

Saxonwell Group Parish News

August & September 25



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saxonwellchurches

www.saxonwellchurches.org.uk

The Saxonwell Group Parish News (SGPN) magazine is distributed to every household in Allington (Red), Foston (Green), Long Bennington (Blue) and Sedgebrook (Yellow).

West Loveden Monthly Services Pattern

1st Sunday

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Allington | 10am |
| Claypole | 10.30am (HC) |
| Long Bennington | 10.30am |

2nd Sunday

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Long Bennington | 10.30am (HC) |
| Stubton | 6pm (HC) |

3rd Sunday

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Claypole | 10.30am (HC) |
| Long Bennington | 10.30am |
| Foston | 3pm |

4th Sunday

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Long Bennington | 10.30am (HC) |
|-----------------|--------------|

Special Services – August 31st (5th Sunday) will be a together service held at our Westborough church at 10:30am.

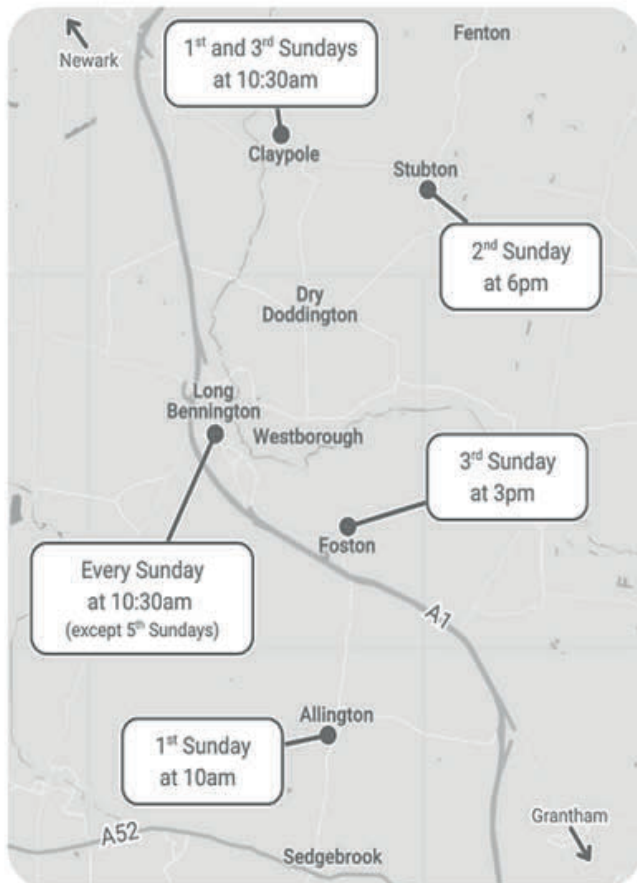
Join a Local Church Service on Zoom

Compline each Thursday at 7.15pm.

Evening Prayer on the last Sunday of the month at 5pm

Log in using:- Meeting ID: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81065711379?pwd=djBjbHZuc2UwSjRmUEZEMEx1dlhQUT09>

Meeting ID: 810 6571 1379 Passcode: 744328



The services listed are for **EVERYONE** living in our parish of West Loveden. This now includes Dry Doddington, Stubton, Fenton, Westborough, Sedgebrook, Foston, Allington, Claypole and Long Bennington.

Everybody is **WELCOME** to any of the services and we encourage you to attend services in other villages if there isn't a service in your church.

Please join us for worship & fellowship (tea, coffee & biscuits included!!) you and your family will be warmly welcomed. If you know of neighbours who are without transport, kindly offer a lift too!

Contacts for the Magazine

Advertising , Counting and Distribution Manager Joy Jordan-
joy.g.jordan@icloud.com / 01400 281355
 Treasurer - Jill Froggatt jill.froggatt40@btinternet.com

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ARTICLES:

Sgpnmag23@gmail.com

Copy Deadline for the Oct'25 issue is 12 Sep 2025 at 5pm

Flawless Aesthetic Clinic



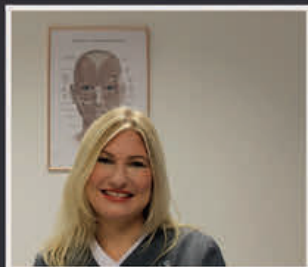
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West Loveden

KIDS



WILD KIDS SUMMER

Join us for outdoor activities over the summer
in the churchyard @ St.Peter's Claypole,
10:00-12:00pm

28th July
11th August
25th August

HARVEST FEST

An interactive, family friendly Harvest service
@ St. Swithun's Long Bennington.

21st September 10:30 am

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St Swithun's Church

HARVEST SUPPER

7.00 pm

Saturday 20th September

St James Village Hall, Long Bennington

home-cooked supper & entertainment

bar & raffle

Tickets £ 12.00

Available from:

Beryl Holmes 01400 281437

Maureen Prothero 01400 281635

Jeanne Day 01400 282873

Tea and Chat

St Swithun's Church PCC Members

(see Saxonwell Group Parish News for contact details)

All proceeds towards church funds

From The Vicarage

Who is church for? We can get a hint from who Jesus surrounded himself with in the Gospels. He made a beeline for the most well-mannered, respectable pillars of the community—you know the ones: tasteful jumpers, perfectly trimmed hedges, 2 children, and a Labra-doodle named Bob. Except, of course... he didn't.

He sought out fishermen who'd dropped out of school, traitorous thieving tax collectors, terrorist zealots, ladies of the night, foreigners, children, beggars, the sick, the excluded.

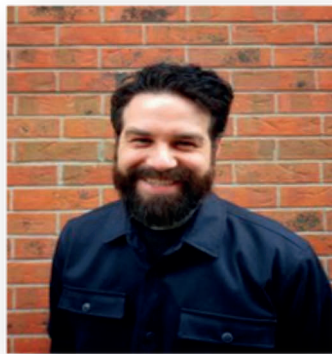
He gathered around him a messy, marvellous crowd. Of course, the upstanding pillars of society weren't excluded and were welcome and present too. And it's still true today. Our congregation includes people from a whole range of backgrounds, cultures, identities, and family shapes. Migrants and lifelong locals. Neurodiverse children and Neurospicy adults. Single parents, married couples, and those figuring things out. There's no such thing as the "right sort" with him.

