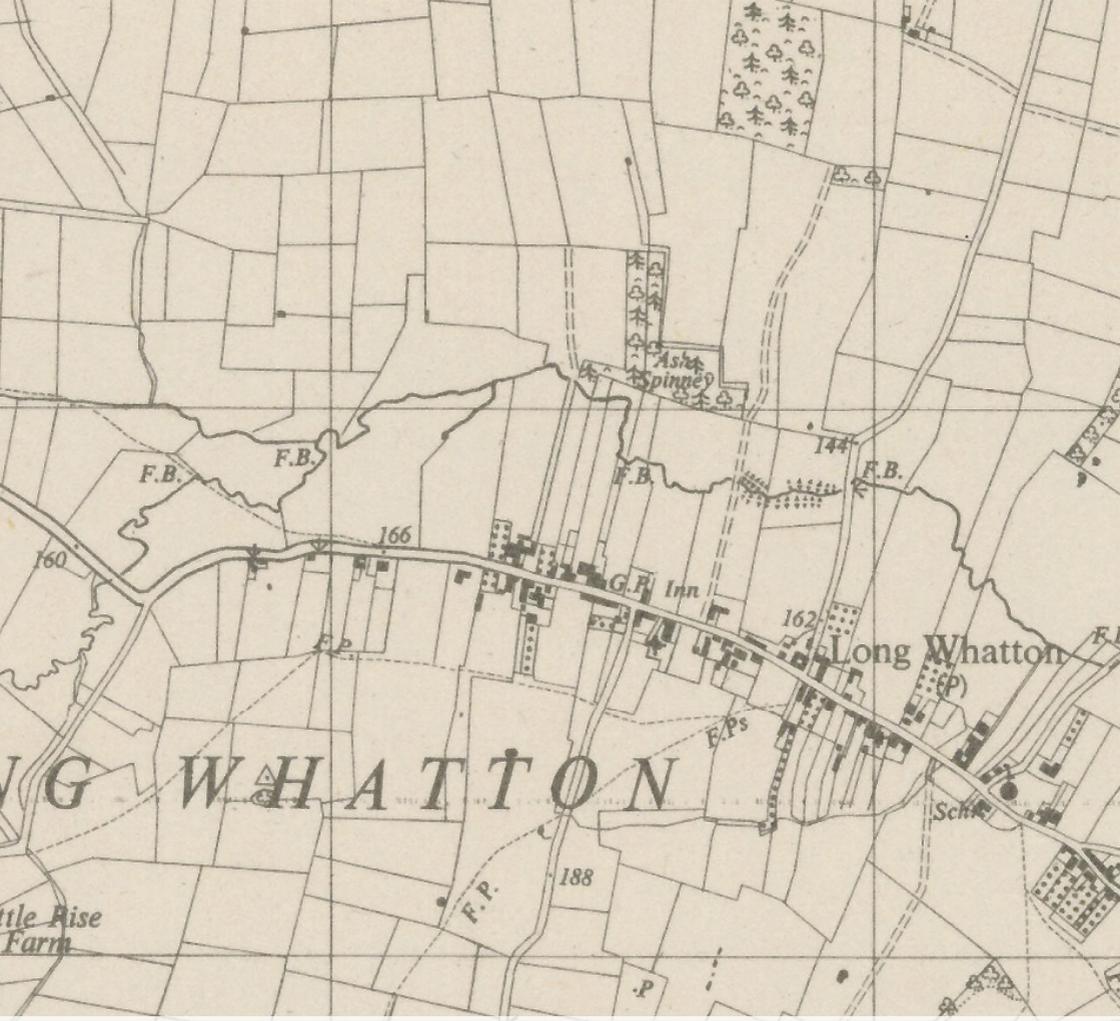


Long Whatton News

MAY 2021



Welcome to the May edition of your village magazine.

This issue is packed with everything that is going on in the village as gatherings are allowed once again.

Inside we begin to explore the origins of our village, so prepare to travel back seven hundred years for a snapshot of medieval life in what is now Long Whatton. The cover map is from 1883.

