Long Whatton News

January 2022

Winter sun lighting up snow covered fields. Thank you to Amy Foulkes Williams for lettting us use this photograph taken at the end of November, looking across to the school in the early morning sun.

Happy new year to all our readers and wishing you a healthy new year!

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EDITORS COMMENTS *Looking ahead*

Although this is the first issue of 2022, we have to thank every advertiser who helped us produce a village magazine again last year. We wouldn't be able to do it without your continued financial support and we hope you will stay with us through this year and help us achieve bigger and better things.

Even a small magazine like ours takes a lot of time and effort, so once again we would like to thank everyone who takes the time and puts in the effort to contribute articles, reports and photographs to help us make this magazine as diverse and interesting as a village magazine can be.

We also relish the chance to help you promote your event so keep telling us what you are organising.

Thank you, and keep it all coming.

BONFIRE THANK YOU

Bonfire night seems a long time ago but we thought we would still like to thank you for all attending and supporting your village cricket club.

We are really sorry to have to turn people away at the gate, but had to do this due to the unprecedented ticket sales.

We would also like to say a very big thank you to the Village Shop for their support selling the tickets.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year, from the Long Whatton Cricket Club

APOLOGIES ENID!

We're very sorry for getting your name wrong in last months magazine.

REFRESH COFFEE MORNING *Christmas lunch*

The Refresh Christmas lunch was held at The Falcon Inn for those that join the coffee morning. What a lovely time was had by all and a delicious meal was served. Thank you to all the staff at The Falcon Inn for the delicious food and the friendly service that was received on the day and at all the coffee mornings held in 2021.

The next coffee morning will be held on the 10th January 2022 at 10:30am. All are welcome.

If you would like more information please contact Jane Scholtz 073 9334 9009 or 01509 842736 or Penny de Kock on 07393407896 or just join us on the day.

LONG WHATTON NEWS *Advertising rates*

Advert prices per month for a years subscription:
Full page £18
Half page £12
Quarter page £7

One-off advert/announcements:
Full page £22
Half page £14
Quarter page £8

These prices are based on print ready artwork supplied. We can accept Jpeg, EPS and TIFF formats although PDF is the preferred format, in CMYK

Advert sizes:
Full page bleed
148mm wide x 210mm deep plus 3mm bleed on all sides
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Quarter page
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Design:
We can provide a design service for your artwork, if required. Artwork prices will be subject to sight.

HEDGEHOGS *Another endangered species*

Hedgehogs; those loveable, meandering creatures of the night, often seen scurrying accross your back garden are actually classed as a species vulnerable to extinction in Britain. There numbers have dwindled between 30 and 40% over the last decade. It is estimated there are only one million left on these shores. The increase in arable farmland and the and the corresponding decrease in hedgerows, has reduced their habitat. Insecticides have killed off their food sources and roads and traffic continually take their toll.

While they have adapted well to living in urban areas they naturally like woodland edges and hedgerows where there is plenty of food: mainly slugs, caterpillars and worms.

Unmistakeable with a thickly-packed coat of several thousand spikes covering their back and sides, speckled in brown and cream, with fur coated faces and klack eyes and noses, perhaps nature intended them to look fierce. Nature failed.

Your best chance of seeing a Hedgehog is on a summer night becuase they are nocturnal. They hibernate between November and March or April. While they sleep their body temperature drops to 10 degree, their heartbeat drops to 20 beats per minute or less and they virtually stop breathing. They nest in sheltered areas such as beneath a shed, under a pile of leaves or a bonfire. They will often wake up several times over winter, depending on the weather and will frequently build a new nest.

Hedgehogs can live up to 10 years but the average life expectancy is 2-3 years.

Despite their size they will travel 1-2 kilometres each night in their search for food, returning to the same nest for a few days before finding another but will often return to an old one.

Lady hedgehogs have litters of 4-5 young between April and September, but those born later often die, having had too little time to put on weight to survive hibernation. They need to weigh at least 450g. Those that do survive grow to between 150 and 300mm in length and weigh up to 2kg. Male hedgehogs do not help rear the young.