It's easy to make snap judgements. The headlines often invite us to. But it's interesting, isn't it, how often we meet someone who supposedly belongs to "that group" and suddenly say, "Well, they're different—this one's a good one." Almost as if... if we really met each person, we'd find good ones everywhere.

Jesus meets people face-to-face. He listens. He loves. He calls each of us by name. God knows the number of hairs on every head—not because he's a trivia fan, but because he cares deeply about every single person and how we can flourish *together*.

This is the kind of church we're trying to be. Not a museum of the perfect, but a family of the forgiven. Church is a place where all are welcome, known, and loved right from day one—not despite who you are, but because of who you are.

Rev'd Jon Speirs-Davies



BEAT THE SCAMMERS

The new world of AI (Artificial Intelligence) is becoming quite sophisticated. It is such an amazing tool which can help in many ways. And yes, you guessed it right, the scammers are also loving it.

We hear Martin Lewis often saying to not believe all the information out there with his picture or voice.

AI enabled scams have seen almost a 5-fold increase over the past year. AI is even used on dating websites creating a very special relationship. And all of this with only one objective: "Get our money"

• **Tip 1:** Scammers create familiar personas to build trust with their victims. This could be a person we personally know. So, if we get a call or message from somebody, we APPEAR to know requesting help or information, stop and think. Is it really the person they appear to be.

• **Tip 2:** AI bots are also able to help scammers correspond with us in a far more convincing and personal way than previously. "Be wary of too-good-to-be-true offers"



Scout Leader Volunteer Required

Can you help Foston Scouts to deliver another great year of activity for the young people of Alington, Foston , Long Bennington and surrounding villages?

If so, please contact Les Romans - M:0793 9025853 or email lesromans63229@gmail.com

What they did over the last year...



1st Foston Scout Group, The Beavers, continue to have boundless energy and we've had a lot of fun together using that! Across the year, we have made fruit cars and hedgehogs as part of our Health and Fitness badge and built our own marble runs from cardboard. Other activities have included group events such as Chiller, the pantomime in Grantham, as well as the Remembrance day and St. George's day parades. Now that the clocks have changed we are looking forward to more summer evenings with team games and fun. This year the Cubs have learnt many Scout skills including pioneering, map reading and fire lighting. They have entertained their parents by preparing and cooking them a 3 course meal and have been entertained by the Explorers performing a pantomime for them. They've taken part in county and district events including Chiller at Walesby and the Cubs on the Water event at Rutland Water. They are working towards the Earth Tribe badge and leading meetings as part of the You Shape award. In the community they have undertaken litter picking in 3 villages and took part in the VE day celebration and beacon lighting at dry Doddington. We have just completed a fun filled weekend of camping at Sudbrooke Park, the first of 3 camping trips this year.

Following a fantastic summer camp at Buddens & Brownsea Island with explorers and Scouts from Dukes, Foston Scouts started the new term with a trip to London for the Monopoly Run, to Nottingham for Ice Skating and Opera. Scouts designed and built a Halloween maze in the scout hut and invited the village to find the way round if they dare! 3 teams took part in the district night hike and some of our older scouts completed an expedition under DofE conditions in the Derbyshire Peaks. Scouts worked on 1st Aid and Map reading skills, they learned of electrical safety and wired electric lamps, took history based treasure hunt around Newark, helped rotary with church gardening and Swimathon. We tested the new Money badge, pioneering, crafts, games nights and cooking. Some of the evening directly run by scouts as part of their leadership challenge. 7 scouts should have completed their Gold Scout Award.

Volunteer - 1st Foston Scout Group

lesromans63229@gmail.com M: 0793 9025853.

Together , let's inspire young people to take a break from the digital and have meaningful adventures in real life.

ALLINGTON VILLAGE HALL REGULAR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Craft Afternoon: Monday 1.30-4.00pm. Includes quilting, model-making, cross-stitching, knitting, sewing, card making etc.

Pilates: Monday 7.00-8.00pm (Term time and requires pre-booking)

Tai Chi: Tuesday 10.00-11.00am. To reserve a place email: rebtpeacock@gmail.com

New Age Kurling: Tuesday 2.00-4.30pm

Viking Squares: Tuesday 7.00-10.00pm. Come and try Social Square Dancing – beginners welcome.

Zumba: Thursday 6.00-6.45pm (Cancelled until the 18th September)

Yoga: Friday 10.00-11.00am

Social Afternoon: Friday 2.00-4.30pm. Open to all for conversation and games.

Church Coffee & Cake: Monday 10.00am-12 noon (Monthly)

Allington WI: First Wednesday of the month – 7.30 for 7.45pm start. Visitors always welcome – £5.

Sound Bath: 3rd Saturday 10.30-11.30am (See www.bookwhen.com/shola or just turn up.)

Grantham Danserye: 3rd Saturday 2.00-5.00pm

Carpet Bowls: Alternate Sundays 2.00-5.00pm (September – April)

For further details on the above contact David Smedley on
chair.allingtonvhmc@gmail.com.

For Viking Squares contact Judy Grummitt on 01400 281497.

SEPTEMBER 27TH

BIG BRUNCH followed by COFFEE SHOP. BRUNCH ORDERS 9.30-11.00am: On offer will be a full English breakfast, with bacon, sausage, hash brown, fried egg, grilled tomato, beans, black pudding, bread and butter. Followed by toast and marmalade. Or if you're extra hungry you can order a large breakfast. Tea/coffee and orange will also be served along with a variety of cakes. A £3 deposit will be required for special dietary orders so please message Jackie in advance if you require a special diet, on eventsatallingtonvillagehall@gmail.com. COFFEE SHOP from 11.00am-12 noon: Cafetieres with a choice of Wakelins filter coffee/pots of tea and a selection of cakes.

VIEW FROM THE PEW - HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ALLINGTON

COFFEE AND CAKE

Our Coffee and Cake mornings will be held on Monday 4th August and Monday 1st September from 10-12 in the village hall. We look forward to seeing you all there for coffee, cake and a chat.

We continue to thank all our loyal supporters who enjoy our coffee and cake mornings and always look forward to welcoming new visitors and friends. A warm welcome awaits you all.