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EDITORS COMMENTS

Thank you for your kind words about the first issue of the village news, we're delighted it was well received. And to everyone who contributed thank you too and keep contributing!

We are happy to see clubs and activities happening again as lockdown rules ease. Keep us informed about your new events and tell us how they went - we'd love to hear from you.

If you have submitted something and it hasn't been published exactly as you wrote it, we hope you don't mind if we

have to edit sometimes as we try to fit everything in.

And finally, one more thank you to all the people who volunteered to deliver the Long Whatton News.

We hope every house in the village received a copy, but if you didn't please let us know and we'll try to put it right. You can also pick up a copy from the village shop.

If there are any drone photographers who would be willing to do something for the next issue please get in touch.

MEET YOUR POSTIE - 15 YEARS IN WHATTON

Say hello to Paul! Paul is our village postman and has been trudging the streets of Long Whatton delivering our mail for fifteen years.

He used to deliver to the whole village, but now his round excludes the new(ish) estate to the south of Whatton Road and the Whatton Estate as they were deemed to have made his round too long.

Still, his daily route totals nine miles which totals fifty four miles every week and that equates to walking over thirty-seven thousand miles round the streets of the village since he started here.

So, if Paul was walking around the planet he would have completed it once and would be one third of the way around the second time!

But nine miles a day isn't enough for Paul. In the afternoon he does another round of four miles to bring his total to thirteen miles per day and can be seen doing a Saturday round as well!

So next time you see Paul marching around the village with your mail, give him a wave or say hello.





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WHATTON



LOCAL WILDLIFE *by Eric Swift*

These small deer we occasionally see around the village and in gardens are actually Chinese Muntjac deer. They were introduced to Woburn Park in Bedfordshire at the start of the 20th century and rapidly spread into the surrounding area. They are now common across South East England where they like woodland, parkland and even gardens. Muntjac deer are notorious browsers, eating the shoots from shrubs, as well as woodland herbs and brambles. Male Muntjacs have short, unbranched antlers that slope backwards, and a pair of long canine teeth. They breed all year-round, but females usually only have one kid at a time. They are also known as 'barking deer' because of their dog-like calls.

A very small, stocky deer, the

muntjac deer is about the same size as a medium or large dog. Gingery-brown in colour, with a pale underside, darker stripes in its face, they have small, single-pointed antlers.

At least seven species of Muntjac are known, from Pakistan to Java and China. Two species were actually introduced into the UK, but the variety that thrives here is the Reeves' Muntjac.



Pictured here is a Muntjac in Eric's garden, taking an interest in the primulas

THE LONG WHATTON NEWS

The Long Whatton News is produced twelve times a year and is delivered free of charge to every home in the village every month.

It is produced by volunteers and depends entirely on voluntary contributions, advertising revenue and fund raising events.

The online version, can be found on: www.longwhattonnews.co.uk

THE TEAM

Penny de Kock 07393 407896
Neil Bamford 07921 855607

COPY DEADLINE

The copy deadline for articles for the June issue of the Long Whatton News is 20th May

longwhattonnews@gmail.com



WHATTON HOUSE

Spring Opening Times

Monday.....	10AM - 5PM
Tuesday.....	10AM - 5PM*
Wednesday.....	10AM - 5PM
Thursday.....	10AM - 5PM
Friday.....	10AM - 5PM*
Saturday.....	10AM - 5PM*
Sunday.....	10AM - 5PM*

*REFRESHMENTS ON SALE ON THESE DAYS 10AM-4PM
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NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME DAY 6 JUNE 2021

WHATTONS ORIGINS - MEDIEVAL FORTIFIED SITE

Hidden in plain sight in the field on the corner of Main Street and Kegworth Lane lies a complex of mounds and ditches that, when excavated between 1971 and 1981 revealed a moat forming an island housing a group of buildings.

More research revealed a suite of four, well constructed, stone built rooms and a yard with fragments of stained glass from a chapel located near what is considered to be a gatehouse, surrounded by the moat.

built and still remain.

The moat, including banks measure 50 by 55 metres, with the moat itself between 7 and 8 metres wide; quite a deterrent.

