

# Langford Life Newsletter

## Volunteers tidy Langford Village



**A big thankyou to everyone able to help with this year's litter pick in and around Langford Village.**

**Volunteers, including people shown in the picture above, helped to remove unwanted litter from the streets and grass verges in Langford Village.**

### Did you know?

The Langford Village Community Association (LVCA) **AGM** meeting will be held at **7.30pm** on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010**.

Nominations for new committee members now being accepted.

For further information please contact LVCA Secretary -

Mike Oke

e-mail: [secretary@langfordlife.org](mailto:secretary@langfordlife.org)

## Short story competition! - Details page 5

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# Editorial

Peter Kavanagh

Welcome to issue 63 of the Langford Life *Newsletter*, I hope you find the contents enjoyable to read. Inside this issue I have included a short story competition so why not enter! I also need regular contributions for the newsletter and welcome articles for publication. If you have something you wish to share or you know someone who would like to feature in an article in this newsletter—please get in touch with me.

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**Peter Kavanagh**

e-mail: p.kavanagh1@sky.com

Editor



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If you think that a group or organization would benefit from a visit from Tony, then do get in touch. He would be pleased to hear from you. Surgeries are held regularly in both Banbury and Bicester. To book an appointment just contact Tony's Parliamentary Office in the constituency on **01295 673873**.

Published by Tony Baldry MP, The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

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Website: [www.animalmagicbicester.co.uk](http://www.animalmagicbicester.co.uk)



## Hall Schedule

### Mondays

Baby & Toddler Group 9.15-11.15am

Cubs 6.30-8.00pm

Post Natal Exercise 8.30-9.30pm (not 2nd Mon)

LVCA Meeting 2nd Monday each month 8.15pm

### Tuesdays

Music Box 9.30-11.30am

Freestyle Dance 4.30-5.30pm

Beavers 6.00-7.30pm

Square Dancing 8.00-10.00pm

### Wednesdays

Post Natal Exercise 10.00-12.00

WI 1.30-3.30pm (1st Wed only)

Aikido 6.30-10.00pm

### Thursdays

Rainbow 4.30-5.30pm

Brownies 6.00-7.30pm

Kick Boxing 7.30-8.30pm

### Fridays

Baby & Toddler Group 9.15-11.15am

Ballet 3.30-8.00pm

### Saturdays

Martial Arts/Keep Fit :9.30-10.30 am

### Sundays

Private Hire 5.00-7.00pm

## Message from the Chairman

Dominic Cotter

So far 2010 has been a busy time for the LVCA. The committee meets once a month to discuss what we can do for the community which makes up Langford Village.

We have a strong team of volunteers including Michelle Roe who has worked tirelessly as the Hall Bookings Manager, as well as being the driving force behind other initiatives. One of these is to get "Community Pay-back Offenders" to put something back into society. Over the coming months they will be helping to decorate parts of the hall which need attention.

Other highlights of recent weeks include a litter pick organised by Langford School and a very successful Barn Dance, also organised by the PTA. Well done to all of you who got involved; it was an excellent night and the weather was kind.

We hope to organise a summer event, so any suggestions are more than welcome. Please e-mail [chairman@langfordlife.org](mailto:chairman@langfordlife.org)

I must say a special thankyou to Maggie Kavanagh who has just stepped down as Treasurer. She has made sure that our accounts are healthy and has been a real support to the committee. Welcome to the new Treasurer Roger Winson, who is already putting all of his years as a financial expert to good use.

If you have recently moved to Langford why not get involved with the Committee. It's fun and your chance to really make a difference...as the politicians say! If you would like to come to one of our meetings, you are more than welcome. They are held in the hall on the second Monday of each month, starting at 8.15. We usually finish by 9.30... when discussions often continue in the pub!

Please remember, it's not our LVCA, it's your LVCA and we hope to make great things happen on Langford, but not without your help.

