

LONG ASHTON & LEIGH WOODS NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2009

MARCH, APRIL, MAY & JUNE 2009

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

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The CLOSING DATE for copy for the next edition covering the 4 months
July - October 2009 is

midday 1st June 2009

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Cover photo - Tree planting in the Village in November 2008.

CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2009

We greet 2009 with the anxiety of being in uncharted waters, locally, nationally and indeed internationally. Locally there are a number of issues that are having, or will have, more or less impact on our village.

Government approval of their Regional Spatial Strategy, due at the end of last year, has been delayed owing to the 35,000 plus objections received by the Government Office for the South West. The Parish Council and individuals within our Village have, I am delighted to say, contributed to that figure. Once approved however, the RSS will **require** North Somerset to release sufficient Greenbelt land to accommodate, probably, a minimum of 9,000 new houses in this area. It is likely that applications for outline planning permission for development will be made very shortly, even before the RSS is approved. It is a fact that the process has been undemocratic and is sidelining local democracy. We should not put up with it, the French would not, but I'm afraid that we will.

Long Ashton Parish Council continues to work together with Barrow Gurney and Dundry Parishes to defend the interests of our communities, and areas of special sensitivity within the context of the planning process.

Bristol Airport proposes to submit a planning application in March to increase the size of the terminal in order to handle a projected figure in excess of ten million passengers by 2015. Bristol International Airport considers that the existing road network will, with minor modifications, handle the increased airport traffic that will inevitably be created. The Parish Council's opinion is that no expansion should take place without the Airport being proactive with funding to improve access.

The lack of Primary School places is, once again, giving rise to problems for local families, and they have the sympathy of the Parish Council. Discussions are taking place with North Somerset Council to endeavour to address the anomalies, whilst at the same time understanding the difficulties and constraints of the system in general.

The consultation continues regarding the proposed New Stadium for Bristol City Football Club. The site, whilst within the Bristol boundary, is of particular interest to us because of its proximity to Long Ashton, and the fact that access will be through North Somerset

Continued ...

CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2009

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and our Parish. The parking issue, on home match days, already a problem in our village, is likely to become much worse unless measures are taken to provide parking within the site and possibly the park and ride site, together with measures to encourage the use of public transport. We have issued a challenge to those involved to take the opportunity to solve the problem rather than exacerbate it.

Consultation is taking place on the proposed new link road, between the A370 and the A38. One possibility proposed is the old 'red route', which runs roughly from the Park & Ride, along the City boundary and up to Highridge, and another is a little further west running through Yanley. The Parish Council has argued strongly against both of these options, and our response is shown on the Parish Council website.

We add that, should a link road be constructed in due course, it should be well to the west where it would not serve as a rat run from north to south Bristol and vice versa. Such a road would provide positive benefit by relieving the problems that the village of Barrow Gurney, in particular, currently suffers with the added prospect of increased traffic if the expansion of the Airport takes place. In addition it could provide relief to Long Ashton and Wild Country Lane, bearing in mind the substantial development due at Barrow Hospital.

Many of you have enquired about the temporary realignment of the junction of the A370 and the B3128. North Somerset has decided that the trial will remain until the end of March, when it will again be reviewed. We shall continue to argue strongly that the junction should be returned to its original alignment.

Please report vandalism, criminal activity or anything suspicious on 0845 4567000.

Charles Cave
Chairman, Long Ashton Parish Council



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The budget has been agreed and a precept of £127,500 made to the District Council for the 2009/10 financial year. For a Band 'D' property the Parish Council part of the rate will only rise by .63p.

Grants included in the budget:-

Youth Provision (LA)	£7,500
Nailsea Community Transport	600
NS CAB	50
St. Johns Ambulance, Nailsea	30
Drug Misuse	100
MS Therapy Centre	50
Victim Support	100
Nailsea Drop in Centre	50
Implementation of PP ideas through PC	1,000

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

to be held on

Monday 20th April 2009

at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

All residents are welcome to attend

Look for Agenda on the notice boards closer to date

**Offers to the Clerk please
to deliver the Newsletter to houses in the following roads:
Brocks Lane, 64 houses in Long Ashton Road, Tydings Close.**

The Best Kept Road and Cul-de-Sac Competition will again take place in June/July. This year there will be a new category - a 'Nominated Best Kept Garden' shield. Any resident can nominate an individual address (but not your own) and all nominations must be sent to the Clerk by 7th July. You can nominate one garden.

.....Continued over

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Queries with regard to cardboard recycling, please be aware of the correct procedures from the information on North Somerset's website - see also Page 18

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/cardboard

Also look on our PC website

**www.longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk 'Homepage'
then LHS 'NS Recycling Information'**

Meetings are open to the public, and press, to attend with the annual list of dates, and minutes, in the local library. They can be made available in large print or taped for poorly sighted, registered blind residents, upon request. Agendas can be found on the library notice board three days prior to a meeting.

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

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LONG ASHTON YOUTH CLUB SUPPORTS THE CHRISTMAS ROMANIAN SHOE BOX APPEAL

Pictured are members of the Long Ashton Youth Club completing preparations in support of the Romanian Shoe Box Appeal.

The shoe boxes and hampers were sent to the town of Otelu-Rosu where many of the orphans are now placed with local foster families and the hampers and shoe boxes will support the children and their foster families. The Youth Club put together around 15 shoe boxes and hampers which were dispatched to Romania ahead of Christmas. The Youth Club supported a local appeal within



North Somerset which sent a total of 200 boxes and hampers to the area. The Youth Club would like to thank everyone that supported the appeal.

