

Northstowe News

By Northstowe Community – For Northstowe Community

Issue 21

May / June / July 2022

PROUD TO SUPPORT
NORTHSTOWE DAY
Celebrating
5 Years of Northstowe

Can You Name
Northstowe's Lakes?

Farewell to the
Community Wing!

...plus the News and Updates
from all Northstowe's
social clubs and groups

News and Updates

EDITORS' WELCOME

Welcome to another summer in Northstowe! With all the sunshine we experienced in early March, let's hope we have more glorious weather this summer.

We felt that we couldn't print this issue without some mention of the things happening on the world's stage. As a small organisation printing once in two months, it can be difficult to stay on top of current affairs - however, late though it may be, we want to express our horror and dismay about Putin's invasion of Ukraine. We stand with the people of Ukraine and if anyone evacuating should ever happen to come to Northstowe and read this, we hope you feel totally safe and welcome here.

Wishing well to all those taking exams, those preparing for a summer wedding and all the teachers having a well deserved summer break. Now that restrictions have been lifted and things are getting back to normal let's have a great enjoyable Northstowe summer with BBQ and fun. Remember you can always share with us your amazing Northstowe summer pictures and stories which I am sure others will be excited to hear or see.

Want to advertise in Northstowe News?

Over 1000 copies of each issue are delivered, a free magazine to every residence in Northstowe. If you want your business to be included, contact janetpendrill@gmail.com for more details. Annual discount rates are available.

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Northstowe News is produced by a small group of volunteers. We're always looking for regular or one-off articles, photos, artwork, event reports, notices, and anything else that may be of interest to the Northstowe community. If you would like to write in the magazine please email northstovenews@gmail.com with your questions, ideas and contributions.

The submission deadline for the August / September issue is **July 1st**.

The cost of printing and distribution of this magazine was supported, in part, by the Northstowe Developers Community Fund and the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation.

HOUSEHOLD BIN COLLECTIONS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Friday 6 th May | Blue and Green Bins |
| Thursday 12 th May | Black Bin |
| Thursday 29 th May | Blue and Green Bins |
| Thursday 26 th May | Black Bin |
| Saturday 4 th June | Blue and Green Bins |
| Friday 10 th June | Black Bin |
| Thursday 16 th June | Blue and Green Bins |
| Thursday 23 rd June | Black Bin |
| Thursday 30 th June | Blue and Green Bins |
| Thursday 7 th July | Black Bin |
| Thursday 14 th July | Blue and Green Bins |
| Thursday 21 st July | Black Bin |
| Thursday 28 th July | Blue and Green Bins |



Report Missed bins at:
<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/bins/report-a-missed-collection/>



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Front Cover photo by Pete Cope



NORTHSTOWE DAY

A day of fun activities to celebrate **5 years** since the first new build residents moved in!

**Saturday 7th May
10am to 5pm**

10am-1pm Activites, local stalls, food vans
The Green plus a community litter pick

From 10am Have a coffee, snack and chat
The Wing with residents at the Pioneer Cafe

1pm-4pm Coffee, ice cream, art displays, storytelling
ECO Arts and live art at The 3 Pavilions Northstowe,
by Northstowe Secondary College

From 2:30pm Enjoy a game of rounders on the
Rounders Northstowe Secondary field

From 4:15pm Join a fun run with family on the
Northstowe Day Run Northstowe Secondary field

To find out more information, visit
www.northstowecommunity.org

Scan me!
→



NORTHSTOWE DAY OF CELEBRATION

This May marks the fifth anniversary of the first new build resident moving into Northstowe. To celebrate the event and bring the community together, community volunteer groups and agencies are preparing a day of fun, interactive and inclusive activities on Saturday 7th May 2022 across various locations in Northstowe.

To start the day, why not take a walk down to the Green, Pathfinder Way between 10am and 1pm to take part in interactive fun activities and catch up with community volunteer groups and agencies on all the wonderful community led projects happening in your new town; whether you would just like to know what community led activities are taking place or perhaps would like to have a chat about getting involved- volunteers from groups will be at hand to have a friendly informal chat. Just a short stroll to the Community Wing will see volunteers from the Pioneer café offering fresh tea and coffee, alongside other interactive groups and activities from 10am.

The afternoon session at Northstowe Secondary College promises to be just as busy and exciting- from 1pm a wide range of activities for everyone including eco art displays, children's story-telling, a rounders match and a (pre bookable) fun run to finish the day.

Nearer the time, posters and social media will provide a full programme of events including food vans interactive suggested walking route and lots of other exciting activities.

This entire day is taking place due to volunteers. Volunteering is a great way to support create your thriving community and meet lots of other people. The event is still in need of volunteers, particularly stewards- this involves making sure people are safe and having fun! If this is something you could do – even just for a few hours – please do get in touch via email: Northstowe.community@scambs.gov.uk.

NEW MOBILE LIBRARY VISITING

The Cambridge Mobile Library service is pleased to confirm that we will be including a new stop in Northstowe to our new timetables, starting May 2022.

It will be on the 2nd Friday of every month from 3.20pm to 4.20pm on The Green, adjacent to the B1050.

We will also continue to visit Longstanton, which will be on the same day.

Longstanton, The Dale. 2 – 2.30pm.

Longstanton, Prentice Close. 2.35 – 3.10pm.

Northstowe, The Green. 3.20 – 4.20pm.

The first visit will be on Friday 13th May, followed by 10th June, then 8th July, etc.

The service is free to all, and new customers can join online, or come and join on the vehicle.

We look forward to visiting Northstowe!

BOOKINGS OPEN AT NSC

Northstowe Secondary College are pleased to announce the launch of our new online booking system for hiring our spaces. If you are looking for a wide range of state of the art facilities to book for a variety of activities, from birthday parties and community events to sports fixtures, we have the space for you.

Our lettings are open 7 days a week with extended opening hours during school holidays. There is ample parking available onsite and our friendly staff are always available to help. We offer a 15% community discount on our sports facilities if you are located in Northstowe or Longstanton.

Please check out our website for more information:

<https://northstowesc.schoolhire.co.uk/>

Alternatively, please visit our school website,

www.northstowesc.org

BEEPING CONTRACTORS' VEHICLES

There have been complaints of some of the construction vehicles in use by the builders still making loud, high-pitched beep noises when they reverse. This is actually a violation of planning permission, as all such vehicles should be fitted with white noise reversing alarms instead (because the sound of those does not carry as far).

If you hear a beeping reversing vehicle, please report it to the council so that they can take action and make the environment a little nicer for us all.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/planning-control-and-enforcement/how-to-report-a-breach-of-planning-control/>

A MESSAGE TO THE FATHERS OF NORTHSTOWE

To all the fathers, those assuming the role of fatherhood, those longing to be a father. We salute you all and cheer you on as Father's Day (19 June) approaches, we wanted to use this time to appreciate and honour you.

For running the scout and guide clubs, entertaining the children, doing school run etc they all do not go unnoticed.

And remember fatherhood is not based on having biological children. We can all exhibit fatherhood trait to enhance our community to those we come across especially during the time we are now living.

Have a great Father's Day, all fathers of Northstowe.

NORTHSTOWE Community Forum

A space for local residents to engage with developers and public sector bodies about the new town of Northstowe



7pm (tbc), Wednesday 13 July

Northstowe Community Wing or on Zoom (tbc)

View the agenda, or join the forum: www.scambs.gov.uk/northstowe-forum
Submit your questions in advance to: Northstowe.Community@scambs.gov.uk

COULD YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

One of the most exciting things about being part of a new town is the opportunity to get involved in making things happen. If there is something that you think is missing, that you have some skills or enthusiasm for, why not talk to the community development officers? Or perhaps there is something just getting going that you could help embed? Here are just a few of the current opportunities:

- **The Foodbank** are looking for more volunteers to help run the distribution centre on a Wednesday afternoon (note, this will involve some manual lifting of food crates)
- **The Northstowe Youth Hive** is a community-led group looking to establish youthwork, and give young people a voice in Northstowe. They are looking for more people to join the executive committee (behind the scenes), and people to get involved in regular youthwork, including the afterschool slot on Wednesdays, or at other times. Training is available.
- **Northstowe Arts** are also keen to talk to people wanting to get involved either behind the scenes with committee work, or in running events.
- **Friends of the Wing** are particularly interested in hearing from anyone keen to help with activities in the community centre such as Pioneer Café. Or interested in developing a social media presence.

And that's just a taste!

Do get in touch with the team on
Northstowe.Community@scambs.gov.uk





Cambridgeshire County Council



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  Cambslib

Route C12 - 2nd Friday of every month

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Milton | Post Office | 9:15 - 10:15 am |
| 2 Milton | The Rowans | 10:20 - 11:10 am |
| 3 Landbeach | High Street - bus stop | 11:25 - 12:00 pm |
| 4 Lolworth | The Green | 12:20 - 12:50 pm |
| 5 Longstanton | The Dale | 2:00 - 2:30 pm |
| 6 Longstanton | Prentice Close | 2:35 - 3:10 pm |
| 7 Northstowe | The Green | 3:20 - 4:20 pm |

NORTHSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL

New Town Council being formed, to help shape the future of your town!

11 candidates nominated themselves to stand for elections for Northstowe Town Council; fewer than the 15 seats and all candidates have therefore now been elected. They will serve for 4 years, following the initial 1-year term since formation of the Council in May last year.

The next four years are going to be very important for the town and its residents, with many key facilities and amenities lined up for development. The Town Council is working closely with all tiers of Local Authorities, agencies and developers who are leading on the delivery of many of those, and the Town Councillors represent the growing community – you – to help ensure residents get the best possible amenities, services and facilities.

What are Town Councillors going to be involved in over the next four years?

- Piloting and gradual expansion of a market, to be instigated by Northstowe Town Council.
- Growth in events, some to be facilitated by the Town Council such as the upcoming Platinum Jubilee Celebrations (see the Town Council website for details for the 5th June).
- Annual growth in grants offered by the Town Council to community groups, supporting local initiatives.
- Input to help finalise partners' plans for: the commercial and retail land, with community centre in Phase 1; and the Town Centre, with Civic Hub and Market Plaza, in Phase 2.
- Input to help finalise partners' plans for delivery and management structures for the Sports Pavilion, with sport fields and facilities in the Western Park in Phase 1; and the water sports and open water swimming options proposed for the Phase 2 Water Park.
- Engagement with partners to ensure timely adoption of roads, designated cycle paths and footpaths across Phase 1, with the Town Council potentially instigating road safety measures prior to adoption.
- Input, as statutory consultee, into all planning applications coming forward for thousands more homes across phase 1, 2, 3A, 3B, Endurance Estates and Digital Park, and direct input to help partners' work in green space management and facility provisions whilst the town will double in size over the next four years.

...and a lot more...

From 11th May the Town Council will be short of 4 Councillors, and we welcome anyone from the community to come forward: Councillors can still be co-opted to become part of the Town Council. Don't hesitate in contacting me if you want to know more - email me at townclerk@northstowetowncouncil.gov.uk, join one of the many Council meetings, or check out the information at www.northstowetowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Clerk, Mark Nokkert

SAVE THE DATE!

