



Winter 2022 www.luddington.org



Luddington News



**Don't miss...
December**



Community Coffee Morning

Every Wed morning

10am-12noon @ Village Hall

Cake donations and volunteers welcome

Luddington Live Music

Sat 3 Dec

Doors 7.30pm – Music from 8pm

@ Village Hall

Tickets £8 advanced & £10 on the door

Licensed bar | Email or call to book

*** Foodbank ***

Collection Morning

At the Coffee Morning Wed 7 Dec

10am-12noon @ Village Hall

Please bring donations for the Stratford Foodbank (The most needed items are listed on the Foodbank Facebook page or on the donation box in the hall)

Village Hall Committee Meeting

Wed 7 Dec

7.30pm @ Village Hall

All welcome

Christmas Quiz Night

Sat 10 Dec

7.30pm @ Village Hall

Book now – Christmas buffet included
£10 per person for tables up to 6

Cristingle Service

Sun 11 Dec

3.30pm @ All Saints' Church

Carol Service

Sun 18 Dec

3.30pm @ All Saints' Church

Carols on the Green

Christmas Eve

7.45pm on the Village Green

Christmas Day Service

Sun 25 Dec

9.30am @ All Saints' Church



Winter

Image: Dave Heyworth

UPDATE | from your Village Hall Committee

It's all go at the Village Hall!

We had a spooky Halloween at the Hall with another brilliant Ludflicks family film and All Saints pop-up pub night at the end of October. Thank you to so many of you for coming along in your ghoulish finery; it was fantastic to see lots of new faces. Don't forget that we run regular Ludflicks film nights through the year. Everyone in the Luddington Parish – if you received this newsletter through your door, that's you! – is a member and can watch for free. Thank you to the Church for running the bar throughout.

Our next film is on 21 January and will be *Blinded by the Light*, which features the music of Bruce Springsteen. To accompany the film, we'll be offering a warming meal of jacket potato topped with chilli, beans or cheese (veggie chilli available) for just £4 (pay on the day, but let us know you are coming). Shake off the January blues and join us from 7pm (film 7.30pm)!

There wasn't quite enough time for our small committee to pull together a New Year bash this year so look out for that in 2023 – and we really need helpers to organise. Get in touch if you'd like to join a lovely group of people to plan this event. However, instead we will hold a **New Year's Day lunch in the Hall from noon**. Bring your leftovers and all the family for a relaxing catch up with friends and neighbours.

If you know someone looking for a Hall to hire for a class or group, we currently have Friday mornings available regularly. We also have good weekend availability for private hires so don't hesitate to get in touch. Hall hire is £15 for the first hour and £13.50 thereafter for private hires, so is great value for a party.

Don't miss our first live music night on 3 December or the Christmas Quiz on 10 December – book now! Finally, have a wonderful festive season and we can't wait to see you soon.





Don't miss...

January

New Year's Day Service

Sun 1 Jan

10am @ Holy Trinity

New Year's Day Lunch

Sun 1 Jan 2023

From noon. Everyone welcome

Community Coffee Morning

Every Wed morning

10am-12noon @ Village Hall



Village Hall Committee Meeting

Wed 4 Jan

7.30pm @ Village Hall. All welcome

Luddington Parish Council Meeting

Wed 18 Jan

7pm @ Village Hall. All welcome

Ludflicks

Sat 21 Feb

From 7pm @ Village Hall
Suggest a film by emailing us!



Stratford Beekeepers Taster Day

Sat 28 Jan

10-4pm @ Village Hall £20
www.stratfordbeekeepers.org.uk



February

Community Coffee Morning

Every Wed morning

10am-12noon @ Village Hall



Village Hall Committee Meeting

Wed 1 Feb

7.30pm @ Village Hall. All welcome

Luddington Parish Council Meeting

Wed 15 Feb

7pm @ Village Hall. All welcome

Luddington Live Music

Fri 17 Feb

Doors 7.30pm Music from 8pm @ Village Hall
Tickets £8 advanced & £10 on the door
Licensed bar | Email or call to book

ALL SAINTS' NEWS | by Jane Beeley



All Saints' Christmas Festivities

Christmas is a good time for the church – surely everyone likes to sing a carol or two!

