

A Longstanton Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

summarised by

Mike Petty

Many of these stories were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014. They are supplemented by some selections 'From our Old Files' published in the Cambridge Independent Press and other notes.

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbooks' of which this is a small section is published online at bit.ly/CambsCollection

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised. I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the 1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – www.mikepetty.org.uk for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2016

1897 11 04

At the meeting of Cambridgeshire County Council a letter from Longstanton Parish Council asking for permission to erect a fire-engine house on waste ground aside of the highway, near the Black Bull Inn, was considered. An application from Burwell Parish Council for permission to borrow money for a recreation ground was read. The Council had now received five requests to lend money to Parish Councils for providing burial grounds.

1898 08 08

At Cambridge court Detective sergeant Marsh told how he spent yesterday morning out in rain at Longstanton digging for gold. With a faithful allegiance to mystery and lucre the leisured classes of King Street and its bye-ways mustered to hear the recital of the experiences in the penny Klondike. The detective told how he searched for money in the garden of the prisoner's grandmother for an hour or so. At last he struck the money with the fork. Some was in matchbox, some in a cigarette case, and the gold in a purse

1899 03 01

The hitherto quiet little village of Longstanton has been engaged in a labour struggle, a battle between farmers and farm servants. The cause of dispute was originally the hours of labour, but at a later stage the question of wages was brought in. It was decided to ask to work from 7am to 5pm – a ten-hour's day, with half an hour for breakfast and an hour for dinner out of it. Four out of five farmers refused to make the concession. The result was that nearly 40 agricultural labourers "came out" on strike.

1900 05 12

Harriet Few of Willingham was fined 5s. for driving a cart without a light at Longstanton. Defendant: I shall not pay; I'll go to gaol. I think it is rather hard for a woman to go to work all the week and be stopped by a policeman simply because she had no light attached to her cart. I am not willing to pay this money. I do not consider that I was doing wrong, and I will go to gaol. How long will it be?

1900 07 25

The plan adopted in the villages of amalgamating for the purposes of holding horticultural shows is one to be commended in order to secure friendly rivalry between them. The parishes of Oakington, Westwick & Longstanton followed this course when the society was inaugurated ten years ago and the exhibitions arranged since have met with a measure of success that has continually stimulated its members. The exhibits were a very level lot. The peas, horned carrots & potatoes might be singled out for special mention. A small dish of curious peas of the Ashley Duke variety caused a sensation. Thurston's steam horses were in attendance & in the evening the villagers thronged into the ground in large numbers.

1902 01 02

Chesterton RDC received a resolution from Longstanton All Saint's parish meeting that members of property in the parish should provide their tenants with water. In every case the landlords had agreed. The Clerk: "We supply water by water carts; the contracts expires at the end of the month & it is thought that the owners should now provide it". The council agreed to continue the water cart system for three months to give landlords the opportunity to supply their tenants with water.

1903 03 16

Magistrates considered renewing the licences of various public houses. The Hoops at Barton was in an untidy state; at Chesterton the Castle Inn was much improved but the Prince of Wales had a great deal of accommodation and was the best in the district. The Black Bull at Longstanton was a genuine business for the benefit of the public and was absolutely essential. The George and Dragon, Swavesey had four bedrooms but the back entrance gave facility for

secret drinking – this was a parish where there were too many public houses in proportion to the population. The licence was granted on condition the back way was closed up

1909 01 08

Pension day in villages – Cottenham, Swaffham Bulbeck, Histon, Over, Stretham, Isleham, Haddenham, Longstanton – 09 01 08

1909 09 10

Conington church nave and vestry have been thoroughly restored with a new nave roof, ceiling, and organ. The east wall has been underpinned but the walls of the tower are badly cracked, the spire needs strengthening and the bells rehung. The thatched church of St Michael, Longstanton, which has fallen into a bad state of disrepair, is now in the hands of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings who were responsible for the restoration of the Hatton Chapel at Longstanton All Saint's and Lolworth Church. CWN 09 09 10

1910 01 14

Captain Morrison-Bell addressed election meetings at Rampton and Longstanton. At Rampton the gathering was a somewhat noisy one, with a good many interruptions, but at Longstanton a number of youths indulged in actual rowdyism; they refused to give the speakers a fair chance to air their views and blows were struck amongst some of the more noisy members of the audience. At both meetings a heavy missile struck one of the cars as the candidate and his helpers drove away 10 01 14