Jubilee celebrations in Northstowe
 Sunday 5th June 12 - 4pm

Working with local groups we are arranging a family friendly jubilee celebration - think bring and share street party, ceilidh, quiz and ice cream van.

Further details will be announced on NTC website and local social media platforms soon.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR



Firouz Thompson

Dear residents, it's spring and it's nice to have the lighter evenings return. I hope that you are well and looking forward to Easter. Here is my summary of County Council matters.

HIGHWAYS

NORTHSTOWE NEW SOUTH ACCESS

ROAD WEST (SARW) TIE IN CONNECTION TO B1050: Weekend of 4-6 March: all carriageway surfacing to roundabout approaches completed, all permanent white lining is complete, the street lighting has been completed as you travel from Longstanton towards the A14 and will turn on soon, once testing and commissioning has been completed. Finishing works will take on the verges and to the cycleway / footpath and the temporary traffic lights have been removed and traffic management is in place until South Access Road West is due to open in the next few months.

NORTHSTOWE EDUCATION CAMPUS: Works due to complete outside of Northstowe Secondary School, Martin Bacon Academy and Urban Splash Home in the next few months.

RAMPTON DRIFT BYWAY: Path from Rampton Drift to Stirling is due to be completed in the next month. The section from Stirling Road to Busway surfacing will be half hard top for pedestrian/cyclist and the other half will be soft surfacing for equestrians.

REYNOLDS DROVE: Resurfacing work commenced and have now been completed. The surface will be dressed using 10mm and 6mm aggregate. A 3mm granite dust will then be swept into the surface dressing to fill the small voids and provide a smoother surface which will be suitable for pedestrian, cyclists and equestrians.

Wilson's Road Bridleway resurfacing: works was completed mid-October. As this is a new innovative surfacing for our county, we are very keen to engage and work collaboratively and will be offering a site inspection after 6 months to all the members of Cambridgeshire Local Access Forum and Longstanton Parish Council. This new surfacing will benefit the local community and be truly inclusive for all abilities of walkers, horse riders, ramblers, cyclists, wheelchair users and pushchairs. Please do try out this new surfacing and feedback to me on the email address below as 6 months will be up in April.

DEFECTS ON AND OFF RAMPS OF THE BRIDGE OVER THE A14 BAR HILL: We have had several reports of what sounds like a serious defect. Both bridge expansion joints where the bridge join the road surface have subsided causing 'ramp' like subsidence – causing big bangs and jolts to cars. The bridge has been adopted by CCC from National Highways as part of the ongoing A14 handover. At the time of handover, the defect at the joint was not apparent. We are monitoring the problem and have erected signs to warn drivers. It looks like it is a defect in its construction and/or design, and we are investigating the cause so we can organise a permanent repair. Our initial thoughts are that it is subsidence of the made up ground at the point it meets the bridge. This can occur in new structures as the new ground settles over time but is not usually by so much in this short time. We are in discussions with National Highways on the best way of repairing.

COUNTY-WIDE NEWS

Covid-19

Vaccinations: the roll out of vaccinations for 5- to 11-year olds will begin from 31 March. Advice at this point is that children will be vaccinated in pharmacies and mass vaccination centres rather than in primary schools. Mobile vaccination centres are still in operation—see the schedule at

<https://www.thevaccinators.co.uk/>

Environment & Green Investment

Household Recycling Centre changes: COVID-19 measures at the Household Recycling Centres are being changed with effect from Tuesday 1 March. Booking requirements for all vehicles at all sites are being removed, and the number of vehicles allowed on all sites is being increased to pre-COVID levels.

Climate Change Strategy: An action plan setting out how and by when the council and the whole of Cambridgeshire will reach net zero has been approved by the Full Council. The Climate Change and Environment Strategy will mobilise all parts of the council to prioritise cutting carbon emissions and building community resilience to climate impacts.

It also outlines how the council will deliver on its commitments to reach net zero, work with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority's Climate Commission and district council partners, and respond to the inevitable future challenges by setting:

- A new ambition for Cambridgeshire to reach net zero emissions by 2045.
- An organisational target for the county council to reach Net Zero by 2030.
- The need for the council and others to engage, support and collaborate with communities, partners, and businesses to make positive changes themselves.

More here: <https://tinyurl.com/ad6we8v6>

A new plan to reduce the risk of flooding in Cambridgeshire over the next five years has been approved. Members of the county council's Environment & Green Investment Committee agreed the Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Strategy and supporting action plan at its meeting in March. Residents can check their flood risk by using the online flood maps to check whether they're at risk of flooding at <https://www.gov.uk/check-flooding>

More here: <https://tinyurl.com/mwrfnzs2>

Ethics & Behaviour at the County Council

You may be aware of 'Farmgate' whereby an independent investigation concluded that the former Cambridgeshire County Council deputy leader breached the Council's Code of Conduct in six different areas. Ex-Councillor Hickford failed to treat Officers and others acting on behalf of the Council with respect; used a bullying manner in order for the Council to pay for works that would otherwise be the responsibility of the tenant. The recommendations also include taking up the issue with colleagues in councils across Cambridgeshire to improve standards of behaviour in public life more widely. <https://tinyurl.com/38hm5n7k>

CONTACT DETAILS: Please do not hesitate to contact me, if you have any questions.

Firouz Thompson: firouz.thompson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
County Councillor for Longstanton, Northstowe, Over, Oakington & Westwick

For those on social media please follow Longstanton, Oakington & Northstowe Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/longstantonoakingtonnorthstowe>

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

At the time of writing, we are coming to the end of our four-year term as District Councillors for Northstowe. Dependant on the results of elections on May 5th, we may or may not continue into a second term. Regardless of the result, we would like to thank residents of Northstowe, Northstowe Town Council and our County Councillor Firouz Thompson for all the support they have given us over the last four years representing Northstowe, it has been a privilege to be your District Councillors

Northstowe Phase 3B Planning Committee

We reported in the last edition that the outline planning application for Phase 3A has been approved. The application for Phase 3B, the phase next to the existing Bloor homes, has also now been approved. Phase 3B includes 1,000 homes, a primary school, space for retail, community, leisure and employment, children's play space, allotments, and community orchard. Phase 3B will include 400 affordable homes. You can view all the documents from the planning committee here:

<https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=768&Mid=9409&Ver=4>

A series of more detailed planning applications will now follow for each parcel of land In Phase 3, which will agree the details on what homes and facilities will look like.

We submitted the following comments to the committee:

In addition to the comments we made on the original application we would ask the committee to consider this application in the context of the two additional parcels of land adjacent to the existing Northstowe homes on the west side of the B1050 – Digital Park and Endurance Park. We are very concerned about the cumulative impact that all three developments will have on the B1050 which is already very busy at peak hours and ask the committee give due consideration to the County's assessment on projected traffic flows for all 3 developments not just Phase 3b. In addition, we welcome the co-ordination document provided by Homes England to enable these three developments to work together in a co-ordinated fashion on issues that link all three developments and if there is a way to formalise this process and adherence to cross-party co-ordination as these 3 developments build out, we would welcome this.

Northstowe Enterprise Zone, Phase 1 and Civic Hub

At the final full council meeting of our term, councillors have approved the purchase of a building that can serve as the interim community building for Phase 1. Unfortunately, we have not been able to share more information about this while negotiations on this purchase are completed, but we hope that full details can be shared with the community very soon.

At this council meeting we proposed a motion calling on the council to reaffirm its commitment to Northstowe and importantly to agree to explore any contingency plans that might be required for health provision, community space or a shop, while we push forward development on the permanent community facilities. We have been continuing to ask for timelines to be provided to residents for all the community building projects and to push for these to be delivered more quickly.

DOG GROOMING BY
JODIE ARTHURS

07522562279

doggroomingbyjodiearthurs@outlook.com
7 GREENSIDE CLOSE, SWAYESSET, CB24 4RF

- BATHING - GROOMING - STYLING - CLAW CLIPPING -
- HAND STRIPPING - CLIPPING - TEETH CLEANING -
- ONE TO ONE GROOMING - AND A UNIQUE PUPPY PLAN -

Bin Collections

We are sorry for the ongoing issues with missed bin collections. We have flagged these with the waste team, and they have been working to resolve these. They have been reviewing the in-cab mapping system to ensure all streets are included and trying to ensure regular crew are allocated to Northstowe who know the rounds.

There may still be disruption to green bin services due to ongoing staff shortages, but the council have been organising extra weekend collections for missed bins. Service disruption updates are available on the SCDC website, and we will post these on our local Facebook page.

Update on missing post

We have been continuing to pursue Royal Mail over the issue with missing post. We are deeply sorry for all the residents who have missing post - we have now received over fifty complaints which we have passed on to Royal Mail. We have finally been told that this has been referred to their Security Investigation Team. The investigation is ongoing, and we are hoping for a further update on the outcome soon. We also made a complaint to the Postal Service Ombudsman regarding Royal Mail's handling of the complaints from us and residents, which we think has been unacceptable. Finally, we have also written to our local MP to see if there is anything he can do to raise this.

Northstowe Lake Naming

We would encourage you to get involved in naming the new Northstowe Lakes!

We would love it if local people could give them an identity, so that it is easy for meeting friends or for events or in the future for water-based activities like canoeing or paddleboarding. We think they need appropriate names that relate to the local area.

For more details on the process and how to enter please go to: <https://www.northstowe.com/lake-naming>

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about these, or any other matters.

Alex Malyon and Sarah Cheung Johnson

District Councillors for Longstanton, Oakington & Westwick and Northstowe

Contact details:

Sarah Cheung Johnson: cllr.cheungjohnson@scambs.gov.uk
Alex Malyon: cllr.malyon@scambs.gov.uk

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CLOSURE OF NORTHSTOWE COMMUNITY WING

It has recently been announced that the Northstowe Community Wing – home of Wing Wednesdays, the Pioneer Café, and all manner of other social activity in Northstowe – will close by September.

The community wing has been a vital and much loved resource in Northstowe, home to the local scouts, fitness groups, mother and baby groups, gaming groups, social events, the local library and many other clubs and societies. We will all be very sad to see it disappear.



It was always expected that the Community Wing would be a temporary facility – the Pathfinder school was deliberately built with larger buildings than it needed at first, with the remainder being designated for community use. The idea was that a new purpose-built community facility would be constructed (probably adjacent to The Green) and social activities would be able to move into that when, after a few years, the growing school needed to expand into the rest of its building.

This seemed to be an example of really good forward-planning, and thoughtfulness for how to support the building of the brand-new community!

Sadly, those critical few years have now passed, and while Northstowe has expanded and the Pathfinder school has grown with it, no visible progress has yet been made on the promised community building. Sadly, the closure of the Wing before any adequate replacement has been built, was an entirely predictable scenario: one discussed at a community forum back in 2019. At that forum it was asked if the council would start planning a new community centre early to enable a smooth transition and so that groups in Northstowe would not be forced to close due to lack of a space to meet.