Long Ashton Local History Society

The Local History Society continues to meet on the first Thursday of the month, the last two meetings of the current season taking place in the Pavilion at 7.30 pm on the 5th March and the 2nd April.

On the 5th March our speaker will be Lesley Ross who will talk on “Chew Valley before the Lake”. Lesley will give an account of life in that area before farms and houses were demolished preparatory to the ground being flooded. The lake is such a feature of today’s landscape that it is easy to forget that it has only been in existence some 50 years. The official opening ceremony was performed by the Queen on 17th April 1956 although plans were being laid back in the 1920’s.

On the 2nd April Pat Hase will be talking on “The Shadow of the Workhouse”. This is particularly relevant to Long Ashton with the existence of the former Workhouse in Flax Bourton, opened in 1838 and built to give poor law relief to residents of parishes in the area. Members will remember Pat giving a most interesting talk back in December 2007 on a family’s 1836 holiday in Weston-super-Mare.

To date this has been a very enjoyable season and if you have not been to one of our meetings before there is still time ahead of the Summer break.

Roy Pullin 393617

FOOTPATH WALKS

SUNDAYS

March 1st

April 5th

May 3rd

June 7th



*Meet at ‘The Little Tipple’
at 2.30 pm*

Everyone welcome, come and join us.

Harry Williams 392690

LEIGH WOODS CORNER

In the autumn edition of this newsletter we examined the role of the Leigh Woods Society within the community, looked at the activities in which it was involved over the past year and developed some idea as to how it fitted in with the parish council and the unitary authority.

Since the late summer of 2008, North Somerset has been conducting **a review of parish boundaries** within its area and that process continues. The last time this review took place was in the early nineteen eighties. Since then there have been considerable changes with new housing, new roads and increases in population.

The villagers of Leigh Woods met in December to hear from North Somerset what such a review is and how the process works. The options facing Leigh Woods were to remain with Long Ashton or to seek joining Abbots Leigh. As one resident put it “I find it difficult to know where we belong. Our Church is combined with that of Abbots Leigh, our parish council is Long Ashton. For work and shopping many of us are dependent on the City of Bristol”.

Councillors from both Long Ashton and Abbots Leigh were present on the night and were able to air their views on the issues and where they felt Leigh Woods might be best served.

Space does not allow for the pros and cons to be set out here. In short, Leigh Woods felt that it is of a similar size to Abbots Leigh, they share a common boundary, pub, bus route and the A369 as a thoroughfare. The county councillor is one and the same for the two villages. On the other hand, Long Ashton has served the village well over the years; indeed it allowed Leigh Woods considerable latitude in pursuing its agenda. The difference in council tax between the two options was minimal.

Following the evening, North Somerset asked each household to vote on the proposals - purely to obtain some understanding as to interest. The results of this postal vote showed 87 for a transfer to Abbots Leigh, 16 remaining with Long Ashton and 4 undecided. Twenty six percent of households took part which we were told was a good figure for an exercise of this kind.

The next step is for Abbots Leigh village to be consulted and express an opinion, after which the way ahead will need to be determined. There are no easy answers. An opportunity that comes this infrequently should be given the serious consideration that is now taking place as part of the democratic process.

Over recent months, Leigh Woods has been working with Long Ashton **to produce a parish plan.** The Leigh Woods section was completed before Christmas and a colour copy has been delivered to each household. It sets out a series of actions for and by the community over the next five to ten years. The basis for the plan and actions originated from consultations with all residents over the last two years.

The subject areas covered are environment, housing & development, policing and crime prevention, village communication, bus services, transport services traffic speed and noise and community. The action plan denotes priorities and timescales.

Our very grateful thanks to Martyn Harris and Ann Lowson for their time and effort in producing this very impressive document.

This will be my last contribution to the newsletter as Secretary of the Society. I shall be standing down at the AGM in February after five years in the role. During this time I have become acquainted with many people in the wider area of Leigh Woods and Long Ashton and enjoyed their help and support. I wish my successor every success and enjoyment in the job.

Mike Burmester, Secretary, Leigh Woods Society.



Avon Wildlife Trust

LONG ASHTON GROUP

7.30 pm at Royal British Legion

Thursday 19th March - "British Marine Life" - Alan Mildren

Thursday 16th April - "Summer in Antarctica & South Georgia"

- Mr. Philip Mugridge



WESTLEAZE W.I.

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

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| March 4th | MEDICAL HERBALIST - Bett Partridge
Competition: A Pestle and Mortar |
| April 1st | BIRTHDAY MEETING
SHY, RETIRING AND STROLLING PLAYERS |
| May 6th | RESOLUTIONS followed by
THE WORK OF HORSEWORLD
Competition: Picture of a Horse |
| June 3rd | VISIT TO HORSEWORLD |
-



LAILA

(Long Ashton Independent Ladies Association)

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

- | | |
|------------|--|
| March 18th | A VISIT TO BRISTOL ZOO
Don Packham |
| April 15th | SOCIAL - WINE AND CHEESE |
| May 20th | VIRGIN VIE - Sue Meacher |
| June 17th | CRAFT - IRIS FOLDING CARDS
Ros Abbott |

CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

Village Café

Every 3rd Saturday in the month in the CLUB ROOM
at the Village Hall. 10.00 am- 12 noon

March 21st / April 18th / May 16th / June 20th

Fair Trade Tea and Coffee and home made cakes

Everyone welcome

Village Prayer Meeting

Thursday March 5th at 8pm in Keedwell Church.