Britain's medieval moats were most commonly dug around the wealthy's manor houses, more often to provide security against thieves and thugs than against rampaging armies.

Unusually, a similar abode exists 500 metres south of this one, but has not



Pottery unearthed there tells us that it was inhabited between 1300 and 1500 and was built about the same time as the oldest part of All Saints church.

Beyond the moat was an extensive network of water channels and enclosures. 50 metres north of the dwelling was a large fishpond - 65 metres by 45 metres - adjoining Whatton Brook and either side of the brook comprehensive flood banks were

survived enough to warrant excavation.

An early 19th century account mentions a mansion near the church with what is described as a small sheet of water before it, which could be identified as this moated site. The house was pulled down in 1803.

Apart from the core of All Saints church, this seems to be the oldest dwelling in the village, and perhaps the beginning of Long Whatton as a village.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU BACK SOON

**We will open the outside for food and drinks
from April 12th**

**WE ARE NOW TAKING TABLE RESERVATIONS
FOR WHEN WE REOPEN INSIDE ON MAY 17TH**

**FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS
PLEASE GO TO
WWW.THEROYALOKLONGWHATTON.CO.UK**

PASTORAL LETTER *by Laurretta*

Dear Friends,
I wonder if you are familiar with the Japanese custom of hanami? Every year in spring, as cherry blossoms open, there is a deliberate celebration and appreciation of their beauty. Hanami is the ritual of flower viewings, a party really! usually accompanied by a picnic. This is not a private pursuit, the cherry blossom season is marked by public holidays and most people do take time to appreciate the brevity of spring and its beauty, with the blooming and falling of cherry blossom.

I quite like the idea of picnicking around the benefice as the trees blossom, and this would be allowed for groups of 6 meeting outside! but the idea of marking important times with seasonal rituals is not a Japanese one. We in this country have in May a Christian celebration, another day to remember and celebrate. Pentecost, or Whit Sunday as it used to be known, is the time when we take time to appreciate the gift of God's Holy Spirit and what a difference she* makes.

With the gift of the Holy Spirit the Early church was emboldened to speak about Jesus with a new authority and power- literally a breath of fresh air. It was evident that God was working in and through those first disciples- God was not remote from them but living with them and in them. One of the images of the Holy Spirit is breath and as this breath filled the Early Church it came to new life.

What might help bring you new life to you and your community this Spring?

Certainly in this ever challenging time a moment to appreciate the beauty of the season will help, and perhaps you might also like to join with this prayer for Pentecost:

*Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift
of faith,
revive your Church with the breath of
love,
and renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*(In Aramaic, the language Jesus spoke, the Spirit is female)

With every blessing, Laurretta

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

All Saints Church is hosting a Womens World Day of Prayer event on Friday 25th May at 2pm.

The service has been planned by the Christian women of Venuatu on the theme 'build on a strong foundation'

The original date had to be cancelled because of lock down conditions and this service will take place with all current restrictions being observed.

If you would like to attend this event or learn more, get in touch call the Church Warden, Ed Kennedy on 01509 646730

Nadine Hawkins is the contact for WWDP and she can be reached on 01509 646957

For seating arrangements please contact us by 25th May.

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GIRL GUIDING *by Susie Ashcroft*

It doesn't seem like a year and a month since I took the first tentative steps with a Facebook 'Live' Rainbow Guides meeting. It took all my strength to record it (several retakes) and, as I copied and pasted it onto the closed Rainbows Facebook group, it was anything but live! It was painful to see myself back on a screen but more than a year on (moved quickly to Zoom) I do not have the same cringe factor. I now don't worry about looking at myself on a screen and when I see the little faces looking back at me and I feel a sense of privilege and pride when they tell me their tooth has wobbled out this week, or it is their brother's birthday tomorrow, or do I like their new guinea pig, or...the beautiful, eclectic list goes on and on!

I made my Brownie promise when I was 7. I promised that I would do my best. It is all any of us can do, but I have really tried to keep that in mind throughout this year. As I, and all the other volunteer leaders, plan programmes, run risk assessments, find Covid-safe activities and finally get our hand sanitiser ready, we can't

wait to meet up face-face as we take new tentative steps back to our normal groups!