While the community is very glad to have been able to use the Community Wing for the last few years, it should be clear that as the town grows the provision of community facilities must increase and not decrease. Some great work has been done to build up the Pioneer Café, the food bank and community pantry – all this momentum is put in jeopardy if there is not adequate indoor and secure space for them in the heart of the community. The need was obvious, too little has been done to address it and it is now too late to avoid significant disruption.

The land next to the Green was sold to SCDC a full year ago (although even before that, the stated intention was for a developer to build a community centre at that site). To date, no plans have even been published, much less any building work started! We asked a number of councillors and officers why this could not have progressed any sooner, and received the following explanation from District Councillors Sarah Cheung Johnson and Alex Malyon: “*The negotiations to secure the purchase of the local centre and enterprise zone land took time, with the developers initially keen to sell to a private investor. We are extremely pleased that South Cambs District Council (SCDC) was finally able to secure the land and that work could then begin on what the development, which will be at the heart of Phase 1, should look like. SCDC taking on this land means that the community, Town Council, and local businesses can play an integral part in shaping the plans through extensive consultation and community engagement.*”

Another South Cambridgeshire District Council spokesperson said: “*We continue to develop our plans for the Enterprise Zone. Local residents and businesses will continue to be very much involved in how the site comes forward – and this will of course include a permanent community building. There has already been significant effort put into involving the community in these plans during the past year through online and in-person workshops, as well as surveys. However, quickly opening a community building on land at the Enterprise Zone would not have met the long-term needs of the community. It’s important to note that we have been progressing our plans for the site throughout a global pandemic and amidst unprecedented disruption to financial markets. Companies are only now starting to see staff returning to offices in any great number. With hybrid working set to become the norm, we also needed to reflect on the right type of business facilities for the Enterprise Zone.*”

Clrs Malyon and Cheung Johnson add, “*We think those people who will be using the buildings and facilities should be central to the design and planning process. That is why starting building something on day one would not have been the right thing to do. Workshops have already taken place with the community on the plans for community buildings and AR Urbanism have come to the Northstowe Forum regularly to keep us all updated on how plans are progressing. We will always require that consultation with the residents of Northstowe continues throughout the process.*”

It's true that the Covid pandemic has had a massive effect in the past year, and there have been all kinds of other disruptions to national and international trade. However this only highlights the failure to start planning in good time. If the idea of a new community building had only arisen in the last year, then with all of this going on, of course it would be impossible to specify, plan, build and open something excellent. But the fact is that the need for a community centre, and the location for it, have been known and fundamentally unchanged since 2018 when the Community Wing first opened – I believe all the community engagement could have taken place years ago, whether it was the council or any other developer who would eventually build on the land. And of course, the housebuilders have apparently managed to continue working despite the same conditions; if they had not, then the school would not have grown so much and the wing would not have needed to close yet.

In the meantime there are few options for community groups and other societies wishing to find meeting space. The online booking system for rooms in Northstowe Secondary College is now open, but its location is much further from the houses that have been built so far in Phase 1 so it will be less convenient for most activities. Bookings cannot extend past 21:30, and at the time of writing, no discount for community groups is offered for indoor rooms (only for sports facilities), so a community group looking to hire the 7 x 7 metres Community Meeting Room for one hour would pay £36 including VAT; three times the £12 price of the 8.5 x 7.5 metres Small Hall in the Community Wing.

However, a spokesperson for SCDC has indicated that some kind of additional interim facility will be made available – although few details are yet public. “*We know how important it is that Northstowe residents have access to an indoor community space. With that in mind, at our Full Council meeting on 23 March, Councillors agreed to acquire space for an interim community facility. As soon as all the paperwork is completed, we’re looking forward to sharing all the details. We’re sorry that we can’t say more at this stage, but we do need the contract to be signed before we can do so. We have been talking to the groups that use the wing to ensure we understand their needs for the interim space.”*

“We are discussing transition arrangements with both the primary and secondary school to ensure as smooth a changeover as possible and whilst we will be updating all current users, we would urge groups to contact us on Northstowe.Community@scamps.gov.uk with any concerns they may have.”

Cllrs Malyon and Cheung Johnson add, “*We too have been very frustrated by how long the process to secure an interim community building has taken but are now optimistic about the solution that has been found. Behind the scenes we have been pushing for a solution that does not merely deliver the minimum facilities we are required to provide but that has scope to accommodate the growing needs and ambitions of the whole community.”*

Northstowe looks forward to seeing a facility delivered that will meet this lofty ambition.

Photos supplied by Northstowe Social except * by Sustainable Northstowe and † by Emmanuel Church.

Left column, top to bottom:

Christmas Choir †, Pop-up Pub, Clothes Swap *, Community Pantry *, Northstowe Gamers at Wing Wednesday, Pancake Day, Emmanuel Church †.

Right column: Movie Night, Microlibrary, Jazz & Puddings Night †, Community BBQ, Christmas Wing Wednesday, Shelf Help, International Bring & Share



Sports, Health and Wellbeing

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Tennis in Cottenham is go! Because the village has expanded, so has the appetite for tennis. In two years the membership rose from 39 and to 150, with a range of ages (starting from 3 years old!). We have excellent coaching through GameSetTennis (www.gamesettennis.co.uk) and run classes for beginners (Mondays) as well as improvers and long-standing players (Saturdays). It's a very friendly club, based at Cottenham Sports Centre at the Village College, and anyone is welcome to turn up at the Wednesday Club night from 7pm and join in the doubles played on all courts.



Photo by Phil Cooke: Doubles coaching at Cottenham Sports Centre

Tennis is very much on the agenda for the next few months. On 4 May, CVC will run a year 3/4 tennis festival for primary school children in South Cambridgeshire. Some from Northstowe will be taking part along with others who haven't played the game before. All participants will be offered a reduced-price Cottenham Club membership and 10% off summer coaching or summer camp. New members are welcome to join in the Family Tournament on 8 May, 9.30am-12noon. Entries by 1 May.

Family Club Sundays start on 15 May, 10am to 12 noon. First two sessions led by a coach and non-members can try the first session but will then need membership.

The grass courts at the Cottenham Recreation Ground will open for summer play from 1 May and the Club plans activities there, including sessions for pre-schoolers aged 3-4 on Fridays, 1.45-2.30pm (info@cottenhamtennis.co.uk). Alex will do individual lessons during the day at the grass courts for any age, if people want them, especially around the Friday tots session. Contact toby@gamesettennis.co.uk

Playing fields and courts at the Cottenham Rec will be action-packed on 5 June to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. There'll be Tennis-For-Free organised by the Club – check the website www.cottenhamtennis.co.uk or their Facebook page. Plans are in hand too for the weekend of 25/26 June, the Fen Edge Festival. More on this next issue.

NORTHSTOWE SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

The Scouting group, Beavers and Cubs all meet weekly and sessions run from the Community wing in Northstowe which is a lovely space and has been well used through the winter. As the evenings are slightly lighter now the packs have been able to start doing some outdoor sessions including a trip to Longstanton Church and walk through the local area with outdoor games, Cubs have also completed a trek locally this week. In addition to this camping trips are now scheduled in across the coming months for all to attend and enjoy. We would like to say a special thanks to the Co-op Community fund that Scouts recently were awarded. The funding will facilitate the camping trips and pay for some much needed equipment for the group.

April will be a busy month as the groups are supporting the Northstowe running event on 24th April, Scouts supported this last year from initial set up to marshalling. As this is also St George's Day some of the Cubs will be attending a marked event for this in Cambourne and representing Northstowe at this event. There is lots to look forward to over the summer and coming months, the groups mark and celebrate all kinds of festivals through the year and the Queens jubilee will also be celebrated by the sections.

If you are interested in joining the sections either as a young person or if you are interested in a volunteering role for Beavers, Cubs or Scouts as a helper please do get in touch with us. You can contact Mark Mills via www.1stnorthstowescouts.org.uk

LONGSTANTON AND NORTHSTOWE LIMPERS

The Limpers now have two established nights with group runs which are free and open to all. We're still doing our social run, which is on Mondays at 7.30pm, and now we have another group run on Wednesday session starting at 7pm for people that are new to running or getting back into it. We're meeting up at the Northstowe square at the moment, so pop down and say hello if you have any questions or are looking for a local group run. We've also finished another of our popular couch to 5k courses, and hopefully the graduates will join our Wednesday runs.

After pausing our membership fees for 2 years due to uncertainty about the pandemic our club activity has resumed and so we have restarted membership fees for 2022/3. It's still great value, with our Core membership only £18, and for those that want to be fully affiliated with England Athletics an additional £16. We do a mixture of away runs, visits to local parkruns, and special events just for members including guided training plans building to local events like the Cambourne 10k and the Northstowe Half Marathon. All the benefits are on our facebook page with details of how to join – check us out if you're interested.

We've been lucky to selected as one of the Co-op's local causes this year, which means that the club will be sharing in the community funding raised by the local stores. If you're a Co-op member then please think about choosing us as your local cause – if not why not join up and support a local group.

Finally, some of the Limpers have been using an app called Treakly... if you keep track of your steps and are a regular walker or runner then check it out as they plant trees on your behalf. A mix of healthy activity and helping the environment at the same time sounds good!

Chris Poultney – <https://www.facebook.com/LandNLimpers>

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Mob: 07570 339 229
www.hanlischmidt.com



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Food bank vouchers are available from local agencies such as citizens advice, schools, and churches. Vouchers can be redeemed at Distribution Centres across Cambridge, including the new Northstowe centre.

Each gives you a parcel of three days of emergency food, providing non-judgemental support at the point of crisis.

Looking to donate?
The nearest collection point is at Bar Hill Tesco

Want to volunteer?
Get in touch!

Read more: cambridgecity.foodbank.org.uk
One contact is Revd Beth Cope (Pathfinder Church)
07720 330 272 contact@northstowe.church



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Beverley | CAP Life Skills member

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Northstowe Community Wing

Children welcome with parents
as toys and activities are available

Book your free place by contacting
07770 884570 Johannascoones@capuk.org

WILLINGHAM & LONGSTANTON SURGERIES
Reception Tel: Willingham 01954 260230 Longstanton 207600 Dispensary 207602
District Nurse Team: 01223 726469 Option 2 Health Visitors: 0300 029 50 50
Out of hours cover: Ring 111 Website: www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk

A&E is not an alternative to a GP appointment. If we are closed, please call 111.

Face To Face appointments

Patients are welcome to book face to face appointments as a choice, and no longer require telephone triage. Please state your preference to the receptionists when booking.

Online Booking

If you want to book a routine appointment with the GP, you can avoid the queues by booking your GP appointment online. If you have not already done so, please contact reception to register for SystmOnline.

Urgent on the day appointments are only available via reception.

Patient Participation Group

The next Patient Participation group (PPG) is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 17th May at 1pm. The meeting will take place in the Octagon at Willingham St Mary and All Saints Church.

All patients across or demographic are invited to join the PPG which will be attended by the management team and chaired by Tom Cowley, our patient representative. For further information please contact Sue.ayling@ntlworld.com.