As well as our normal service at 9.30am on the 11 December, there will be a **Christingle** in the afternoon at 3.30pm.

Our **Carol Service** will be held on 18 December at 3.30pm and will replace the morning service. A lovely service of readings and Carols with the choir from Holy Trinity, and the church will be decorated for the occasion by the Flower Team.

Christmas falls on a Sunday this year and the **Christmas Day service** will be at 9.30am. There will be no service at All Saints on 1 January, but there will be an All Parish service at Holy Trinity at 10.00am. **We wish you a very merry Christmas.**



Christmas at All Saints' Church

Calling all Dodwell residents!

After hearing that some of our community living at Dodwell might not have transport to be able to attend the Community Coffee Mornings, we have investigated options for a mini bus to run to the Hall on a Wednesday morning (and back again at the end) for anyone who would like to come along. This would be free and the Hall would cover the cost of the mini bus bookings.

If you would be interested in using such a service, please can you let us know. Either chat to anyone on the committee (Linda is our newest committee member and lives at Dodwell), or please drop us an email to luddingtonvh@gmail.com. If there's enough interest, we will organise it for the new year.



Carols on the Green

Organised by The Village Fund

This much-loved way to start Christmas is back again.

Luddington Village Fund are pleased to announce that Christmas will be back to its best this year as we will be starting the festivities with **Carols on the Village Green** with Shipston Town Band and mulled wine.

Please come along for a 7.45pm start on Christmas Eve to join friends, family and neighbours for our traditional and fun way to get into the Christmas spirit.

Look out for the carol sheets which will be delivered nearer the big day or you can print at home - available at luddington.org.

If the weather lets us down the event will be moved to All Saints Church.



Mos Eisley Bros (MEB) are a trio of musical troubadours creating a sound which combines blues, country, Americana, rock and soul. Featuring Spesh Maloney on bass, keys and vocals, Tim Walker on guitar, lap steel, keys and vocals and Jono Wright on guitar and vocals.

MEB headline our first Luddington Live gig on 3 December, alongside folk singer-songwriter Katherine Abbott. Book now (£8) or turn up on the door (£10) for a fantastic night of music - and the bar will be open too! Doors 7.30pm, music from 8pm.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT

Sat 10 Dec
7.30pm @ Village Hall

Book now – Christmas buffet included
£10 per person for tables up to 6

Booking Essential email
luddingtonvh@gmail.com
or call 07803 575090



Stay in touch with what's on

We would love to be able to communicate with everyone in the Parish more easily, for example when we confirm film titles or when we arrange new events. If you are someone who uses email, please do join our email list.

Sign up direct at <http://eepurl.com/idPJAb> OR email us at luddingtonvh@gmail.com and ask to be added to the list. We'll store your personal data securely and only contact you about Village Hall activity and events.



Heart of England Forest Update

The Heart of England Forest is an exciting and ambitious charity working hard to create a huge new woodland in the heart of the country that will benefit the environment, wildlife, and people for generations to come.

Tree planting season has begun and this year our forestry team and volunteers will be planting around 120,000 native trees and shrubs to further grow the Forest. Some of this tree planting will take place on our land at Luddington. If there is enough interest then we would love to hold a community planting day in January for residents to come together and plant trees with us. If you would be interested in joining us, please email volunteer@heartofenglandforest.org



In addition to tree planting, our amazing army of volunteers help us with all aspects of creating and managing the Forest, all year round, including forest restoration, wildlife surveying, and assisting with our public events. Regular activities take place most weeks from Monday to Saturday. To find out more, visit heartofenglandforest.org/volunteer



Nature Brown Argus

Luddington Nature Reserve

Autumn is the start of a busy time on the reserve, beginning with the essential annual grassland cut. It's always a bit of a race to get it done before the weather turns, this year we were lucky. We finished a couple of weeks ago, all cut and tidied away and looking pretty good.

