

Langford Life

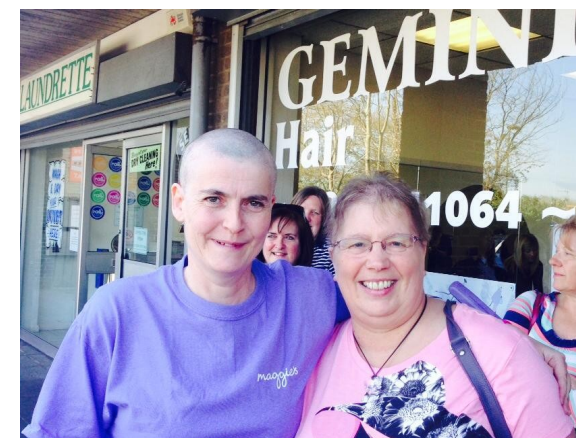
LVCA

Langford Village Community Association

"The voice of the village"



A friend in need... Ellie Thompson and Dorothy Thomas



"I am so lucky to live and work in such a wonderful and caring community where everyone pulls together in times of adversity to support and encourage each other. Langford Village truly is more than 'just a housing estate' in Bicester. This is why I agreed to support my friend and work colleague at Langford Village School, Dorothy Thomas, who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

Dorothy is finding the help and support she is receiving from Maggie's Cancer Centre in Oxford invaluable and she asked that any money raised be donated to them. I hoped to raise £200. Following my announcement, my JustGiving page went mad and I have raised over £2,650. I never dreamt that my hair would be so valuable. I was completely overwhelmed."

To make your own donation visit the JustGiving page:

A Close Shave for Dorothy: JustGiving.com/eleanor-thompson2

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A Message from the Editor

Welcome to the Summer Edition of Langford Life, a wonderfully colourful and optimistic season with our community looking at its best.

Sadly, we have to say goodbye to Richard Augur who has been Chairman for the past 18 months. Certainly no shrinking violet, Richard has brought energy and vision to the LVCA, not least in overseeing a programme of refurbishment of the hall, which is ongoing. Thank you Richard, and we wish you and Gill well in your move to Northants.



A stalwart over the past 5 years has been our Treasurer Roger Winson who has expertly looked after the accounts and ensured we are in a great financial position. Roger steps down in September but is keen to help a new person take over in the role. Thank you Roger for your amazing work.

The LVCA has evolved since its inception when Langford Village was just a few satellite blocks of houses at either end of Peregrine Way, looking very much like Kingsmere does now. With the exuberance of a new community and the need for facilities and an identity, an active committee was established, raising funds and having fun.

As Langford moves into its third decade, the primary role of the LVCA is to oversee the running of Langford Village Hall, an excellent facility used by hundreds of people every week, and also available for hire. As 'the voice of the village' we are keen to assist with other local initiatives, and would welcome the support of those who feel similarly. We meet on the third Monday of the month for an hour or so, usually ending up in the Nightingale afterwards.

With two new volunteers stepping forward, one potentially as Treasurer, and with Ted Kingston kindly standing in as Chairman, there are exciting times ahead.

We are keen to build on this enthusiasm and have plenty of ideas. We would also like to hear yours, so why not give us a call or pop along to the monthly meeting to see what goes on. It would be great to hear from you.

For more information, email secretary@langfordlife.com, phone Mike on 01869 360044, or join us in the hall in Nightingale place for one of our meetings at 8.15 pm on the third Monday of the month: the next two are on 16th June and 21st July. We'd love to see you.



The LVCA

is a voluntary organisation to promote community spirit and improve the facilities and environment in Langford Village. We meet 3rd Mondays of the month at 8.15 pm at the village hall. All residents of Langford are welcome. Do come along and join us.

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Proprietor Jim Hagan

I always wanted to be somebody...
but now I realise I should have been more specific.

