

LONG ASHTON & LEIGH WOODS NEWSLETTER



**AUTUMN 2009 &
WINTER 2010**

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2009 AND JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2010

Please note that this Newsletter, whilst preserving strictly a non-political nature, provides a forum for the views of the people of Leigh Woods and Long Ashton.

The members of the Parish Council do not necessarily share those views.

Un-attributed articles however are meant in general to be for the information and entertainment of the public and are largely authoritative.

The Editorial Group reserve the right to accept, reject or edit any material submitted for publication.

Editorial Group for this issue - Marilyn Addis MBE, Jean Pullin and Mary Uppington

*By submitting articles for publication
you are also giving approval that they will also be used
on the parish council website.*

DISTRIBUTION

Long Ashton	Ann Foord	24 Long Ashton Road, BS41 9LD Tel: 391054
Leigh Woods	Audrey Moser CBE	11 Ardmore Vicarage Road, L. Woods, BS8 3PH Tel: 0117 973 9876

Future copy should be clearly labelled 'NEWSLETTER' and sent to

45 Long Ashton Road, Bristol BS41 9HW.

The CLOSING DATE for copy for the next edition covering the 4 months
March - June 2010 is

midday 1st February 2010

© Editorial Group

Cover photo - Volunteers from SWEDSWA repairing our stone wall.

CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER

The South West Bristol Urban Extension is an unprecedented threat to our community and our neighbouring communities and our quality of life.

Land Trust has now submitted their outline Planning application including environmental impact assessment for 9,000 houses together with retail and employment. The application covers in general terms the area bounded to the North by Long Ashton, to the south by Bedminster Down and Dundry and to the east by the Bristol boundary and the west by Barrow Hospital boundary.

The full application is available in Long Ashton Library. (I wish you luck).

This land is currently covered by greenbelt policy which is designed to prevent urban sprawl and includes agricultural land, a golf course, cricket pitch and affords us country walks within minutes of our front doors.

The application hopes to rely upon Government's Regional Spatial Strategy, which was due to be approved in July, to enable the release of greenbelt land, however due to the enormous number of objections country wide this was delayed. Subsequent judicial reviews further delayed approval. The Government has now decided in light of these challenges to undertake a further sustainability appraisal for the South West R.S.S. This is expected to be completed early in the New Year.

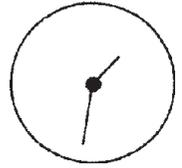
Should the application be refused by North Somerset, Land Trust are hoping that the RSS will have been approved in time for an appeal.

The application for development in Failand has also been submitted and similarly must rely on RSS approval. The University application is due to follow in November. The Wolves gather, and we continue to fight this unacceptable volume of development.

A public meeting with the Police has been arranged for the 4th November at 7.30pm at the Legion Long Ashton. This will provide an opportunity for an open discussion. The Police are promoting "Smartwater". Smartwater is a property marking product. It is a liquid solution which is simply dabbed into nooks and crannies of your valuables. Each bottle of Smartwater contains a unique DNA-style forensic code which is registered to the owner on a secure database. Police use Ultra-Violet light on recovered property to locate Smartwater, the police are then able to link the property with the owner and return it and potentially secure the conviction of the person handling the stolen goods. Smartwater is permanent and only a speck is necessary. It normally retails at £44 per household, however through the Police you can purchase it at £18.50. If you are interested in purchasing Smartwater please contact a member of the Long Ashton Beat Team on **0845 4567000**.

Charles Cave, Chairman, Long Ashton Parish Council

Old Northleaze School Clock



Over 12 months ago Knightstone Housing Association Limited, owners of the above, performed a Grand Opening attended by local and District Officers and other dignitaries at which time a protest was taking place outside to Save our Clock. The local Press was in attendance when a Representative of the Association informed us that the dispute had been settled and that as soon as possible the clock would be working, without the chimes.

Today, as villagers know, time stands still, but only at Gunston House. Your old school clock since 1862, restored for the Millennium remains a memorial to the sad and apathetic attitude of the authorities concerned.

Pete Cheek, Resident.

Long Ashton Parish Council say: So far contact with Knightstone Housing Association has not brought any action because they say they are awaiting as assessment from Mr. Nicholls who will be dealing with the clock.

LONG ASHTON PARISH PLAN



The Plan has now been printed and some copies are available to borrow from the Library. It is being sent to North Somerset Council and other organisations; also to all the parties who might be involved or interested in taking some of the ideas forward.

The details can be viewed on:
and

www.longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.longashton.org.uk

Now that the village's priorities have been properly researched and documented, we can take steps to achieve those desires. We all have a part to play in this. The next stage is to set up a Parish Plan Action Group. If you or your group would like to be involved in this, please contact the Parish Clerk.

There are lots of interesting ideas for the village in the Action Plan. Perhaps your group could build on some of them, using the results of the questionnaire in support? For any more information as to how to take the vision forward, please contact the Parish Clerk.

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council

It meets on a Monday evening in the Pavilion, Keedwell Hill.

Why not look on the website to see what the Council and its Committees have been doing.

If this is of interest to you then please talk to the Clerk or just send your CV to her by 8th November.

Mrs. M. Addis MBE, Clerk to Long Ashton Parish Council,
45 Long Ashton Road, Long Ashton, Bristol, BS41 9HW. 01275 393551
clerk@longashtonparishcouncil.com

Long Ashton Parish Council

Are offering a six month contract for a
Minutes Secretary to run January until end of June 2010.

Earn an average of £100 each month.
Hourly rate £9 per hour.

Meetings are held on a Monday evening
(occasionally on a Wednesday).

You should be computer literate and have access to a computer.

Closing date is midday on Friday 13th November 2009.
Interviews will be held on Monday 16th November.

Application letter with CV and note of two referees to the Clerk who is
Mrs. M. Addis MBE, 45 Long Ashton Road, Long Ashton, Bristol, BS41 9HW.
Telephone 01275 393551 for further information.





