

A photograph of a garden scene. In the foreground, there is a lush green lawn. A path made of flat, grey stones leads through the garden. To the left, a low, rustic stone wall borders a garden bed. The garden bed is filled with various plants, including large green leaves and numerous small white snowdrops. In the background, there are several trees, some with bare branches and others with green foliage. A wooden fence is visible behind the trees. The overall scene is bright and well-maintained.

Grapevine

Langtoft

April 2025

*The magazine to keep you in touch with
whats happening in your village.*



Refresh & Renew

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Editor's Welcome.

We're now officially into Spring and we're sure all are grateful the nights are slowly drawing out and we get to enjoy the extended daylight, whilst waiting for the summer sunshine.

Despite the dark and dismissal February Liz Jarman and volunteers planted 23 trees in our newly created King Charles III Coronation Community Orchard. A huge thank you to everyone that helped and in a couple of years' time we'll all be able to enjoy the 'fruits of your labour.

On the theme of looking after our village, improvement works continue at East End pond and Penfield Nature Reserve, whilst our beautiful church is undergoing upgrades to its internal amenities. All these projects continue to enhance and develop our community as a great place to live.

The next two months will be busy across the Parish with events that encourage us to get together. Various Easter celebrations and as we move into May our annual Road Race and VE day celebrations. In addition many other events as advertised throughout this newsletter and within the village.

The Annual Parish meeting a key event in our Parish calendar will be held on Friday 11th April, 7pm at the Village hall. The Parish Council extend an invitation to you all to come along to meet council members, community groups with the opportunity to discuss village and wider district news whilst enjoying a Cheese and Wine supper. We look forward to seeing you all there.

On an administrative note we currently have three vacancies in the council, one being with a focus on planning.

Planning applications are formal requests to local planning authorities for permission to carry out development or change the use of land or buildings, ensuring that such actions align with local and national planning policies and regulations.

Planning applications are a crucial part of the planning system, which aims to control and guide the development of land and buildings in a way that promotes sustainable and well-planned developments.

The Parish Council are a Consultee in this process. We are looking for someone to join the Council who has an interest in aspects of planning and to help monitor and co-ordinate responses. Training is available.

If you're interested in supporting your community please reach out to the Parish Clerk.

Regards Langtoft Parish Council

DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION IS 10th MAY 2025

*All content to be sent to Graytones Printers: mail@graytones-printers.co.uk
Articles may have to be edited and do not express the views of editorial team.*

Please send files as pdfs and named for which organisation ,club or event.

Correct at point of going to press.

If you would like to advertise your business please contact

Clerk@langtoftparishcouncil.org

Apologies for the printing error for the WI article in the last issue

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !

CALLING ALL VOUNTEERS ! WE NEED YOUR HELP

Langtoft Parish Council

*Are looking for volunteers to join us
in our mission to make a positive
impact in our community.*

*Contact us today to learn more about
how you can support our village.*

clerk@langtoftparishcouncil.org



LANGTOFT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

CHEESE AND WINE EVENING!

*This is a meeting for all residents of Langtoft,
not a Parish Council meeting.*

7pm, Friday 11th April 2025

Langtoft Village Hall



The Annual Report from the Chairman of Langtoft Parish Council

Update on Langtoft Village VE AND VJ day celebrations

***Display of proposed improvement to the Black Bull Green
Play area.***

Come along and meet local groups and see their displays and discover just what our village has to offer!!!

Also an opportunity for residents to speak on any matter of local interest.

ALL WELCOME, PLEASE BRING ALL THE FAMILY!

District Council News.

From your SK District Councillors

Cllr Vanessa Smith

Vanessa.smith@southkesteven.gov.uk

07474 874895

Cllr Rosemary Trollope-Bellew

Cllr.trollopebellew@southkesteven.gov.uk

01778 560534



Dear Residents,

Cllr Smith spoke on behalf of the residents at Lincolnshire County Council's planning committee meeting in March. Ashton Estates had applied for permission to vary a condition on an existing planning permission which would allow them to extract sand & gravel from land at Greatford before widening King Street. As the original permission was granted almost three years ago Councillors felt that the applicant had already had sufficient time to widen the road and refused the request. Planning permission for the quarry lapses July 2025.

