along and support us. We raised over £1,600 for the children of Longstone School.

We'd also like to say a special thank you to Longstone resident Alan Grant, who contacted us after seeing our advert for a handyman back in February. Alan has done an incredible job building a set of bucket scales for Owls Class (*photo bottom right*). The children have absolutely loved playing with them, and they have quickly become a favourite resource. We are so grateful for the time, skill, and effort Alan put into creating them. Thank you so much for your kindness and support! We can't wait for our next set to arrive! **Team FOLS**


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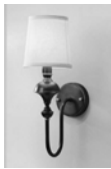



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My Musical Neighbours



The other evening, as I listened to the Cressbrook Band summer concert at the Crispin, I reflected that two of their players were our neighbours. We didn't know much about Viv and Richard Gosney when they moved in, except that they soundproofed their side of the house! We soon discovered that this was because they both played the euphonium, a large and loud instrument. We actually liked to hear them practice – it meant they could get their own back on Martin practising his piano!

Richard started his musical journey with the school band in Knottingley, aged eight. It was obvious that he had musical ability, and he was encouraged to join several bands as he progressed, even reaching the televised rounds of the *Young Musician of the Year* when he was 18. The euphonium took Richard to many places, including touring the USA and Switzerland. He has played to an extremely high standard, performing in the Royal Albert Hall and around the country with such bands as Brighouse and Rastrick and Desford Colliery Band. Richard describes himself as an instrumentalist, rather than a musician, and while he enjoys playing in concerts, he wasn't a fan of contesting, despite being very successful.

Viv also plays the euphonium. She comes from a musical family – her grandfather played euphonium, her father the trombone, and both her brother and sister are involved in music. Viv began playing aged eleven in the Glossop School band, starting on the cornet, graduating to the baritone horn and finally the euphonium. She grew to love the instrument, and says that it's the one thing that kept her at school, going on to the sixth form as a soloist. The highlights she enjoyed were several tours to France, staying in Belley, and an exchange tour to Iowa in the USA.

After a long break of 35 years, following a career in nursing, Viv was persuaded by a friend to join St John's Mossley Band shortly before retiring, and this reignited her passion for playing and 'banding'. She then made the move with Richard to Great Longstone, and was warmly welcomed by the Cressbrook Band. On discovering that the band also needed another E-flat bass player, Viv persuaded Richard to come out of a 30-year musical retirement, change instruments and join too. At the Crispin concert, Richard even stepped up to play a rare bass solo.

Viv describes the lovely social side of the band and the enjoyment of playing at various events locally. But euphoniums don't come cheap – to buy a new one would set you back around £8,000! Viv's own instrument is about 50 years old, and needs to be maintained with bathing, polishing and bottle brushes to clean the various parts.

Bands have endured over the years, from originally being formed by miners and mill workers and being employed or sponsored by the owners, to the bands of today which are made up of people from all walks of life. The tradition lives on, and who can fail to be moved by the sight and sound of a brass band playing on a warm summer's evening? Quintessentially English in every way, and long may it stay that way.

Lorna Cooper



Longstone Ladies Visit to Hopton Hall



Hopton Hall is an historic house near Wirksworth and is the ancestral home of the 'Gell' family. It has extensive grounds including a walled Rose Garden, a lake and acres of woods with woodland trails. In July, the Rose Garden is opened with a Month of Art, presenting an opportunity for artists of all kinds to visit and find inspiration from the beauty of the surroundings.

Eight Longstone Ladies visited Hopton Hall on 16th July to see the roses blooming and the painters painting. We were lucky to have a day of wall-to-wall sunshine. The roses were a real joy to see with their glorious colours and scents. Clearly the insects thought so too, as the walled garden was positively buzzing with life, including several different species of butterfly. As we walked around the garden and lake, we could see artists with easels set up, all hoping to capture something of the beauty of the views. Down by the lake, with its water lilies, was a particular attraction for many of the artists, perhaps trying to find their 'inner Monet'.