Can you spend an hour
to pray for the needs of our village?

Open to everyone.

Money Management Made Simple

Back for a second time!

A comprehensive, yet simple money management course to
help you get, and then stay, in control of your finances.

Completely free!

Wednesdays at 7.30 pm April 22nd / April 29th / May 6th

Hebron Church, Providence Lane

To book contact the Parish Office Tel: 393109

Enquiries to 394102

In conjunction with Christians Against Poverty.



PLANNING

The land immediately behind Lampton Road and Fenshurst Gardens failed to receive approval for building, at the North Somerset Central Area Planning Committee in October.

The site meeting held before the decision was made, proved to be very beneficial. Members of the Central Area Committee attended and were able to visualise very clearly just how high the proposed houses would be. Residents spoke very convincingly and reasonably as to why the dwellings should be single storey and the Parish Council was able, once again, to emphasise their objections to the plans.

I like to think this meeting went some way to helping the District Councillors refuse permission and everyone who attended the site meeting, objected in writing or spoke at the Central Area meeting must be thanked for their efforts. Although it meant giving a good deal of time to one application it was all worthwhile and showed that local opinion has a part to play.

The Draft Spatial Strategy continues to cause great concern, especially about developments south of Bristol in North Somerset. Proposed changes, published in 2008, showed no decrease in the number of dwellings and still indicated use of far too many green fields. Documents were looked at closely, and a response made by the Parish Council, with one of their main objections being about the way in which the Government has handled the matter. It appears that any form of democratic process has been disregarded and the dictatorial manner adopted has prevented any discussion or comments becoming meaningful. Observations or suggestions made by those living locally, in an area, have been brushed aside and ignored.

We understand, because there has been such an overwhelming number of 35,000 responses any comments or recommendations from the Government can not be expected until May or June!

Plans put forward by Kingerlee Homes to restore the listed garden, renovate existing buildings and build seven new ECO homes at Bracken Hill, Leigh Woods, have been approved. Work on the homes is likely to begin in Summer 2009 and Kingerlee Homes say they plan for there to be minimum disruption during the construction work.

Are you thinking of converting a loft or building an extension? New planning and building rules which came into force in October 2008 now mean some remodelling or conversion projects no longer require planning approval.

It could be easier to improve your home but, before starting work, it is wise to check with the local planning authority as permitted development rights may have changed.

Mary Uppington - Chairman, Planning Committee.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

Wimpey have appealed against the decision to refuse permission to build on the land behind Lampton Road / Fenshurst Gardens. We await developments as to what form any appeal will take.

FOURTH ANNUAL GRANNY TREK FOR CHILDREN'S HOSPICE SOUTH WEST

SUNDAY 26th APRIL

*This will take place at Charlton Farm, Wraxall,
home of the Children's Hospice.*

Three lengths of walk are available.

- 1) One mile on totally hard surfaces or with an option of half through fields.
- 2) Three miles through bluebell woods and fields
- 3) Six miles through bluebell woods and fields and the added treat of walking through the Tyntesfield Estate.

Don't let the name "Granny Trek" put you off. In fact you don't even have to be a granny. Walk in memory of your own granny. Because, in the current economical climate there is intense competition for charities trying to raise money, it is imperative that a lot more walkers take part this year. Well behaved dogs are welcome to accompany you.

Do register early by telephoning 01271 325270 or

email: grannytrek@chsw.org.uk to obtain your sponsor form.

Long Ashton Tennis Club



Founded in 1970, this friendly village club meets at the Community Centre's (LACA) floodlit courts at Keedwell Recreation Ground. Playing sessions are provided for both adults and children. Over the past two years alone some 70 children aged 5 and above, almost all from the village, have attended the various coaching and practice sessions run by our coach with help from members. This continues a long club tradition of encouraging youngsters and adults - even if novices or 'rusty' - to play and enjoy tennis in a safe and pleasant environment within easy reach of their own homes.

The Club is extremely grateful that after their many years of planning and hard work, LACA and LAMPRO (the fundraising group), in conjunction with the parish Council, have recently provided excellent new pavilion facilities at the courts, including toilets/changing rooms, enabling the Tennis Club and visiting teams to benefit from vastly improved clubroom facilities.

Club Membership: Prospective new members are welcome to come along and try the facilities during club sessions which in summer (April-Sept) are on Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. We are also running open Monday morning sessions (10am - 1pm) primarily for adults unable to attend evening sessions. In winter (Oct-Mar) sessions are on Monday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Please contact Mike Preston (392825) for further details of playing times, subscriptions children's coaching times/fees. etc.



*DO COME ALONG AND JOIN US -
THE CLUB ENJOYS A REPUTATION FOR
WELCOMING AND ENCOURAGING NEW AND
PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS OF ALL STANDARDS
AND AGES, AND FOR FOSTERING TENNIS IN A
SPIRIT OF FUN, ENJOYABLE COMPETITION AND
COMPANIONSHIP.*

S W URBAN EXTENSION

The Parish Council held a public meeting on 27th January in the Village Hall to give information on the several plans being mooted for various areas of the parish.

More than 100 residents heard the Chairman, Charles Cave, commence by stating that the Parish Council was totally against the development of 9,500 houses proposed by the South West assembly - an unelected body tasked by the Government to provide housing in this area. However the Parish Council understood that North Somerset Council had been given little or no choice and were being instructed to follow Government directions. Some members had attended workshops to try to plan for the best outcome. The end of 2008 should have seen approval of the plan but the Government Office had received 35,000 objections which perhaps accounted for the delay. A debate in Parliament in October 08 had produced cross party criticism.