Councillors have attended presentations on the restructuring of Lincolnshire's local government. Options include dividing Lincolnshire into two authorities; either west & east or north & south, or include neighbouring councils. SKDC's preferred option will be debated on 18th March at an Extraordinary Council meeting. Further negotiations will still be required but it is anticipated that council restructure will be complete by 2028. Three years may seem a long time, but this is a major project which all authorities in Lincolnshire are having to deal with alongside their day-to-day services.

Don't forget that the County Council and Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority Mayoral elections will take place on 1st May 2025. To register visit GOV.UK website, you have until midnight on 11th April, don't forget your National Insurance Number or for further information please contact SKDC [01476 406080](tel:01476406080) and ask for elections or email elections@southesteven.gov.uk. Don't forget to take a photo ID when you vote.

We both attend most Parish Council meetings and are committed to serving the needs of our community and speaking up for residents. If you have any concerns, suggestions, or feedback, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Vanessa and Rosemary

Health & Wellbeing - The Deepings Practice.

The Deepings Practice and PPG will be holding a Well Being Day on May 17th. We will be pleased to see you and you may find out about services that can help you in the future. There will be representatives from various groups that operate in the area and a demonstration from the Lincolnshire Defibrillation team. Come along and support the Practice and your PPG (Patients Participation Group)

THE DEEPINGS
practice 

Health and Wellbeing Event

Saturday 17th May

The Deepings Practice

Godsey Lane

FREE

10 am - 3pm

**Talks,
Demonstrations,
Stalls and Lots of**

**FREE
Information!**

**THE DEEPINGS PRACTICE
PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP**

 **YOUR PATIENT VOICE** 

Church News - The Ness Group.

As we approach Easter, we find ourselves once again in a world filled with uncertainty. Global affairs continue to shift and challenge us, and at times, it can be difficult to see a clear path ahead. Yet, amid all this, the rhythm of the seasons offers us a quiet and steadfast assurance. The arrival of spring reminds us that renewal and hope are always within reach.

Spring brings with it longer days, budding trees, and the gentle warmth of the sun breaking through the cold of winter. The world begins to wake up, as if creation itself is whispering a promise: light will overcome darkness, and life will triumph over death. This is the message of Easter, the foundation of our faith, and the reason we hold on to hope.

As we journey through Lent, we embrace a time of preparation, helping us to refocus our hearts and minds. Through acts of kindness, fasting, and contemplation, we remember the sacrifice of Christ and the deep love that led Him to the cross. It is a solemn time, but it is not without hope—for we know that beyond the suffering of Good Friday lies the joy of Easter Sunday.

Easter morning bursts forth with the triumphant news of the resurrection. The tomb is empty, and Christ is risen! It is a victory over death and despair, a reminder that love and life are stronger than any darkness we may face. This is the hope we carry with us not just at Easter but throughout the year.

As we celebrate with family, friends, and our village community, let us hold fast to this hope. Even in uncertain times, the promise of Easter remains unchanged: new life is always possible, and hope is never far away.

May this season bring you peace, joy, and the deep assurance that the best is yet to come. Christ is risen—He is risen indeed



Church News - St Michael's Langtoft.

You may have noticed some activity in the churchyard over the past few days, On Monday March 10th 2025 work started on our huge building project for an accessible toilet and new servery area in the church. According to PCC (Parochial Church Council) minutes in 1996 it was hoped that a toilet would be installed in the church at some point in the future!

It is anticipated that the work will take up to three months, but once the path is back in place we will have access to the church for Sunday services and Saturday morning coffee.

We're not sure about cake and bacon butty mornings yet.