By 12.30, we were ready to drive on to have lunch at the Mainsail Restaurant overlooking Carsington Water, where the air conditioning gave us some welcome relief from the heat. We all agreed that the visit to this beautiful garden, followed by a good lunch, made for the perfect day out.

Janet Byrne



Camille Pissarro

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are seeking a **Befriending** volunteers in the **Peak District**. Ideally, the volunteer will have a **farming background or lived experience of rural life**, as this shared understanding would help build a meaningful connection. The role would suit someone who is **caring, a good listener, and dependable**, with a few hours to spare each month. If you are interested in giving your time and making a positive impact in your local rural community, we would love to hear from you.

The Farming Life Centre

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07777 168 857

BECT Volunteers' Celebration Afternoon



On 9th July, over 40 volunteers from all the teams at Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport came together to celebrate everything that they achieve. Despite the heat, it was a lovely opportunity to catch up and there was much chat about all the different volunteering roles, the people they meet and the experiences they share. A big thank you to everyone – without the volunteers, we simply couldn't do it!

Helen Chapman

August Farming Notes

What a few weeks it has been – I don't remember the last time it rained! In a relatively short space of time, the fields have turned from green to yellow and oh, has the sun been shining! It's been fantastic in many ways for enjoying summer time, and for farmers it's been a great window of opportunity to get the hay meadows cut and made into hay. We made our hay last week – several days of glorious sunshine makes life a lot easier and less stressful than when the weather is unpredictable. Just a few days before we were due to start our haymaking, the main tractor had a breakdown, which was bad timing but also good timing because we managed to get a quick turnaround on some parts being delivered and the tractor was fixed just in time – thanks Nick for being extremely handy! It would have been really a big blow if the breakdown had occurred as we were starting to mow.

We used the main farm tractor for mowing, and then a classic tractor for turning the hay. It was lovely to get the old David Brown tractor working – it's really quite nice to

drive, and with the lovely Derbyshire hills as a backdrop, it made for a memorable few hours driving around the fields and thinking of my Dad also.

It's been very hot for the livestock, and we installed a new water trough, fed by mains water. The two mere ponds on the lane are linked to stone drinking troughs in the fields, but when it stops raining, they will dry out fast. We cut off the supply from the ponds to the field troughs so the water doesn't completely disappear. I noticed more birds using the field troughs for drinking – in these particularly dry times, you wonder how the wildlife copes. There are lots of hares around the fields and I occasionally see a deer. I'm sure it will rain again soon, as I have a theory that things reach equilibrium eventually.

I also wanted to add how lovely the village bunting looked for Longstone Fete week – with the blue skies and sunshine, it was a quintessentially English scene!

Joanna Shimwell





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Dear All,

August is traditionally that lovely, lazy, month of high summer when we turn, somewhat, from everyday tasks and think of holidays, relaxing, walking, playing tennis, catching up with some reading, before getting back to the daily grind in September – and it even promises to be a 'long, hot summer', if early summer is anything to go by, which will reinforce this image of August.

But I want to ask you to use some of this leisure time to do a bit of reflection – some thinking a bit more deeply and more long-term – because I think we need to do so. Have you listened to the short series of talks on Radio 4 by Giles Fraser (Vicar and broadcaster), entitled *Churchgoing* (as in 'going, going, gone...')? It asks some sobering questions about the Church today, particularly about the Church of England, because he is a C of E vicar, but also about the Church in general in this country.

One of the shocking statistics he began with is that some 5,000 parish churches in England are on the verge of closure – that is, they are no longer viable and it would make sense, from most points of view, to close them and concentrate on the churches that still remain viable. They include both urban churches that have been built during the past 200 years, and a great many

small rural parish churches that have survived for hundreds of years, and include many architectural medieval gems that have served countless generations of communities. But it appears that their communities, both urban and rural, no longer want or need them, because attendance at services has fallen below the number that justifies keeping them open.