Patient Helpdesk

From April 2022, patients are encouraged to use the new NHS My Planned Care platform that is available online and will provide direct access to the latest average wait time for appointments and operations for local hospitals, as well as helpful advice and support for patients whilst they wait.

NHS My Planned Care is updated weekly, is easy-to-use and has 'open access' which enables carers, friends, relatives to also access information on someone else's behalf. Please visit www.myplannedcare.nhs.uk

Alternatively, patients who have already been in correspondence with hospitals regarding their planned care can also contact the relevant department or service. Details of which can be found on previous letters patients will have received or by contacting the hospital's Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS).

Addenbrookes: 9am – 4pm, Monday to Friday · Email pals@addenbrookes.nhs.uk · Phone: 01223 216756

Hinchingbrooke Hospital: 9am - 4.30pm, Monday to Friday · Email: Hch-tr.pals@nhs.net · Phone: 01480 428964

Royal Papworth Hospital: 8.30 – 4.30pm, Monday to Friday · Email: papworth.pals@nhs.net · Phone: 01223 638896 or 01223 638963

Patients are asked that they only call the GP practice if their condition has genuinely deteriorated, when you will be reviewed by one of the clinical team and appropriate action can be taken in regard to your care

Busy Service

We are currently experiencing extremely high volume of calls to the Surgery, and are aware that it takes some time to get through to our team. We kindly request, that you do not phone during peak times unless it is absolutely necessary and you require medical advice for a new and acute problem.

Routine face to face and telephone appointments are available for medication reviews and non urgent problems. The wait is currently 3 weeks. If you are unsure whether your medical need is urgent, our receptionists are trained to direct you to the most appropriate appointment. They will liaise with the GP on your behalf if there are concerns regarding the urgency of your problem.

We do not make appointments via email, but you can register for SystemOnline to make routine appointments with the GP, in order to avoid the phone queue.

We have several telephone lines and multiple members of staff answering phones at all times. They will get to you as soon as they can. Please try and keep your call as brief as possible in order to free up our staff quickly so they can help the next caller. Please be kind to our staff who are doing their very best to help you. Any abusive behaviour will result in your call being terminated.

Thank you for your support and understanding

Parking

Please DO NOT park in the Surgery car park when you are dropping your children to school.

This is causing serious problems with our patients having adequate parking. Visibility on our access road can be very restricted, and as this is a main pedestrian route to the school, there is an increased risk to children if the road becomes heavy with traffic during school drop off. We will monitor the situation and will ask you to move if you are seen doing this. This is also being reported to the School

Updating your contact details

Please ensure we have your most up to date mobile number. We are using mobile numbers to send out information via SMS regarding any unforeseen changes to your appointment. It is very important that we have the correct details. As the phone lines are very busy at the moment, it might be easier to email this request through to us on willinghammedicalpractice@nhs.net or use the form on the practice website <https://www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk>

Cambridge Hearing Help

Unfortunately, we have been informed that the Cambridgeshire Hearing Help mobile unit (formerly CAMTAD) will not be returning to Willingham Surgery following the pandemic.

However, Hearing Aid Maintenance Centres are open locally, where you can get your NHS hearing aids cleaned and retubed. This is a drop-off and wait service, by appointment only.

To book an appointment or to request batteries by post please use our online service at: www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk or telephone the office: 01223 416141 or Text: 07852 699196.

Carers Meeting

The carer's meetings are still not taking place within the surgery, due to the vulnerability of those who are likely to attend. They will be reinstated as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we would like to continue to support carers in our local community in any way possible. If you are a carer for someone and need advice and financial or emotional support, please contact Sue Lawson at susan.lawson7@nhs.net or 01954 260230.

Lisa Smith –Assistant Practice Manager– May 2022



NORTHSTOWE AGE 5

A PHOTO PROJECT

Scan me
↗



2022 IS A SPECIAL YEAR FOR NORTHSTOWE

May marks five years since the first 'pioneers' moved into our new town, starting a journey towards a whole new community. Meanwhile, as a nation, we

are marking Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. When better to make a record of "us" – the community of people living, working, and building this new place together at this time. So we would love you – the people of Northstowe – to join in and create a work of art that captures a moment in history. And look out for me out and about taking pictures!



Peter Cope, Northstowe Age 5
Photo Project Lead

JOIN IN:

What are we looking for?

- You or your family – outside your house or at a Northstowe 'landmark'
- Groups of people: clubs, organizations, or even whole streets – why not gather around your club banner or street sign?

What to do?

- Take your own picture – or get in touch via the website and I'll bring my camera
- Safely upload the picture and permission form to the project's secure server

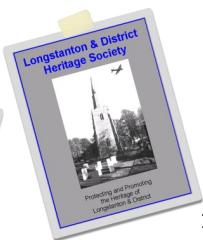
What next?

- Look out for a display later in the year here in Northstowe.
- We will also produce a photobook to be preserved by Longstanton and District Heritage Society for future generations to look back on.



FIND OUT HOW TO ADD YOUR PICTURE AND MORE...
NORTHSTOWECOMMUNITY.ORG/PHOTO

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on simon008@me.com**



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Northstowe Secondary College

It has been a busy term at NSC. Students came back to school in January with enthusiasm. We have been so lucky to have our Fundraising Committee work so hard to help us raise money for our school charity. February saw us have our first Valentine's Disco. Organised by Ilse and a team of university students studying events management, they liaised and organised a fantastic night for our students. With food, drink, photos, DJ – the students were spoiled! It was so nice to see them all having fun, after a long period of cancelled events, they were all thrilled to be able to have fun together. The money raised has gone to fund more library books, with a huge selection delivered by Ilse. We are so grateful to have such supportive parents, who want to create these opportunities for our children.



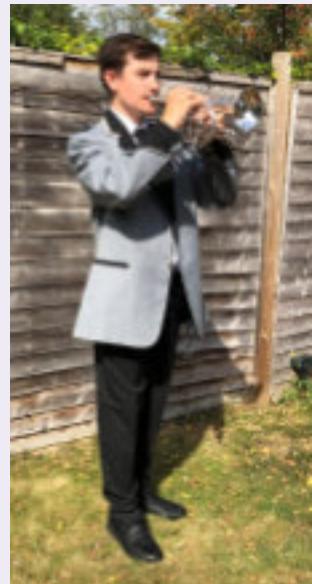
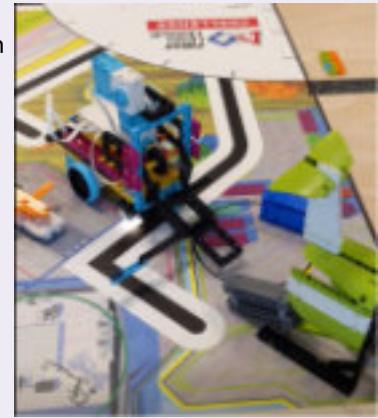
We also had two students come to us, proposing an environmental fundraiser. Eyva and Lidia had a vision to raise money for the UN environmental goals. They approached businesses for donations of seeds and bee friendly projects. They held a sale and a raffle. Selling cookies, handmade gifts and trinkets, they raised over £100. The idea was entirely theirs, they involved a team of other students and both girls have achieved an element of their gold pledge!



We also recognised Children's Mental Health Week, LGBTQ+ month and world book day – with displays and activities in the library. All Year 7s received a free book for World Book Day. We also celebrated 6 students who got involved in the Lego Challenge, to programme a robot to perform a number of tasks in timed conditions. It sounds easier than it was! The boys worked hard as a team and competed online in January. In this first year they were runners up, with a score that would have won in previous years, but they are ready to meet the challenge head on next year!

Our anti-bullying ambassadors have designed posters and displays to remind children of our commitment to keep NSC a safe and happy place. A year 9 student is using her artistic skills to design and sell Easter cards for charity, showing the kind heartedness and the initiative of our wonderful students. We have also seen a number of our students competing. In Music – with Joshua entered in the London and Southeast Counties Brass Band, Codi competing in the English Gymnastics national competition, against many young athletes and managed to achieve 2nd on his vault and 3rd on P-bars. Jack in has been hugely successful in Ice-hockey and Alex in the Eastern Region Hockey Finals. Some rising stars to look out for!

Watching the desperate situation in Ukraine, we were only too happy to help when we were asked to send out a plea for donations. We were overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness of our families who's donations were collected and very much appreciated. Our students were happy to help load the donations up for the trip to Poland. We hope to conclude this term with an Easter show, just a small event to allow our performers to have a chance to show off their talents.



Our students are also lucky to be going off on some of our first overnight trips – to the Manchester United Football Camp at Easter and Year 7 are off to May camp, with lots of land and water based activities. We have also launched our first sky trip, it is nice to begin giving students the chance to get involved in adventures beyond the school gates.



THE PATHFINDER C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has certainly been a busy term, as always, especially with the challenges of juggling staff and children being off school due to COVID and ensuring we continue with embedding our new curriculum, the Primary Knowledge Curriculum. Thankfully, the great team in the school and the support of our parent community made it all possible.

For more ways to keep up to date with our news and future events, please follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Events and Fundraising

This term has seen us take part in a few different charity events and celebrations. In February, as part of Children's Mental Health Week, each class created their own 'Month of Well-Being' challenges to complete as a class. The activities ranged from mindfulness activities, to physical challenges and to building self-esteem and confidence.



In March, we took part in the 25th anniversary of World Book Day. This time we did something just a little bit different ... "The Wonder of Words". The children and staff dressed up as a piece of descriptive language. We displayed our chosen piece of vocabulary and the definition as part of our costumes. The variety and imagination used was fantastic.

Children were also encouraged to 'dress up' a potato as a book character. After school, we held an exhibition of all the character potatoes in the hall, which was well attended.

We joined schools across the UK in a dressing-up day to remember. Children were encouraged to think about real life heroes; these could be a profession or a specific individual that has shown themselves to be a hero. We saw all the emergency services represented and it was great to see 30 children dress up as teachers across all year groups.

We have also welcomed chicks and ducks to the school!



School Council visit the Town Council

"Last term, some of our school council attended the Northstowe Town Council meeting to share our thoughts on the question 'Is our community perfect?' Our School Council had been on a walk around Northstowe and found leaked oil, cigarette butts, plastic bottles and other rubbish littered on the streets and green areas. We made posters, that we are hoping to put up around the town, that will encourage people to not litter and to not speed." by Isaac Wood

Since the meeting, the children have redesigned their posters, based on the feedback in the meeting and are working with L&Q on where the posters can go and the best materials to be used for longevity. In the summer term, the school council will be compiling a grant application to assist with costs.



Community Groups and Social Events

WHAT'S ON IN NORTHSTOWE

KEEP US UPDATED PLEASE!