SERVICE PLANNING

Sunday 3rd August 10.00am Communion

Sunday 17th August 10.00am VJ Day service

Sunday 7th September 10.00am Communion

Sunday 21st September 10.00am Morning Worship

WINTER SINGERS CONCERT – We are again joining with the Village Hall over the Christmas period to host another concert by the Winter Singers. The date of the concert is Saturday 13th December in the Village Hall – more details to follow

VJ DAY COMMEMORATIONS - CREAM TEAS - VJ commemorations will be held Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th August. Cream teas will be held at Chris and Sally's house in Trinity Close on Saturday and at the Church on Sunday. There will also be a special commemoration service on the Sunday morning at 10.00am.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL IN CHURCH PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY - 13/14 December with set up days 10/11 December.

BOOKINGS ARE STARTING TO COME IN – PLEASE LET MARY KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART ASAP.

On event days tea/coffee/biscuits will be available from 10-4. There will be a prize for the best dressed tree judged by those visiting the event. The theme is 'What Christmas means to you'.

Entries are invited both from individuals and organisations. Please contact Mary McKinlay if you would like to reserve a place in the Church bobmckinlay1@aol.com or 07968 819636.

Invitations to all the village groups are going out shortly but book your place by email or phone asap

SCHOOL VISIT TO THE CHURCH

A very enthusiastic and well behaved group of Reception children came up to Church. They had a look around, discovered the main highlights of the Church including the stained glass windows, font, altar etc and they even found the Woodpecker who lives under the lectern! After a drink and a biscuit the children took part in a short quiz and drew pictures of their favourite parts of the Church. We hope to host more of our schoolchildren in the future and thank you to Margaret and Marian for organising and arranging the trip.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Santa is visiting Allington with his sleigh on Monday 8th December – more detail to follow as soon as Santa gives us his timings!!



DO YOU HAVE EMPTY BLISTER PACKS FROM MEDICATION?

PLEASE RECYCLE THEM



Lots of us end up with lots of empty blister packs, and most end up in landfill. ALLINGTON WI ARE COLLECTING THEM TO RECYCLE AND HAVE PUT TWO BINS IN THE VILLAGE HALL – ONE OUTSIDE THE KITCHEN (SERVING AREA) AND ONE IN THE POST OFFICE.

If you visit Grantham, blister packs can be recycled in Superdrug in the Isaac Newton Centre.

On Wednesday, 2nd July Noel Reeves joined us and his talk was entitled 'Bedroom to Boardroom.' Noel is a normal guy, who leads a normal life. 21 years ago he left a really secure job, with good pay and prospects, to set up on his own.

Noel told us how he got started in business and how he felt utterly humiliated when his business collapsed in 2008. He shared how he managed to find the courage to pick up the pieces and start again from scratch in his bedroom at home in 2009, and scale into a multi-million pound business success called Rocket Exhibition Services. His team are called the Rocketeers, and are now based in Grantham, opposite the Police Station.



His dedicated team bring their expertise and passion to design and build outstanding exhibition stands for their clients. From vision to completion, storage to refurbishment, they handle every aspect of the stand-build to ensure the client can focus on making an impact at their event.

Rocket doesn't just promise, but constantly delivers high-quality exhibition stands that exceed clients' expectations, making their events a great success.

Noel has several podcasts on YouTube which are worth viewing, where real life stories, successes and failures are discussed in unfiltered conversations, in an attempt to support other entrepreneurs.

It was an extremely interesting and thought-provoking evening with Noel and we would like to wish him all the very best for the future – he deserves it!

On Sunday, 6th July (as part of the Allington Big Weekend) members produced some delightful biscuits, sold as a Treat in a Bag. Despite the weather, it proved to be a successful day and was enjoyed by all.

NEXT MEETING

August 2025 – no meeting

Wednesday, 3rd September, 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start, at Allington Village Hall – Speaker: Helen Golden – How I became an Author.

Visitors are most welcome to attend, at a fee of £5.00.



RECYCLING STAMPS AND USED PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Used postage stamps are collected for the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB). Used printer cartridges, of all types, are recycled to raise money for the David School in Sierra Leone, with the motto 'Education Changes Lives', which was founded over 15 years ago, to provide education for children where there was no school. For further information please email allingtonwi@gmail.com

Allington Village Produce Show Saturday 6th September

We resurrected the Produce Show in Allington last year, after a break of over 30 years! Starting small in 2024 to gauge interest, we are delighted to confirm there will be another Produce Show in the Village Hall this year on Saturday 6th September. There are 3 classes for children and several open classes with competitions for fruit, vegetables, cakes, flower arranging and photography.

There will also be a craft exhibition for those who want to show the village any sewing, knitting, model-making or art projects that you have completed this year. This will not be judged, but is a great way to share your hobby with others! Everyone is welcome to take part. Exhibits can be brought to Allington Village Hall between 9am and 11am on the Saturday Morning.

Judging will take place from 11am. The Show will then be open for viewing from 2pm when tea, coffee and squash will be available. Produce and cakes will also be on sale at the end of the afternoon. Why not come along!

If you would like any further information or have any questions, please get in touch with Jane, emailanderson.jane957@gmail.com.



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FOSTON - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Foston Parish Council Meet in the Village Hall on alternate months. A 15-minute period is set aside at the beginning of each meeting from 7.30 – 7.45pm, please note the meeting will commence at 7.30pm if no residents are present. Confirm with Christina Lees on 01400 281309.

Uniform Groups Meet at the Village Hall

1st Foston Brownies Thursdays 6.30pm - term time only.

Register interest via www.girlguiding.org.uk

Rainbows Thursday 5.00-6.00pm

Church Coffee Mornings. 10am-11.30am on the first Wednesday of the month

Foston Coffee Morning 10am-12noon on the third Wednesday of the month

Foston Neighbours

Foston Neighbours are here to lend a hand – if you need any assistance with lifts to appointments, shopping or other domestic issues, we will do what we can to help, or signpost you to other services that may be right for you. It's easy to get in touch – just call or email, details above

ST PETER'S FOSTON – NEWS FROM THE PEWS

What's happening in Foston ...