*Dominic*

## Who's Who On Your LVCA Committee

<u>Post</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Tel no</u>
Chairman	Dominic Cotter	241504
Treasurer	Roger Winson	
Community Affairs Committee Chair	Laura Patrick	
Hall Committee Chair	Dominic Cotter	241504
Secretary	Mike Oke	360044
Hall Manager	Kirsty Lowe	242501
Bookings Manager	Michelle Roe	07778062743
Newsletter Editor	Peter Kavanagh	07799163837
Newsletter Advert Co-ordinator	Ted Kingston	325821
Newsletter Distribution Co-ordinator	Tamsin Ireland	07852997819
Website Manager	Paul Langley	321908
Social Events Committee Chair	Matt Fincham	322166
Disco Equipment Manager	Dominic Cotter	241504

### Disclaimer

The LVCA exists to promote community spirit and improve the facilities and environment in Langford Village.

Langford Life is circulated free to all residents of Langford Village.

The opinions of the contributors are not necessarily those of the LVCA.

### Hire Langford Village Hall

Before 6.00pm: £8.00 per hour  
After 6.00pm: £12 per hour

Contact: Michelle Roe  
07778062743

# BUSINESS CARDS

[WWW.PRIORYPRINT.COM](http://WWW.PRIORYPRINT.COM)  
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### LVCA AGM

**The LVCA AGM will be held on  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010  
at 7.30pm  
Community Hall, Nightingale Place.  
"Everyone Welcome"**

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### Short Story Competition

In your short story for this competition, your opening line starts with *"There's never been as much excitement in Langford Village as when..."*

#### **AUTHOR'S GUIDELINES**

**Story:** All you need to do is in your own words finish the story. Up to a maximum of 400 words please.

**Eligibility:** Entry is open to any Langford Village writer of any age.

**Short story manuscripts:** Entries can be typed or hand written in double spacing on single sides of A4 paper stating entrant's name, address and phone number. Please also state your story title.

**Closing Date:** The closing date is 20<sup>th</sup> August 2010.

**Entries:** Entries must be original and unpublished work of the entrant. Entries should reach the Editor on or before the closing date above.

**Authors:** May send as many entries as they wish for the competition.

**Prize:** Publication of winner's story in a future edition of Langford Life.

**Competition judging:** The Editor's decision will be final with no correspondence being entered into.

**Notification:** The winner will be notified within two weeks of the closing date.

**Publication:** The winner's story will be published in a future issue of Langford Life. A copy of Langford Life is also held on Langford Village Website.

***The Editor reserves the right to edit stories that are considered too controversial. He will not publish work that contains sexual innuendo or references, swearing and also the use of language considered to be taboo.***

Post your entry with your Name, Address and Telephone Number to:

The Editor, Short Story Competition, Langford Village Community Association (LVCA), 8 Community Hall, Nightingale Place, Bicester, OX26 6XX.

Good Luck

### Langford Village (Bicester) WI

Langford Village Women's Institute held the annual meeting on 3rd March when a new committee was formed. We have a new programme of interesting speakers arranged ranging from "my nutty family" (sounds intriguing!), Roman Bicester, Krakow-Poland's Royal City, life of a country doctor and a very amusing talk on "spare body parts!" In July we hope to have a visit from a well known BBC Radio Oxford broadcaster.

Speakers will also be demonstrating Painting on Parchment Craft Cards and Christmas Floral decorations. Other activities will also be arranged. There is also opportunity to join other WI members in activities and events organised by the various sub committees in the Oxfordshire Federation of W.I's. The WI offers something for everyone.

Why not join us—particularly if you are new to the area and wish to meet new friends. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month, 1:30pm to 3:30pm in the Community Hall, Nightingale Place.

Women of all ages would be made most welcome. Just come along or give me a call to find out more.

Hope to see you.

Beryl Mann (President). Tel: 01869 325834



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### BT Openreach

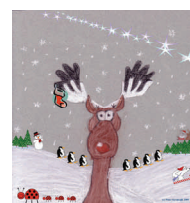
By Charles Langley

Just to let you know that in January Bicester was added to the BT Openreach list for early provision of Fibre-to-the-Cabinet (FTTC), and additionally the provision date was put ahead of some other places that were already on the fairly short list.

In the last few weeks BT have been pulling fibre optic cable in the Langford area and some new BT cabinets have been installed (the new green FTTC ones).

The provision date is set at December 2010 (or "late summer"). This is good news for the area's communications as it will provide download speeds of "up to" 40 Mbits (15 Mbits guaranteed minimum) and 10 Mbits upload, a vast improvement of what we currently are able to achieve.