Spotted any errors, changes, or more groups to be included? Please email northstovenews@gmail.com

MONDAYS

Tang Soo Do (£)

Family-friendly martial arts club. Tiny Tigers class for 4-6 year olds at 4pm followed by a junior class for 7-11 year olds from 4:45pm. Email enquiries@Northstowetsd.co.uk

Tai-Chi (£)

Weekly relaxation and inner peace. 19:30 at the Pathfinder Primary School. To book please email malcolmsavannah233@gmail.com

Social Run

Longstanton and Northstowe Limpers social run meeting on The Green at 19:30 facebook.com/LandNLimpers

Book Club

Meet to discuss books in Monday evenings once per month. New members always welcome.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/607693023324785>

TUESDAYS

Stay and Play (£)

Sessions for children from around 10 months or walking. 10-11:30am at the Community Wing. To book please email ChildAndFamilyCentre.South@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Baby Group (£)

For parents of pre-mobile babies. Meet other parents an access support from and advice from the Child and Family Centre team. 1-2:30pm at the Community Wing. To book please email

ChildAndFamilyCentre.South@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Huntingdon Hockey Club (£)

Northstowe Secondary College Astroturf, 7pm - 8:30pm
All abilities welcome. Contact huntingdonhockeyclub@gmail.com

Fastbreak Basketball (£)

Indoor sessions in the Northstowe Secondary College Sports Hall, 12 & Under at 6pm, 14 & Under at 7pm

northstowe@fastbreakbasketball.co.uk

Northstowe Board Games

Join us Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm to play modern-style strategy and tabletop games, anything from Alhambra to Ziemlich Zügig! Northstowe Community Wing last Tuesday each month, and online other weeks. Email northstowe.gamers@thecolliers.uk

WEDNESDAYS

Pioneer Cafe

Serving teas, coffees, cold drinks and snacks 10:00-12:30 at the Community Wing, and also 3:30 - 5:30pm (for 5 weeks starting 27th April)

Stories and Rhymes

A story and some fun rhymes for under 5s and their parents. 10am, every second Wednesday in the Microlibrary at the Wing

Cardio Conditioning Fitness Class (£)

A mix of aerobic (low or high impact) and strength & resistance training to improve your heart health. 12:40-13:30 at the Community Wing. Advance booking only, cependlebury62@gmail.com

Northstowe Youth Hive

Drop In for ages 11+ in Pioneer Cafe at the Community Wing. 3:30-5:30pm (5 weeks initial trial starting 27th April)

Sustainable Northstowe

A community group with a vision to make Northstowe a green, clean, biodiverse and interconnected place for current and future residents. 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7pm online or at The Wing. For more info see facebook.com/sustainablenorthstowe or email sustainable.northstowe@outlook.com

Longstanton and Northstowe Limpers

Session starting at 7pm for people that are new to running or getting back into it.

facebook.com/LandNLimpers

Over Power (£)

Fitness, Strength, Conditioning circuits. We help ladies to tone up, lose weight and feel great. Pathfinder School Hall 6:15 pm and 7:15 pm overpowerfitness@outlook.com

Chicken Soup for the Soul

Stop, Breathe, Pray – 1st Wednesday of every month, 8pm. Church House, 6 Woodpecker Close (www.northstowe.church)

THURSDAYS

Sweaty Mama (£)

New Sweaty Mama classes starting at Northstowe Community Wing from Thursday 9th September 9.30am, see booking details

<https://midcambridgeshire.sweatymama.com/book-on-a-class/>

Fastbreak Basketball (£)

Indoor sessions in the Northstowe Secondary College Sports Hall, 10 & Under and 16 & Under at 7:15pm, Adult sessions at 8:20pm

northstowe@fastbreakbasketball.co.uk

Tang Soo Do (£)

Family-friendly martial arts club. Tiny Tigers class for 4-6 year olds at 4pm followed by a junior class for 7-11 year olds from 4:45pm. Email enquiries@Northstowetsd.co.uk

Clubbercise (£)

Easy to follow dance routines, toning and combat moves with disco lights and glow sticks. 7:15pm at Over community centre.

marilynsq@icloud.com

FRIDAYS

CAP Life Skills

A friendly group where you'll gain practical skills and discover new ways to live for a brighter future. 10:30am - 12:30pm at the Community Wing. Email johannascoones@capuk.org for details

Mobile Library

2nd Friday each month, 3:20–4:20pm on The Green. Free to all, join at the vehicle or online.

Judo (£)

Ages 5 to 105 from beginners to Dan grades. On Fridays at the Pathfinder school, 5–6pm (under 8s) and 6–7pm (over 8s). For more information contact colinhappidojo@gmail.com

SATURDAYS

Sustainable Saturdays

Information stands, swap events and popup Refill Station with zero plastic waste. 3rd Saturday of the month, on The Green. See facebook.com/sustainablenorthstowe or email sustainable.northstowe@outlook.com

Catholic Mass

Visiting priest from Cambridge. 6pm in the Octagon at Bar Hill. For more details contact Bunty Waters 07734 690580 or Fr. Adrian Gates 01223 622699

Northstowe Foodies (£)

Various days/times on The Green. Follow us on FB or Instagram for the weekly food truck listing.

SUNDAYS

Comberton Ramblers

Enjoy exploring the varied countryside in this area, between 5-7 miles, 10:15am alternate Sundays.

www.combertonramblers.org.uk

Community Litter Pick

3rd Sunday each month [Not August] at 10:30am. Meet outside 6 Woodpecker Close, bring gloves!

bit.ly/NorthstoweLitterPick

A partnership of Northstowe Town Council, Plastic Free Longstanton and Northstowe, and Pathfinder Church Northstowe.

Emmanuel Church Northstowe

A growing gospel-centred church serving a growing new community. Sunday morning services for all ages at 10:30, at Northstowe Secondary College.

www.emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org

Pathfinder Church Northstowe

Your local Church of England church with an inclusive ecumenical welcome: praying, exploring, and sharing. Sunday Gatherings 3.30-5pm (normally at Pathfinder Primary School, but check www.northstowe.church)

Ignite Youth Group

Youth group from Emmanuel Church Northstowe for anybody ages 11-14. Runs term-time alternate Sundays 5pm at the Community Wing. Email ignite.ecn@gmail.com

Youth Drop In at Pioneer Cafe

The Youth Hive's volunteer youthworkers look forward to welcoming young people (ages 11+) to a trial of an afterschool drop-in during new public sessions at Pioneer Cafe

Wednesdays
3.30-5.30pm
starting 27th April
for 5 weeks (initially)

youth@northstowe.info
@eNorthstowe_Youth

YOU MADE THIS HAPPEN:

- came together from all backgrounds, cultures, faiths, and genders to dream about what Northstowe needs
- named your new community group
- asked for a place to go after school to meet friends, play games (Just Dance; Avocado Smash; Jenga etc), and maybe even do homework
- asked for somewhere to buy milkshakes, cake and cans of coke

Stories and rhymes

Come and join us for a story and some fun rhymes!

We welcome all children under 5 and their parent/carer. There is no charge and no need to book in advance.

Where: The Microlibrary, the Community Wing, Pathfinder School, Northstowe

When: 10am, every second Wednesday (20th April, 4th May, 18th May)

Admission: FREE

We hope to see you soon!

Pioneer Cafe

10am-12.30pm
Every Wednesday

ALSO OPEN 3.30-5.30pm Wednesdays from 27th April for 5 weeks (initially)

Takeaway available!

Coffee Time

Northstowe Community Wing,
Pathfinder Way, Northstowe
CB24 1AA

Interested in volunteering?

Friends of The Wing

Look out for our new location when the Community Wing closes this summer

NORTHSTOWE SOCIAL

Northstowe Social is collaborating with other Northstowe groups to deliver free activities for

- Northstowe Day - 7th of May
- The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - 5th of June

It is also organising

- Pop up-events and much more!

Watch the space on facebook.com/northstowesocialcommittee

ECO Arts @ The 3 Pavilions Northstowe

Saturday May 7th 2022

What's on?

- Recycled Fashion Exhibition – NSC Art Club
- Local artist creating recycled art
- Recycled Art by Hatton Park School
- Story-telling for the whole family: (1.15pm, 2pm, 2.45pm)
- Marion Leeper performs "Love Stories for the Earth"
- Performance by Stardust Dance Academy (3.15pm)
- Ice Cream Van & Coffee

1pm - 4pm

ARTS DAY NORTHSTOWE

www.northstowecommunity.org
find us between Northstowe Secondary and Martin Bacon

Community Litter Picks

Third Sundays at 10.30am
May 15th; June 19th;
July 17th [not August]

Meet outside
6 Woodpecker Close
Bags, pickers, gloves,
hoops and jackets provided
bit.ly/NorthstoweLitterPick

FRIENDS OF ST. MICHAEL'S

It's Time to Start Hosting Events Again!

It has been a quiet two years for events at St. Michael's Church. Despite the success of the Reindeer Project in 2020, and the Big Easter Egg Hunt in 2021, restrictions have meant very limited opportunities for our fundraising. That is about to change.

Now it is time to start reconnecting with our local supporters and enjoy the lovely space that is St. Michael's Church.

Thankfully, our continued friendship with This is My Theatre enables us to host what is sure to be a great production of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* on Tues, May 17th at 6.30 pm. Tickets are available from the website:

<https://www.thisismytheatre.com/tickets>



June sees the country celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. To mark this occasion St. Michael's will be hosting a Traditional Cream Teas event on Friday 3rd June from 2pm to 5pm. No need to book, just come along on the day: we hope for some early summer sunshine!

Joining the Friend's group:

As a group trying to help maintain the very special building of St. Michael's Church, we are always encouraging people to join us as members. Having a healthy membership enables us to promote our fundraising efforts with potential donors and grant givers. Membership (£5/person) also offers a discount on This is My Theatre tickets whilst also helping show that the local community values events at this venue. *Please do consider joining us by contacting us on the email below.*

We all look forward to a wonderful year of local celebrations.

*The Friends of St. Michael's Church
Longstanton*

Fosm2017@gmail.com

READERS SURVEY RESPONSES AND FEEDBACK

Back in issue 19, we printed a survey form (with a link to an online version). Thanks to everyone who filled that in, both on paper and online. It's good to hear from the community, we love to read your comments especially when they're kind, and it helps us know where to focus in our future issues.

There were a few frequent questions though, so we thought it would be worth explaining a few things about why we (at least, currently) do things the way we do.

Why do you put so many separate leaflets in the magazine? Isn't that a waste of paper?

We don't.

We do pay a company to deliver Northstowe News for us, and the price we pay is noticeably less than minimum wage for the time it takes to walk to every front door in Northstowe. It's only possible because other companies have also paid them to do the same round, and deliver the leaflets. If we found another way to deliver and didn't pay that particular company, you would still get just as many leaflets from them! They'd just arrive on a different day.

Can I opt out of the magazine delivery and just read it online, wouldn't that save you money?

It would not.

One thing you have to know about printing costs is that the price per item comes down significantly with larger numbers. If even 100 people said they didn't want to receive the magazine, we would usually save less than £40 – and then the deliverers would have to check every door against a list of addresses, and we would have to keep that list up-to-date (keeping personal information safe and secure, naturally). It simply isn't practical.

Plus we wouldn't be keeping our promise to the companies who do advertise in the magazine's pages, which jeopardises one of our main sources of income.