If you want to help hedghogs, leaving food and water in you garden at night is a good idea. Meaty cat or dog food - but not fish flavours, and dried kitten biscuits are good. Special hedgehogs mixes are also good as long as they have a high meat content, not those padded out with wheat and rice.

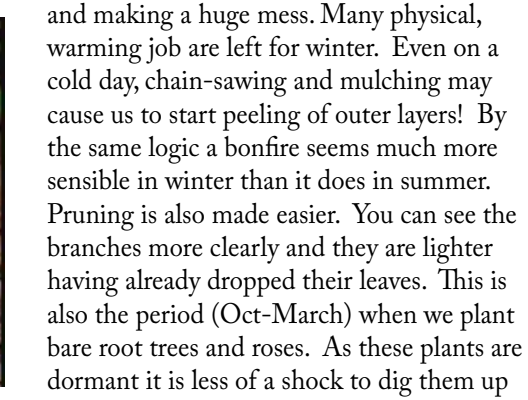
If you find a sick or injured animal the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and help you with advice - britishhedgehogs.org.uk

WHATTON HOUSE GARDENS: WINTERS CHILL *by William Stanger*

We may not be particularly appreciative of winter's chill when our fingers are turning blue. But in many ways, it serves a purpose. The plants themselves need to go through such processes as vernalisation and stratification. While the gardens are closed and sleeping there is an opportunity to do a number of tasks, that would otherwise not be done in the rest of the year. The winter period also makes us more appreciative of the other seasons and builds a sense of anticipation for Spring. Having luxurious flowers all year like Peonies, would prove overindulgent, like eating too much rich food, to the point you feel sick. Regarding such things as a treat and in moderation enhances your enjoyment and appreciation.

If winter temperatures are too mild, apple blossom flower buds fail to fully develop and there will be not enough blooms to produce a good crop.

Vernalisation is essentially a cold period where certain plants not only go dormant but require a certain number of days with minimum temperatures or they will not flower. Take apples for instance, they need to be exposed to a period of cold below 7.20c in order to flower and set fruit properly. If winter temperatures are too mild, flower buds fail to fully develop and there are not enough blooms to produce a good crop. Spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils and tulips also need a cold period otherwise they will come up stunted with smaller flowers and shorter stems. Biennials including foxgloves and hollyhocks will simply not flower unless the plant undergoes those winter temperatures. So, in order for the garden to have lots of flowers in the growing season it must go through a winter chill otherwise we are going to be disappointed.



Daffodils and tulips need a cold period otherwise they will come up stunted with smaller flowers and shorter stems.

Many seeds contain chemical inhibitors that keep them dormant till conditions are right for them to germinate in the Spring. In order to break down the chemical inhibitors and end dormancy the seeds need to go through a cold period (winter). Some seeds can be pre-treated with dry stratification. The seed is simply kept cold in dry storage which helps increase germination rates by imitating a natural winter dormant period. Other seeds need moist stratification where they are exposed to cold, damp conditions over winter. When the soil warms up it triggers germination. You can mimic this by mixing the seed with moist compost and placing in a plastic bag. Refrigerate at 1-3.50c (do not freeze!) Most flower seeds need three to four weeks of treatment.

'In many ways winters' chill serves a purpose.'

A proper cold winter may be preferable to a mild wet one. We often wait for the ground to be frozen hard so we can safely drive on it without getting stuck and making a huge mess. Many physical, warming job are left for winter. Even on a cold day, chain-sawing and mulching may cause us to start peeling of outer layers! By the same logic a bonfire seems much more sensible in winter than it does in summer. Pruning is also made easier. You can see the branches more clearly and they are lighter having already dropped their leaves. This is also the period (Oct-March) when we plant bare root trees and roses. As these plants are dormant it is less of a shock to dig them up and move them else -where. Coincidently buying bare root is cheaper than containerised plants. You are not paying for a pot of compost that creates more bulk and weight. As stated earlier many gardens close for the winter. Partly because there is little to see and it gives the team a chance to undertake larger projects. Such projects can pose a health and safety risks to the public, and can be noisy. So, it easier to do these jobs when the garden is closed and saves having to cordon of sections of the garden.