The new grassland attracted a much higher number of butterflies this summer, its second full season. But we're still waiting and hoping to see our target species: grizzled skipper, dingy skipper and small blue. The food plant of the small blue, kidney vetch, did really well across the whole area last summer, this year not so good. There is, however, a small area where it seems to prefer and is doing better. Lots more seed has now been put down here and the existing plants have been fenced off from the rabbits. Overall, the new grassland is becoming much more diverse despite birds-foot-trefoil still being the most successful plant. More yellow rattle and black knapweed seeds were sown this autumn. Along the older grassland brown argus was seen this year. This lovely little butterfly, so like the female common blue, has never been positively identified here before, so has likely been around but overlooked. Next year there will be a definite effort to distinguish between the two and establish numbers.

There are still a few end-of-season jobs to do, mostly in areas where the brambles need keeping in check, but this can all be done at a more steady pace and when the weather permits. It's a good feeling when the bulk of the work has been done and we can relax a bit and look forward in anticipation to what next year will bring.

Please do get in touch if you would like to help with the work or simply want more information about the reserve.

Carol
caroline.cholerton@ntlworld.com



All beer and skittles!

Residents of Dodwell showed that life can be ‘all beer and skittles’ at least for a few hours, when they met up for a social evening.

Beer, Ninepins and a ‘Meal in a Basket’ were on the menu and it was great fun for everyone involved.

John Naish the Chairman of the Residents Association was delighted with the turnout and commented..

“With people facing so many challenges right now, getting together and bowling those pins down was a great way to relax and unwind”.

Big thanks from everyone to Ann for organising and congratulations to the prize winners too!

Luddington Parish Council meetings

7pm in the Village Hall

Wed 18 January

Wed 15 February

Wed 15 March

See website for more details
www.luddingtonpc.org



An Opening Amble!

In early October a group of intrepid Stratford Ramblers, Heart of England Forest Rangers and Local Residents set out on the official opening walk of the new 5km path around the west of Luddington Parish.

They ambled in warm dry conditions along the river meadows, they negotiated a herd of cows, circumnavigated the Lock, the Marina and the Church before making a crossing of the Village Green and returning ‘over the hill’ to Bonds coffee shop.

So impressed were the Ramblers that they plan on adding the walk to their annual calendar!

The Parish Council are indebted to HoEF and Sandfields Farm for their support in consenting to this new route.

Please note that the parts of the route which are Permissive Paths (with consent of the Landowner) will be closed one day per year. This year the closure takes place on Weds 7 December and notices will be posted on the gates as a reminder.