Please keep an eye on the church noticeboard or email me stmichaelchurchwarden@gmail.com if you need any information.

We have been very fortunate to secure funding from some very generous donations from parishioners, grant trusts and PCC funding.



St Michael's Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place this year on Saturday May 10th at 12.30pm. All are welcome to attend. If you would like to put your name on the church electoral roll, please contact our secretary Jo jojofranklin@btinternet.com for more information

Debbie Howard (Churchwarden)

Activites & Clubs - Football.

'We couldn't be happier with Tom's private football coaching.'

'My daughter looks forward to every session and has grown so much under his guidance.'



FREE LANGTOFT PRIVATE FOOTBALL COACHING SESSIONS

**PETERBOROUGH UNITED COACH AND LANGTOFT
PE TEACHER TOM RUSSELL**

SATURDAYS AT LANGTOFT

FOR 4 - 16 YEAR OLDS. MAX OF 6 IN A GROUP

GROUPED ACCORDING TO AGE AND ABILITY

FIRST SESSION FREE FOR NEW PLAYERS

**TO BOOK A PLACE USE THIS
QR CODE/ MESSAGE ME**



+447883153860

CONTACT 



TOM RUSSELL TRAINING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

VALKYRIES GIRLS



NEW GIRLS U6 & U7 TEAMS PLACES AVAILABLE

Is your daughter looking to start playing football?

We are developing two new girls teams to add to the Valkyries current girls football provision. We are looking for players in the following age groups.

UNDER 6 (CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR 1).

NEXT SEASONS UNDER 7

UNDER 7 (CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR 2)

NEXT SEASONS UNDER 8

Training is on Saturday mornings 10-11am
At the Valkyries girls development is our
priority in a safe, fun learning environment.



ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

Contact for more Information: Steve Eason (Girls Football Development)



07946124995



langtoftfc.development@gmail.com

Activites & Clubs - Langtoft United.

NEW GIRLS TEAMS

Valkyries Girls currently have two new teams developing,
these are U6 & U7 girls teams.

The teams will make up next seasons U7 & U8 girls.

If your daughter has an interest in playing football then we have places available. Come and join the Valkyries grow the girls game.

Training is currently 10-11am at Langtoft every Saturday morning.

The club also has vacancies for anyone wishing to become a role model to these girls. We would love to bring in more female coaches to our coaching team.

To express your interest or for more information contact:

Steve 07946125995

Activites & Clubs - Langtoft Bowls Club.

Langtoft Bowls Club – Playing Fields off Manor Close PE6 9NB

Open Day

Sunday 3 May

1000-1400

Everyone is welcome to come along and have a go for free, spectators are also welcome. Refreshments available

All equipment will be provided, please wear flat soled shoes or trainers

Visitors also welcomed any
Wednesday morning 1000-1200





BOWLS COACHING SESSIONS

So you want to learn to play bowls?

We are holding a Free 6 Week Course starting on

Sunday 11 May 2025 from 11.a.m. to 12.30

Have you ever wanted to learn how to play bowls? Langtoft Bowls Club is running a **free 6 week course** on Sundays to enable you to have a go at outdoor bowling. The course is aimed at those new to bowling and there is no commitment to carry on playing after the course is completed.

Objectives:

- Have fun!!!!
- Learn mat placement
- Bowls selection
- Jack control
- Bowls delivery method
- Learn match play
- Bowls etiquette

Requirements:

- Flat solid shoes
- Bowls can be provided
- All other equipment provided

A Sense of Humour!!!



Location: Langtoft Bowls Club
Manor Close - Next to the pre-school

Registration/Information:
Contact Nick Carr
07756876905 or by e mail:
nickbowls0233@gmail.com



**Put a *spring*
in your step
with YOGA**

Whether you are looking to increase flexibility, gently build strength or wanting to relax now is the perfect time to start.

Small friendly mixed ability yoga classes in Langtoft Village Hall.