WESTLEAZE W.I.

Meetings are held in the Church House at 7.30 pm
on the 1st Wednesday in the month

November 4th	A.G.M. and QUIZ Competition: An Unusual Button
December 2nd	Mr. & Mrs. Woodley Dressing A talk and demonstration of male & female outfits c. 1765 Competition: Small Floral Christmas Decoration
January 6th	BACKPACKING AND TRAVEL FOR THE OVER 60'S - Mike & Linda Reeves
February 3rd	NUTRITIONAL THERAPY - Eleanor Yates
March 3rd	MY TIME AS A HIGH SHERIFF - Fiona Densham



LAILA

(Long Ashton Independent Ladies Association)

Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month
at 7.15 pm in the Village Hall

November 18th	A.G.M.
December 9th	CHRISTMAS PARTY

Now you can save your shoes for recycling

Bring your unwanted shoes to one of our collecting points. Most of the shoes collected are re-usable. They are sorted for condition and are sold on to third world countries, where they are locally refurbished and resold at affordable prices in those areas.

In addition to supplying people with much needed footwear, it is providing a means of earning a living in countries where opportunities are sparse; it is creating employment opportunities in the UK; and, importantly, it is helping to preserve the environment by removing shoes from the waste chain.

By recycling your shoes you are also helping the Variety Club Children's Charity, which exists to improve the lives of sick, disabled and disadvantaged children throughout the UK.

The scheme is self-funding and achieves very worthwhile objectives. Your participation will do something positive for the environment and will benefit others.

ACT NOW.

You can help to preserve our natural resources and countryside and protect the environment.

Long Ashton Shoe Recycling Point - Outside Long Ashton Post Office

for information:

www.europeanrecycling.co.uk or

email: info@europeanrecycling.co.uk

or freephone 0500 827198



Long Ashton & Leigh Woods Directory

With this Newsletter you should receive a copy of the 5th edition of the Long Ashton and Leigh Woods Directory. It is distributed free to all households in the Parish, generously sponsored by the Parish Council.

Quite a lot of information has changed since the last edition in September 2005, so if you have still got that edition, throw it away NOW! Many people have commented on how useful they find the directory - we hope this edition will prove just as valuable, especially for newcomers to the area.

We should like to thank Anne Simmons, Ann Foord and Stella Clarke for their help checking the Long Ashton entries and Audrey Moser and others for help with the Leigh Woods section.

From January 2010 the Directory will be available online at www.villagedirectory.org

Please help us by keeping us informed of any alterations and/or additions to the Directory.

Sara and Patrick Taylor Tel: 392497 saraemail@btinternet.com

P.S. Apologies

Please make the following correction in your copy of the Directory:

The email address for non-emergency contact for the local police (bottom of page 4) should be:

SSNNAILSEA@avonandsomerset.police.ppn.uk

Sara Taylor



Vacancy for Long Ashton Community Association (LACA) Trustee

Long Ashton Community Association (LACA) has a vacancy for one trustee. The role of LACA is to oversee the running of the Community Centre which employs a Manager, Caretaker, Groundsman and Cleaner. Meetings are held once a month to discuss issues surrounding the maintenance, management and financing of the facilities. The Committee is very friendly and welcomes new faces. To apply or further information, please contact the Manager, Sarah Leong on 01275 393570 or email: laca@btconnect.com

?????? Inter-Street Quiz Night ??????

Long Ashton Community Association is holding an inter-street quiz night on Saturday 21st November starting at 8.00pm. You are invited to get a team of between 4 and 6 people together from your street to come and enjoy a great social evening with an opportunity to find out a bit more about what happens at the Community Centre. Tickets are £6 per person and light refreshments and soft drinks will be provided. Bring a bottle. Further details and entry forms can be obtained from Sarah Leong on 01275 395370 or laca@btconnect.com

Tennis Courts Re-opened

Long Ashton Community Association (LACA) and the Long Ashton Tennis Club are pleased to announce that the Tennis Courts have now been re-surfaced and are open for play again. LACA would like to express their thanks to YANSEC, the Parish Council and the Tennis Club for grants towards this project. To book a Tennis Court, please phone Maud Escott on 392915. To enquire about Junior Tennis coaching sessions please phone Mike Preston on 392825.



THE PARISH COUNCIL 'BEST KEPT' COMPETITIONS

It was a pleasure to be invited to judge the road and garden competition again. I think to include gardens was a good innovation, and I like the idea of nomination by another person, so often people will not enter their own garden.

Any form of judging like this must come down to personal opinion and depends very much on personal preferences. It also depends on carrying the impression created by each garden or road in the mind and this is no easy matter. It is difficult in the short time available to make adequate notes. I do hope the decisions I made will prove acceptable.

I loved all five gardens that were nominated for this year and found it difficult to make a decision.

1st - Mr. and Mrs. Clark, 7 Kingcott Mill Farm. This is a relatively small plot of land but it is full of variety - every available square inch has been used to include containers and bedding plants, lawn, gravel and patio and also a pond.

Congratulations on using the space to such good advantage.



2nd - Mrs. Tanner, 20 Long Ashton Road. A very well kept front garden. Again a lot of variety has been packed into the space available. The containers of Begonias were outstanding and created a lot of colour.

3rd - Mrs. Magro, 91 Fenshurst Gardens. Another garden that contains a wide variety of types of plants. It was good to see fruit trees and vegetables being grown along side ornamental plants. A well kept and very varied garden.

Mrs. Ives, 55 Glebe Road. Another very colourful garden using a mixture of perennials and bedding plants. The two levels had been adapted well and I enjoyed the white doves. Again I was pleased to see soft fruit included.

Mr. and Mrs. Chiltern, 87 Blackcurrant Drive gave me a special pleasure. On a new estate which at present has very little plant growth is most commendable. To fill in the area at the front of the house with so much colour was a real joy. The large bed of predominately double petunias made a real splash of colour. The areas of wild flower

mix was full of insect life. The whole area shows what can be achieved in a relatively small area of ground and in a short time. It gave me great pleasure and I am sure will give enjoyment to everyone who sees them.