Services at St Peter's Here are our Services over the next couple of months for your diary:

17th August – 3pm - Holy Communion

21st September – 3pm - Harvest Service with Holy Communion

Holy Communion is also available at Long Bennington on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, so we hope congregations will visit other churches.

The Church remains open to all, twice a week for private prayer on Wednesday (1-4 pm) and Sunday (9.30 am - 1pm). Please feel free to use the church for quiet contemplation and prayer.

Upcoming Events - Current planned events for 2025 are:

- September – Heritage Open Days – The church will be open for two Saturdays during this period: 13th September and 20th September. The majority of the events will take place on 20th September but look out for full details closer to the date. We are likely to have a speaker on the heritage of the church, Tower Tours (weather permitting) and the Village Heritage Trail.
- 21st September – Harvest Service (3pm) followed by Harvest Supper on Monday 22nd September
- 9th November – Remembrance service (4pm)
- November – Wine Tasting – date TBC
- December - Carol Service and possible advent festival – dates and themes tbc.
- 24th December – Christingle Service (4pm)

Coffee Morning: Come and join us for chat and homemade cake on the first Wednesday of the month. So many have been attending recently so it is clearly the place to be! Just £2.50 for all this... At the Village Hall from 10-11.30am on the following dates:

Next dates: 2nd August 3rd September

Regular Giving

Money makes the world go round And it certainly helps to keep the Church well maintained. Only a small proportion of our finances go to the Diocese to cover the cost of our Parish Vicar. The remainder is used to keep the Church standing, safe and open for all. If you would like to support St Peter's Church, you can set up either regular giving or one-off donations through the following website:

www.parishgiving.org.uk and search for Foston St Peter.
Alternatively use this QR code:

For more details for anything listed here, please contact either Eileen Ross (tel 07710 534732) or Lucy Bliss (mobile 07740 980689, email lucyjanebliss@gmail.com).





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On the 14th June members met at the Fulbeck Craft Centre, for coffee and cake, after which we wandered around the various craft stalls. These are held there monthly, on a Saturday from 10.00am. It is a lovely setting to wander round and plenty of parking. We all came away with various treasures.

On the 8th July we attended the Old Coach House, at Thoresby Park, Newark, where we enjoyed watching Ingrid Pears MBE and her team give a demonstration of the art of glassblowing and watched the whole process unfold before our eyes.

We were given a fully narrated glassblowing demonstration, which included a commentary of the making process, from the history of glass to the techniques used at that time to the finished glass piece. Ingrid creates each piece individually using the finest crystal glass. Precious metals and oxides are used to achieve the rich vibrant colours and purity of design which is associated with Ingrid's name.

Ingrid and her team are very talented and made sure we all had an informative evening, as well as providing us with tea and home cakes.

We all enjoyed our visit in a lovely setting, on a balmy setting, it was well worth a visit,

Events –

12th August – WI Garden Tea Party, for Members and one guest.

9th September - Our meeting is on Lingerie & Charity Works in Gambia with Janice Rose

For further information or if you wish to join us any time - please contact Eileen Ross on 07710 534732.

Maggi Challis, Publicity



LONG BENNINGTON MEDICAL CENTRE

You Said We Did

Following feedback from our patients we have now removed the old call board and have a new larger TV screen which signals patients through to their consultations. The screen will turn Yellow, and the patients name, Clinician and room number will be displayed on the screen. There is also a doorbell sound to alert patients.



Dispensary – Prescription Collections

Polite reminder: Please wait for your message from Dispensary before attempting to collect your prescription.



Patient Participation Group Looking For New Members

Our Patient Participation Group is currently working on the next edition Patient Focus newsletter – This will be available on our website when published.

Our Patient Participation Group are actively looking to recruit new volunteers. If you are free every 3rd Wednesday morning of the month and looking to fill your diary. Please do get in touch with the Medical Centre and ask to speak to Chantelle.

Well-Being Walks

Our Wellbeing walks take place every 3rd Wednesday of the month. All welcome to attend. The next walk is scheduled for Wednesday 20th August 2025. Details on the walk will be posted on social media and our website.

Long Bennington – REGULAR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Please also see Village Hall Schedule)

Mobile Library Service

Outside Long Bennington Village Hall Friday - 1330 - 1430.

Enquiries to Customer Service Centre on 01522 782010 or www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

Tea-n-Chat

Started by St Swithun's church to provide a place for people to meet in warm, friendly surroundings. It is held in Long Bennington Village Hall on the last Friday of every month from 2.15 - 3.30pm. (except holiday breaks in August and December). Everyone is welcome, and tea, coffee and cakes are provided. Please feel free to join us.

Long Bennington Coffee Morning

The Reindeer every Thursday at 10.30am. Coffee/tea and biscuits £3.00. All welcome.

Methodist Coffee Morning

Please join us every 3rd Saturday in the month, in the Methodist Chapel for coffee, cake and a chat.

The Chatty Café

Meeting every Thursday afternoon 2pm- 3pm in Baker's at Sixty-Two – Main Road, Long Bennington. The Scheme is a national initiative aiming to reduce loneliness by getting people chatting. The group is hosted by two Chatty Cafe Scheme volunteers each week. Contact Mary Barlow marybarlowhello@gmail.com or tel: 07885 639091

Long Bennington Afternoon House Group

Do you enjoy meeting other Christians to chat, discuss and pray?

We meet every other Monday at 2.15pm 76 Main Rd Long Bennington

For further details contact: Joy Jordan Email: joy.g.jordan@icloud.com: Tel: 01400 281355.

Book and Card/Gift Stall

Second Sunday each month there will be a stall in St Swithun's church, selling books, cards and small gifts, run by Helen Baker from Claypole. Come and have a look for that special card or an uplifting spiritual book and have a chat and coffee/biscuits around 11.30am to 12 noon (following the 10.30 service).