Do not be so quick to condemn winters chill. Try to see it as a blessing in disguise and wait with patient anticipation for Spring.

Long Whatton Ladies That Brunch

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SCHOOLS OF THE VILLAGE *The Arcott School*

Behind the Falcon Inn is a long, thin, two story building that is now guest rooms for the pub. But the buildings have had several uses in their time, originally they were 'stockingers' cottages and then in 1936 it became a school.

With an inheritance from her grandfather Miss Phyllis Maud Cole purchased the building and opened the Arcott School, initially with just two pupils.

The school gained more pupils quickly and, fortuitously, about the same time, the Totley Private School in Loughborough closed down, giving Miss Cole the oportunity to buy all the furniture

The Arcott School

to expand Arcott further. Miss Cole also brought Mrs Wyles from Totley to work at Arcott and many pupils transferred bringing the pupil tally to around 40.

Mrs. Wyles and the Loughborough pupils arrived in Long Whatton every day on a Wheildon's bus

The school gained a good reputation and Mrs Cole was said to be strict but fair. This reputation drew pupils to the school from further afield. By 1950 the school had expanded in to two classrooms.

By now more staff had been added; school meals were cooked by Mrs. Gee on Miss Coles range in her cottage, vegetables were grown in the school garden and tended by Jack Barnett and Mrs Barnett was the housekeeper and cleaner.

Miss Cole provided a few boarding places in her own house for a few pupils that came from a distance and in 1958 Miss Pat Harlow was employed to start an class of children of three and half to four years old to meet demand for nursery age children to be accepted. Miss Harlow left to get married in 1958 and was replaced by Miss Charmaine Parsons.

Miss Cole retired in 1974 and the school closed the same year. She was a visionary and well respected in Long Whatton and a grand retirement party was held.

Miss Phyllis Maud Cole died in 1997.

Thank you to Long Whatton History Society for the use of their photographs and comprhensive research.

Wheildons Castle Donington via Long Whatton bus

CHRISTMAS SCENES

Around the village

Long Whatton has it's fair share of wonderfully festive gardens. Here are just a few of the many ranging from a winter wonderland (immediately below) to a trio of reindeer and all sorts in between.

The snow at the end of November also presented asome excellent photo oprtunities.

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GUIDES *Christmas is a time for charity*

As we all look forward to Christmas where gifts are a big part of the celebration, we have been trying to give a bit back and to help some charities.

Guides have organised and run a Strictly Come Dancing-Girlguiding Fundraising evening. They performed some sketches, dances and acts and made cakes to buy with tea and coffee for parents and guests that joined us for the evening. They managed to raise £113 which was amazing.

They also had a visitor from a cafe in Loughborough called Deli Bites who came to tell the girls what it is like to be homeless. She told her story which involved her time living without a home, to getting into a hostel then getting and building up her own cafe business. She told us that in her cafe, as well as having a nice breakfast, lunch or drink, you can also 'pay it forward' for someone else who needs a meal or hot drink at another time. The girls brought items in for Care Packages which are shoe boxes with things that homeless people might want for Christmas. It was a great opportunity for the girls to understand something that they may never (with luck) otherwise experience.

Rainbows had an Elf night on behalf of Alzheimer's charity with coffee, cakes & crafts evening also with parents attending. They served the cakes and helped parents out with the craft of making their paper angels. They made £70 which they should be very proud of.

Brownies had their Christmas night out at Jump Giants. They have also been working on their Be Well theme with a lovely chill out evening with hand massage and hot chocolate!

Rainbows and Brownies went on a trip to the Cinema to see the new Disney film; Encanto. It was a Girlguiding take-over of the Odeon cinemas all over the UK so it was full of girls enjoying themselves knowing that many others were also doing the same in other towns.

We look forward to more fun in 2022 which will certainly include some more outings, experiences, camps and holidays away.