Now of course, when we look more closely at the situation most of these churches find themselves in, the question is often more nuanced. Whilst attendances on normal Sundays may be embarrassingly low, numbers attending special services – the main festivals plus weddings, baptisms and funerals – are often much healthier, and suggest that many people in local communities do want the churches to be there for those occasions. And when communities are asked directly, either through surveys or at public meetings, support for keeping their church open is often surprisingly effusive! But the fact remains that a great many churches – especially smaller ones – are empty for most of the time and, apart from special occasions, are under a quarter, often a tenth, full even when they are in use as churches.

As a churchwarden of one of the small churches in our benefice, I am acutely aware of this situation, and I really don't know what to do about it. Over

the last few years, we have experienced the loss of a large proportion of our, mainly elderly, congregation, through death or disability, and they have only been partially replaced by younger members. So we are now definitely in the sphere of non-viability. At the same time, through a policy of keeping the church open 24/7, we attract large and increasing numbers of visitors, who clearly appreciate being able to come in and enjoy the ambience of a beautiful, peaceful church building, and at a public meeting a couple of years ago, there was strong support for keeping the church open from about a third of the population of the village.

We have a project, approved by the PCC, the diocese and our former vicar, which is struggling to get started but is, I am convinced, the right way to go. It involves measures to make the building more sustainable (improvements to heating, decoration, and so on), and internal changes that will extend its appeal to a wider congregation, by providing a hospitality area, removing some pews, and installing some information panels. But even by doing it in stages, it is by no means certain that we can afford it, or that there will be enough people to push it forward – but we will go ahead in faith!

What is clear, to me at least, is that we need to adapt, as creatively as possible, our under-used church buildings to the changing needs, spiritual and otherwise, of the twenty-first century. Otherwise, we really will experience a massive cull of that most iconic building in the English landscape – the parish church.

Roger Truscott,
St Anne's, Over Haddon

St. Giles' Churchwarden Contact Details

Frank Hammond
07935 873930
cubanheel26@btinternet.com
*Please monitor the Lychgate
Notice Board on Church Lane
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Services in August

+A-Ashford

2nd August – Trinity 9

9am Eucharist (Wardlow)

10.30am Eucharist (St Giles)

9th August – Trinity 10

9.30am Sung Eucharist (St Giles) (+A)

6pm Benefice Evensong (St Giles)

16th August – Trinity 11

10.30am Eucharist (St Giles)

6pm Benefice Evensong (Bakewell)

23rd August – Trinity 12

9am Morning Worship (Wardlow)

10.30am Morning Worship (St Giles)

30th August – Trinity 13

10.30am Benefice Eucharist (Sheldon)

August in the Garden

Lawns: Inspect and decide which areas need renovation. Continue applying weedkillers, fertiliser and fungicides.

Roses: Remove blooms as they fade. Cease applying fertilisers. Continue spraying. Place orders for new roses for November delivery.

Herbaceous Plants: Continue dead heading. Remove supports from plants that have finished flowering and cut off tall weak stems.

Dahlias: Continue to spray against pests. Inspect plants for symptoms of virus infection. Mark for later destruction. Feed with liquid fertiliser and keep plants tied to their stakes as they grow.

Gladioli: Cut flowers for indoor decoration, but leave at least four leaves on each plant.

Chrysanthemums: Disbud where large blooms are wanted. Complete disbudding outdoor flowering varieties. Water once a week in dry weather; apply fertiliser to fatten buds.

Sweet Peas: Mulch, feed and water if necessary. Cut blooms regularly to prevent formation of seeds. Spray against insect pests.

Trees and Shrubs: Pruning – prune shrubs that have finished flowering. Cut back established wisterias taking out the tips of young shoots when they have made three or four leaves.

Greenhouses: Take cuttings of regal pelargoniums. Remove tips of tomatoes if plants are to be followed by chrysanthemums. Discontinue feeding and reduce watering.

Fruit: Pick early apples and pears while under-ripe. Summer prune restricted forms of apples and pears. Plant rooted strawberry runners.

Vegetables: Sow seed of spring cabbage. Sow lettuces for early winter use.

General tasks: Take and root cuttings of shrubs, heathers, hydrangeas, geraniums and fuchsias. Check all labels and renew.