Michael Reep, Head of Policy and Planning at North Somerset Council, reiterated their objections and confirmed that it had no option but to formulate a plan.

It was expected that approval of the plan would come in summer 2009. Developers are poised, ready to submit applications as soon as it is given. North Somerset Council must be ready. Because of the recession however, it would now be unrealistic to expect year on year growth, but developers would be putting their energy into detailed plans ready to go at the upturn.

Mr. Reep then gave brief explanations of plans already known, beginning with Bristol City Football Club's wish to build their new stadium on the border of North Somerset, the greatest problem being transport around the new stadium.

The approved plan for use of the Barrow Hospital site is now looking to use part of the site for housing which again brings road and access problems.

Another plan put forward by Bristol University for land between the railway and A370 shows how it may fit into the SW Urban Extension with housing, links into Long Ashton and a rail link incorporated.

Applications were expected in February/March for housing at Failand, but in Long Ashton Parish, on land between Weston Road and the Golf Course. This would include 500 houses, a Care Home, Primary School and light employment usage.

Expansion at the Airport brought questions about surface access to Bristol.

The next stage would be formal consultation of the Core Strategy Plan expected to be Autumn 09. A question and answer session then followed.



TREE PLANTING AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

A moist start to the day did not dampen the enthusiasm of volunteers who turned up last November to plant trees and hedgerows at the Recreation Ground.

With the help of the Avon Wildlife Trust and funding from the Local Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund, nearly 2000 plants were dug into the ground. These included a high proportion of “productive” species which we hope the community will be able to harvest for nuts, fruit and berries in the future.



In addition to helping with the hedge planting. The Transition Group also planted a number of productive trees on the grass mound behind the Club Room, and representatives from the Youth Group planted a claret ash in the car park.

This community effort to improve sustainability in the village should provide summer shade and autumn fruit including apples, pears and walnuts for future generations to enjoy. Sadly, some individuals’ selfish actions are intent on destroying the hedges and trees and we are fighting an on-going battle against this malicious criminal damage. We would be grateful if anyone who has any information about this would contact our Community Centre Manager, Tel: 393570.

The following is the winning article written by Mary Magro for a Parish Council Activities Day Competition.

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.

To be concluded in the next issue of the newsletter.

A Long Ashton Childhood (1940-1950)

The period between the Two Great Wars saw enormous changes in Britain. The First World War had decimated a way of life and the long-established social structure was seriously threatened. Now there was free education for everyone to the age of 14 and although university places were only available to those who could afford it, there were excellent alternatives such as apprenticeships and administrative positions for those with grammar school education. Many soon discovered that they could afford a mortgage and there was a great demand for new housing away from the terrace houses of the city which possibly were shared with the older generation. They set their sights on the rural environment of the outskirts and a building boom began; suburbia was created and the middle-class evolved.

Long Ashton was ideal for Bristolians - just a cycle ride to the City centre, the prevailing wind blowing in pure air from the south-west - a picturesque, pastoral environment. The golf course on the hilltop had been established in the late Victorian era and it seemed quite natural that Ridgeway Road should follow a contour line just on its south side. The most expensive houses were built at the east end, down scaling somewhat towards the west, but still highly desirable. Glebe Road, part of the Smyth estate, was begun at about the same time, the lessees of the existing cottages being employees of the Smyth family. In the late 1930s Mr. J.R. Greenland built the houses on the left side - several detached individually designed houses at either end and the rest being semi-detached, all with garages. Mr. Greenland himself lived in the last house with a building-site/yard to the left and a tennis court, which he hired out for 2/6d per hour, on the right. All the houses were typical of the suburban style which developed at this period. Sadly, as I write now in 2009, many have been altered and extended destroying the original features and symmetry of the road.

The land still belonged to the Smyth estate, hence the houses were leased for 999 years and owners paid ground rent. There was one interesting covenant namely that all houses should keep their front hedges as hawthorn. (Similarly Chestnut Road had an orange-flowered berberis stipulated.)

Mr. and Mrs. P. were married in 1936 at St. Mary's Church, Leigh Woods. They moved from a rented house in Westbury-on-Trym to a detached house in Glebe Road in the spring of 1940 together with their 2-year old daughter, Mary, and the Morris 10 car! The house cost £950 and they named it "Woodleigh". There were no house numbers and the postman, Mr. Goodser, had to have a good memory (and eyesight) as he delivered the post each morning and sometimes again in the afternoon, from his bicycle.

Woodleigh was an attractive house in a spacious plot, the garden at the back being particularly large. There were several mature elms on a bank on the east side where very long grass snakes were sometimes seen and wasps frequently built their nests. Mr. P. divided the garden into appropriate sections, lawn and flower borders, a good size vegetable and fruit-growing section and space for a swing. The garden to the right was similar, without the elms, but with egg-laying chickens in large run. That garden must have had more snails than most because Mr. H. collected them, purged them in a bucket of water overnight and boiled them next day as a delicacy.

Wartime Wartime concentrated family care and concern, and during the early 1940s when Bristol was ravaged by enemy bombing, relatives whose homes were in the City were invited to spend many nights with Mr. and Mrs. P. in their new home in Glebe Road. The integral garage had been built with a concrete ceiling and bunks were set up there. Shock waves from the City rattled the garage doors, a red glare of fire could be seen in the east from the bedroom windows. Mary watched a burning plane as it flew toward the Church and crashed there killing its Polish crew. Several neighbours had underground bunkers built in their gardens and would bolt there when sirens sounded. Mr. P. spent many alarming nights fire-watching in the City. Children made a game of collecting shrapnel after night-time raids.