**Tuesdays at 9.30am
Wednesdays at 6.45pm**

Beginners warmly welcomed

**To book contact Sam:
07899 753903
replenishyoga.uk@gmail.com
www.replenishyogawithsam.com**

Activites & Clubs - Oddfellows.

Local group offers easy routes to new friendships

Local friendship group, Nene & Welland Oddfellows, says there's no shame in admitting you'd like more company or friends in your life and it should instead be seen as a promising turning point.

The message is part of a mini-campaign being run by the group as it invites anyone looking to expand their social circle to give one of their friendly meetups a try.

A recent survey of 138 Oddfellows members showed the top three reasons behind initially giving their group a try was to spend time with people (77.54%), to build a new circle of friends (65.22%) and to get out the house more (58.7%).

"People are not alone in how they feel. It's essential for us, as humans, to socialise and spend time with others," said Karen Earth, Branch Secretary for Nene & Welland Oddfellows.

"Knowing what steps to take to meet new people as an adult, however, is often the stumbling block. That's where we come in."

Nene & Welland Oddfellows, made up over 400 mostly older and retired members, hosts around 10 events a month in and around Market Deeping each month. On Saturday 8th April at 2pm there is an Easter Surprise Bingo. £1 for 10 games. Easter Special Fliers are £1 each. On Sunday 4th May (weather dependant) there's a guided tour of Langtoft's Penfield Nature Reserve at 10:30am. Friday 23rd May at 10:30am they are hosting a talk by Deepings Community Library who will explain the library's past, present and their future expansion plans. There are monthly Craft Groups, a Cold Pudding Club, talks and meals out. All events must be pre-booked. Phone the Office on 01778 342006 for more information.

Almost all of the Oddfellows' members surveyed (97.83%) agreed it was important to regularly participate in interesting activities in later life, with the most cited reason being to keep the mind and body active.

Added Karen "We've a great bunch who come on their own, as a couple, or with friends, and there's always a host who'll look out for you. Everything is organised, you just need to turn up and enjoy yourself"

To find out more about Nene & Welland Oddfellows and its upcoming events, get in touch with Karen on Karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk or 01778 342006 or visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/activities.



We started off the year with our Annual Meeting in January. This is our opportunity to reflect on all the meetings, events and activities we have taken part in over the past year. This year, it was also the chance to celebrate the talent and resourcefulness of our members as we asked them to bring along something that had been upcycled/recycled or repurposed and talk about it. To our delight, many of our members brought items along and told us the stories behind them. Everyone was keen to get a closer look, interact and ask questions, which made for a really pleasant evening.

Second Helpings of Stamford

At our February meeting, Anne Earle spoke to us about Second Helpings of Stamford – a voluntary group redistributing food in a community café and pantry. This is a charity that began in 2015, inspired by The Real Junk Food Café in Leeds and led by the Methodist church. Each night volunteers go to the local supermarkets, collect their food waste and bring it back. The pantry opens at 10.30 am and offers this food to anyone on a “pay as you feel” basis. There is also a Saturday café where surplus food is made into 3-course meals, which is also run on a “pay as you feel” basis and the volunteer cooks include chefs from restaurants in the town. As well as supermarkets, they are often offered food from farms and other sources. These have included pheasants, lobster, oysters and a ton of potatoes that were too big to go through McCains’ factory machinery. Any leftovers they have go to goats, chickens and 3 donkeys called Tom, Dick and Harry!

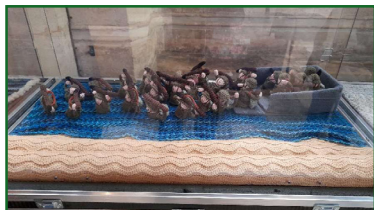
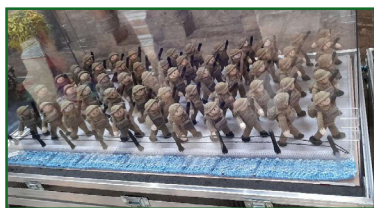
The work of the charity has expanded to include projects in collaboration with Mindspace and Evergreen, with referrals from health visitors, surgeries and social workers, volunteers go out to deliver lunch bags to 34 people. They even deliver on Christmas Day. Sophie, a cook and nutritionist, takes classes on Thursdays, teaching cooking from scratch in collaboration with Mindspace. These classes are offered in 6-week blocks and there is a waiting list of people who wish to attend. Second Helpings has also been given central government funding to provide activities and food for 50-60 under-privileged children in the school holidays.