There is a valid question of whether we should print copies of the magazine at all. But we do remain convinced that a magazine printed and delivered to the community, even in the 21st century, still has a place and a role to fulfil.

If the magazine were only online, our honest assessment is that very few people would read it with any regularity, even if they noticed that it exists at all. It would also be much closer to duplicating things like the "I ❤️ Northstowe" or "Northstowe Pioneers" FaceBook groups, and we are trying to produce something different and complementary. For every comment we received from someone who doesn't think the magazine should be printed, we got twice as many comments from people who had found a social group, or a community activity through the magazine, or had some other reason to appreciate what we do. *We therefore plan to keep on doing it.*

If you don't want it, it's perfectly possible to just recycle it, or perhaps even take it to the Community Wing where it can be picked up and read by someone who appreciates it more.

As always, if you have any questions, please let us know at the usual address northstovenews@gmail.com - or you may even be interested in attending the AGM which is coming up in a couple of months.

NORTHSTOWE NEWS AGM

The Northstowe News committee will hold its AGM on Monday 27th June, at 7pm in the Small Hall of Northstowe Community Wing *. The meeting is open to all - come along to find out what we've been doing in the last year.

* If the Wing has closed, email northstovenews@gmail.com for new venue

COULD YOU NAME NORTHSTOWE'S LAKES?

There are three wonderful lakes at Northstowe that will be open to the public this year, and your help is needed to name them.

There is a competition running to name each of the lakes. A name makes it easier when meeting friends when visiting the lakes, for events or, in the future, for water-based activities like canoeing at the weekend. But also to help make them become part of the growing community at Northstowe.



What are the lakes for?

The primary use is functional. The lakes are a natural way of storing and managing water from excessive stormwater in case of drought. They also benefit people and the environment way beyond this functional purpose.

Lake one is already open to walk around, and lakes two and three will be accessible this year. The lakes are a fantastic local community feature, and future uses could include; canoeing, swimming, pond dipping, cycling or running, or just bimbling around them.

They are also a wildlife haven and home to various species; there is a special strip of land between lake two and lake three just for wildlife not accessible to the public to enhance this. We have rare breeding birds and regular non-breeding birds, geese and ducks, dragonflies and many other creatures calling the lakes home.



Name inspiration

Maybe a name could be inspired by what activities you can do on and around them—linked to healthy lifestyles and wellbeing? Or maybe linked to the site's long history from the Doomsday book to Saxons, Romans and more recently, the RAF. Prince Charles learned to fly here and celebrated his 21st Birthday here too.

Maybe the vast array of wildlife that will make its home here can inspire a name?

How to enter?

To enter the competition simply scan the QR code or go to northstowe.com/lake-naming before midnight on 14 May 2022. Winning names can win one of the special prizes on offer including a £100 outdoor pursuits voucher, and a selection of prizes from Anglian Water the sewerage and drainage provider.

Terms and Conditions Apply



SUSTAINABLE NORTHSTOWE

Group Updates

- Plastic Free Longstanton and Northstowe has been re-certified for second year! Projects planned for this year include "Pick your own patch"(community litter picking) and a "Mass unwrap" action in Coop.
- The new Community Pantry shelf is up and running in the Community Wing by the library. Thanks to Northstowe Foodies, we will shortly be acquiring a fridge.
- Our Swap & Share rail (Community Wing, café area) for March/April was themed around baby and toddler clothes and proved to be very successful, lots of little clothes coming and going! Keep an eye for the next seasonal/themed Swap&Share.
- On the Super Sustainable Saturday in March we gave away seeds, plant pots and food from our Community Pantry, plus, over 80 bottles were refilled!
- We are looking at creating wildflower patch commemorating Queen's Jubilee year later in the year.
- Work is under way to create our new website!
- And finally, we have launched our monthly newsletter. Email if you want to receive it and get our latest updates!

Upcoming events:

- Northstowe Day - 7th May:
(10-2pm) We will join the "community fair" at the Green with a stall with information, an upcycling/recycling workshop, and a litter picking activity.
(Afternoon) in the Pavilions, eco-art event in partnership with Northstowe Secondary College and other community groups like Northstowe Arts.
- Super Saturdays (3rd Saturday of the month) 21st May, 18th June, and 16th July:
(10h to 2pm) at the Green: Refill and Eco-homeware stalls + side events (including wildflower seeds, sunflower competition launch, details to be confirmed)
- Wildflower planting/seeding (date to be confirmed)
- Community Litter picking and plastic counting – 15th May, 19th June, 17th July:
10:30 Church House, 6 Woodpecker Close, Northstowe (in partnership with Pathfinder Church and Northstowe Town Council)
- Our monthly meetings take place the third Wednesday of the month (20th April, 18th May, 15th June)
(7pm) - Hopefully person, weather/COVID permitting!

All welcome! Membership is free and open to all residents of Northstowe, Longstanton and surrounding areas – Just express your interest by emailing (sustainable.northstowe@outlook.com) or reaching out in Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/sustainablenorthstowe/>)



Want to get involved?

You can either...

- Participate/volunteer in a single event
- Take part in monthly member meetings and share your ideas
- Join one of the working groups or projects:
 - Community pantry (volunteers wanted for food collection/drop-off once a week on regular basis),
 - Plastic-free Communities
 - Roundabout wildflower planting
 - Toys (swaps and library)
 - Trees
- Start and lead your own project
- Join the committee for administrative and coordination tasks (e.g. fundraising, communication, website, liaison with other groups..)

sustainable.northstowe@outlook.com

FB: @sustainablenorthstowe

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Northstowe Social

The team aims to plan and coordinate free social events such as picnics, family activities and pop-up events for the benefit of the diverse community of Northstowe.

The objective is to create and build a stronger sense of community belonging and inclusion between all residents and foster social interaction and fun together.

The new co-chairs along with other members are introduced below. Others will be shown in the next edition. New members are always welcome! Contact us on our Facebook page @NorthstoweSocialCommittee.



Marzia Calcagno
Co-Chair



Matt Webb
Co-Chair



Stella Rustamova
Treasurer



Shola Delip
Committee Member

Marzia is the newly elected joint chair of Northstowe Social. She moved to Northstowe at the end of 2020 with her family. Originally from Italy, she has worked in the UK industry sector as a Scientist and Clinical Project Manager. Currently, Marzia is a PhD candidate in Engineering at the University of Cambridge working in the research and development of nature inspired BioNano tools for environmental and healthcare applications. She loves spending time with her wife Sam and little one William, travelling, sharing ideas with people, playing tennis, going for long walks and organising events.

Matt is the newly elected joint chair of Northstowe Social. He moved to Northstowe in July 2021 and joined the social committee in August 2021. He enjoys going for walks around Northstowe with his girlfriend, Lilly. You can usually spot him in his bright clothing! Matt's involved with local radio station Cambridge 105 Radio where he presents the Saturday Breakfast show and is also Head of Production and Head of Music. Matt also works full time for a national mental health charity as a Communications and Marketing Officer.

Stella is the treasurer of Northstowe Social since 2018. Originally from Russia she has been living in Northstowe from July-18. Stella loves our Community and enjoys being involved in activities and meeting new people. In her free time she loves hiking, travelling and partying. She looks forward to meet new Northstowe residents soon!

Shola moved to Northstowe from London in August 2019 and has fallen in love with the international Northstowe community. She joined the Northstowe Social early 2020, just before the pandemic and has been actively involved in organising events for the community that are affordable for everyone. She believes there is so much positive energy in our new town and she enjoys being part of it while bringing events for everyone. She is also a Tech Entrepreneur who has worked in various civil service departments for the last 20 years.. (Oh yes! I am giving my age away!) During her spare time she loves playing tennis, badminton, and running.

PLASTIC FREE LONGSTANTON AND NORTHSTOWE

Plastic Free Longstanton and Northstowe have had a busy time and have successfully renewed our certification for another year! Surfers Against Sewage have confirmed that all our local action to remove and reduce single use plastic has continued the good work from last year's Plastic Free Community Award, and has now achieved a second consecutive accreditation.

What have we been doing?

The short answer is 'whatever we could' within the constraints of 2021!

We've been litter picking since the restrictions lifted in the summer, and also recording the results as Brand Audits, which feed into the collection of national information about the main culprits for plastic pollution. We took part in a collaboration with National Geographic and University of Plymouth in a citizen science data collection as part of one of the largest litter recording activities conducted for scientific research, which looked at the impact that Covid had on litter across the country. We collected data over a six-month period and noted increases in single-serve and other food packaging as well as PPE. The results are being peer-reviewed and will then be published.

We've kept our Facebook page busy with lots of tips and ideas for reducing use of plastic.

More businesses have signed up to become Plastic Free Champions and have been successfully accredited by SAS to join our existing pioneering food trucks. Congratulations to recent award winners Pigcasso's and we look forward to handing out more awards soon...

Another one of our local schools has signed up to the Plastic Free Schools programme – you'll have to wait until they've finished it to find out which one!



The return of Sustainable Northstowe's 'Super Saturdays' saw a range of activities and often featured the local businesses Clare's Refill, and Stanley and Floyd. These were very popular and have seen over 700 single use bottles saved last year as well as lots of lovely plastic free and sustainable products sold.

We've supported lots of relevant campaigns including in the run up to COP26 as well as other national calls for action to make the case for positive changes and encourage people to make changes.

There were lots of things we weren't able to do last year, but we're very proud of what we managed to do, working across the communities of Longstanton and Northstowe.

So what will be doing throughout 2022? Continuing to build on the litter picking and data collection with regular local picks, and maybe a larger event that more people can get involved in across the community. We've got some other ideas to keep our area clean and stop plastic entering our local watercourses and then making their way to the sea. We'll keep working to support local schools, and local businesses to become Plastic Free accredited as these bring lots of benefits, as well as signing up Allies who'll commit to reduce their use of single use plastic.

We'll keep promoting simple and effective changes to reduce plastic in everyday use, and we'll try to come up with some interesting ideas for Plastic Free July, which is now established as a month of action and promotions on this issue. Finally, we'll be out and about representing at local events so come and say hello if you see us about – and let us know if you have some ideas or want to get involved. Want to get involved? Get in touch through our Facebook page or at plasticfreelandn@gmail.com ...

Chris Poultnay and Maria Harrison

LDHS UPDATE: NORTHSTOWE May - July 2022

LONG-AWAITED LONGSTANTON AND NORTHSTOWE HERITAGE FACILITY ON ITS WAY!

It's many years since residents of Longstanton started the Longstanton Archive to help ensure that the rural, social and military heritage of Longstanton and the airfield was not lost to future generations. Residents realised that talk of a new town, to be built on our parish lands, would result in the sudden urbanisation of Longstanton and Oakington parishes and an end to the rural way of life that had been at the forefront of these village communities for millennia.