Home Improvements

By Ian Washington

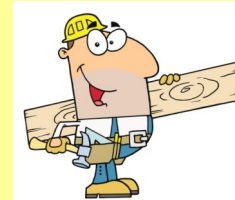
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Published by the Rt. Hon. Sir Tony Baldry MP,
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Rachael Hall / Babs Ballard
Tel: 01869 321724
Mobiles: 07960 758859 / 07940 784792
Email: info@animalmagicbicester.co.uk
Website: www.animalmagicbicester.co.uk



Hall Schedule

Mondays

Baby & Toddler Group 9.15-11.15

Cubs 6.30-8.00 pm

Ladies Circuit Class 8.30-9.30 pm
(except 3rd Monday)

LVCA Meeting 3rd Monday each month 8.15 pm

Tuesdays

Musical Minis 10.00-12.00 am

Beavers 6.00-7.30 pm

Square Dancing 8.00-10.00 pm

Wednesdays

Post Natal Exercise 10.00-11.00 am

WI 1.30-3.30 pm (1st Wed only)

Judo 7.15-8.15 pm

Aikido 7.00-10.00 pm

Thursdays

Little Kickers 9.15-12.15 am

Pushchair fitness 2.15-3.15 pm

Rainbows 4.30-5.30 pm

Brownies 6.00-7.30 pm

Ig-Nite Youth Club 7.45-9.00 pm

Fridays

Post-natal Pilates 9.30-11.00 am

Ballet - Tots 1.30-2.00 pm

Ballet - Adults 2.00-2.45 pm

Ballet - Main Class 3.30-8.30 pm

Friends of Langford Village (FOLVS)

'Children blossom from the seeds planted today'



FOLVS is the parent teacher association group, which also includes friends of the school. All parents, grandparents and friends are welcome to join in our fundraising activities. Any form of help is appreciated.

FOLVS is an integral part of the school community. In the past 5 years we have raised over £50,000, which has been spent on improving equipment and resources to enhance our children's experiences and facilities at school.

We have, over time, developed strong links with the local community and are always well supported by both residents and businesses, for which we are very grateful. Many local shops and businesses are very generous in their donations of raffle prizes, special deals etc.

Some of our most popular events are school discos, Fun Days, Firework displays, Quiz Nights and a Christmas Market. There is always something going on. We try and meet the children's requests for events and it is truly the icing on the cake to see them having fun at the events or enjoying using a piece of new equipment that FOLVS has donated.

We would like to invite you to make a difference in the education, health and welfare of the children at Langford Village School by becoming a member of

FOLVS PTA. This will give you opportunity, not only to impact your local community and meet new people, but joining gives you a voice!

For more info get in touch with our Chair, Hayley Durbin: Email:

hayley.durbin@btopenworld.com

or the school office: 01869 369021.



Following the AGM in September a committee of residents, Police and councillors was formed headed up by local resident Carole Hetherington to campaign for improvements to the junction, which is of concern to all Langford Village residents.

The committee has met three times to date and has succeeded so far in getting press coverage for our campaign, and an onsite meeting with Oxfordshire County Council's Road Safety Engineering team and Thames Valley Police Traffic Management team.

The improvements suggested are:

- White laddering between the two Peregrine junctions, effectively narrowing the road to stop overtaking;
- Bollards at either end of the junction to protect those turning in and out of Peregrine Way near Shearwater/ Avocet;
- Flashing 50 mph's along Wretchwick Way to remind road users of the speed limit.

Whilst everyone agrees in principle with the suggested improvements there is NO money available to undertake this work, and this junction is not considered a priority, as the death and reported accident rate is not as high as others in the county.

We are continuing the campaign and would ask any resident to submit their own personal experiences of accidents/near misses at the junction to cw.hetherington@virgin.net in order to send these to the Chairman of Oxfordshire County Council and add further weight to our campaign. Accidents happen regularly at this junction... how long before someone else gets badly injured or killed? It could be you or a member of your family or friends next.

Lollipop Crossing Patrol at Langford Village School

In response to a question at the AGM, Councillor Tim Hallchurch announced that funding is to be made available for a Lollipop Crossing Patrol for Langford Village Community School. An assessment is being undertaken with a view to introducing a patrol as soon as possible.

I used to be great at wordplay... once a pun a time.

Dear Orchard Friends, there's lots of good news about the Orchard!