The occasional tank would make its way along the main road, and for a while there was a NAFFI in operation in what is now Auto Scuderia at the top of Glebe Road.

VE Day prompted Glebe Road residents to celebrate with an enormous bonfire on the bank at the bottom of the road where it meets Yanley Lane. There were lots of fireworks, including squibs, and most unfortunately one of these little jumping firebombs found its way up the trouser leg of one of the revellers who quite literally performed a fire-dance before he was relieved of the offender!

The Seasons And so in the latter part of the War a stable and happy life was established for this family with Mrs. P. as the typical home-loving housewife. Central heating was unknown and the seasons were distinctive. Winters were very cold. Jack Frost painted wonderful pictures on the windows overnight. Mr. P. would rise at 7am, stoke the boiler in the kitchen and put a kettle of water on the gas stove with which to wet shave and wash, first thawing the face flannel which had shaped itself to the edge of the bath. Mrs. P. cooked him a big breakfast and prepared his sandwich lunch. He would not return before 6pm. Mary would be dressed in vest, pants, liberty bodice with its little rubber buttons, woollen skirt and hand-knitted jumper. A coal fire would only be lit as the sun went down, electric fires and paraffin heaters being sufficient during daylight hours. Mr. French, the coalman, would deliver coal and anthracite once or twice a year, heaving the heavy bags, one at a time, from his lorry on to his back and emptying the contents into the bunker at the side of the house.

Spring was an exciting time, A robin would frequently build its nest in the outside lavatory (attached to the house) and a blackbird would nest in the prickly pyracantha by the front door. Ashton brook was just a field away and the banks yielded the first flowers - bright yellow celandines, then later the delicate primroses. Mary might be lucky to glimpse a water vole swimming upstream. When she was taken a little farther away, along Yanley Lane, under the railway, up the hill to the fields beyond the ash path, there were carpets of golden cowslips, and bluebells in the woods. Sometimes her father would suggest a really early rising and they would go out to listen to the dawn chorus, find a skylark's nest on a bank, see a stoat in the distance, a streaking hare or a skulking fox.

Summer meant haymaking. The field at the bottom of the garden would be cut, then some days later the flattened grass would be tossed by a tedder to dry. Later again it would be raked up and expertly made into a hayrick in a corner of the field.

The garden was important for the wellbeing of the family, providing vegetables and fruit when food was rationed, but there were occasional unwelcome incidents. The hawthorn hedge proved insufficient a barrier for farm animals in the surrounding fields, and they occasionally trespassed to sample the growing produce. They were particularly difficult to locate in the autumn mists which sometimes became thick fogs. On several occasions Mr. P. pursued straying cows, not to mention a horse or two, all of whom were very difficult indeed to capture in the fog. Sometimes flocks of sheep or herds of cows were driven down Glebe Road en route to Pearce's farm in Yanley Lane. This was quite a procedure as one farm-hand had to precede the animals and close all the garden gates!

There were sounds which belonged to those days of childhood. Owls and foxes haunted the twilight hours and the night, and shunting trains at Parson Street Station seemed especially loud in the darkness. During summer days and evenings when there was a cricket match, from her bedroom window Mary could watch the batsman hit the ball and hear it a second or two later. Christmas morning and New Year would be welcomed in by the church bells of All Saints as well as ships' hooters on the docks.

Homelife This was the time when the main duty of the married woman was to be a housewife with all that that entails, and Mrs. P. was the epitome of that noble lady. As in the folk song, each day had its particular task, So, on Monday morning, Mr. Panes, the grocer (predecessor of the Cox family) came in his little van to collect the grocery order, from the back door of course. Mrs. P. had made a list which she handed to him, and later in the afternoon he would deliver the box of goods for which he was then paid. On the same day, and probably another day also, Mr. James, the baker, came with his horse and cart. The horse was content to plod from house to house while he had his nosebag attached. Mr. James would fill a large basket with a variety of loaves, buns and sometimes cakes, and tempt Mrs.P. (at the back door of course) with these mouth-watering victuals.

The milkman, Mr. Broad from Bishopsworth. came every day of the week, including Sundays, and of course he brought the bottles to the back door.

To be continued

HEBRON BRIGHT HOUR

Come and join us on Tuesdays 2-3pm
and make new friends over a cup of tea and a biscuit.

Men and women welcome.

Speakers are different each week, occasional films and slide shows.

At Hebron Church, Providence Lane.

Lifts available tel 393823 or 393076

February 24th	Ruth Birt
March 3rd	Rachel Stone - Hebron Member A free light lunch available today at 1pm. Telephone 393823 if you would like to come. All welcome.
March 10th	Get together at 92 Fenshurst Gardens
March 17th	Joan Barratt - Etloe Church
March 24th	Linda Jenner - Youth Worker and Soloist
March 31st	Kate Morrison - Blythwood Care
April 7th	Pastor Robin Schaefer - Communion
April 14th and 21st	<i>NO MEETINGS</i>
April 28th	Ted Morse - Stockwood Church
May 5th	Mike Dorgon - Reaching out to Europe
May 12th	Alex Boyne - Speedwell Fellowship
May 19th	Marjorie Sharpe - Stockwood Church
May 26th	<i>NO MEETING</i>
June 2nd	Richard Golding - Hebron Member
June 9th	Ruth Eddolls - Speaker and Soloist
June 16th	John Green - Peace, Hope and Trust
June 23rd	Eric Liddell Olympic Star - Film
June 30th	Judy Green - Nailsea Methodist Closed for Summer

CARDBOARD RECYCLING - *Briefing*

What type of cardboard can be recycled where?