Long Bennington Pre-School

A registered charity offering a safe, secure and nurturing environment to educate your child. Qualified, experienced staff will support your child to reach their full potential. Based in the small hall at Long Bennington Village Hall, we are open Monday to Friday 8.30am-3.15pm during term time. 15 hours of funding is available for all 2-, 3- & 4-year-olds including an additional 15 hours Working Parents Entitlement to those that are eligible. Our payable rate is £5.50 an hour for any additional hours taken. For more information or to arrange a visit please call the Pre-school on 07816 537242 or email longbenningtonpreschool@googlemail.com

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Long Bennington – Village Hall

| When | Event | Time | Hall | Contact |
|---|--|----------------------------------|-------|---|
| Mon wkly | Beginner to intermediate Pilates | 11:45 – 12:45 | Main | Linda Brady 07850 618516 |
| Mon Wkly | Advanced Pilates | 10.30-11.30 | Main | Linda Brady 07850 618516 |
| 1 st Mon mthly | Parish Council | 19:00 – 21:00 | Small | Jane Evans 01400 282716 |
| 2 nd & 4 th Mon Mthly | Rotary Club | 19:00 – 20:00 | Bar | hello@lbrotrary.co.uk |
| Tues wkly | Bennington Art Group | 10:00 – 12:00 | Foyer | Margaret Butcher 07484 140914 margaret23butcher@btinternet.com |
| 1 st Tues mthly | WI | 19:30 – 21:00 | Main | Margaret Butcher 07484 140914 margaret23butcher@btinternet.com |
| 4 th Tue mthly | Gardening Club | 19:30 – 21:00 | Main | Amy Hodson amyhodson4@gmail.com |
| Weds wkly | Post Office | 09:00 – 12:00 | Foyer | |
| Thurs wkly | Post Office | 13:00 – 15:00 | Foyer | |
| Thurs wkly | Adult Pilates Suitable for all levels | 17:15 – 18:15 & 18:30 – 19:30 | Main | Amanda 07967387969 https://www.corestrengthpilatesuk.com |
| Fri wkly | Adult Pilates -all levels | 09:30 – 10:30 | Main | Amanda, As Above |
| 1 st & 3 rd Fri mthly | WI craft group | 1030 - 12:30 | Bar | Sue Clarke 01400 282986 |
| Last Fri mthly | Tea and Chat | 14:00 – 16:00 | Main | Hilda Owen 01400 282471 ejanecowley@aol.com |
| Fri 8 th Aug | Charity Afternoon tea for Breast Cancer Research | 13.30-16.00 | Foyer | Janet O'Dea janetodea@hotmail.com 07941189062 |
| TBA | Wine Club | 19.00-21.30 | Bar | Raj Solanki raj@libradrinks.co.uk |
| Sun 3 rd Aug, Sun 7 th Sept | Love to Dance - Frozen | 15.00-19.00 | Main | sally.picker@hotmail.co.uk |
| Sat 30 th Aug | Newark makers Market | 9.00-16.00 | Main | Tina Barker newarkmakersmarket@gmail.com 07756698760 |
| Sat 30 th Aug | History Talk | 19.30-21.30 | Main | Niz Smith Niz.1smith@gmail.com 07917854670 |
| View all events online | | | | https://www.longbenningtonvillagehall.org bookings@longbenningtonvillagehall.org |

View all events and bookings online at <https://www.longbenningtonvillagehall.org>

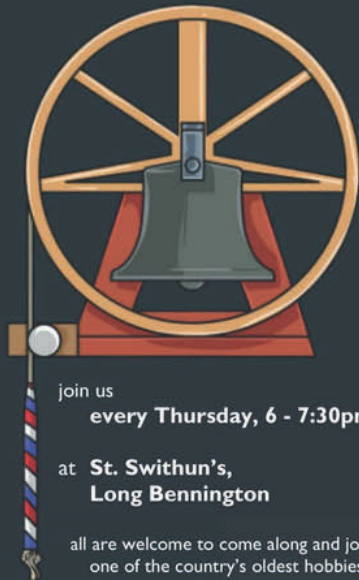
Help Needed

If you are a resident of Long Bennington and would like to ensure the future stability and indeed, the existence of the hall, you would be warmly welcomed to join us. Without more active volunteers, we will be severely limited in the number of events for the village and surrounding areas we can support.

We meet once per month for a couple of hours. Call us on 07816 267 927 or email us at bookings@longbenningtonvillagehall.org if you are interested.

For more information on the Hall visit our website:-
www.longbenningtonvillagehall.org and/or join our Facebook page:- Long Bennington Village Hall (aka St James Hall) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/820082729967125>

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WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

If you would like to try your
hand at lawn bowls then
please contact us, using the
details below, to arrange a
visit.

The green is open from mid-
April to mid-September.

You will be made most
welcome.



longbenningtonbowlsclub.co.uk

or call 07736 311 854

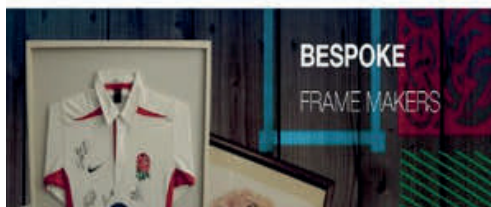


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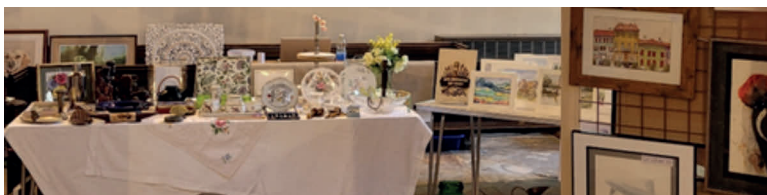
Facebook:  @ManorFarmTrees

Instagram:  @manorfarmtr

LONG BENNINGTON NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Our Summer Event held on 12th and 13th July was blessed by sunny, warm weather and we welcomed many visitors to it. There was a lovely sunny atmosphere too and it was a wonderfully sociable event. Visitors could enjoy home-cooked refreshments, music recitals, a stained-glass talk, art and photography exhibits as well as fun challenge games, window quiz, art activities and maybe get a glitter tattoo! Rev. Jon opened the event and the following afternoon he closed it following results from the photograph competition, window quiz and raffle. Alison Cunningham's photo was voted everyone's favourite, Ruth Ara had her correct entry picked out to win first prize in the window quiz and the first prize winner in the raffle was Beryl Holmes.





A huge thank-you to all those who supported the event in any way you could - you helped us raise over £4800 towards the window and wall repairs. Fantastic!