The Friendship Centre is being spring cleaned ready for our return. Our Rainbows (5-7), Brownies (7-10) and Guides (10-14) are all thriving and active here in the village and would love to welcome new girls to join them in a real-life adventure.

We can't wait to tell you all the things we've been up to! Adults who want to enjoy the same fun or could help in any other way would be most welcomed too.
crawshawdistrictguiding@outlook.com or register your interest on *www.girlguiding.org*

ACCIDENT CLOSES ROAD

A serious traffic accident caused Main street to be blocked when dark blue Mazda, travelling to Diseworth rolled on to its roof, between the Falcon and Barnfield Close about 5.30pm.

The police, two fire engines and an ambulance attended but the driver, an elderly gentleman, was unhurt and spoke to the police before being taken to hospital.

No other vehicles were involved.

MOLLIE THE COLLIE *A poem by David Griffiths*

You wag your tail and smile at me
Then rub yourself against my knee
You say that "Supper's almost due
If it is all the same to you
There are things that will not keep
Sorry to disturb your sleep!"

"Just a minute, don't you see
You're supposed to work for me
Round up the woolies, guard the beast,

This is what I thought, at least
Live in a barrel by the shed
You're lounging by the fire instead.
You really do not have a clue
We're not supposed to wait on you!"

"I'm sorry if I've been a fool
But surely you'd not be so cruel!
I'll go for walks, come when you call,
I am your Molly after all!

WHATTON HOUSE: PRESENT AND FUTURE TREES *by William Stanger*

Whatton House is highly fortunate to have many old specimen trees and shrubs that have reached generous proportions. Many of them have a great deal of character, with twisted and contorted branches, while others have gnarly trunks. An example of this is an old Judas tree (*Cercis siliquastrum*) which is close to the rose garden. It is among the most iconic trees in the garden, at some point one of the main stems has fallen over and now stretches along the ground. You'll be hard pressed to find a single straight branch as they mostly have gentle meanders in them.

As for the name, legend has it that Judas Iscariot hung himself from a Judas tree, causing its white flowers to turn red. However, the Judas tree is probably

a corrupted derivation from the French common name *Arbre de Judée*, meaning tree of Judea, in reference to the hilly regions of that country where the tree used to be common. Successive tree planting is needed to ensure future generations can enjoy the splendour of mature trees. Inevitably, many of the present old trees are reaching the end of their lives. Now is the time to think

about planting replacements, that will carry on the show.

There is little archival evidence to help identify many of the old plants in the garden and this poses a great challenge in some cases as with the Rhododendrons. There are over 1000 species of Rhododendron and 40,000 or so hybrids worldwide, consequently, a lot of the hybrids can look very

similar, further adding to the challenge of identification. Like many old gardens, a lot of the Rhododendrons were grafted onto *R. ponticum* rootstock. During the World Wars all the gardeners left to fight for their country, therefore no one was around to remove the suckers, which have now taken over at the expense of the grafted plants. One of the ongoing projects is to remove the *R. ponticum* and plant new desirable Rhododendrons. There are areas where the old Rhododendrons have survived and we wait in anticipation to see them flower, we then stand a chance of finding out what their names are. Regardless of their names, you can still enjoy their beautiful flowers and the charm of the old trees.



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LOCKDOWN CHANGES *by Ed Kennedy (Churchwarden)*

Throughout the difficulties and losses of the past lockdown year there has been the encouraging balance of a real sense of growth in community, not just in Long Whatton but both locally and nationally. Walking through the village I have noticed how much more people are prepared to greet each other, allow space for people to pass by at a safe distance and to enjoy just being outside.

It seems that the restrictions and dangers of the pandemic have altered our perspectives and priorities. Instead of becoming insular, people are prepared to be generous with themselves and this has manifested itself in acts of kindness both large and small, seen and unseen.

One of my church related roles is that of being a volunteer at the Shephed Foodbank, which includes collecting and delivering donations from Long Whatton and the other villages in the Kegworth & Hathern Benefice.