We've been 'given' an allotment on the Clay Pits site. It's just over the fence from the Orchard and big enough to have a shed to keep some tools which will be useful. So let's do some fund-raising for a shed! Please let us know if you want to help with the allotment or Orchard before the next work session as there's lots to do. Let's think about what plans we have for it... trees... fruit bushes.... more rhubarb!



The amazing folk at Bicester Green Gym have made us a bench! It's crafted with love and ingenuity! We need to decide where to site it and how to stop it being removed!

Our next Orchard sessions are:

Thursday June 26th
Saturday July 26th
Both at 2.00-4.00 pm Tea provided!

Please bring along your favourite spade/fork/trowel/shears/gloves etc.

- The allotment needs weeding + fertilising ready for autumn planting
- The new currant bushes need weeding, watering and mulching
- Nettles, daffodils and an apple tree need removing
- The bramble pile needs clearing



We look forward to seeing you and making new friends.

Pam, Claudia and Susan.
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Protecting local wildlife

Langford Village Scout Group

Simon and Ellie Thompson (either side of Deputy Chief Commissioner, Colin Arter) received their Silver Acorn Awards in recognition of 'specially distinguished and outstanding service'. At the same time they were presented with their 30 Year Service Awards... OK so they look too young!



Ellie writes, "Langford Village Scout Group are celebrating their 20th Birthday this summer. We started all those years ago with just 12 Beavers and now have a Group of 60 youngsters enjoying all that Scouting has to offer! We are thrilled to say that we are one of the original users of Langford Village Hall and continue to use and support all that this great facility has to offer the community.

In September the time came for us to open our own Scout Troop. (Scouts are aged 11-14) On 5th November we were proud to invest our first 12 Scouts. We invited parents along to see them make their Scout Promise at the Standing Stones under the stars and burning torch lanterns. The ceremony ended with a blast of fireworks and the Scouts spelling out '1st Langford Scouts' using sparklers. We now have 20 Scouts and are going from strength to strength. They have also just had their first camp, spending the weekend canoeing raft-building and sailing."

To help provide all this fun contact Ellie on 322425 or ThompsonEARS@aol.com

Well done Ellie. PS... you need a hair cut!





The Black Bull, a hidden gem tucked away in West End Launton, run by experienced publican Tracy and her husband, Chef Paolo, offers a traditional village pub atmosphere with good cask ales, lagers, ciders and pub games: Aunt Sally, pool, dominoes and darts. With the focus on good service, great food and drink, and a warm welcome, an excellent dining experience is guaranteed.

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Q: What is the year on the coffee cup on The Black Bull's website?
 To be used by October 1st. Not available to use Fri & Sat Evening.
 Drinks not included.

The winners to be drawn at the LVCA meeting on Monday 21 July, advised that week and announced in the next edition of Langford Life.
 Email your answer to editor@langfordlife.org.uk
 Or send it to: The Editor, Langford Village Hall, Nightingale Place, Bicester, OX26 6XW. Please include address and contact number.



Useful Numbers

Civic

Oxon County Council: 01865 792422

Cherwell DC: 01295 252535

Local Office: 01869 253154

Bicester Town Council: 01869 252915

Social Services: 01865 375515

Library, Old Place Yard: 01869 252181

Mon, Wed & Thur 9.30-7pm

Tues & Fri 9.30-5pm, Sat 9.00-4.30pm

Bicester Police Station: 01869 320919

Langford Village CP School: 369021

Sports Centre: 01869 253914

Medical

Langford Medical Centre: 245665

Mondays – Fridays:

0830-1030, 1100-1300 & 1600-1800

Saturdays (Emergencies only):

1000-1130

Community Hospital: 01869 604000

John Radcliffe Casualty: 01865 741166

NHS Direct 24 Hours: 0845 4647

St John Ambulance: 01869 246648

Child Line: 0800 1111

Samaritans: 0845 7909090

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Bicester North Station: 245900

National Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950

Bicester Taxibus: 01869 323535

Thames Transit Buses: 01869 772250

Dial-a-Ride: 01869 320132

Churches

St Edburg's (Anglican): 252377

Emmanuel (Anglican): 244918

Immaculate Conception (Catholic):
 253277

Orchard Baptist Church: 388978

Methodist Church: 240671

Salvation Army: 369160

Bicester Community Church: 244741

Elim Christian Centre: 252753

Hebron Gospel Hall: 277300

Other

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

Citizens Advice Bureau: 01869 321076

RSPCA: 08705 555999

Crimestoppers: 0800 555111

Gas Emergency: 0800 111999

Electricity – Power Loss: 08457 331331

Thames Water: 0845 920038

I started out with nothing... and still have most of it.