From the first tentative steps of the Longstanton Archive, residents and veterans of RAF Oakington and Oakington Barracks embraced the project, and this led to the launch of a fully constituted society in May 2007 - the Longstanton & District Heritage Society. Much consideration was given to how to construct a society that would adequately reflect the shared heritage of Longstanton and Oakington and how this could also be shared with the new town of Northstowe once the new town was born. A central aim of LDHS from the start was the protection and promotion of our shared heritage and how it could be used by the community for education and enjoyment of residents, school children, veterans and their families. LDHS members realised that the archives that we were creating are unique and that this community project would not only safeguard the heritage of our villages, but it would also provide Northstowe with an understanding of its own past. No greater gift could be given by villagers and supporters of LDHS, than safeguarding heritage for future generations and ensuring that it could be displayed within the former parish boundaries of Longstanton and Oakington. Not only would this project safeguard heritage but it would help bring the three communities of together, through an understanding of our shared history. There can be no better place for a local heritage facility than on the former RAF Oakington / Oakington Barracks site itself.

Many years of work by LDHS has gone into calling for a heritage facility for Longstanton, Northstowe and Oakington Airfield and we have worked tirelessly with local councillors, council officers and representatives of Homes England to try and ensure that this community facility could be provided. We simply have to thank Homes England for their vision and for their understanding of the importance of what we were trying to do for our local communities and Northstowe. Without our shared vision this facility would not be happening. Of course, we also have to acknowledge and thank National Highways (formerly Highways England) and Cambridgeshire County Council for their essential contributions to this project.

LDHS is clearly delighted with progress, and we look forward to working with the County Council, Longstanton Parish Council, Northstowe Town Council and others so that this heritage facility is a great success and can provide a focal point for our communities, veterans families and visitors. Of course, having launched in 2007, we have lost many of our original members and supporters from our villages and from RAF Oakington, but we have kept them all in our thoughts as we have continued to work towards this outcome. LDHS also remembers one of our founding members and former Chairman of LDHS, Tony Cowley, who is no longer



Above: Artists impression of the Longstanton and Northstowe Heritage Facility with the Homes England offices in the distance

Below: Artists impression of the interior of the Heritage Facility

Exterior and interior images © Proctor & Matthews Architects

here to see our ambition realised. Everyone involved over the years has provided us with the motivation to see this project through, and we will look forward to welcoming relatives and friends to the new facility.

The heritage facility will be sited adjacent to the Homes England offices next to Rampton Road. It will contain a store and display facilities for the LDHS Archives and other displays will showcase the extensive archaeological finds from both Northstowe and the A14 upgrade. LDHS has worked for this outcome for over a decade because we were convinced of the significance of the heritage of this area - so close

to South-West Fenland with its trackways, Roman road, ancient ports, forts and extensive evidence of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman occupation. It is going to be an absolute pleasure to tell the story of **OUR LOCAL HISTORY HERE WITHIN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES** and we hope that residents, visitors and local school children will benefit and enjoy what will be on offer in this facility, for years to come. We look forward to being able to provide further updates in due course.

LDHS NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR 1 APRIL



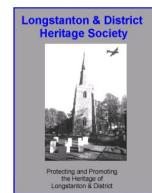
1 April sees the start of the new membership year and renewal reminders have been sent out to existing members. However, new members are always welcome and with the heritage facility hopefully opening later this year, now is a great time to join and get involved with this unique cross-community project. You can download a membership form from our website or send us an email (details below) and we will send you a membership form to complete. If you do not have access to a computer, please send us your name and address by post and we will send you a form. Memberships costs:

Individual - £ 10 / year

Family - £ 15 / year

Affiliated Society - £ 20 / year

Hilary Stroud (Secretary)



Secretary, Longstanton & District Heritage Society, c/o The Manor, Woodside, Longstanton, Cambridge. CB24 3BU

For more information please visit our website at <https://ldhs.org> or contact us by post, Facebook message by or e-mail at ldhssec@hotmail.co.uk

NORTHSTOWE NATURE NOTES

With spring coming round again there are lots of birds nesting across Northstowe, especially by the new lakes, the Phase 2 flood and the pre-development fallow areas. The most visible, and surely most loved, are the pair of swans on the Phase 1 lake, which are nesting again after raising six cygnets last year. Coots are also nest building, and smaller birds such as Reed Warblers and Reed Buntings will nest around the lake. Skylarks are singing wherever there is some undisturbed land to nest in.

The rarest birds are much less obvious, by the new lakes and flood in Phase 2 (viewable from the busway or beyond the secondary college). As with last year, there are a range of wading birds starting to breed (Avocet, Little Ringed Plover, Redshank, Lapwing, Oystercatcher) as well as several Shelduck and a Great Crested Grebe pair. At least a couple of dozen birdwatchers have visited to see them and other unusual birds passing through, including Black Redstarts and a Merlin, with hopefully more waders stopping in May to feed before heading up to the Arctic to breed.

As spring and summer progress there will be a wide range of dragonflies across Northstowe, with the larvae emerging from the ponds, ditches and lakes where they have developed. Nearby Fen Drayton Lakes RSPB is probably the best site in the county, and most of the species are also found here. A Water Vole has also been seen in the ditch towards the lake and several Smooth Newts have been seen. The busway verge always looks great with the wildflowers, and hopefully the bank around the back of the lake can mature to look similar. There are Bee Orchid plants along most of the busway outside Northstowe, with flower spikes likely in late May and early June.

Hugh Venables





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OVER PLAYERS

The Over Players are delighted to present to you
Me and My Girl

Thursday 9th June - Saturday 11th June
2022 at the Over Community Centre

Box office opens 29th April 2022
www.overplayers.uk



It's been a while since we've been on the stage but now the time has come and we couldn't be more excited. The production has some fabulous songs and a great love story to accompany it. Recently updated by Stephen Fry, it's also very funny. Tickets go on sale soon so reserve your seats and we will see you in June.

The Over Players' amateur production of Me and My Girl is presented by kind permission of Concord Theatricals. Book and Lyrics by L. Arthur Rose and Douglas Furber, music by Noel Gay. Book revised by Stephen Fry. Contributions to revisions by Mike Ockrent

GAME OF THE MONTH

Space Base puts each player in command of a small fleet of starships, numbered from 1 to 12 and laid out in a row. On a turn, the player rolls 2 dice, and activates the corresponding ship powers – either one ship for the sum of both dice, or both of the ships for each separate die. These actions might give you money, income, or victory points; if you have the money you can buy better ships, which give better rewards or extra powers such as adjusting the dice you've rolled, activating adjacent ships allowing huge combo actions, and there's even one that means you instantly win the game! (But you need to charge that one up several times before it works).

When you buy a ship, it goes on its assigned space in the row displacing the ship that was there. That one moves up into the slot above, and turns upside-down to reveal a power that you can use on other people's turns: an interesting feature is that for every roll, all the other players also get to activate their red actions, using the same dice roll (making their own decision on whether to use the separate dice or the sum). This means that the game doesn't get slow, you don't have to wait around for everyone's turn to finish even if you're playing with as many as 5 players (or 7 with the right expansion). It also means that your roll could be much more beneficial for other players than it was for yourself!



Space Base is designed by John D Clair and published by Alderac Entertainment Group.



There are also some ships worth points without even having to roll them, but that's the only thing they do, so you have to judge carefully when to start buying them or risk having weak turns.

We like Space Base because it is quite fast paced, it works equally well with two players as with higher numbers, there are a lot of decisions you need to react to, and there's no downtime waiting for the whole table to move before you can do anything again. There are a few neat touches like the ships all being named after sci-fi authors and characters. The game is also available to play free on boardgamearena.com, in a slick implementation which automates some of the book-keeping.

Andrew and Sarah Collier

We're back meeting face-to-face again! On the last Tuesday evening each month we're meeting at 7:30pm in Northstowe Community Wing, and we're online on Zoom the other weeks – all are welcome, whether you are a veteran of these games or you are new to the hobby. Feel free to turn up for any or all of the evening, be it the first half hour or the last. Please email northstowe.gamers@thecolliers.uk or search Facebook for "Northstowe Gamers" to see details and get in touch.

As you play, you'll need to decide where to build up your fleet. You could try to build a little bit on every number, to make sure you never have a really rubbish roll. Or you could specialise on a few numbers, and hope to get amazing turns once in a while. The most powerful ships can only go on the least-commonly rolled numbers 11 and 12 - but with the right powers you might manage to move them into a better place on your board. (Careful though! Oddly, 7 is not the number you're most likely to activate - as it usually is from rolling a pair of dice - because of being able to choose the separate dice).

Games at Northstowe Day's Pioneer Café

On Northstowe Day, Saturday May 7th, we will be at the Pioneer Café in Northstowe Community Wing from 10am with a selection of games to try out.

Do pop in for a cuppa and a chat, we'd love to show you some fun games you're bound to enjoy.

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BOOK REVIEWS

The Diary of a Young Naturalist by Dara McAnulty

This diary covers a year in the life of teenage naturalist, *Dara McAnulty* from Northern Ireland. It is beautifully written and his passion for wildlife is so infectious that it is hard not to be drawn in to his fascination for the flora and fauna of the region. It is also a celebration of the freedom of childhood, to roam and explore without restriction, something largely lost to children in modern society. Dara and his family love to be outdoors in wild, lonely areas away from the bustle of urban life.

Dara and his siblings and mother are all autistic. He finds school full of colour and noise and is always trying to hold in his nervous anxiety.

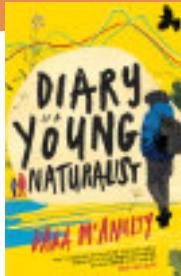
As the seasons change Dara moves schools, becomes more aware of people around him, less anxious and generally comes of age. Just as an oak tree is connected to its ecosystem, Dara realises that humans need each other. He realises how much his mother shields him from life's blows and by the book's conclusion we feel more confident that Dara will enjoy a happy and successful life.

I would recommend this book to both adults and teenagers, particularly anyone who has similar neuro-divergent friends or family members.

Kathy Fountain

Northstowe Book Club meets once a month on Monday evenings. We would love to welcome new members, even if you can't join us every month. Please get in touch via our Facebook page.

May 9th **The Thursday Murder Club** by Richard Osman
 June 6th **Skint Estate** by Cash Caraway
 July Date and book to be decided.



The Falconer by Elizabeth May is a historical fantasy novel in which Aileana, a young Scottish noblewoman, lives a relatively normal life as a debutante by day but hunts fairies by night, searching for the powerful fairy who murdered her mother. The story follows her attempts to keep her double life secret while also dealing with pressure to maintain her reputation and find a husband.



My favourite thing about this book was the setting, which felt very original; I liked the combination of steampunk gadgets with fantasy elements and the social context of a world that felt lifted from Jane Austen. The steampunk elements also meant Aileana could shine as an inventor, designing and building her own weaponry. The fairies she fights were a serious threat, deeply rooted in old folklore rather than modern images of fairies.

The one thing I didn't much enjoy was the love triangle subplot in which Aileana is faced with a choice between a human and a fairy, which felt rather forced. However, that's subjective and another reader might enjoy that subplot. This book is also the first in a series, so it's possible that if I read the later books my opinion of the romance subplot would improve. I certainly enjoyed the human love interest as a character.