Contact the Parish Clerk

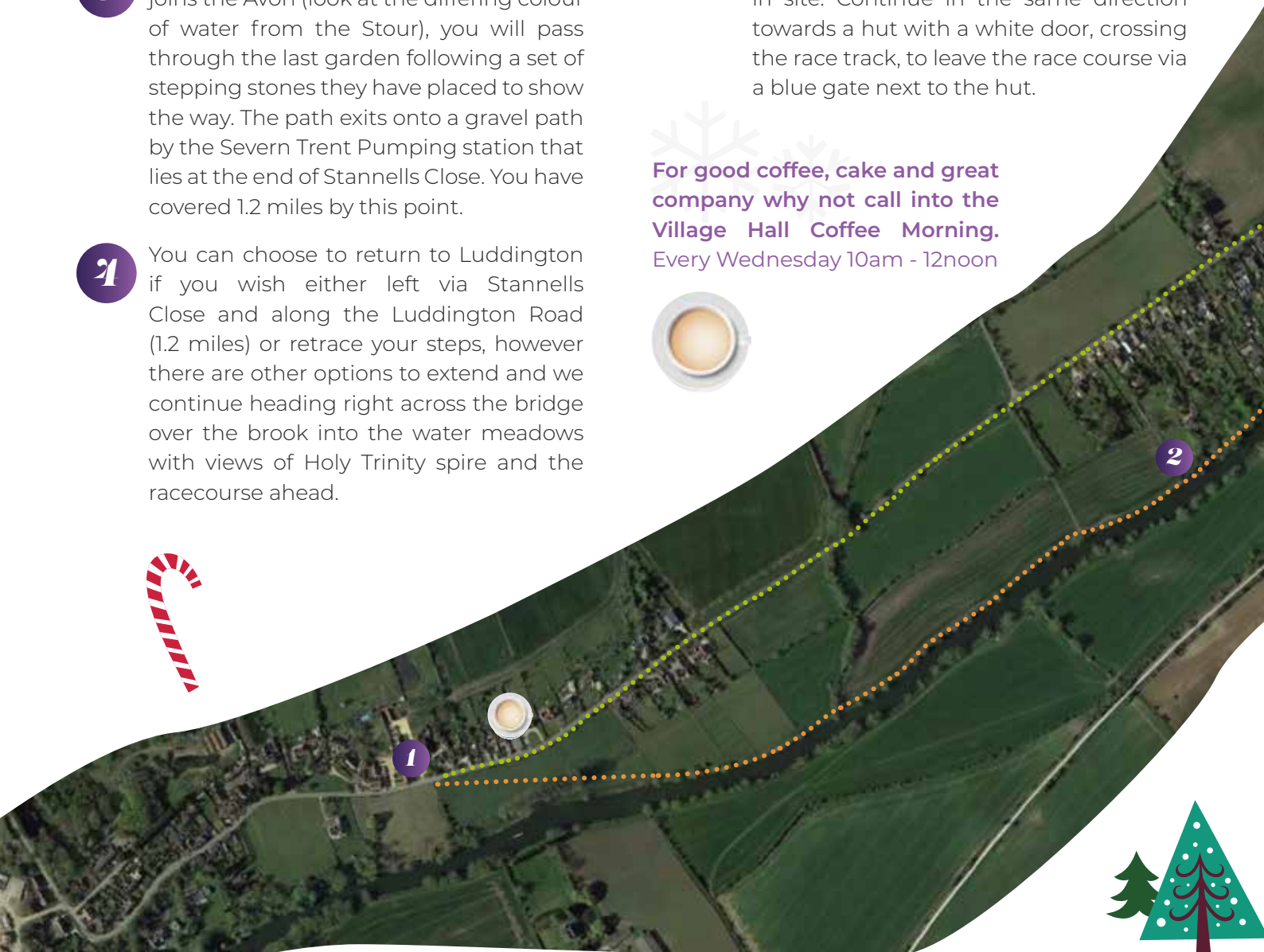
Rachael Anstey by email: luddingtonparishclerk@gmail.com or visit www.luddingtonpc.org

Winter can be a lovely time for

- 1** Starting on the village green, head left along the road towards Stratford. At the 3rd field on your right, opposite Cart Barn, go through the kissing gate into the field. Head diagonally across towards the river ahead and descend onto the water meadows in the direction of Stratford.
- 2** Continue along the river edge crossing through gardens and kissing gates, before heading along the edge of a large field opposite Little Luddington Farm. The path continues through further gardens. Look out for swans, Canada Geese, ducks, green woodpeckers and a couple of gorillas as you go! There a couple of flights of steps in this section and one stile.
- 3** Shortly after the point that the River Stour joins the Avon (look at the differing colour of water from the Stour), you will pass through the last garden following a set of stepping stones they have placed to show the way. The path exits onto a gravel path by the Severn Trent Pumping station that lies at the end of Stannells Close. You have covered 1.2 miles by this point.
- 4** You can choose to return to Luddington if you wish either left via Stannells Close and along the Luddington Road (1.2 miles) or retrace your steps, however there are other options to extend and we continue heading right across the bridge over the brook into the water meadows with views of Holy Trinity spire and the racecourse ahead.