The charity regularly receives donations from businesses as well as individuals using the pantry and café and has also been successful in securing a grant from the National Lottery.

This was a heartwarming presentation which reminded us of the kindness of people and how much good there is in the world.

The Longest Yarn!

Several of our members were excited to visit The Longest Yarn exhibition at Peterborough Cathedral. *The Longest Yarn* is a collaborative artwork created in the UK and France commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings, which took place in 1944. It consists of 80 dioramas created in knitted and crocheted wool echoing the 80 years that have passed since the landings. Each scene represents what happened during the few days before and on June 6th, 1944. Scenes illustrate the doubts and difficulties faced by the allies such as predicting the weather. When the decision to proceed is made men and equipment board ships and aeroplanes, the invasion force crosses the English Channel and fierce fighting takes place to establish allied forces in France. Each diorama conveys the atmosphere and drama of the scene it is depicting brilliantly and we found the exhibition both humbling and moving. The work has been displayed in France and at a number of locations in the United Kingdom and will visit the United States.



Future Meetings

Our April meeting is a week later due to Easter and is on Monday, April 28th. Our speaker is Steve Lovell and he will be giving us a talk entitled *Cuba – It's Time to Salsa*.

At our meeting on May 19th, we see the welcome return of Julie Kinnear. This time, Julie will be telling us all about the story and life of Coco Chanel.

All meetings are held at Langtoft Village Hall and commence at 7.30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome at Langtoft WI. Please see the posters around the village or contact our President, Jean Street on 01778 345037 for further information.

Sue Eales, Langtoft WI.



JOIN US

COME TAKE PART

SOUND

COSTUMES
& PROPS

ACT

TRY SOMETHING

NEW

SING

MAKE NEW
FRIENDS

DANCE

SPECIAL FX

SET DESIGN

HAVE FUN

If you'd like to get involved please come down, meet our wonderful members and see what we're all about.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for the dates of our next rehearsals, or email us for more information.

Activites & Clubs - Langtoft Players.



**Script
Read
Through:**
Tues 1st
April
7.30pm

Auditions
Thurs 3rd
April
7.30pm

PLAY 2025 "Over my Dead Body"

We are currently
looking to cast the
following roles:

- 2 males: one aged 49/50 and one aged 69
- 4 females: three aged between 30-50 and one aged 60 or above

If you or
someone you
know might be
interested in
joining the
cast, please
get in touch
with us.

langtoftplayersenq@gmail.com

Show dates: Thurs 19th - Sat 21st June 2025



STARS OF THE FUTURE

EXPLORE THE MAGIC
OF THE STAGE

DEVELOP SKILLS IN STAGE CRAFT

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

GAIN CONFIDENCE

HAVE FUN

EXPLORE YOUR CREATIVITY

JOIN

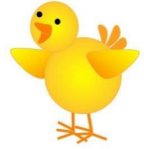
NOW

AGES 5-15

Find out more or make an enquiry
www.langtoftplayers.com
langtoftplayersenq@gmail.com



Langtoft Village Hall Management Committee
(Reg. Charity No. 501924)