Our small planning group and larger team of brilliant helpers (who baked, displayed artwork, flower arranged, compiled the photography slide show, reconfigured the church interior and ran stalls on the day) would also like to extend our thanks to:

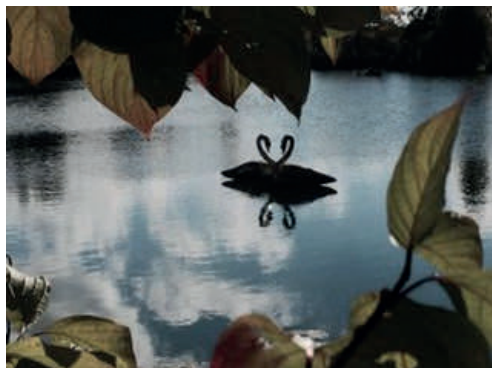
- Local businesses for donating prizes, giving monetary donations and advertising
- Long Bennington School whose colourful artwork really enhanced the church interior
- Organists Andrew Walker and James White plus the Saxonwell Bell Ringers
- The Village Art Group for their inspiring exhibition
- Invited stall holders with their wonderful pottery, glassware, artwork and candles
- Mick Stokes for his stained glass talk
- All who entered the competitions
- Geoff Fearn for the car parking field
- Loans of the A-Frames from the Gardening Club, display boards from Allington Village Hall and the LB Pavilion for tables and crockery. Dianne Ablewhite for the cups

Once again, thank-you to the village community and friends in the West Loveden group for turning up.

Here are the winners of the photo competition:



**1st – You're Home At
Last by Alison Cunningham**



**2nd – Swan Symmetry
Through The Leaf Window by
Anthony Sullivan**



**3rd – A Window On The Past
by Geoff Lee**

Events listed will be held in the Church, unless otherwise stated.

| DATE | EVENT |
|---------------------------|---|
| Last Friday of each month | Tea-n-Chat, 2.15pm to 3.30pm Village Hall All Welcome |
| August 1st - 30th | Summer Holiday Children's Activities. Details yet to be published. |
| September 20th | Harvest Supper, 7.00pm Village Hall. |
| September 21st | Harvest Festival Service, 10.30am. West Loveden Kids Activity, Harvest Fest, 2.30pm |
| October 11th | Cranwell Military Wives Concert-'Last Night of the Proms', 7.30pm. |
| November 9th | Remembrance Service, 10.15am Methodist Chapel. Remembrance Ceremony, 10.50am Memorial Gardens. Remembrance Lunch, 1.00pm Whittakers Restaurant. |
| November 16th | West Loveden Kids Activity, 2.30pm |
| December 4th | Tea-n-Chat Christmas Lunch, 12.30pm Whittakers Restaurant. |
| December 13th | Orston Village Choir at St Swithun's. Refreshments available. 3pm |
| December 13th & 14th | Santa's Sleigh, 4.00pm to 8.00pm each day around Village. |
| December 21st | Carol Service, 10.30am. |

CHURCH REPAIRS

By the time you read this article the Church Repair Project should be well underway with completion expected in mid-September. During the works period services will continue as usual, although the church will not be open during the week. The Summer Event has meant that we are now around £6k short of the funding requirement to pay for the project, but we have a few more fund-raising activities to come (see the events list); however, if you feel able to help bridge the funding shortfall you can donate:

- By online bank transfer to: Long Bennington Parochial Church Council
 - o Account Number: 50110357
 - o Sort Code: 05-04-42
- Through our Give a Little page (see QR Code)
- By a giving a cheque for Long Bennington PCC to our Treasurer



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Opening Times
Wednesday – Saturday 09:30 – 4.00
Sunday 11:00 – 4:00



Tuesday 1 July – our speakers this evening were Patty and Dave Harris who entertained us with ‘Flatlands’ - songs and stories of their personal experience of living in the Lincolnshire Fens and exploring its heritage.

Patty explained how St Guthlac, after being a monk for many years, decided to spend the rest of his life as a hermit in his home, a simple hut sitting on high ground above the Fen marshes. There are currently plans to set up an archaeological dig to expose his hermitage.

Patty and Dave’s love of their local landscape was told through songs and stories of ghosts, demons, highwaymen and historical events, such as the great flood of 1953 affecting Chapel Point to Sutton-on-Sea. Many of the locals who had been rescued by boat from their homes died of hyperthermia because of how cold the weather was at the time.

The local people had lived off eels and fish caught in the waters and marshland around the area but there was the push to reclaim land from the sea, affecting their way of life. Labourers were brought into the area from Ireland over a long period of time and, whilst the locals kept removing the earth that had been used to drain off the water, eventually the fenland was drained and the local way of life changed forever. White poppies had grown in the marshes and the opium from them was used to fight off malaria but there is also evidence that many of the women who collected the opium lived well into their 70s when the average age for women at the time was 50 to 60 years of age.

Slides showed how man-made the area of the Wash and Fenlands actually was and how the River Welland, after bursting its banks one winter, froze over allowing the locals the opportunity to skate over it.

Patty and Dave have created many songs relating to the history of Lincolnshire Fens and, a particularly lovely song that Patty sang was ‘Walk by the River with me’ relating to walking on the man-made land created by land drainage.

The last slide they showed was a poster advertising a BBQ and Music event for 29 May 1967 to be held at the Tulip Bulb Auction Hall in Spalding featuring Jimmy Hendrix, The Move, Cream, Pink Floyd and Geno Washington and The Ram Jam Band – all for the admission price of £1.00.

Certainly a very entertaining and enjoyable evening enjoyed by all Members. Our WI does not have a formal meeting in August but a coach trip to Bletchley Park is taking place in August as well as a lunch at The Duck, Woolsthorpe. We shall be meeting up again at the beginning of September for a social evening of ‘Dress the Mother of the Bride/Groom’ - that should prove to be great fun – sewing skills not required.

New members are always welcome. For further information, please contact our President, Margaret Butcher on mobile: 07484 140914 or email margaretbutcher98@gmail.com

Margaret Butcher President
On mobile: 07484 140914 or email margaretbutcher98@gmail.com

Last Night of the Proms

Saturday 11 October 7.30pm

**Entrance free, but retiring cash collection
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Church East Chancel Wall Repairs**

**Tickets required in advance via 01400
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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE METHODIST CHAPEL?