- 5** Bear left and follow a path over to the hedge ahead. Pass through a wide gap, cross the ditch and aim along the path to your right to go through a gap in the hedge (the kissing gate is now hidden and inaccessible in the hedge on the left side of the gap.)
- 6** You are now entering the Racecourse Meadow, a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Head diagonally right to a kissing gate at the right hand side of the meadow, exiting onto "Muddy Lane" before crossing it to enter the Racecourse. Please note this path is closed on race days.
- 7** The footpath continues across the middle of the racecourse. Aim towards a five-bar gate with views of the train carriages now in site. Continue in the same direction towards a hut with a white door, crossing the race track, to leave the race course via a blue gate next to the hut.

For good coffee, cake and great company why not call into the Village Hall Coffee Morning. Every Wednesday 10am - 12noon



a walk...



This walk goes through people's gardens as well as fields often occupied by sheep, so please be respectful of your surroundings.

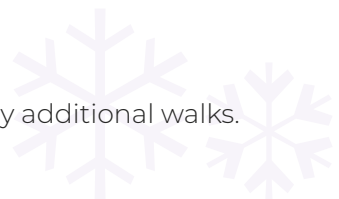
If you are enjoying this walk with your dog, please keep your dog on a lead and clean up after them.



- 8** Head right along the path bringing you out at the end of the Greenway car park. Turn right onto the Greenway. The Railway Cafe is on your right if you require a break.
- 9** Continue along the Greenway with the racecourse below you on the right. Just before the arched railway bridge look for a path off to the left. Take this down to the river and turn right, keeping along the river and going under the 3rd arch is the driest option. Walk along a short stretch of path that can be muddy to emerge back into the water meadow.
- 10** Follow the river edge back to the bridge crossing the brook and then return to Luddington as above.



Full route 4 miles. This walk acts as the core route for many additional walks.





Don't miss...

March

Community Coffee Morning

Every Wed morning

10am-12noon @ Village Hall

Village Hall Committee Meeting

Wed 1 Mar

7.30pm @ Village Hall

All welcome

Luddington Parish Council Meeting

Wed 15 Mar

7pm @ Village Hall. All welcome

April

Community Coffee Morning

Every Wed morning

10am-12noon @ Village Hall

Village Hall Committee Meeting

Wed 5 Apr

7.30pm @ Village Hall

All welcome



Apr Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Family Fun Day

Easter Egg Hunt, Family Film Night and Pub Night

Sat 8 Apr

Hunt at the Church then come and watch a family film at the Village Hall
Times and details to follow

Luddington Live Music

Sat 22 Apr

Doors 7.30pm

Music from 8pm @ Village Hall

Tickets £8 advanced & £10 on the door
Licensed bar | Email or call to book

HEARD ABOUT UBUS ?

...an alternative way to get around!

What is it?

It's a Warwickshire County Council supported mini bus service. Anyone can use the service if they live in isolated locations with limited bus service or they have mobility and health issues.

How do you Register?

It's easy! Just call 01789 264491 to give some details and receive your Membership Number. There's no joining fee.

How do I book a journey?

Call 01789 264491 to book. The booking line is open 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday.

The UBUS service operates Monday to Friday between 9.15am and 7pm (except between 2.30pm and 5.30pm on school days).

Where can I travel on UBUS?

From Luddington Parish you can book a journey to Stratford-on-Avon, or Welford, Bidford-On-Avon or even Alcester. These are the places in our UBUS travel zone.

How much will it cost?

It's £4 single and £6 return. Concessionary Council bus passes are valid for UBUS journeys.

Give UBUS a try and leave the car at home for a change!



Stratford Beekeepers' Taster Day

Are you interested in Beekeeping but not sure what is involved? Why not join our Taster Day at Luddington Village Hall on Saturday 28 January 2023 10-4pm.

An informal and low-cost opportunity to find out more. Practical demonstrations (no live bees)! £20 including light refreshments. Please visit www.stratfordbeekeepers.org.uk for more details.