EASTER BINGO

Monday 14th April

Doors open 7pm for

7:30pm start

Langtoft Village Hall

Free Entry - includes refreshments

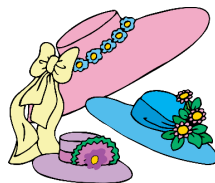
BINGO TICKETS ON SALE ON THE NIGHT

6 BOOKS £6 3 BOOKS £3
SNOWBALL £1 PER TICKET

**DECORATED
EASTER BONNET
COMPETITION**

PRIZE FOR BEST CHILD ENTRY

PRIZE FOR BEST ADULT ENTRY



Langtoft Village Hall Management Committee
Registered Charity No. 501924



ADVANCE NOTICE

**Our popular and very enjoyable Race
Night annual event will be held on
Saturday 17th May 2025**

**Horses will be available to buy and
name for the evening at £3 each**

Tickets will be on sale soon

**To reserve horses or tickets please
email Sue Archer for more information
Sarcher321@sky.com**

Events - VE Day Celebrations.



Langtoft Commemorates VE Day

Join us for a whole week of celebrations!

Saturday 3rd to Monday 5th May (times tbc)

Waggon and Horses

Serving WWII themed menu with live entertainment

Thursday 8th May

Waggon and Horses

**Beacon lighting and Lamp Light of Peace
9-30pm plus WWII themed Quiz Night**

Saturday 10th May

Langtoft Village Hall

10am to 4pm WWII display of memorabilia, costumes, photos, film show, plus refreshments

7-30pm onwards 40s dance with fish and chip supper, music and live entertainment

**All proceeds from the events will be donated to the
Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes**

Sunday 11th May

St Michael and All Angels Church

10am Service of Remembrance and Commemoration

Can you help?

Do you have any WWII items we could display or photograph?

If you have a wartime tale to tell we would love to hear from you

Please contact emjarman28@gmail.com with ideas



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

This project was supported by
the SK Community Fund

**'Further details of events will be posted on Social Media
and around the Village nearer to the time'**

Events - Langtoft Run.

Langtoft 10k & Fun Run

As spring starts to show its face, planning is well under way for what will be our 34th event on Sunday 4th May.

Our 3k fun run kicks things off at 10.15am and entry is just £5. Why not make it a real family event - there'll be ice cream, hot dogs and burgers on sale to tempt the kids with after! We also have a range of prizes, including ones for the 1st Langtoft School pupils in certain age categories.

The 10k takes place at 11.15am and even if you can't take part, you can play an important role by cheering the runners on from the pavement. Even better, why not sign up to be one of our race volunteers? We have all sorts of roles available on the day to enable you to give back to the community.

For race details and to sign up visit www.langtoftroadrun.com; to find out more about volunteering or to join our committee please email langtoftroadrun@gmail.com.



Langtoft School.

LANGTOFT PRIMARY SCHOOL



We are a 'Forest School'
This means that all children have the opportunity to achieve and develop their confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment. We are encouraged to direct our own learning within our woodland environment. As a result, we have learnt many skills including:



Observing wildlife



'It teaches you how to look after wildlife'



Climbing the 'Grandmother tree'



'You have the freedom to try new things'



Making and cooking damper bread, fruit punch and pressing our own apple juice – delicious!



Woodland crafts



'It's incredible, it gives new experiences'



Nature Watch - Penfield Nature Reserve.

Winter is generally a quieter time for the Penfield Nature Reserve and its volunteers, however this year there has been a lot going on.

One highlight was when local and renowned wildlife photographer Nick Williams delivered a talk on the 7th March in the Langtoft Village Hall. Nick recounted many of his adventures, travelling the world, sometimes to some of its remotest locations, to capture the wildlife with his camera. The stories he shared were both engaging and entertaining, backed up with some stunning photographs. We would like to express our very grateful thanks to Nick, who donated his services to raise money for Penfield. We would also like to thank the audience who supported the event (57 attendees) which through ticket sales and donations raised just over £400.