THIN PRINTED CARD Thin printed card such as cereal packets, toothpaste boxes and ready meal sleeves can be recycled in the green kerbside box, at the recycling banks and at any one of the 3 recycling centres.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD

PLAIN

Plain corrugated cardboard can be recycled in the green waste bag, with garden waste.

PRINTED AND PLAIN

Any printed or plain corrugated cardboard can be taken to any one of our 3 recycling centres. Corrugated cardboard (plain or printed) should not be placed in or dumped at the recycling banks.

Why is this becoming a problem?

When loads of paper and thin card are contaminated with corrugated cardboard the load is rejected by the recycling reprocessor and will end up in landfill. In the current market for recyclable materials even slightly contaminated loads will immediately be rejected. North Somerset assures residents that all uncontaminated material presented for recycling is being recycled even in the current recycling market.

Sites are now having a mass of dumped corrugated cardboard being left at recycling banks which not only makes the site look unsightly but more importantly this dumped cardboard can not be recycled by the contractor servicing the banks and the material has to be sent to landfill.

Continued ..

What advertising and Publicity are we doing?

- Bright yellow signage on the paper and card recycling banks informing residents not to place corrugated cardboard in the banks.
- Website updated with a section specifically about cardboard - www.n-somerset.gov.uk/cardboard
- Adverts placed in all 4 local papers (Weston Mercury, North Somerset Times, Clevedon Mercury and Worle News).
- Posters to be distributed to town and parish councils, Councillors, libraries, receptions and area officers by February.
- Double page article placed in the March edition of North Somerset Life, published and delivered first week in March.
- New cardboard leaflet being developed to explain what cardboard to recycle where.

Further information

If you have any queries about cardboard recycling, and the publicity we are issuing, please contact:

Lucy Elston (Assistant Waste Minimisation Officer) - 01934 426011

David Goodship (Assistant Waste Minimisation Officer) - 01934 426195

Catherine McCoy (Waste Minimisation Officer) - 01934 427665 (Wed-Fri)

HOBBY HORSE

aims to provide friendship and support,
sharing experiences from all stages of life whilst
learning new skills, chatting over coffee/tea.

Everyone welcome. Creche facilities.

Thursdays - 10.30 am to 12 noon

at Hebron Church, Providence Lane,

For details of programme contact Liz Worthington Tel: 393820
or refer to monthly magazines and community notice boards.

LONG ASHTON BOWLING CLUB

Coffee morning

Saturday 28th March 10 am - 12 noon
Jubilee Pavilion, Community Centre, Keedwell Hill

Everyone welcome!

Do come along and find out more about
our friendly Club

The outdoor season starts in mid April and we will be holding
OPEN SESSIONS

on Friday evenings during May (starting on the 8th)

Come along any time after 5.45 pm and 'Have a Go' at bowling
Free tuition

Woods and shoes provided

Snacks and bar available



For more information contact Alan Lewis 01275 462030 (Club Secretary)

or Janet Lock 01275 393484 (Public Relations Officer)

or visit our website: www.longashtonbowlingclub.org.uk

RESPECT

“Respect” is the current buzz word, but what does it mean?

To some people it seems to mean “I know my rights - give me what I want” and if not satisfied, abusive language and threatening behaviour follow.

Most people will probably be surprised to learn that this has been an increasing problem at Long Ashton Surgery.

Those acting in this manner should note that intimidation of staff in this way will not be tolerated and could lead to access to medical treatment being denied to them at Long Ashton Surgery.

Long Ashton Patient Participation Group

Wassailing returns to Long Ashton

Sunday 21st January saw people reviving the old custom of wassailing the apple trees. Pear Tree Avenue, on the new estate was chosen as a line of pear trees and one large apple tree still grow there. This is a very old ceremony which involves drinking the health of the apple trees so that there is a good harvest the following year. We learned that this is not something new to the village. Some of you reading this will remember that the University social club organised regular wassailing at the Research Station for many years with a bonfire, drinks, songs and dance.



The photo shows our green man and the wassail king and queen with some other 21st century wassailers - singing the old songs and dancing on the green. Cider-soaked toast was hung on the trees, poems read and hot cider enjoyed by all.

And so an ancient custom is revived ... an informal street party that brings us together in the winter cold to help us feel warmer and celebrate together. Same time next year! Hope to see you there!

Liz Lansley

Nailsea - Bristol Walking & Cycling Route

Agreement has been reached between North Somerset Council, Bristol City Council and Sustrans to build this route, to be known as the “**Festival Way**”. The two Councils and the Big Lottery Fund are funding the scheme. The scheme is part of “**Connect2**”, a UK-wide project that aims to improve local travel in 79 communities by creating new walking and cycling routes. This joint submission was one of 450 for inclusion in Connect2. This 5-year project commenced on 1st January 2008.

The Festival Way will connect Nailsea’s Millennium Park (near TESCO) with the Create Centre in Bristol. The route includes the Flax Bourton Greenway and the existing path between Birdwell and Yanley Lane in Long Ashton. The scheme includes links to the National Trust at Tyntesfield, Backwell School and Leisure Centre, Ashton Court, Greville Smyth Park and Hotwells.



At the Create Centre the Festival Way will connect with existing National Cycle Network routes to Portishead, Bristol City Centre and beyond.