CUL DE SAC

1st - Kingcott Mill Farm. An area with many small gardens, very varied and colourful but always well kept.

2nd - Estune Walk.

ROADS

1st - Lampton Road. Many well kept gardens some with a lot of colourful plants others relying more on foliage effects but together leaving a very good effect.

2nd - Fenshurst Gardens. Again it looked very good when I stood in the middle and looked up and down the road.

I hope these comments will prove of interest. It is much more difficult to comment on the roads than gardens because the former depend on a general impression and are made up of a diverse range of gardens.

Don Everitt.

Children and Youth Groups at Hebron Church

KidzClub

For school years 1-6

Alternate Fridays in term times 6.15 - 7.45pm

Mini NRG

For school years 6-8

Alternate Fridays in term time 7.30 - 9.00pm

NRG

For school years 9+

Alternate Fridays in term time 8.00 - 9.30pm

All welcome

Contact Andrew 01275 392310

crusaders@hebronchurch.co.uk • www.hebronchurch.co.uk



Avon Wildlife Trust

Long Ashton Group

Winter Programme 2009/2010

All meetings begin at 7.30pm at the Royal British Legion, Long Ashton.

Thursday 19th November 2009

Mr. A. Buckthorpe

“The South Devon Coastal Walk”

***Saturday 21st November Christmas Bazaar at
Keedwell Church 10.00 - 11.30am***

- *Coffee & Mince Pies* • *Home made Christmas Puddings* • *Cake and Book Stalls* •
- *Preserves and Tombola* • *Helen's Pictures and Cards* •

Thursday 17th December 2009

Mrs. P. Kidner

“Wildlife Creatures that come to our farm”

Thursday 21st January 2010

Mr. S. Nicholls

“Paradise Found”

Thursday 18th February 2010

Mr. Phil Mugridge

“Wildlife on my doorstep”

Thursday 18th March 2010

Mr. M. Courtiour

“National Trust conservation in Somerset”

Our main fund-raising event is the Christmas Bazaar. Please support by providing prizes for the raffle and tombola, also do not forget we would like lots of cakes, preserves, bric-a-brac and help on the day.

You will appreciate that our Speakers' expenses are a big outlay and any help with the hire of the hall (£17) or sponsoring a speaker would be most welcome.

Mrs. J. Williams Tel: 392690

North Somerset Council

Helping to turn empty properties into homes

Empty homes are a wasted resource both to the local community and the property owner. Properties which have stood empty for a long time can become an eyesore, and may lead to problems of anti-social behaviour, rubbish dumping, vermin and vandalism.

Properties can remain empty for a number of reasons and we realise that in some cases, vacant homes are unavoidable. However, to help meet the demand for housing, we are keen to identify homes that have been left empty for a long time and are deteriorating as a result.

The council works with property owners to bring empty homes back into use, providing advice and assistance on a number of options as well as ensuring that any health and safety issues are resolved.

So, if you are aware of a property that has stood empty for six months or more, we are keen to hear from you.

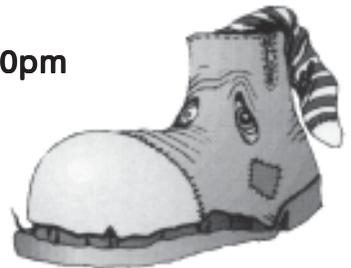
To report an empty property or for more information on how we can help to bring empty homes back into use, contact Charlotte Brace on 01934 426972, email charlotte.brace@n-somerset.gov.uk or visit our website www.n-somerset.gov.uk/emptyproperties

The Long Ashton Pantomime 2010

THE OLD WOMAN WHO LIVED IN A SHOE

Friday 26th February, 7.30pm
Saturday 27th February, 2.30pm and 7.30pm
at the Village Hall

Adults: £6 • Ages 2-16: £3 • Under 2 free
For tickets please contact
Val Bond on 392148



LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

Summary Income and Expenditure Account

	£
INCOME	
Precept	125,000.00
Interest Receivable	6,517.30
Burial Ground Fees	3,405.00
Rents	0.00
Highways & Footpaths	275.00
Grants & Donations	2,540.00
Capital receipts	0.00
Loans Received	0.00
VAT Reimbursements	3,053.94
Total Income	140,791.24
EXPENDITURE	
Administration	43,807.79
Agency Services	0.00
S137 payments	166.75
Grants & Subscriptions	26,581.33
Running costs	
Burial Ground/Churchyard &	
Birdwell Recreation Ground	11,810.21
Newsletter	2,889.00
Highways & Footpaths	5,459.78
Capital Expenditure	8,104.88
Section 106	261,151.15
Loan repayments	1,000.00
Provision for doubtful debts	0.00
VAT on payments	3,053.94
Total expenditure	364,024.83
Cummulative Fund Balance (inc. reserves)	
Balance as at 1st April 2008	408,572.89
Total Income for Year	140,791.24
Total Expenditure for Year	364,024.83
Balance as at 31st March 2009	185,339.30

Programme of Council and Committee Meetings 2010

Long Ashton Parish Council and its Committees meet regularly to discuss issues affecting the people of Long Ashton and Leigh Woods.

For your convenience, the dates of forthcoming meetings are set out below. All meetings take place in the Pavilion, Keedwell Hill, starting at 7.30 pm unless otherwise notified. Copies of agendas and minutes can be found in the Library. Minutes, once approved, are on the website www.longashtonparishcouncil.com

2010	Parish Council Monday	Planning Committee Monday	Highways & Burial Ground Committee Monday	Finance & General Purposes Committee Monday	Annual Parish Meeting Monday
Jan	25	18			
Feb		22	8	15	
Mar	22	29			
Apr		Wed 28	26		19 Village Hall
May	10	24		17	
June	28 Accounts	14	21	28 Council then F&GP	
July	19	12			
Aug		9	16	23	
Sept	27	6			
Oct		4	11		
Nov	22	8	29	1	
Dec		13		Wed 15	

Charity Quiz Night

Long Ashton Royal British Legion

7.30pm for 8.00pm

First Sunday in the month (except January)

You don't have to be a member to join us.