February saw contractor CJM Landscaping move on site to start construction of the paved access and viewing area. This consists of a 1.5 metre wide path from the car park entrance leading gently up to a level area with a semi-circular viewing area overlooking the bird feeders. Public access to the area had to be removed whilst the construction took place. The team had to cope with some very wet and cold weather conditions which slowed the work, however on 12th March the main construction was completed and we were able to fully reopen the site. The purpose of the work is to enable easier access to Penfield for persons with reduced mobility. This project was funded through financial support provided by South Kesteven District Council on behalf of the Department for Levelling Up Homes and Communities (DLUHC). There is still lots of work to do, landscaping, putting in a wheelchair friendly gate, re-instating the cycle rack and adding a new bench to the viewing area. These should all be completed by our volunteers over the coming weeks and months. A big thank you must go to the team at CJM and especially, Les, Harry and Neil for building, what we hope will be, a great asset to the village and our visitors for many years to come.

A recent donation to Penfield by the Butterfly Conservation Trust, was two Alder Buckthorn trees (the food plant of the Brimstone butterfly caterpillars). Appropriately, on a very warm 9th March, the first butterflies of the spring appeared, namely a Comma, Peacock and a Brimstone. A clear sign that spring is with us!

We are also pleased to report that a group of children from Langtoft Primary school will be visiting the site during the summer term and will be doing various activities that will allow them to see and learn more about the wildlife that uses the site.

Finally a date for your diaries will be the Penfield Open Day which will take place on Saturday 7th June. We plan to have lots of family activities and a guided walk for those that would like to learn more.

Augy Harrison

Penfield Management Group



Nature Watch - East End Pond.

East End Pond – Restoration

Thanks to some drier weather and help from Glenn, the local Farrier with his 1970s Leyland tractor, we were able to get the swift tower erected ready for the new breeding season. The tower holds two swift boxes each containing 4 nest boxes together with integrated bat housings.

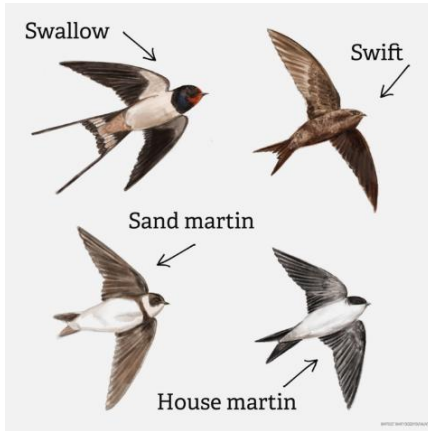


The tower will be equipped with a solar powered sounder which will play swift calls for a couple of hours in the morning and evenings once the birds start to arrive in the UK (usually mid-April). The use of sound systems greatly increases the chance of birds 'discovering' and nesting in the boxes. Volume can be adjusted so as not to disturb local residents!

Nature Watch - Swifts.

Swifts

Swifts spend most of their lives soaring high in the sky, only ever landing to nest so you'll never see them perched on overhead wires like Swallows. They feast on small flying insects by catching them in flight. Swifts spend the winter in Africa but travel to Britain every year in April and May migrating back to Africa during August. They mate for life and live for around 9 years.



They are easy to spot as they look like an arrow whirling through the sky, and often fly in groups. Swifts like to nest in houses and churches, squeezing through tiny gaps to nest inside roofs. But as more old buildings are renovated and gaps in soffits closed up, Swift nest sites are fast disappearing. This, together with a decline in insect numbers resulted in Swifts being added to the red list in the 2021 UK Conservation Status Report.

How to help

1. Provide Nesting Opportunities:

- Install Swift Boxes: Place nest boxes under eaves of buildings, ensuring they are secure and accessible to swifts.
- Swift Bricks: These are specially designed bricks with holes that can be incorporated into new buildings or retrofitted into existing ones to provide nesting space.

2. Create an Insect-Rich Environment:

- Grow Wildflowers: Wildflowers provide nectar and pollen, which attract insects, and can be a great way to support the swift's food source.
- Avoid Pesticides: Pesticides can harm insects, so opting for chemical-free gardening practices can help ensure a healthy insect population for swifts to eat.