The Town Council of Nailsea and Parish Councils of Flax Bourton and Long Ashton are represented on the “Festival Way Steering Group”, which meets with representatives from Sustrans, the CTC, Local Access Forum and the two local authorities to provide community input to the emerging scheme.

Off-road sections of the route will be the subject of planning applications when land negotiations and basic designs are sufficiently advanced. Submitted applications will be open to public scrutiny and comment. The principal off-road section in Long Ashton parish is likely to be from Yanley Lane, beside the Bypass to the Dovecote Pub.

Angela Neale
cllr.neale@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Long Ashton Library

Did you know



Our new opening hours mean that we are now open on Saturday afternoons until 4pm and Thursday evenings until 7pm.

We have **Story Time** for pre-school children every Thursday afternoon from 2.30 pm until 3.00pm (booking not necessary) and run a Bookcrawl scheme of stickers and certificates for under 4s.

We have recently started two **Reading Groups**. The lunchtime group is on the second Tuesday of every month from 12.30pm until 1.30pm. The evening group is on the second Thursday of every month from 7pm until 8pm.

North Somerset Streets and Open Spaces have a representative here to answer your questions, on the first Thursday morning of every month between 10am and 12.30pm.

A local **Police Officer** is here on the fourth Thursday afternoon of every month between 4pm and 5pm and you are welcome to drop in and discuss anything.

Please note our new telephone number at Long Ashton is 01934 426060 - just call us or pop in if you want any more information!

Kirsten and Dawn

TRANSITION LONG ASHTON

- energy group



The Transition Group in Long Ashton tries to address aspects of life in the community to promote sustainable living.

Amongst its many aims the transition group has a desire to reduce energy use in Long Ashton, and to promote the generation and use of renewable energy.

A group of volunteers within the transition energy group have decided to provide an information service to members of the village. We have varying skills and can answer a number of questions from an independent perspective, such as:

- How well is my home insulated?
- What grants are available for me to install insulation/generate energy within my home?
- What are the options for renewable energy generation in my home?
- What payback will I really get for renewable energy generation?

We have access to a number of people within the village who have skills in domestic renewable energy generation, including:

- Solar panels
 - Ground source heat pumps
 - Photovoltaic panels
- Wind turbines

There are a number of houses within Long Ashton that are already generating renewable energy. In the future we hope to be organising an open day to let other members of the village view these systems.

If you have any questions about energy conservation or renewable energy generation or have any ideas to offer the group please contact Ian Webb 01275 392187 (ian@margerian.fsnet.co.uk)

LACCA CHARITY

LACCA was formed in 1990 by a group of five Long Ashton residents, led by Miss Mary Adams, who was the District Nurse at that time. Since then LACCA has grown from strength to strength, due to the kind donations given by the villagers of Long Ashton.

At present, over 100 people are being supplied with equipment, free of charge, for the period of their disability. Upon the return of the equipment it is sanitized, checked and kept in one of our “Stores”. The “Stores” are garages loaned to us by several residents in Long Ashton. We unfortunately do not have a general building to store the equipment, we therefore have to keep tight records as to the whereabouts of each item, in order that they are easily accessible, should an urgent request be made, which is usually the case.

The present LACCA committee, consists of the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Equipment Secretary, and Equipment Advisor. The installation of equipment is carried out by the three men on the committee, with occasional help given by a number of gentlemen in the village. When an item is requested, it is usually supplied within days, a Form of Agreement is signed and we request that this item be added to the receiver’s Household Insurance. When a request is made for the removal of the equipment, the committee member endeavours to undertake this as soon as possible. In the unfortunate case of a death, the item is removed as promptly and sensitively as possible.

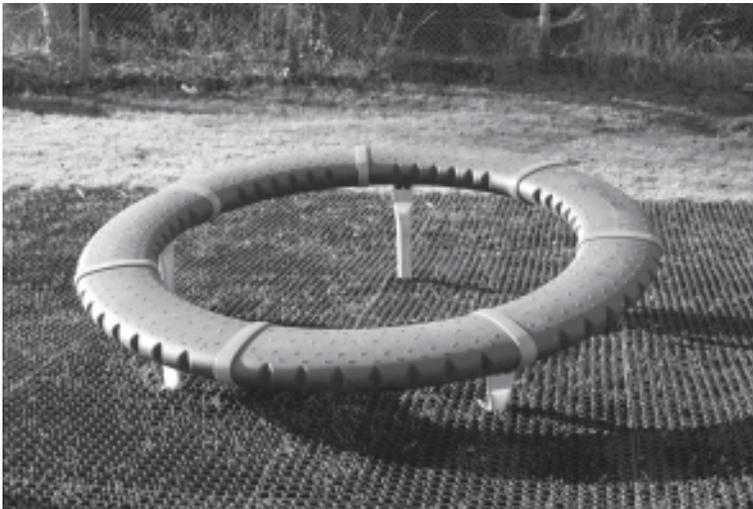
For LACCA to continue in its efficient way we really urgently need another committed committee member, someone who would be prepared to take responsibility for the issue of equipment upon request. It would be a pity for LACCA to be forced to fold, simply because there was no one willing to take any responsibility as our work load increases. We ask that some thought is given to this; one never knows when an item, such as Stair Lift or a Bath Lift is required to make our lives easier throughout an illness.

For more information contact the Chairman, Ron Chorley. Tel: 01275 392777.



'SUPERNOVA' LANDS AT THE RECREATION GROUND

Long Ashton Community Association is delighted to announce the arrival of the 'Supernova' at the Recreation Ground just before Christmas!