I have been struck by the outpouring of generosity from people reaching out to help people less fortunate

than themselves. So much so that, given the limited storage capacity at the Foodbank, the Friendship Centre committee kindly allowed the temporary use their building to help with the storage of donations.

It has helped both myself and the volunteers at the Foodbank not to think of the relationship between those who give and those who receive solely in terms of people generously responding to a need. We have also embraced the belief that one of the strengths of a kind community is that we 'share' what we have rather than just 'give' what we do not need. As a consequence, there seems to be more equality (and dignity) in the relationship referred to above.

The people who come to the Foodbank receive more than just food, they receive friendship, they are valued for who they are and are not judged because of their particular circumstances.....all the qualities of a healthy community to be nurtured and grown beyond the end of Covid restrictions.

CRICKET CLUB UPDATE

Junior Hardball Training begins on 27th April for girls and boys. U11s and U13s start at 6.00pm. U15s and U17s start at 7.00pm Training lasts for 16 weeks and is aimed at children who have played cricket before. New players are welcome.

New for 2021 is Allstars cricket starting at 5.45pm and Dynamos cricket at 6.00pm for girls and boys. Both are due to start on the 11th May for 8 weeks. Allstars is aimed at children who

have never played cricket before. Details on the ECB web page.

The club are looking for someone to look after the junior cricket square on a voluntary basis. Volunteers do not need to have done this before, they will be able to provide training. If you are interested please contact them: longwhattoncricket@gmail.com

If you are a senior player and have not played for a while and would like to get back into cricket please contact them. The club have a 1st and 2nd team and welcome new players.



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PARISH COUNCIL *by Samantha Lockwood*

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 6th May at 6.45pm. This is the Annual Parish Meeting where all electors of Long Whatton and Diseworth are invited and by law discuss all parish affairs and pass resolutions about them.

If you would like to join the meeting it will be via zoom. All agendas will be posted on the website www.lwdpc.org.uk along with the Zoom ID and password.

Methodist Church:
The Parish Council is looking into all options and the financial viability of purchasing the Methodist Church. This is very early stages and once all the information has been gathered, this will go out to consultation for residents to give their thoughts. Many things

need to be taken into consideration i.e. parking at the facility and therefore assistance from an architect is required. In the meantime, if you have any comments on this possibility the Parish Council would be pleased to hear from you. parishcouncil@lwdpc.org.uk.

Vacancy – Position of Councillor:
There is currently a vacant seat on the Parish Council. Applications are being invited for the position of Parish Councillor in the Long Whatton Ward.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a councillor please contact any of the current members or the Clerk at parishcouncil@lwdpc.org.uk. All details for the position are on the Parish Council website. <https://www.lwdpc.org.uk/news/2020/06/parish-councillor-vacancy1>.

ALL SAINTS NEWS *by Anne Matravers*

It was a wonderful feeling being at the Easter service in the church on Easter Day. Easter is, of course, a time of new life, new hope, new promise and of JOY. And so in that new hope we all, I'm sure, look forward to gradually getting back to something akin to normal. We are once again having services in the various churches around the benefice which are being streamed.

Should you wish to go to a service in one of our churches you need to let Rev'd Lauretta know as numbers are still limited due to social distancing.

Should you wish to join a streamed service on line (at 10.30am) go to Facebook Kegworth and Hathern. You

do not need a Facebook account. Scroll down the home page to find it!

I am sorry that I am unable to give you a rota of where the services are being held as other factors such as funerals can affect whether a building can be used on a Sunday. However, should you wish to go to a service you can always find out where it is by contacting myself, Ed (our Church warden) or Lauretta.

If there is anything you wish to know regarding the finances of the church, please contact me and I will be happy to help.

*email anne.matravers@talktalk.net
(preferred) or phone 07749 503999*



The Forge
Guest Rooms



**The Forge Guest Rooms,
Long Whatton**

Liz and Gary have part time vacancies for up to 3 people to help us maintain our B&B. The job will involve helping us clean our three rooms. The work will be on an as needed basis but will be given notice of at least a week at a time. If interested to know more, please call Liz on **07766654331**



For further information on the Forge Guest Rooms please visit our website www.theforgelongwhatton.co.uk

THE SCHOOL'S BUSY EASTER

The children have had another busy few weeks at school learning all about Easter and taking some time to reflect.