While this is clearly a YA novel, it's violent and in some places quite gory, so some readers might find it difficult to get through. I recommend it for middle-to-older YA readers who enjoy action fantasy.

Becca Edney

Stories and Rhymes is moving to Wednesday mornings at 10am in the Microlibrary. We meet for 30 minutes of stories and rhymes for children under 5 and their parent/carer. There is no charge and no need to book in advance. We meet on alternate Wednesdays during term time. Our next dates are 20th April, 4th May and 18th May. If your baby or pre-school child would like to give it a try we would love to see you.



- LANDSCAPING
- DRIVEWAYS

- PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
- INTERNAL RENOVATIONS

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PATHFINDER CHURCH NORTHSTOWE

praying, exploring and sharing

Encounters in the Wild

There's something special about being outside: noticing where nature holds sway even in our new build town.

Our monthly Wild Church gatherings offer opportunities for contemplation, grief and celebration, movement and song, wandering and wondering.

Why not give it a try?



What unites us is much stronger than our denominational backgrounds: it is a rooted, growing, and transforming faith based on an encounter with the ancient God who still changes lives.

NEW: Baby Group

- Are you looking for new, imaginative activities to do with your baby?
- Would you like your child to make new friends; and to meet other parents yourself?
- Are you thinking about having your baby christened?
- Or in how to introduce your child to God?

Starting Rite is a baby-centred course run over five weeks; free of charge and open to anyone but may be of particular interest for those thinking of having their baby christened.

We plan to re-run this course regularly, so get in touch to go on the waiting list.

Your Church of England Church, with an inclusive ecumenical welcome to those of all traditions and none

Revd Dr Beth Cope is the Pioneer Minister ("Vicar") and Priest for Northstowe: your first port of call for Church of England Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals in Northstowe. She works closely with Revds Lucy and Simon in the surrounding villages (the 5 Folds Family of Churches). Contact her at Church House, 6 Woodpecker Close, Northstowe, CB24 1AW (01954 261 181) contact@northstowe.church; www.northstowe.church Follow our social media (fb.me/PathfinderChurch) or newsletter (bit.ly/PathfinderChurchNews) to see pictures, news, and more.

Term Time Pattern

Sundays Afternoons
Pathfinder Primary School
(Hall or Field) 3.30-5pm

- **Most Sundays - Join us for interactive all-age conversation, prayer, exploration, and worship.** Experience rooted faith, shaped for this time and this place. Church, but not as you know it.
- **Last Sunday of the Month – WILD CHURCH in the field.** A great place to slip in and meet us in a relaxed outdoor setting. (Dress for the weather; bring a camping chair)
- **STARTING THIS TERM** Half-termly Community Afternoon Teas with something for everyone: conversation, craft, optional space to reflect and pray, or get to know the neighbours (check social media for dates)

Weekly events

- Starting Rite/ midweek baby & toddler group - Thursday mornings
- Book Discussion Groups – Wednesday evenings

Monthly events

- "Chicken Soup for the Soul" Stop; Breathe; Pray. Weaving ancient and contemporary wisdom with ten mins of shared silence
- **Litter Picks** (in partnership with Sustainable Northstowe and Northstowe Town Council) – Monthly, third Sundays, 10.30am

Check our social media for holiday patterns: we are often off-site!

Emmanuel

CHURCH
NORTHSTOWE

This year we will celebrate some significant anniversaries. It is 5 years since Northstowe became home to the first residents. The Queen celebrates 70 years as monarch. Emmanuel Church Northstowe celebrates 4 years as a church.

Looking back to the start of something and celebrating all that has happened up till now is important for us as human beings and as communities. It helps form our identity and make sense of life and history, be thankful for the good that has happened, and grieve the sad things, and resolve to learn from the past as we face the future.

For communities of Christians, the event we look back to and remember is not primarily when our particular church began. Rather, we look back 2000 to Jesus. **Jesus' birth- Christmas. Jesus' death- Good Friday. Jesus' resurrection- Easter. Jesus' ascension and pouring out the Spirit- Pentecost.**



Each of these provides a beginning for the church. The birth of Jesus is God becoming human, and marks the start of God's rescue mission to reconnect humans to God. The death of Jesus is the sacrifice that saves us- the moment God takes human evil (which breaks the human-divine connection) upon himself to destroy it. The resurrection of Jesus is the beginning of a new death-conquering humanity. The Spirit poured out is a new permanent connection between God and humans.

So each Sunday we gather as a church to celebrate the start of Christianity, remembering Jesus. And in the light of Jesus we make sense of life and face the future with hope. If you would like to explore the big questions of life and history and purpose, or find out more about Jesus, please join us any Sunday, ask to join one of our 'Christianity Explored' discussion groups, or drop us an email with your questions.

Northstowe is a wonderfully diverse place. And since the birth of the church on the day of Pentecost, the church has been made up of people from diverse cultures and languages all trusting Jesus. **If you are travelling out of Northstowe to attend a church in your mother-tongue, whether Mandarin, Tamil, Yoruba, Cantonese, Swahili, Igbo, Polish, or any other language,** please do drop by Emmanuel one Sunday to say hi to us so we can get to know each other and encourage each other in serving Jesus in Northstowe.

Why not visit one of our regular **Sunday gatherings, 10:30am in Northstowe Secondary College?**
There are usually children's groups running for primary aged children, along with a creche.
After the service there are free refreshments.

You can also watch our services online:
facebook.com/emmanuelchurchnorthstowe

You can find our more information on our website:
emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org

Please feel free to contact us with any questions
contact@emmanuelchurchnorthstowe.org

All Saints Church, Rampton Road, Longstanton
is the neighbouring parish church of Pathfinder Church, Northstowe, within the Church of England.



Sunday services in All Saints are held at 9.30am as follows:
All Age service on 1st Sundays
Holy Communion on 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays
Morning Praise on 3rd Sundays

The primary contact person is:
Rev'd Lucy Cleland
Team Vicar in 5folds
Serving in Longstanton, Over, Willingham and Swavesey.
T: (01954) 277758 E: lucy@5folds.org.uk



Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Simon Blakesley
St Laurence's Church, 91 Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 1XB

Phone: (01223) 704640

Live streaming available.

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat: Mass 9.30am
Wed, Fri: Mass 12.30
Sat: Vigil Mass 6.00pm
Sun: 0800, 9.30 and 11.00am

1st Friday of each month, House Mass locally 7.00pm.
Please ring on above phone number for details of where this is being held.



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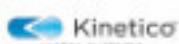


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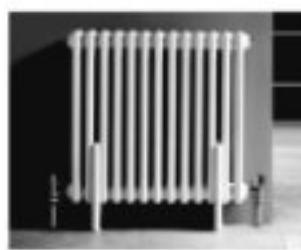
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Puzzles and Colouring

NORTHSTOWE DAY QUIZ!

Answers at the bottom of pages 32-33!

1. When did the first resident move into Northstowe?
2. What was the first constituted community group in Northstowe?
3. Who was our first community officer?
4. What was the first building built in Northstowe
5. When was the first issue of Northstowe News published?
6. What was the first community event?
7. How many houses will Northstowe have when it's finished?
8. What is the mascot for the community wing?
9. Who was Northstowe's first mayor?
10. What was the first food van to visit Northstowe?
11. What was the name of the monthly community events held at the wing prior to covid pandemic?
12. When is Northstowe Day being held?

Word Search

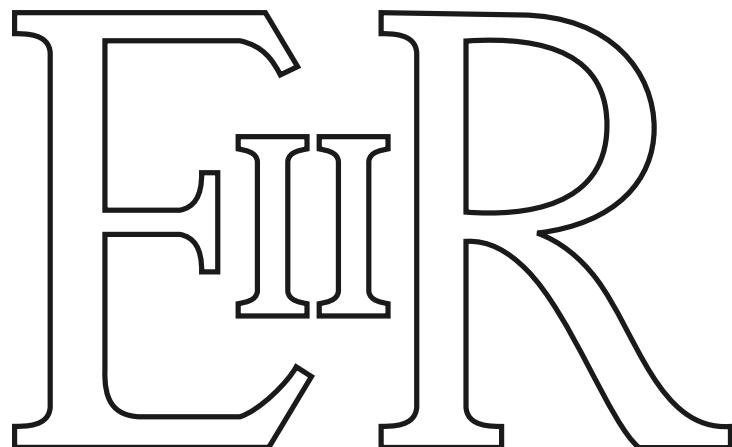
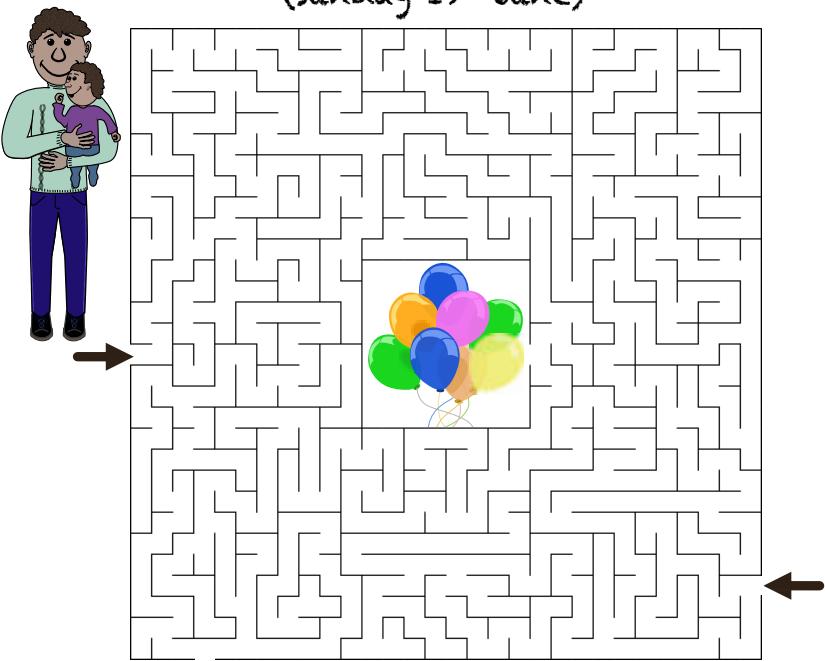
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| PLATINUM | |
| ROBES | |
| CROWN | |
| WINDSOR | |
| BALMORAL | |
| MUSIC | |
| SANDRINGHAM | |
| CASTLE | |
| SOLDIERS | |
| ROYAL | |

Father's Day Maze

Help these fathers and their kids reach the centre of the maze to celebrate Fathers Day
(Sunday 19th June)



NORTHSTOWE DAY



The Green
10am-1pm
Community group activities and stalls
Food vans and entertainment

The Community Wing

From 10am Pioneer Café

Have a coffee, snack and chat with other Northstowe residents plus more interactive groups and activities

Northstowe Arts Pavilions

1pm-4pm ECO Arts

Coffee, ice cream, art displays, storytelling and live art

Northstowe Secondary College – Sports Field

2:30pm Rounders
4:15pm Fun Run

Enjoy a game of rounders or a fun run



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