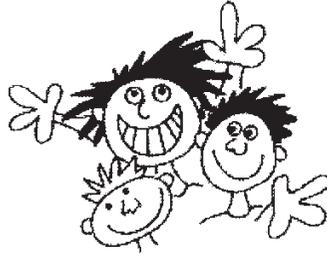


It may not immediately be clear what this latest item of play equipment does, but it provides opportunities for individuals and groups of all ages to spin, balance, train, experiment and gather.

This is the final piece of equipment planned for the refurbished playground as part of the Millennium Project and has been funded by LACA and LAMPRO.

Kidz Club For School Years 2-6

Alternate Fridays during term
Games, crafts, stories, DVD's and fun



Mini NRG School Years 6-8

Alternate Fridays during term time
Lots of lively games, crafts and DVD's

NRG

School Years 9+

Alternate Fridays during term time
Lots of games. Come and try our Wii!

Contact Andrew Long 01275 392310
e-mail crusaders@hebronchurch.co.uk

Find out when sessions are on at
www.hebronchurch.co.uk/youth

Long Ashton Patient Participation Group Meeting 28th January

The third of the meetings arranged by the group saw the Jubilee Pavilion packed with more than 100 persons, mainly men, who had come to hear a talk on Prostate problems and the possibility of Prostate Cancer.

Mr. Raj Persad, Consultant Urologist and Head Clinician at UBHT, gave a very comprehensive talk, illustrated by slides, about the Prostate. Symptoms and treatments were explained culminating in the summing up as follows:-

*The most common disease of the prostate is
Benign Prostate Hyperplasia*

There is a 9% lifetime risk of developing prostate cancer

2% are at risk of dying

*Not all cancers need treatment
but in the modern era many more treatments are available*

Dr. Mark O'Connor also answered some queries and said that screening is not routinely offered at Long Ashton Surgery but should patients request it then it can be carried out after a clear and detailed explanation of the procedure has taken place.

LONG ASHTON GOOD COMPANIONS

Don't let a name put you off. Perhaps this title is a little old fashioned today but this club has been a going concern continuously for the past 54 years.

Whilst it is a club for the older members of the village that doesn't mean it is exclusive to them. There must be many, shall we say, more mature ladies who would welcome the chance to make friends, be entertained by performers and speakers or pass the time playing table games.

This is your opportunity - why not come along one Wednesday afternoon to the Jubilee Pavilion, the hall above the Village Hall, at 2.30 pm and give it a try? You will be very welcome.

As well as the aforementioned activities, visits are arranged for lunch outings, to the theatre or, in the summer, coach trips to the seaside.

Telephone Jean Pullin 393617 if you want to know more.

LACCA CHARITY

Long Ashton Community Care Amenities

A.G.M.

Wednesday 10th June 2009 at 8.00 pm

at

The Royal British Legion, Long Ashton

**Come along and support your local charity,
let us have your ideas how we can make LACCA even better.**

TRANSITION LONG ASHTON

- TRANSPORT SOLUTIONS

Tuesday March 24th 7.30 pm
The Village Hall, Keedwell Hill

If you would like to find an alternative way of travelling rather than driving come and get some ideas on how to do it!

Find out:

- How and who you can car share with and have a cheaper way of commuting
- What is happening with community transport for the less mobile
- How cycle training can help you 'bike it' with confidence
- How some bus services are improving locally (did you know you can now get a return ticket before 9am?)
- More about local rail services
- How Sustrans is making it a lot easier to connect by foot or bicycle to Bristol
- How speed controls and traffic calming can make the village a safer more pleasant place to walk through
- More about the South Bristol 'link road' and how we can make a case for less road building

Building more roads is not a long term solution to our transport problems. During the evening there will be some short presentations followed by a market place of ideas to help us use our cars less.

Liz Lansley.



ATTENTION!

CLUB & ORGANISATION SECRETARIES

Do you remember to enter your organisations' events in the Diary in the Library?

To do so could mean that your event does not clash with another and could well bring in more visitors and possible future members.

The Diary is prominently displayed near the door to catch the attention of callers.



The Alexander Technique

The Alexander Technique can alleviate problems such as:

- **Back pain**
- **Headaches and migraines**
- **High blood pressure**
- **Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI)**

while helping to
**boost confidence, improve balance, coordination,
posture and breathing**

The Bristol Alexander Technique Training School Association (BATTSA) is based at the Long Ashton Guide HQ. Students in their third year of training give supervised Alexander lessons to members of the public for a **reduced rate (only £8)**.

If you are interested in lessons from one of our trainees please call Petra on 0117 3737422 or see www.battsa.co.uk for more information.

We can also arrange a **free**, one-to-one introductory lesson if you just want to find out a bit more about what the Technique can do for you.



REFURBISHED COMMUNITY CENTRE FORMALLY RE-OPENED

LACA was delighted to welcome Norman Yeo, who has lived in the village for over 100 years, to formally re-open the refurbished Community Centre facilities last November.



After recalling his memories of the origins of the Village Hall he entertained us with anecdotes from the past before cutting the ribbon with the same scissors he used to formally open the Long Ashton By-pass!

The refurbished facilities include the main Village Hall and Stage, together with the kitchen and toilets, the Green Room, sports changing facilities and upstairs Griffin Room. In addition to this, a new office has been created for the Centre Manager at the entrance to the Village Hall.

For details of hiring any of these facilities as well as the Club Room, Pavilion or Keeds Sports Hall, please contact the Centre Manager, Sarah Leong Tel: 393570.