£8 per team of four includes nibbles

Entry forms can be collected from the Legion
are to be returned by the Tuesday prior to the Quiz to:
Dave Addis, 45 Long Ashton Road. 01275 393551

Bristol Sailors Meeting

Long Ashton Royal British Legion

7.30pm for 8.00pm

Do join us



Meetings are normally held during the winter on
the fourth Thursday of the month except
December.

Details of a December social get together will be confirmed at the
first meeting

For further details contact

Dave Addis, 45 Long Ashton Road. 01275 393551

The following is the final part of Mary Magro's (nee Parfitt) reminiscences written for Take Art - Take Part in 2005.

It tells the story of a happy life in a slower, more simple age, awakening memories for some and hopefully of interest to the younger generation.

A Long Ashton Childhood (1940-1950)

On Saturday mornings, Mr. Bridle, who had a market garden beyond the railway arch in Yanley Lane, came, surprisingly, to the front door and Mrs. P. would go to his van and make a selection from his vegetables in order to make up any deficiency from Mr. P's gardening efforts.

Of course there were other unexpected callers. Mrs. P. would never send a gypsy away without buying a bunch of lavender or a yard or two of ribbon. She was convinced there would be bad luck otherwise. Sometimes a rag and bone man would bring his horse and cart to Glebe Road calling out "rags-n-bones" or "any old iron". And very occasionally a Frenchman with onions draped on his bicycle would appear.

Shopping expeditions in the village gave Mary much pleasure. Having puffed their way to the top of Yanley Lane, they would first call at the Post Office, next door to the Ashton Arms Public House, to buy stamps and post a letter. They would then cross the road and go up the steps into the Smyth Estate Office to pay the ground rent - a most attractive building with distinctive Tudor-type chimneys. Next stop would be the butcher's shop where another Mr. James ran his essential business. In later years Mary learned that there was an abattoir at the back of the premises. Not only would he provide the staple weekend joint but there would be the necessary liver, sausages and tripe - Mother's tripe and onions was quite a favourite. Chickens did not seem to feature so much. Mr. P. would be given one occasionally by his customers on the Wiltshire farms where he travelled, and eggs too were not prevalent all the year round. In Spring when they were plentiful Mrs. P. would "lay a dozen or two eggs in a bucket of waterglass" (!!) for use in the coming months.

Sometimes they walked all the way to the west end of the village where Mr. and Mrs. Britton ran a flourishing greengrocery business and Mr. Knight a chemist shop. They might exchange the time of day with the Vicar, Mr. Knapman, in his black cassock, often seen in the village. When the Vicarage next door to All Saint's Church was bombed, number 71 Long Ashton Road became his temporary home. On the return journey they would call at Mr. Panes' grocery shop (now Cox's) to perhaps buy cheese. This would be set on a marble slab which Mr. Panes in a spotless white linen overall would slice with wire. He was a bald-headed, pink faced, corpulent gentleman always smiling. Then it was especially pleasurable to call at the little bakery in Folleigh Lane where the crickets sang behind the big ovens all day long. Mary watched as the baker used his long wooden spatula to remove the loaves. The placid horse would be in his stable next door.

There was one very important little shop for the residents of Glebe Road and that was the off-licence and general store run by Mr. and Miss Hares. It was situated to the left of Glebe Guest House (now Lampton House - residential home for the elderly) on the main road. It was open most of the day and Mary would accompany her father in an evening to purchase a flagon of bitter, Corona lemonade or a can of paraffin. All bottles had a small deposit which was given back on return of the empties. Years later Mary recalled the cheery sound of the bell which rang when the shop door was opened.

Mrs. P. cooked every day. She seldom consulted a cookery book but provided nutritious meals as her mother had done before her. She had specialities for which she was known locally. In particular she regularly won the competition at the W.I. for her Victoria Sponge. During the War years and for some years afterwards food was rationed - everyone was slim. Mr. P. had a sister who lived in Barbados and she would send occasional parcels containing tinned butter, sugar and molasses - a bonus in those lean years.

The last four or five houses in Glebe Road faced a smallholding owned by yet another James' family. This land was sold for housing in the late 1950s, but at this period Mr. and Mrs. Cecil James and their three sons laboured on the land, and sometimes Mary would be sent to buy a lettuce for 6d. at the farm door. She enjoyed the errand which took her through the 5-bar gate and up the muddy path beside the pigsties where sometimes little piglets suckled. She might be regaled on this short journey by the sound of Mrs. James practising her soprano part for the WI choir. And sometimes there was an itinerant hedger and ditcher working on the hawthorn hedges in Glebe Road who liked to talk to her.

School - 1943 At five years old Mary began school life with Miss Webb at her remarkable little family school at The Wick. Mrs. P. would walk with her daughter to the hut with the corrugated iron roof which was situated behind the Alms Houses. Miss Webb greeted her pupils with a kiss. The school was just one big room with a number of tables and pupils ranging in age from 5 to 15. A stove with a chimney provided the only heat; there were no facilities and the only toilet was in one of the almshouses across the yard, but everyone was happy and lessons were fun.

After a year, Mary was sent to the Village School where she remained until 11. That is another story.

Special Events and Activities Church House featured quite a lot in Mary's life. On Sunday afternoons she walked there for Sunday School. She also went there once a week for piano lessons with Miss Christine Davis who rented a small, sunny room upstairs for the purpose. This same lady held elocution classes on Saturday mornings. Pupils stood dutifully on the stage and recited poems which Miss Davis had selected and the pupils learnt by heart. Once a year there would be a public performance of a suitable play performed by the pupils. Being typical of parents of the time, Mr. and Mrs. P. also paid for ballet and tap dancing tuition at Church House for Mary.