If you or your daughter would like to join in the fun, please get in touch at crawshawdistrictguiding@outlook.com or register interest at www.girlguiding.org

The Long Whatton News would like to hear from you about your club or event or anything news-worthy about the village. Email us at

LONGWHATTONNEWS@GMAIL.COM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS *Anne Matravers*

As I write this it is a beautiful sunny winter's day. But of course, this will be in our New Year magazine so may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a happy and peaceful and safe new year. Let us hope that scientists working throughout the world find a way of defeating covid-19. This year has been a strange year of freedom from restrictions but always with an eye as to how the number of infections is going. It has just been announced the masks must be worn in a great many more places – churches included. We are so fortunate in having wonderful access to vaccinations to help keep us and our families and friends safe.

This year will bring about changes in all the churches in the diocese, in the way we are organised for services. More about that when we really know how that will work out.

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KNIT AND NATTER *More fundraising Success*

The fundraiser on Saturday 11th December was very successful and raised £200 for Motor Neuron Disease. Thank to everyone who came along to support us.

Judging by all the likes on Facebook the knitted pillar box cover that was made by the knitting group was widely loved. It will be left up until January 6th. If you would like to show your appreciation there is a collecting box inside the shop for donateions to our current charity MND.

The group has also been busy decorating some of the benches in the village.

PLAYGROUP *Plenty of Christmas spirit*

Wow! What a busy and long term the children have had. We've thoroughly enjoyed getting into the Christmas spirit with the Christmas party and a visit from Father Christmas being a highlight. Lots of the children have participated in our sponsored '12 Days of Christmas Activity Advent' which has seen the children completing a fun Christmas themed activity every day for 12 days in return for sponsorship from family and friends, thank you to everyone who has helped fundraising.

Our December stay and play session was another great success. As well as welcoming some familiar faces we also enjoyed meeting some new children and parents. Everyone with a baby or toddler is very welcome to join us for a cuppa and chat, just keep an eye out on our Facebook page for the dates in the new year.

We can't wait to welcome the children back for the spring term when we open on Tuesday 4th January. We do have a couple of spaces available on selected days in the new year so if you have a little one aged two, three or four years olds and would like to find out more about them attending Playgroup please do get in touch (email lwpg@live.co.uk).

Cara Tatterton
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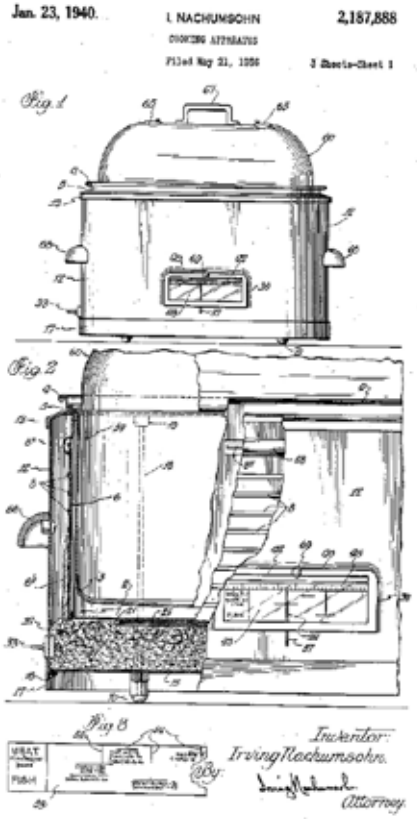
IN PRAISE OF THE SLOW COOKER

As I write this column on a cold grey December morning my evening meal is already bubbling away in the Slow Cooker. I use mine a lot, especially in the winter months. With a little preparation in the morning you can come home to the aroma of a cooked meal, which will happily continue to cook until you're ready to eat.

The first Slow Cooker was patented in 1936 in the USA, by inventor Irving Naxon. It was called the Naxon Beanery. Naxon sold his



company in 1970, to Rival Manufacturing, the Beanery was rebranded as the Crock-Pot - the name slow cookers are still known by in the US. Sales expanded rapidly in the 1970s.

Retailer Lakeland has said the popularity of its slow cookers has continues to be high. Amazon says two of its best selling cookbooks in the UK are specifically for slow cookers. They're also very affordable, so they pay for themselves in time. Slow cookers are popular with students. My daughter moved into a shared house and as they unpacked their kitchen kit found they'd each brought a Slow Cooker.

The recipe below is a favourite of mine and is taken from 'More Slow Cooking' published by Lakeland. Chicken & Chorizo Paella.