We learnt about Palm Sunday at Forest School. We learnt about Maundy Thursday and made bread and shared them as Jesus would have done with his disciples at the last supper. We learnt about good Friday and Easter Sunday.

We also raised £95 for Comic Relief by dressing in red for the day! We had a lovely day in school completing a range of fun activities and took time

to remember those less fortunate than ourselves and understanding how our donations will help them.



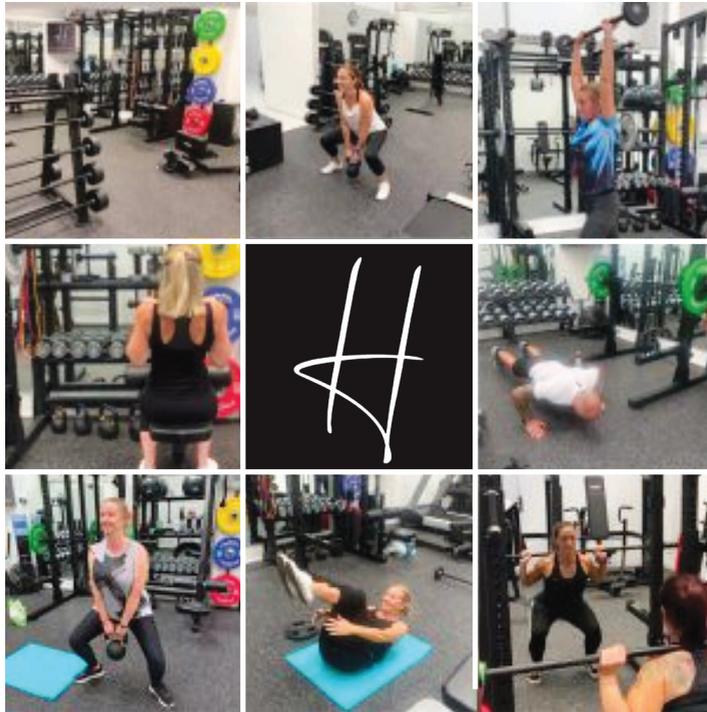
KARATE CLUB

Long Whatton Karate Club is planning to restart training in May, for adults, young people and children. The minimum age is 5 years old. Dates have not been set yet.

Stay up to date with their Facebook page @longwhatton karate, e-mail them at longwhattonkarate@gmail.com or contact the club secretary on 07714335598.

LONG WHATTON NEWS *Advertising rates*

<i>Advert prices per month for a years subscription:</i>	<i>Advert sizes:</i>
Full page £18	Full page bleed
Half page £12	148mm wide x 210mm deep
Quarter page £7	plus 3mm bleed on all sides
<i>One-off advert/announcements:</i>	Full page standard
Full page £22	132mm wide x 194mm deep
Half page £14	Half page
Quarter page £8	132mm wide x 94mm deep
These prices are based on print ready artwork supplied. We can accept Jpeg, EPS and TIFF formats although PDF is the preferred format, in CMYK	Quarter page
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COCONUT AND KALE FISH CURRY

The UK now celebrates National Curry Week every October. Although curry is an Indian dish modified for British tastes, it's so popular that it contributes more than £5bn to the British economy.

The dish Chicken Tikka Masala has taken on a large cultural significance in Britain. It is widely considered the country's national dish, and in 2001 British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook gave a speech in which he hailed chicken tikka masala as a symbol of modern multicultural Britain. He even offered his own simplified explanation of how it evolved: *"Chicken tikka is an Indian dish. The masala sauce was added to satisfy the desire of British people to have their meat served in gravy."*



As early as 1733, curry was served in the Norris Street Coffee House in Haymarket. By 1784, curry and rice had become specialties in some popular restaurants in the area around London's Piccadilly.

The first British cookery book containing an Indian recipe was

published in 1747 'The Art of Cookery Made Plain & Easy' by Hannah Glasse.

The first purely Indian restaurant was the Hindoostanee Coffee House which opened in 1810 at 34 George Street near Portman Square, Mayfair.