Nature Watch - Tree Planting.

KING CHARLES III CORONATION COMMUNITY ORCHARD 2025

I am delighted to report that 23 fruit trees have been planted around the village as part of the above! SKDC Community Fund provided the money to the amount of £675 and I would like to express mine, and yours, sincere thanks to them for helping provide fruiting trees that will, in the not-too-distant future, provide forage for all residents.

There are apples, Pears, Cherry, Damson, Quince, Mulberry, Green Gage and even a Medlar!

These trees are all on dwarf rooting stock so will not grow to a height much over 10' so they should make harvesting quite easy.

A map will be produced where to find all these trees in the near future and as they are 1 year old only, they will take at least another year to give fruit. 6 trees planted around the pond area at East End Park, 3 near the Preschool and the rest around the perimeter of Sports Field.

Each tree will soon have a label with the species, type of fruit and its uses, expected yield and harvest time and which pollinators will benefit from each of them.

It is also hoped that some of the trees in the Sports Field will be adopted by the Langtoft Primary School. The children can then monitor their growth (Maths), draw and paint pictures of their trees during each season (Art), register what insects and birds they see on the trees (Nature studies) and best of all - pick their own!

These are YOUR trees so it would be lovely if all could watch over them during this first year while they settle in village life.

Finally, I would like to thank Geoff Card, Kate, Josh and Luke Perry who turned out in less that favourable weather to plant them - plus Cally (in the photo), Bean and Ellen the four-legged helpers!

Liz Jarman





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Contacts.

Church

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Church Warden Debbiejanehoward1952@gmail.com

Organizations

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Parish Council Chair bev.farrington@langtoftparishcouncil.org
SK District Councillors Vanessa.Smith@southkesteven.gov.uk
Cllrr.trollopebellew@southkesteven.gov.uk
Village Hall Committee emjarman28@gmail.com

Schools

Langtoft Primary School enquiries@langtoft.lincs.sch.uk
Langtoft Pre School Langtoftpreschool@btinternet.com

Music & Arts

Ness Group Singers debbiejanehoward1952@gmail.com
Langtoft Players langtoftplayersenq@gmail.com

Sports & Leisure

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Seatersize yvonne.kohter@gmail.com
Chris Fit chrisshingles14@gmail.com
Langtoft United Girls valkyriesgirlsfootballclub@gmail.com

Clubs & Groups

WI jean.street@mypostoffice.co.uk
Langtoft Allotment Association Mikeptramp@aol.com
Bumps 2 Four bumpsfour@gmail.com

Regular events.

Weekly

Monday	5.30pm – 6.30 pm	Village Hall	Stars of the Future
Monday	7.30pm – 8.30 pm	Village Hall	Pilates
Tuesday	9.30am -10.30am	Village Hall	Yoga
Tuesday	1.15pm - 2.15pm	Village Hall	Seatersize
Tuesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Village Hall	Chris Fit Exercise
Tuesday	7.30pm – 10pm	Village Hall	Langtoft Players
Wednesday	10am – 12 Noon	Bowls Club House	Bowls Coffee Morning
Wednesday	1.30 – 2.30	Village Hall	Texan Two Step
Wednesday	5.30 – 6.30	Village Hall	Texan Two Step
Wednesday	6.45pm - 7.45pm	Village Hall	Yoga
Thursday	7.30pm – 10.00pm	Village Hall	Langtoft Players
Thursday	7.00pm – 8.30pm	Langtof Church	Ness Group Singers
Friday	9.30am - 11.00am	Village Hall	Bumps 2 Four
Saturday	8.30am - 9.30am	Village Hall	Chris Fit Exercise
Saturday	12.00Noon - 2.00pm	Village Hall	Dog Traning

Monthly

1st Monday	10am – 12 Noon	Waggon & Horses	Coffee & Cake Morning
3rd Monday	7.30 pm	Village Hall	WI
1st Thursday	8.30pm	Pub	Quiz night

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