I don't really know whether or not our efforts made the difference in Bicester being pushed into the early provision list. Anyway, it is good to see that our broadband should improve markedly in the foreseeable future – good news for those living and working in Langford Village.



**Thankyou from the Editor to everyone  
who entered  
Children's Spot The Difference Competition  
in issue 62 of Langford Life.**

The Winner was...  
Miss Katie Oke  
"Well done Katie"



## Useful Telephone 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: 0845 850 5505

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

### Transport

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 Fellowship: 369709

Methodist Church: 240932

Salvation Army: 369160

Bicester Community Church: 244741

Elim Christian Centre: 252753

Hebron Gospel Hall: 277300

### Other

Citizens Advice Bureau: 01869 321076

RSPCA: 08705 555999

Crimestoppers: 0800 555111

Gas Emergency: 0800 111999

Electricity – Power Loss: 08457 331331

Thames Water: 0845 920038

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

## Friends of Langford Village School PTA

by Susan Wynne-Jones

### PTA Family Fun Day

The weather was perfect, attendance was high and everyone seemed to have a fantastic day out. Highlights of the day included a number of performances by the school children:

Ribbon dancing by nursery and reception

Farm song by year 1

Recycling parade by year 2

Year 3 talent show

Quote from Hayley Durbin, co-chair of the Friends of Langford Village Community Primary School, "It took a huge amount of effort on everyone's part and it was a huge success. The performances given by the children within the Performance Arena were just amazing! Very touching!"

Pictured below: Soak the teacher session.



The teachers shown from left to right are Andrea Flear, Michael Coaker, Oliver Hodgman and Caroline Witton.

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Wed	6.00am—9.00pm	9.00am—1.00pm, 2.00pm—5.30pm
Thu	6.00am—9.00pm	9.00am—1.00pm, 2.00pm—5.30pm
Fri	6.00am—9.00pm	9.00am—1.00pm, 2.00pm—5.30pm
Sat	6.00am—8.00pm	9.00am—12.30pm,
Sun	6.30am—4.30pm	Closed

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**Here to make life a little easier**

**Peach Boy,**  
by Mike Oke



The Oxfordshire Theatre Company (OTC) came up trumps again with their production of The Peach Boy at Langford Village Hall. The energetic and talented cast of three provided a captivating and visual treat.

Based on a popular Japanese folk tale, the play tells the story of a boy with superhuman strength, born from a giant peach found by an old couple. So starts the incredible story of Momotaro - the Peach Boy – and his struggle to find his place in a world that no longer believes in heroes. With Dog, Pheasant and Monkey (and his mother's miraculous dumplings) they must save the village from dastardly demons and marvelous monsters.

The transformation of the village hall into a theatre, with banked seats, for an audience of 60+ was a joy to behold in itself. Drinks available during the production added to the pleasure, and Matt Fincham in particular must be thanked for bringing this extravaganza to fruition... excuse the pun!

If the next OTC production of Alice in Wonderland is anywhere near as popular, tickets will need to be booked early. Look out for details in a future edition of Langford Life.





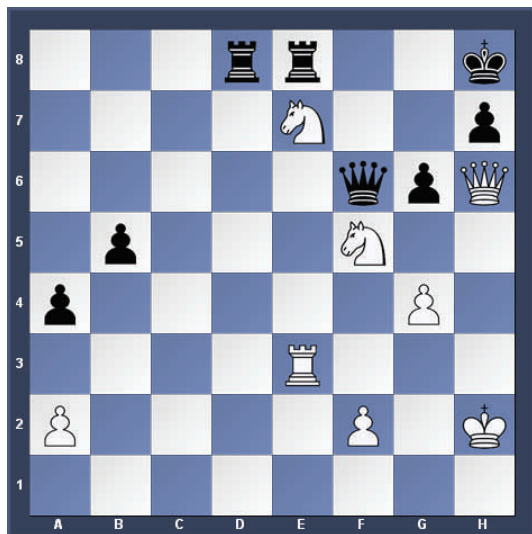
**Get Cooking  
With Chef Pete**

**Do you have a recipe for Chef Pete to try? Would you like to see it published in this newsletter. Here's your chance.**

Post your recipe with your Name, Address and Telephone Number to:

The Editor, My Recipe, Langford Village Community Association (LVCA), 8 Community Hall, Nightingale Place, Bicester, OX26 6XX.