Sunday Services

All services can be viewed on the notice board outside the Chapel.

All our services start at 10.30am unless otherwise notified. Everyone is welcome.

Knitting / Craft Group

Anyone interested in knitting, sewing, embroidery etc. would be very welcome to come along on a Monday morning from 10.30am to mid-day. There is a nominal entry fee of £2.50 to cover the heating costs and refreshments.

Games Afternoon

Are you looking for a little fun, come and join us on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month when we get together to play board games and have tea (or coffee) and chat. We are always looking to welcome new participants so if you have a competitive streak we look forward to seeing you. There is a nominal entry fee of £2.50 to cover the heating costs and refreshments. Activities start at 2.00pm

Coffee Mornings

Our next Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 16th August, starting at 10am come along and join us when there will be homemade cakes for sale, a raffle and wonderful Nearly New Stall which is always full of exciting items and great gift opportunities. Entry costs £2.50 for bottomless tea or coffee and plenty of biscuits.

Harvest Festival Weekend

Special Harvest Festival Coffee Morning 20th September, starting 10am come along and join us for the usual raffle, cakes and nearly new stall. Entry costs £2.50

Harvest Festival Service – Sunday September 21st to which everyone is welcome, starting at 10.30am. Any harvest gifts will be donated to Beaumont House, Newark

LONG BENNINGTON GARDENING CLUB

(VPA)

SUMMER SHOW

Saturday 6 September 2025 in St. James's Village Hall

The Summer Show represents the culmination of the gardening year and is free for all to enter. Doors open at 8.30 am for entries to be staged by anyone who would like to have a go. There are over 70 classes to enter including Preserves and Pickles, Baking, Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables as well as Children's Classes.

The full Schedule will be available to view on the website in early August.

Doors open again from 3 pm, after the judging has taken place, to view the results. There will also be cakes and hot drinks on sale as well as a raffle. The presentation of the awards will be around 3.45pm. Do come and visit and enjoy our wonderful display of Summer. longbenningtongardeningclub.com

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Dear friends,

Have you noticed how difficult people can be to please? When the winter is on us, we complain about the cold. In the height of summer, we complain about the heat. In the autumn we're gloomy because winter is coming, and in the spring we're unhappy because we want summer to come faster. It seems like we're never satisfied.

Of course, all the time we're complaining, we are missing out on the particular satisfactions of the present moment and are robbed of a sense of fulfilment and peace. Sometimes we lose our serenity because we give up what we have now for something we hope will be more to our liking later, only to find when we get there that it isn't really any better.



Recently I was preparing for a funeral. The deceased had lived a very ordinary kind of life, in modest circumstances. She hadn't achieved the great things we are led to aspire to these days. She hadn't really seen the world. She had simply served her family, her neighbours and her church faithfully and lovingly for a very long time.

Yet her life was exceedingly rich. She didn't complain, even when her health failed. She gave a lot to others; she was dignified, gracious, and gentle. People described her as homely, courageous and serene. And they said that the world would be poorer without her. Today I came across some words by James Allen, who lived from 1864 –1912: The strong, calm person is always loved and revered. He is like a shade-giving tree in a thirsty land, or a sheltering rock in a storm.

Who we are is at least as important as what we do. What kind of person do you want to be?

The one-time UN Secretary-General, Dag Hammarskjöld longingly wrote in his journal: 'If only I may grow: firmer, simpler – quieter, warmer.' In a complex world, people who create simplicity make an impact. In a society where people fail to make commitments, a committed person is an anchor in the current of experience. In a world filled with noise and hurry, the person who is comfortable with silence and solitude provides a calm centre, and in a cold, friendless climate, the warm individual provides a welcoming space into which we can cross and find comfort.

As God's people, we are called to make a difference in the world, but the difference must come out of who we are. It must be authentic. If we want a more peaceful world, we must be more peaceable people. If we want a more just world, we have to be fairer in our dealings with others. If we want others to follow Jesus, we have to make sure that we are keeping in step with him. As Mahatma Ghandi once said, 'You must be the change you want to see.'

Perhaps we can begin by being more content and less dissatisfied, more grateful and less critical. As summer holidays give way to harvest celebrations, we are invited to come with a heart of gratitude to the God who gives all. Let's find genuine reasons to thank him this year, and make it a daily habit.

Every blessing,

David H. Bonny

SEDGEBROOK SOCIAL CLUB REGULAR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

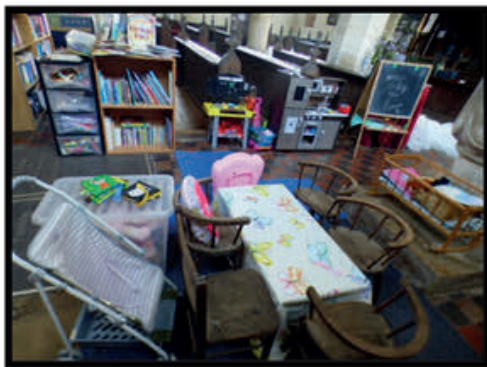
Rainbows/ Brownies Mondays 5.00pm/6.30pm
Grantham Canine Assoc Mondays 8.00pm-9.00pm
Knit and Natter Tuesdays 2.00pm-4.00pm
Ruff Diamonds Dog Training Tuesdays 6.00pm
Ruff Diamonds Dog Training Wednesdays 6.00pm
Pilates with Alice Thursdays 7.30pm-8.30pm
Club Bar Open to members Fridays 6.00pm-11.00pm
Ruff Diamonds Dog Training Saturdays 10.00am onwards
Club Bar Open to members Sundays 1.00pm-4.00pm
Heritage Group Meeting Sunday 23rd March in Church 3.00pm

Membership fee for 2025 is £15 per person (under 18s free)

We are always looking for new committee members, if you are able to help, please get in touch.

The club and bar are available for hire for private parties, social gatherings and regular events.

Please contact Amanda Longdon on 07849193159 or email sedgebrook social club@hotmail.co.uk.