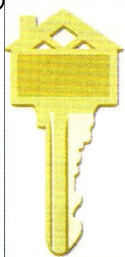
Who's Who On Your LVCA Committee

Chair	Ted Kingston	325821
Treasurer	Roger Winson	treasurer@langfordlife.org.uk
Minutes Secretary	Mike Oke	360044
Health & Safety	Matt Phillips	mpp100@hotmail.com
Website	Jon Spinage	website@langfordlife.org.uk
Langford Life Editor	Mike Oke	editor@langfordlife.org.uk
Langford Life Advertising	Ted Kingston	325821
Langford Life Distribution	Bob Rudge	321308
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Hall Bookings	07778 062743	bookings@langfordlife.org.uk

For hall bookings see the website www.langfordlife.org.uk,

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Green Gym

Bicester Green Gym loves to 'work out' – to get exercise by working outdoors in a friendly setting where, at the end of a session, a job is well done and friendships have been formed. Made up of local volunteers, the group meets every Tuesday morning, whatever the weather, to do what some may call 'extreme gardening' in the town's nature parks.



Cutting back brambles, planting bulbs, making pathways, carrying out nature surveys and enjoying a good natter over a tea-break is all part of being in Green Gym.

Safety is paramount and we carry out warm-up exercises (as in any gym) and get instruction on correct and careful use of tools, which are

all provided. The group welcomes new members and is often active in Langford Village doing 'pick and prune' walkabouts and conducting butterfly surveys in the summer. The area is home to the rare Brown Hairstreak and there are at least seven different species resident in the park.



The sense of well-being from being out in nature cannot be understated, so if anyone wants to join in the fun, please contact Bea Foster on 01869 600952 or see www.bicestergreengym.org

I read somewhere that when someone is about to quote a bogus fact or statistic they preface it by saying... "I read somewhere..."



Do you ever look back to those days at school, in the Guides, Youth Club etc and think how easy it was to make friends then? Before the kids, the job, the partner, or just life got in the way? Maybe you see an advert for paint balling, wine tasting, a West End show and wish that you had a group of likeminded people to go with.

Bicester Ladies Circle is looking for new members— we meet twice a month and **get involved in all kinds of social and fundraising activities.**

If you want to make new friends or try out new activities come on down and see what it's all about.

The Bicester Girls just wanna have fun!!!!

For more information please contact Tamsin Ireland:

Email: bicesterladiescircle@gmail.com twitter @BicesterLC

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BicesterLadiesCircle



Using Latin phrases to sound smart is my *modus operandi*

Gallagher Estates has produced a revised Masterplan for the Gavray Drive development showing a reduced area of housing.

Further details can be accessed via the CDC Planning webpage and entering 14/00001/SCOP in the 'Search' box. Select the 'Documents' and click 'View associated documents'. *Scoping Report Part 1* is an environmental impact assessment produced by David Lock Associates, and '*Scoping Report – Part 2*' is habitat mapping of resident wildlife compiled by Environmental Dimension Protection.

Langford resident Pat Clissold writes: "If you would like to see wildlife on our doorstep rather than drive miles, here is a great opportunity. Please take an interest in our campaign and support us in preserving the last vestiges of the natural environment and farming history of Bicester."



Support for the wildlife campaign can be emailed to:
rebecca.horley@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or to your local councillors:
 Dan Sames: cllr.daniel.sames@cherwell-dc.gov.uk
 and Lynn Pratt: cllr.lynn.pratt@cherwell-dc.gov.uk
 Many thanks, Pat Clissold (patricia288@btinternet.com)