Entertainment was scarce within the village community. The village hall was at the west end beyond Gardeners' Arms Public House and Birdwell Road. Some exciting events took place there, especially the weekly film show which Mary at the age of 10 or 11 was occasionally allowed to see. At Christmastime "*The Forest of Trees*" appeared for a whole week. The entire hall was filled with large decorated and lighted trees on which presents were hung. Parents bought tickets for their children (pink or blue according to sex) and when presented with these Father Christmas would find an appropriate parcel.

There was a thriving Pantomime Club which for a few post-war years put on excellent shows written by Harold Smith who lived on Rayens Cross Road. Traditional pantomimes were much enhanced by the use of local place names; a quartet of pianos led by a talented local pianist named Beryl Johnson provided the music, and those villagers who were not performing filled the hall as enthusiastic audiences for a week.

Long Ashton was blessed with seven pubs, including the Smyth Arms, and the gentleman of the parish made full use of their facilities. There were a few cars, but a good bus service, and legs seemed to be stronger and more agile then! Much gossip was undoubtedly exchanged within those pub walls - more stories than will ever be recorded!

Will this be your last Newsletter?

The following roads desperately need
volunteers to deliver this Newsletter
3 times a year:-

- Bramley Copse • Fenns Lane •
- Fishers Mead • Kings Croft •
- Barker Court, Weston Road •

*Please contact
Jean Pullin 393617 or Marilyn Addis 393551
with any offers of help.*

In the words of the song

'What a difference a Day Makes!'

The Parish Council is grateful to Chris Stephens and friends from SWEDSWA who repaired the stone wall near the Village Sign on the weekend of the Tractor and Ploughing competition.

Across the UK, there are over 150,000 miles of wall in a state of disrepair. The members of SWEDSWA try to do their bit to rebuild some of those across the South West of England.



SWEDSWA say walling isn't difficult (although some liken it to doing a three dimensional jigsaw puzzle with no picture on the box). It's an ideal hobby - you don't really need any special tools, equipment or clothing; you don't have to be super fit (although it's great exercise); it's sociable and you are helping to conserve an important landscape feature and wildlife habitat.

Their week-end courses are ideal for anyone who would like to 'have a go', either because they have a wall that needs rebuilding or because they are considering walling as a hobby or a new career option.

And if you then get the walling bug, you can join SWEDSWA and attend branch practice sessions throughout the year to improve your skills (you can also work towards gaining LANTRA certification). They are a sociable lot, with at least two social events each year based around a pub lunch and external speaker and it's usually essential to round off a successful day's walling with a post mortem of the day's activities in the pub.

For more information go to www.swedswa.org.uk

HEBRON CHURCH'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

This year Hebron Church celebrates its 75th Anniversary. Thanks to the vision of Ernest Dyer, October 1934 saw the completion of the building which now stands on Providence Lane. However the story starts further back in 1909 when Ernest's sister, Florence, started a Bible class for girls in Providence Chapel (now the Scout Hut) under the auspices of the Brethren movement. In 1918 Ernest joined her to do the same thing for boys. Soon afterwards Ernest took on responsibility for all the work at the Chapel. The work expanded with meetings being held on every week night except Fridays in addition to Sunday afternoon school and evening Gospel services. At one time all the children on the hill attended, numbering about 85.

In the late 1920s Providence Chapel was destroyed by fire. Although it was rebuilt some time later Ernest decided to move away from the Brethren movement and started up a separate work in the Unionist Hall, a corrugated iron structure on the corner of Lovelinch Gardens. His building was far from ideal being too hot in summer and too cold in winter, as well as being a target for children to throw stones on to the galvanised roof!

Ernest then had the idea of a new building with accommodation above and by selling his own house and paying off the mortgage he was able to put down the £160 deposit on a plot of land purchased from the Ashton Court Estate. The work was completed in 1934, the money for the furnishings having been collected by the Sunday School children. Over the years there have been various extensions adding on extra rooms upstairs, an inside staircase to avoid the need to go outside in all weathers to gain access to the first floor, a new entrance and a new kitchen.

Ernest Dyer remained a Pastor until his death in 1967. Rev. Bryan Thompson was appointed Pastor in September 1970 and headed up the work for nearly 5 years. Having started as a work amongst children, the church continues to run thriving children's and youth groups as well as holding Sunday services and mid week groups for parents and children and older folk. In 2008 Robin Schaefer was appointed as Pastor and the church is looking forward to many more years of witness of God's faithfulness as we continue the work Ernest started in the 'Church on the hill'.

HOBBY HORSE

October 15th and 22nd	Craft Mornings - decoupage
November 5th	Coffee and share your favourite books
November 12th	Making Christmas Cards
November 19th	Making Christmas Decorations
November 26th	Surviving Christmas
December 3rd	Coffee and little people's service
December 10th	Christmas Flowers

All are welcome to join us for friendship
and the opportunity to learn new skills

Creche available

Hebron Church, Providence Lane.

Thursdays 10.30 am - 12 noon

Enquiries to Liz Worthington 393820 or Susie Pocock 392970

Village Café

Saturdays

October 17th and November 21st

(no Cafe in December but
every 3rd Saturday in the month in 2010)

Club Room, Village Hall

10.00 am - 12 noon

Fair Trade Tea and Coffee and
Home made cakes

Come and meet your friends or
make new ones!

All welcome

(Churches Working Together)

Hebron

Advent Carol Service

Sunday 6th December
at 6.00pm

Village Hall, Keedwell Hill

Mince Pies and Mulled
Wine

All Welcome



Digital Switchover Help Scheme

**will be explained at a Public Meeting to be held on
Tuesday 26th January 2010 at 7.30 pm
at the Jubilee Pavilion, Keedwell Hill**

There is a range of switchover help available. Digital UK operates a helpline (08456 50 50 50) and website (www.digitaluk.co.uk) which provide general information about getting digital television and a postcode checker which informs viewers the digital services available in their area.