ST LAWRENCE SEDGEBROOK – NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Church and Museum open daily 10am-4pm

Free Church Guide

Heritage Group meets bi-monthly 4th Sunday in the Church 4pm

Community Library and Jigsaws, Recycling for aluminium cans and ink cartridges

Grantham Food Bank collecting point

Children's Corner

Teddy Bear's Picnic Children's Book set in St Lawrence Church available for £5 per copy

The church is open every day to give the community the opportunity to enjoy the museum, children's corner, books and jigsaws, the recycling of cans and ink cartridges, the food bank collecting point, and the opportunity for a peaceful space and private prayer.



AFTERNOON TEAS – held on a Thursday in the Social Club 2pm-4pm
Please note the new venue. Here are the dates for your diary.
28th August, 25th September all including raffle..



HARVEST FESTIVAL 10.30am Sunday, 12th October, followed by refreshments.

The church will be open for decorating on Saturday 11th September from 10am-4pm and donations of produce, tinned goods and toiletries etc. for Grantham Foodbank would be gratefully received.

Here is the QR code for the Parish Giving Scheme. It can be used for one off payments or setting up regular donations. Once scanned it will take you through the 3 steps to enable a donation to be made.



Here is the QR code for the Parish Giving Scheme. It can be used for one off payments or setting up regular donations. Once scanned it will take you through the 3 steps to enable a donation to be made.



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Eighth page colour £13

Donations to Magazine

The magazine is produced mainly by volunteers and is paid for from adverts and donations. If you would like to donate, you can use any of the methods below:

Bank Transfer to SGPN, sort code 60-09-09 account 72118695

Cheque to SGPN posted to SGPN Treasurer, 36 The Pastures, Long Bennington, NG23 5EG

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Tel: 07766 486452
Lay Reader Jenny Stuart jenny.stuart@outlook.com 01949 842231
Retired Priest Rev. Stella Langdon-Davies
Authorised Lay Ministers Sylvia Andrews, Joy Jordan and Colin Sedgewick
Administrator Davina Tyler lovedenwest@gmail.com

CHURCH CONTACTS

St Swithun's, Long Bennington
Church Warden Bridget Rosewell 07836 215181
Treasurer Jane Cowley 01400 282691
Church Flowers Beryl Holmes 01400 281437
Safeguarding Officer Eileen Ross 07710 534732

St Peter's Foston
Church Warden/Treasurer Andrew Blanchard 01476 978664/ 07590652657
Safeguarding Officer Eileen Ross 07710 534732

Holy Trinity Allington
Church Warden Chris Dicken 01400 281524
Treasurer Bob McKinlay 01400 281671
Safeguarding Officer Marian Hubbard 01400 281496
Flowers Jill Storer/Linda Rycroft 283542/281516

St Lawrence Sedgebrook
Church Warden Alan Cook 07963553835
Safeguarding Officer Wendy Fowler wendyfowler@btinternet.com
mob. 07747022272.

Treasurer Ian McKay 01949 843691
Flowers Geraldine Statham glendogs@aol.com

Long Bennington Methodist Chapel
Steward Eileen Eggleston 07531 160197
Treasurer Kathryn Wood 01400 281489

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Parish Council Clerks
Jane Evans (Long Bennington) parishclerk@longbenningtonparishcouncil.org
Mon 10:30-12:30 at Village Hall Tel:01400 282716
James Stanley (Foston) clerk@fostonpc-lincs.org 01522 889737
Kate Griffin (Allington) 6 Sedgebrook Road, Allington
Jane Bratton (Sedgebrook) clerksedgebrook@gmail.com 01476 577175
Ted Bates (Chair) Long Bennington Charities 01400 281853

Village Halls: Booking Secretaries

Allington— — Janet Jackson Bookings- bookings.allingtonvillagehall@gmail.com
Foston— Pam Fellows -07740 894605 email fostonvillagehall2023@gmail.com
or Richard Wynn 07579 779087 email fostonvillagehall2023@gmail.com
Long Bennington—bookings@longbenningtonvillagehall.org—07816 267927
Sedgebrook—Alan Cook— 07963553835

Other Useful Contacts

Long Bennington Medical Centre- 01400 281220
Foston book group Lucy Bliss - lucy.painter@opalhr.co.uk—01400 282661
Long Bennington book group—Moire Barnabas - 01400 283313
Long Bennington & Local Villages Rotary Group SecretaryLBR@outlook.com
Long Bennington Girl Guides—Mon 7pm-8.30pm—www.girlguiding.org.uk
1st Foston Brownies Thursdays - 6.30pm - 1stfostonbrownies20@gmail.com
Village Hall
Rainbows Thursdays - 5-6pm 1stfostonrainbows20@gmail.com—Village Hall
Scout Group Gorrie Hall, Chapel Lane, Foston
Beaver Scouts Mondays- 6:30-7:30pm Adam Lashbrook
foston.beavers@gmail.com
Club Scouts Wednesdays—6:30-8pm—Claire Collier 01636 626097
Scouts Thursdays—7-9pm—Les Romans 01400 281217
Explorer Scouts -Mondays—7:45-9:30pm—Jenny Wyn 01400 282301

Women's Institute: (each meet monthly in their local village hall)

Allington—1st Wed 7:45pm—Margaret Dicken— 01400 281524
Foston—2nd Tuesday 7:30pm—Carole Chandler-Barratt- 07767 657745
Long Bennington—1st Tuesday 7:30pm—Margaret Butcher - 07484140914 Email: margaret23butcher@btinternet.com

LB Playing Fields: Booking Manager—Gemma Walker—07946 176034
Management Committee—Mike Manley—01400 282731
Long Bennington Toddler Group—Becca Thirtle—07545 491267
Long Bennington Pre-School—longbenningtonpreschool@googlemail.com 07816 537242
Bowls Club—Peter Fordham—07701059943 email nettyfordham@gmail.com
Friendship Group—Nicola Thorpe—07904 182752
Tea n Chat -Jane Taylor - 01400 282480
Junior Football Club—Steve Rowley—07909 857441
Twinning Association—Margaret Butcher – 07484140914
Village Produce Association—Bev Gledhill— 07753 709513
Writing Group—Shirley Lynn—07726 334280
LB Rotary Club- hello@lbrotary.co.uk
Foston Neighbours - 07422 881448 fostonneighbours@gmail.com



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