What you need

A tbsp oil
1 onion sliced
thumb-sized piece ginger grated
1 tsp turmeric
3-4 tbsp mild curry paste
150g cherry tomatoes halved
150g kale chopped
1 red chilli, halved
325ml coconut milk
300ml stock

What you do

Step 1: Heat the oil in large pan. Cook the onion with a pinch of salt for 10 mins until it starts to caramelise. Stir through the ginger, turmeric and curry paste, and cook for 2 mins.

STEP 2: Add the tomatoes, kale and chilli, and pour in the coconut milk and stock. Simmer for 10-15 mins or until the tomatoes begin to soften.

STEP 3: Gently stir the prawns and cod through the curry, then cook for another 3-5 mins and squeeze over the lime juice and serve with rice

*If you have any ideas for
'Themed Recipes' you'd like to see or
if you have any queries or comments
Please email alanc9989@gmail.com*

Ballet Classes

LOCKINGTON VILLAGE HALL - SATURDAY

Starting 17th April 2021

Young beginners, Primary and children's ballet classes up to Grade 4 are held every Saturday. Small classes to develop confidence and enjoyment through dance and storytelling styled movements. Dance/Drama for older pupils. Enquire for class times and details.

DISEWORTH VILLAGE HALL - WEDNESDAY

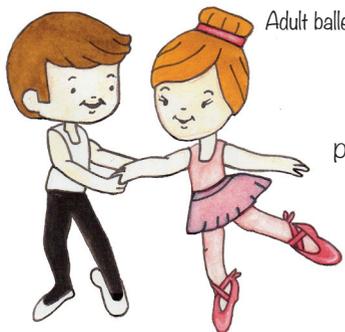
Adult ballet classes will resume from mid May onwards. Please enquire for details.

Adult beginners 6.15

Adult refresher (grade 4) 7.10

Pre-Intermediate (& pointe work) 8.15

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VILLAGE CHATTER *By Penny de Kock*

A few weeks or was it more like a few months ago, Lockdown in my view has made the days go quicker than pre-lockdown, I saw a Facebook post that mentioned a village get together and I have received an email requesting us to publish something in the magazine to find out whether the village people would be interested in doing something similar, any suggestions welcome.

It would appear that the overriding experience among the older generation has been that of loneliness. Particularly that they missed the company of their friends and neighbours, as well as participation in activities such as the coffee mornings at the church and the Falcon Inn, not to mention knit and natter, all of which hopefully resume once restrictions are lifted. If you are interested in arranging other village events, and need to raise funds to continue or get started, please send us the details and we will publish them in the magazine.

There has also been a suggestion that we should have a village picnic, which

I personally think is a wonderful idea. I hope that we will be able to arrange this, once lockdown restrictions are lifted. I am happy to organise this and if you would like to assist me. If you think it is a good idea, please contact me by email, Whatsapp or text.

Another suggestion has been a walking group - there are at least five easy walks from the village that don't require driving. It could be midweek or Sat/Sun mornings, meeting at a location in the village. If this is of interest not only to take part but also to help assist with organising such events, please let us know and we shall advertise it in the magazine.

LONG WHATTON WOMENS INSTITUTE - HELP NEEDED

Long Whatton WI has sadly been suspended for the foreseeable future.

If anyone is interested in starting the group up again please get in touch with Lesley Giles 01509 506714, who will put you in touch with a WI advisor.

RAINBOWS SUCCESS

The Knit and Natter group raised £160 for Rainbows from the sale of daffodil door wreaths made by the group.

To everyone who bought one and helped them to reach their target, Lesley Giles and Helen Connolly would like to extend their thanks.



FitCamp

by



Sessions led by Julie Dodoo;
Coach, PT and
Olympic Heptathlete

GROUP EXERCISE CLASSES

Long Whatton Cricket Club

Saturdays 8.15am

Tuesdays 9.30am



4 WEEK TRAINING PROGRAMS and 1:1 SESSIONS

Individualised training plans
to get leaner, stronger and fitter

Train with a friend and
get 20% off 1:1 Sessions



For more information contact Julie at info@speedworks.training



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