What you need:

500g Diced chicken Breast
2 Teaspoons Paprika
1 Chorizo sausage sliced
400g tinned tomatoes
1 onion
500g Microwave rice
1 red pepper
90g Frozen Peas
2 garlic cloves
75g stuffed green olives
250ml Chicken stock

What you do:

Heat a tablespoon of oil in a frying pan and fry the chicken and chorizo until browned, then transfer to the slow cooker. Add onion, pepper, garlic, spices, stock and undrained tomatoes. Cook, covered for 4hours Stir in the rice and peas, cook covered for another 15 minutes. Season to taste and scatter with the olives.

THE LONG WHATTON NEWS

The Long Whatton News is produced twelve times a year and is delivered free of charge to every home in the village every month.

We aim to distribute each months magazine around the 1st of each month.

It is produced by volunteers and depends entirely on voluntary contributions, advertising revenue and fund raising events.

The online version can be found on: www.longwhattonnews.co.uk

WE WANT YOUR NEWS

The Long Whatton News would like to hear from you about your club, event or absolutely anything news-worthy about the village and its people.

Text us, WhatsApp us or email us *longwhattonnews@gmail.com*

THE TEAM

Penny de Kock 07393 407896
Neil Bamford 07921 855607

COPY DEADLINE

The copy deadline for articles for the February issue is 16th January.

Ballet Classes

FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

LOCKINGTON VILLAGE HALL - SATURDAY From 8th January 2022

Young beginners, Primary and children's ballet classes up to Grade 4are held every Saturday
Small classes to develop confidence and enjoyment through dance and storytelling styled movements.
Dance/Drama for older pupils. Enquire for class times and details.

NEW CLASS: SILVER SWANS BALLET FOR ADULTS
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LONG WHATTON SHOTOKAN KARATE CLUB *New year*

After a two-week break over the festive period, we will be back training each week from 6th January, getting ourselves match-fit again after a well-earned rest.

We will clearly need to continue to monitor the situation regarding ongoing restrictions and adjust our training accordingly. However, the first quarter of 2022 is shaping up to be very exciting indeed, with a huge amount going on in the local region.

On 13th February, Central Region Kata Squad selection and training will take place, where our instructors will be looking to test their skills with a view to being selected again. A week later, the international competition squads from England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland will be coming together to compete at the Grand Slam on 19th February in Grantham. The following day is the first free Black and Brown Belt Course, also in Grantham.

Into March, there is the second Central Region Kata Squad training session of the year on 6th March - to be held in Repton. Followed that, the Central Region championships are taking place on 19th March in Stoke on Trent. And if all of that wasn't enough, the first of two week-long training events is due to be held in Torbay at the start of April, where karateka from around the UK will be coming together for the KUGB (Karate Union of Great Britain) Spring Karate Course.

So hopefully a lot to look forward to in 2022 and an exciting time to consider starting your own martial arts journey with us… Interested in giving karate a try? We run a junior class from 5:45pm and then a second session from 6:45pm for our slightly older children and adults every Thursday in the Long Whatton school hall. Anyone who would like to learn karate can take advantage of our free trial session offer to see if it is for them. Get in touch via our Facebook Page @longwhatton karate, e-mail the club at longwhattonkarate@gmail.com, or contact the club secretary on 07714335598

TESTING TIMES *for Alex Lowes*

The Kawasaki factory World Superbike team began their 2022 championship campaign with their first test at Jerez in Spain in December.

Alex and his team mate Jonathan Rea spent three days - 15th to 17th December on track evaluating new chassis parts and electronics for next year.

The test was privately organised between the Kawasaki, Honda and BMW teams ahead of the official World Superbike tests which will take place early in the new year. The dates and circuits have yet to be announced.

Alex's hand is fully healed after fracturing some metacarpals during a crash at the Catalunya round in Spain, but a fall in the last round in Indonesia at turn 16 in the Saturday morning free practice left him with a right acromioclavicular joint separation - a shoulder injury that isn't completely healed. He is undergoing rehab and physio along with training at Loughborough University to speed up recovery.

Happy New Year

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