**Chess, By Carl Portman**



If you like chess then this is the part of the magazine for you. This position is taken from a real game (Anastasian against Tiviakov, in Armenia 1999). **It is white to play and win** the game, but how did he do it? It's easy if you play a lot of chess, not so easy if you don't! Set your board up, get the kettle on and have a go.

**Answer:** White plays 1. Queen takes pawn on h7, with check. The king must take the queen, then white plays his rook to square h3 with check. The only move for black to play is his queen to the h4 square. White then takes the queen with his rook, giving checkmate!



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By Kim Rogers, Deputy Headteacher.

It is lovely to have spring at last! The school looks great in all seasons but there's nothing better than the sight of bulbs bursting through the ground and trees showing signs of growth. I love the walk past the blossom trees on my way into school, quite inspirational on a sleepy morning!

I recently sent out a questionnaire to the school community and one of the main findings highlighted a need to share information about the role of the school governor. Sue Pryce a parent governor very kindly contributed the following words.

## The Role of the School Governors

Langford village school has 15 governors. Five of us are parent governors, seven represent the local authority or community, and three are members of staff including our head teacher John Moffitt.

As governors we carry our responsibility not as individuals, but work as part of a team – the school's governing body. Our primary role is to work in partnership with John Moffitt, the Senior leadership team and other members of the school staff to promote high standards of educational achievement at the school.

As the governing body, we also help set the general direction for the school and look closely at how the school can further develop. We do this by monitoring the school's aims and objectives, and reviewing or agreeing policies.

As a critical friend to the school, we support John Moffitt in addressing any challenges relating to the management of our school. By spending time at the school, we are able to gather views, ask questions and help decide what is best for the school and the children who attend the school.

The governing body is responsible to parents and the wider community. We play an active role throughout the academic year, meeting at least five to six times per year, and more frequently at key times such as the lead up to, during and after OFSTED inspections.

## Teachers Visit our Partner School in Uganda

During February half term, Miss. Eastwood and Mr. Hodgman travelled to Uganda to work at St. Agnes School, our partner school in Entebbe. As always, they were made to feel incredibly welcome and had a very enjoyable and successful week. During the visit they achieved a good balance of experiences and worked very hard.

They observed teaching and also taught classes in all age groups across the school. In addition to work in school they furthered their knowledge and understanding of life in Uganda, collecting information and resources for teachers and children at Langford.



The visits are funded with a grant from the British Council. The grant is dependent on both schools working on joint curriculum projects. The information below shows some of the work Miss. Eastwood and Mr. Hodgman undertook.

**Endangered Animals:** Children were taught about Endangered animals in the UK and Uganda, with a focus on the Chimpanzees in Uganda. **Future:** Year 4 at Langford have an Endangered Animals topic for which the international focus will be Uganda.

**Homes:** Photos, drawings and information about English and Ugandan homes were shared. **Future:** To obtain information and resources to link with a Year 1 curriculum topic on homes. **Cricket:** Mr. Hodgman taught children and staff how to play cricket and left a cricket set with them. **Future:** To explore the possibility of sharing sporting experiences and successes in the future.

On their return to England Miss. Eastwood and Mr. Hodgman organised a Ugandan Day. This provided an important opportunity to share information about the trip with staff and children. Children saw photographs; learnt to speak some Luganda, (a dialect language in Uganda); and made some jewellery using recycled paper – a skill the children at St. Agnes use to make crafts. Look out for the display about Uganda Day and our partnership with St. Agnes School in the main entrance.

We are looking forward to the Ugandan teachers visiting Langford School in June but sadly it will probably be the last visit because the funding has finished. We could not have built up the friendships and knowledge without our reciprocal visits, but hopefully with improved access to technology in England and Uganda, our partnership with St. Agnes School will continue to develop.

A huge thank you to Miss Eastwood and Mr Hodgman for all their hard work and efforts.

Kim Rogers