Digital UK has also signed a contract with Digital Outreach, a consortium of national charities, including Age Concern England, Help the Aged, Community Service Volunteers and Collective Enterprises Ltd., which will provide information and advice to people who might need some extra help. It will operate initially in the first four TV regions to switch: Border, West Country, Wales and Granada.

The **Digital Switchover Help Scheme** has been established by the BBC to offer practical assistance at the time of switchover to approximately seven million households. The scheme will cover households in which one person or more:

- is aged **75 years** or over; or
- has a **significant disability** - i.e. claims disability living allowance, attendance allowance, constant attendance allowance or pensioner's mobility supplement; or
- is registered **blind or partially sighted**

Eligible households may receive the following support:

- equipment to convert one television set
- help with installation
- an aerial replacement (if required)
- follow-up support

There will be a subsidised fee of £40 for the help. For eligible claimants who also receive income support, job seeker's allowance or pension credit, the help will be provided free.

DIGITAL TELEVISION

Dildar Singh, the Digital Outreach Programme Co-ordinator attached to Bristol Care Forum, will attend the Good Companions' meeting in January 2010 to impart information on the switch to digital television when it affects this area in March.

This meeting is open to anyone who would like to know more about the subject including whether eligible for a grant.

If interested please come to the *Jubilee Pavilion* at the *Community Centre* at 2.30 pm on *Wednesday 13th January 2010*.

Jean Pullin

Long Ashton Local History Society

Our new Winter Programme is now under way with the following talks planned over the next few months -

On 5th November Anton Bantock will be talking on 'Family Firms and Bedminster Businesses'. Many of us have had a long association with Bedminster and Anton's talk is sure to bring back happy memories of times past.

The December meeting takes place on the 3rd with Pat Hase, the renowned speaker on 19th Century topics talking on 'Victorian Pleasures and Pastimes'. As usual in December we shall be serving Mince Pies in the interval.

John Penny will be here on the 7th January talking on 'The Whitchurch Airport Story'. Opened in 1930 and closed in 1957, it was the forerunner of Lulsgate. Few people realise that Whitchurch was in operation throughout the war, linking up with Ireland to bring passengers from the USA.

All our meetings take place in the Jubilee Pavilion starting at 7.30 pm.

Visitors are very welcome to come to any of our meetings. There is just a nominal charge of £1 per head.

Roy Pullin 393617

To EVERYONE who visited the 84th Long Ashton Flower Show and made it a HUGE success!

Another year has gone by and another successful flower show has taken place. Every year it's getting better and better; this year we had 820 entries to be exhibited! We had that many visitors supporting the day our Refreshments ran out of milk!

The fruit and veg categories were the most successful with a variety of pears and apples being shown along with some lovely greengages and a range of soft fruits. The most popular choice of exhibit was the tomatoes with different varieties and a high number of competitors. Mr. Frank Calcraft won the best multi-dish of vegetables and also achieved the most points in the vegetables, fruit and flowers section, with Mr. Haydon Grove winning the Gatcombe Court Challenge cup for an outstanding exhibit of vegetables. Mrs. Ann Bassett won the LAHS Challenge Bowl for the best individual dish of fruit, whilst the winner for the best three bowls of fruit was Mrs. Miranda Krestovnikoff.

Within the flower section there were some beautiful dahlias and roses shown but in this section Orchids proved to be the most popular class. The winners for floral exhibits were Mrs. Stenner for best exhibit in the dahlia classes, Mrs. Mackwood for the best rose exhibit whilst Mrs. Gay Cook won the Long Ashton Village Association Challenge Bowl for the special memorial class of dahlias.

In the flower arrangement section the Joan Lewton Commemorative cup was won by Mrs. Mary Magro for her five flower arrangement featuring delightful orange Gerberas whilst Gerberas also helped to capture the Kearns Cup for Mrs. Wendy Gibb for her "Holiday Time" display. Finally, in the flower section Mr. Ken Edwards was the winner of the LAHS Challenge Bowl for the best Fuchsia exhibit.

The Home Economic Section was "awash" with different jams and jellies, twice as many as last year! The winner of the Home Economic Class with the most points was Mrs. Angela Chorley. The Art and Handicraft section was an amazing eye catching display, with Mrs. Foord winning the best exhibit in the handicraft section for her knitted glove and hat set.



As always the Photography section was inundated with fantastic landscapes of the local scenery, flowers, portraits, coastal scenes and impressive pictures of the Red Arrows. In either black and white or colour all pictures showed talent and depth. The best Photograph in the show was won by Miss Sally Pearson who was once again awarded the Douglas Skeeles trophy.

The children's category was popular with Miss Rosie Gathercole being the winner of the best exhibit in any group of the children's section.

If you came along, thank you and we hope you enjoyed the day as much as we did. Make sure you get growing now for next year!

The Society holds a number of events from a Garden Clinic held in the Library where you can come along if you have any queries, problems or questions about your gardening and ask the experts for advice. The Society has members from the village who have experience with growing all sorts of different plants and vegetables in the area, ask them what does well, how to prune or care for your garden and ideas for designs and layouts for your special little green area. The annual Plant Sale is where you can purchase rock plants, herbaceous perennials, fuchsias, herbs and rooted cuttings, all at reasonable prices. The Society also organises trips to gardens in the local area so we can discover the beautiful landscapes and plants on our door step.

Why not become a member of the Society for only £4 a year, receive our seasonal newsletter and join in the green fingered fun. If you would like to join or require further information please contact our membership secretary, Bill Roberts - Tel 880659

In Case of Emergency (ICE)

Following the bombs in London the East Anglian Ambulance Service has launched a NATIONAL "In Case of Emergency" campaign with the support of Falklands hero Simon Weston.

The idea is that you store the word "ICE" on your mobile phone address book and against it enter the number of the person you want to be contacted in case of emergency.