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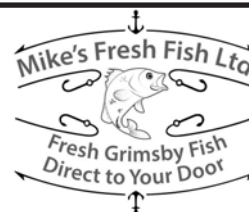


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Ann Cadenhead's Luxurious Lemon Gelato

When the subject of desserts came up at the LEAP Men's Cookery Group planning meeting for their Italian evening, David Cadenhead had no hesitation in volunteering his wife's delicious lemon ice cream. And indeed, it was truly scrumptious, perfectly complementing the various tiramisus on offer (not to mention

280 ml double cream

3 lemons

280g caster sugar

560 ml semi-skimmed milk

Frank Hammond's orange polenta cake) and washed down with some Limoncello.

No wonder David always has such a smile on his face!



Ann was quick to assure us that it hadn't been much of an imposition, as her recipe is surprisingly easy and quick to make. Forget all you've read about endlessly re-beating the mixture to avoid the dreaded ice crystal crunch – here's what you need to do:

With an electric blender, whisk the double cream in a bowl until it's stiff and leaves soft peaks when you lift the blender out. Don't overdo this, or the cream will start to get grainy (the first stage on the way to butter). Fold in the zest and juice of the lemons, followed by the sugar and then the milk.

Put in a 1 litre container and freeze for a couple of hours, then beat again for 30 seconds using the electric blender on low speed, before putting it back in the freezer until you're ready to enjoy.

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What's On

8th August - The Paramount Dukes, The Monsal, 7pm (page 4)
9th August - Women's Cricket Match, BBQ and Bar, The Rec, 10.30am (page 13)
9th-15th August - Photo Exhibition, Medway Centre, Bakewell, 10am-4pm (page 5)
15th-16th August - Medieval History Weekend, Thornbridge Hall 10am-4pm
22nd August - Horticultural & Garden Society Show, GL Village Hall 3pm (page 14)
22nd-23rd August - *Colour & Clay*, Tideswell Studio Gallery, 19am-4pm (page 4)
26th August - LEAP Book Swap Café, GL Village Hall, 2-4pm
4th September - Longstone Chase Fell Race, The Rec, 6.30pm (page 7)
9th September - GL Parish Council Meeting, GL Village Hall, 7pm (page 10)
18th-20th September - The Monsal Beerfest, The Monsal (page 4)
19th September - *Music of Bridgerton*, Thornbridge Estate, 6-10pm (page 7) £68

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 We do not close for lunch

Closed: Bank Holidays and second Wednesday afternoon of month except August and December.

Whitworth Hospital Opening Times:

A&E (Minor Injuries Unit): 8am - 8pm
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Normal Surgery Opening Times:

Mon- Fri 8am - 6.30pm

Closed: Bank Holidays and second Wednesday afternoon of each month except August and December.

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Sunrise over Great Longstone



Thanks to Andy Hanna for this photo of a glorious sunrise last month. Was the shepherd's warning true to form, we wonder?

A Note From The Editor

Thank you to everyone who submits material for publication and especially our regular contributors. Enquiries and submissions should be sent to:

editor@undertheedge.net

Please include your name and contact details. Copy deadline for small notices or changes in the next issue is **10am** on:

Wednesday 19th August

Please submit larger items, or give notice of the space you need, by the previous Sunday if at all possible. Photos should preferably be at least 1MB (1500x1500 pixels) and in colour. Printed photos should be scanned at 300 or 600 dpi. We can scan material if you do not have access to a scanner.

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FROM 9PM**

Join us on the first Friday of every month for a fun Quiz Night with quiz host Mark Wright. Free drinks for the quiz winners plus a bonus cash prize up for grabs. Food served until 9pm, book a table for this fun-filled night!

EVERYONE WELCOME!

The Crispin Great Longstone 01629 640237

The Crispin Inn

**Traditional Family Owned
Country Inn**

Quality Home Cooked Food
(Local produce & suppliers)

Takeaway available

Award winning Cask Ales
Extensive Wine List

Two dining rooms available for
parties & business meetings

Beer garden & outdoor seating

Children, dogs & muddy boots welcome

5 star hygiene rating

Supporting the
community
since 2005

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