In an emergency situation, ambulance and hospital staff will then quickly know who your next of kin are and be able to contact them.

It's so simple that everyone can do it! For more than one contact name use ICE1; ICE2; ICE3 etc.

LONG ASHTON SURGERY NEWS - OCTOBER 2009

Seasonal Flu

By the time you read this our seasonal flu clinics will be underway and if you are 65 by 31st March 2010 you should have received a letter inviting you to make an appointment. We have also written to patients, who have serious other medical conditions who need protection. It is very important that they consider having the flu immunisation this year. We are especially keen that children in these risks groups are protected - so if you have not already done so please make an appointment soon.

Swine Flu

When writing this in late September we do not have any definite news of when the swine flu vaccine will be delivered. I suspect it will be at the end of October. The following information is from the Department of Health:

Who will be entitled to the vaccine?

The following groups have been identified by the Department of Health (DOH) as priority groups for vaccination:

1. individuals aged 6 months and up to 65 years in the current *seasonal flu* vaccine clinical at-risk groups
2. all pregnant women, subject to licensing conditions on trimesters
3. household contacts of immuno-compromised individuals
4. frontline health and social care workers
5. people aged 65 and over in the current *seasonal flu* vaccine clinical at-risk groups

We will be writing to all these individuals once we know the dates when the immunisation programme will be starting at Long Ashton. We will also put up notices in the surgery as soon as we can.

Additional Opening Hours

Don't forget we do have routine appointments on three Saturday mornings and one Wednesday evening each month for those of you who work away or need a late appointment for reviews with the GP. There are no other services available at those times - all other issues need to be dealt with in normal surgery opening hours.

Home Visiting

If you think a home visit is needed, please ring the surgery and tell the receptionist the problem and they will record this on the appointments home visit screen. The doctor will usually phone first to assess the patient's condition.

We do encourage as many patients as possible to come to the surgery, as this is the best place to make sure you get most appropriate treatment. If you are unhappy about the way your request has been handled, please contact me with the details, so that we can improve our service. You can always approach a member of the patient group, but I do need details in order to help.

Long Ashton Patient Group

Following on from that previous comment - we are looking for more people to join the patient group. They are working to improve communication between the practice and our patients. There are many healthcare challenges ahead for Long Ashton as the village grows and we need to work together to ensure Long Ashton does not miss out. Please contact our new chair - Sally Sterland, or myself, at the surgery.

Don't miss our Heart Information evening on 25th November at the Village Hall - look out for posters around the village nearer the time.

Web Site - The Surgery Web Site is to be found at:

www.longashtonsurgery.co.uk

Do visit it.

Eileen Butterworth - Practice Manager

Long Ashton Patient Participation Group

“The Heart of the Matter”

Do you know how healthy your heart is? All ages can benefit from knowing how to achieve a healthy old age. The fourth information evening organised by the above group will be on

Wednesday 25th November in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm
when Dr. Peter Foreman and Practice Nurse Emma Fear
will give a joint presentation.

WASTE COLLECTIONS

North Somerset Council are proposing changes to Waste Collections when the current contracts expire in February 2010.

Costs are rising for taking waste to landfill as are the landfill taxes, whilst annual targets for the diversion of waste from landfill are becoming tougher.

Options being considered are:

1. No change in current services but with a new weekly food waste collection added.
2. Two wheeled bins - one containing rubbish waste and one containing kerbside recyclables both collected fortnightly, with a weekly food waste collection.
3. Fortnightly rubbish in a wheeled bin with a weekly recycling kerbside services in boxes and a weekly food waste collection service.

Analysis of North Somerset waste has shown around 35% of an average household bin consists of food waste and it is essential to divert this from landfill to avoid huge financial penalties. Some other benefits include reducing environmental impacts from landfill (toxicity in leachate and landfill gas emissions). Also production of compost and liquid fertiliser for use as a soil improver.

A major extensive consultation in 2004 produced the following:

93% of respondents agreed that kerbside recycling should be extended to include more types of rubbish i.e. plastics

81% of respondents agreed that the Council should provide all households with a weekly kerbside recycling service

60% agreed that all households should be provided with a wheeled bin for non-recyclable rubbish

Recent consultations have shown a large majority have said they would like wheeled bins for non-recyclables such as plastics, tetra packs and batteries.

Current policy where residents are not limited to the quantity of general rubbish for collection means that North Somerset Council collects more household waste per head compared with the national average. A wheeled bin will eliminate ripped bags and improve street cleanliness. The lid must be closed with no side waste accepted.

A property survey carried out in March 2009 gave information regarding storage and access so ensuring the delivery of a correct solution for every property. Every household will be mailed in early 2010 with an explanation of their arrangements. Residents will be given the opportunity to query these and "waste advisors" employed by North Somerset Council will deal with the queries.

Stated benefits of the new system include:

- Collection on bank holidays with the exception of Christmas and New Year
- Change of emphasis from a refuse service to a recycling service
- Broader range of materials collected
- Flexible solution depending on property type

New contracts will be awarded at a special council meeting on 13th October 2009 and details of how the changes will be made will be available before they become effective after 1st March 2010.

Source: Town and Parish Briefing

Meet your Police Officers

at The British Legion on Wednesday
4th November at 7.30 pm

Come along to meet your local police officers to ask questions and discuss problems.

Do seize this opportunity to have your say.

PLANNING



It was so disappointing to receive the Inspector's report in June and find he had allowed the appeal made by Wimpey concerning dwellings to be built on land behind Lampton Road and Fenshurst Gardens. Although we knew the decision could not be reversed the Parish Council wrote to the Planning Inspectorate expressing their displeasure and disappointment that the strong feelings from residents appeared to have been overlooked.

We are now being inundated with major planning applications which, if any come to fruition, will have a tremendous detrimental impact on our environment.

The first application to develop land at Ashton Vale and the former Alderman Moores land, south Bristol, falls into two parts on 25 hectares.

The erection of a 30,000 seat stadium incorporating other uses of conference and hospitality services, retail units and community facilities, parking areas, landscaping, regrading of the site to form new levels and related infrastructure and engineering is the subject of a full application.

The outline section is for the development of 253 dwellings, relocation of young persons home, hotel, restaurants/bars, cycle access, flood storage and ecological area, landscaping and related infrastructure and engineering works.

The application site crosses the border between North Somerset and Bristol and it is the proposed access to the B3128 (leading to the A370) which lies within our parish, and that, along with unsatisfactory transport arrangements, particularly concerns us.

The Council has made the strongest objections to this application on land which lies within the Green belt and separates Long Ashton and Bristol. There are so many problems concerning the proposed site of this stadium, that cannot be solved satisfactorily, that quite clearly this development is planned in the wrong place. We are of the opinion that other sites should be re-investigated, new ones found or the existing site should be expanded and improved.

The second application which has arrived is for a mixed development comprising 9,500 dwellings, employment space, retail development, sports and leisure facilities, health and community facilities, public open space, schools, water attenuation features and a waste to energy facility on 378.45 hectares of land south of Bristol extending into North Somerset.

Although consultation meetings and workshops were held prior to the plans being presented there is still tremendous opposition to all the proposals.

The number of houses is quite unreasonable and far beyond what the area can cope with and we believe no valid evidence has been produced to show why these excessive numbers of houses are required.

Once again the land lies within the green belt and, if these houses are really needed, we believe previously developed land in South Bristol should be utilised before green fields in North Somerset. It should not be accepted that green field sites are able to be developed before or in preference to brown field sites.

The third application received is for land to the east of Weston Road, Failand. This is for residential development for up to 500 dwellings, residential apartments with care for persons aged 60 and over, Primary School, Employment space, Convenience Stores, Doctor's Surgery/Consulting Rooms, public open space, landscaping and highway and associated infrastructure works on 21.8 hectares.

This land also lies within the green belt and was not considered by the RSS when they were dictating where development should take place. The area lies on the NW edge of Long Ashton parish, adjacent to Failand, and we are extremely mindful of just how unacceptable this proposed development would be to those who live in that area. We shall be indicating our opposition and recommending the plans be refused.

All the plans have been placed in Long Ashton Library so that residents have the opportunity to look at the detailed documents. If these developments are permitted our green fields will be desecrated and areas of natural beauty will be lost forever.

The Council believes that comments from local residents are extremely important so they hope many will contact North Somerset and urge them to refuse these applications.

Yet another application is expected in the near future from the University of Bristol for development on the 69 hectares of land which they own to the east of Wild Country Lane. A public consultation was held in the village in September, and this was visited by a fair number of residents. The proposals could include around 1,100 new homes together with a school and improved community facilities.

Do you want to see a further extension to our village?
Keep a look out for this application and make a response.

Mary Uppington - Chairman, Planning Committee.



All Saints Church Christmas Services

29th November - 6.00pm

Advent Food & Fellowship (Church House)

Please contact Church Office (393109) if you are attending

13th December

4.00pm Christingle

A candlelit service for children and their families, focusing on the work of the Children's Society. (Approx. 45-60 minutes).

20th December

6.00pm Carol Service

A traditional candlelit service of carols and readings recounting the story of Christmas. Please bring a torch. (Approx. 1 hour).



24th December

4.00pm Crib Service

Telling the story of the nativity, as we build the crib together. An informal service for young children and their families. (Approx. 20 - 30 minutes).

11.30pm Family Communion

First communion of Christmas. A candlelit service lasting about an hour, please bring a torch.



25th December

10.00am Family Communion

A celebration for all the family, 0 - 109 years - lasts just under an hour.

All Services will be held at All Saints unless otherwise stated.

LONGASHTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

CONTACT DETAILS

Mr D Aggett	13 Fenswood Road	BS41 9BL	393876
Mr C Cave	Rudge Farm, Flax Bourton	BS41 3QS	462774
Mr R Cook	5 Warren Lane	BS41 9DA	392518
Mr J Glew	72 Long Ashton Road	BS41 9LE	392655
Ms S Hardingham	79 Providence Lane	BS41 9DL	393690
Mr M Harris	Nightingale House, Valley Rd., LW	BS8 3PZ	Br 9735878
Dr Phillip Jackson	90 Theynes Croft	BS41 9NN	392757
Mr N Moorcroft	Brookside Cottage, Yanley Lane	BS41 9LW	394699
Miss A Moser	11 Ardmore, Vicarage Rd., LW	BS8 3PH	Br 9739876
Mrs A Neale	Eldon, 62 Long Ashton Road	BS41 9LE	392336
Mrs J Pullin	1 Lovelinch Gardens	BS41 9AH	393617
Mr H B Roberts	18 Belmont Drive	BS8 3UU	392395
Mr I Scoones	Failand Lawn, Clevedon Road	BS41 3TN	392676
Mr J D Skeeles	Wellow House, 7 Folleigh Drive	BS41 9JD	392724
Mr P Sterland	65 Providence Lane	BS41 9DL	393591
Mrs S Sterland	65 Providence Lane	BS41 9DL	393591
Miss M Uppington	35 Ridgeway Road	BS41 9EY	393228
Mr M Wilkinson	65 Long Ashton Rd	BS41 9HW	392381
Mr H C H Williamson	35 Fenhurst Gardens	BS41 9AU	392690

LONG ASHTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

**REMEMBRANCE WEEK
CONCERT**

**FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2009
7.30 PM AT**

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH
LONG ASHTON**

**CHEPSTOW
MALE VOICE CHOIR**

**REPEAT GUEST APPEARANCE
THE DOWNS SCHOOL
CHAMBER CHOIR**

TICKETS £7

**AVAILABLE FROM
THE LEGION VILLAGE CLUB
ALL SAINTS CHURCH OFFICE
CLIFFORD MOSS ON 01275 392714**