1910 03 18

Licensing meeting – Over Sow & Pig, Willingham Black Horse, Chesterton White Horse, Comberton Red Lion, Cottenham Boot, Longstanton Red Cow, Milton Three Tuns, Shelford Three Tuns 10 03 18b

1910 04 01

Boys attending Longstanton School accepted a challenge from Swavesey School for a football match. But on arrival they found a strong combination of larger boys from Swavesey, St Ives, Over and Houghton opposing them. An offer by Swavesey for them to discard their smaller boys for some of the spectators to make the teams more equal was dismissed by the little lads who determined to 'stick to their own men'. As expected Longstanton were beaten by nine goals to nil. Eight of the goals were scored by lads from Houghton and one by a lad from Over. The Longstanton juveniles have only been playing football for a month, a ball having been presented by the schoolmistress. 10 04 01b

1910 04 29

A Willingham labourer was charged with stealing £40 in gold from his mother. His parents had gone to work leaving him alone in the house and the money under the mattress of the bed. The neighbour saw the lad with a handful of gold and a search revealed it had gone. Police discovered he had been showing a lot of gold in a public house at Longstanton before leaving for Cambridge by train. When arrested at the Compasses lodging house in East Road he said "They should not leave the money lying about in the house. I told her I should do her one. She always scrapped the last penny out of me and is always cadging money of me" 10 04 29c

1910 07 01

Licences for: Bassingbourn Beerhouse in the fen, Meldreth Green Man, Fulbourn Coach & Horses, Chesterton White Horse, Cottenham Boot, Fen Drayton Horse & Gate, Longstanton Red Cow, Milton Three Tuns, Shelford King William IV, Shudy Camps Chequers, Linton George & Dragon. Cambridge Star & Garter Petty Cury, Cardinal's Cap, Crown & Anchor, Borough Boys, Ship, Merry Boys, Prince Albert, Oxford – all refused. Melbourn White Lion & Swavesey Little Rose renewed 10 07 01 & a # c.27.4

1910 08 26

Longstanton cottagers living in the vicinity of the public pump known locally as "Chapman's" have a grievance. There is another a pump on private property close by, fed from the same public supply and when there is a heavy call on this (it is used to fill a tank about three times a week) the yield from "Chapman's" is very scanty indeed. Both parties claim priority of usage and neither is inclined to give way. If the council want to avoid unpleasantness they should step in now 10 08 26d

1910 09 02

Longstanton water pump problems – 10 09 02e

Mr Stearn of the Railway Tavern, Longstanton, went rat-catching the other day and having killed several he retired indoors. A little later he felt something moving in his clothing in the region of his waist and to his dismay a full-sized rat ran out of the leg of his trousers. The rat raced round the house frightening the womenkind out of their wits before it was killed 11 08 18j

1911 10 06

Mr C.W. Cooke, coal dealer of Gwydir Street, had been hired to take some furniture to a house at Willingham. All went well until near Longstanton when the van burst into fire as though somebody had dropped gunpowder on it. Mr Cooke tried to get some of the furniture off the cart but the flames had too strong a hold and his coat caught light. The horse then ran off with the van but pulled up with its tail slightly burnt. The whole of the contents including carpet, flower stand, fender and horse brasses were utterly ruined. 11 10 06g

1912 06 07

An unusually violent thunderstorm broke over Longstanton with a blinding flash of lightning being followed by a tremendous clap of thunder. Near the railway station a horse belonging to Mr T Langan of Willingham was so alarmed it dropped down in the road and after getting up trembled for some time afterwards. At Hatton's Farm considerable damage was done, sixteen panes of glass being smashed by the concussion. The lightning struck the garden, made a hole in the soil and passing underneath it ploughed up two rows of potatoes. Mr W.J. Wayman of Over, who was erecting some cottages near by, took shelter in a hovel and was knocked backwards while Mrs Few was so much upset that she has since been ill 12 06 07i

1912 11 22

Longstanton All Saints' Church held a service of dedication of the five new bells which have been added to the three originals. They were founded by Messrs Taylor of Loughborough and Mr Taylor himself came to ring in the ceremony. The bells are set in an iron frame in place of the previous one of timber. They also celebrated the restoration of the tower which has been pointed inside, the first floor has been lowered and another put in. The total cost is about £330 (about £30,500 today) of which a large sum remains to be cleared off. 12 11 22d

1913 01 31

Most of the passengers had left the G.N.R. train from King's Cross at Cambridge station when an official noticed a gentleman, apparently asleep. He opened the carriage door and gently shook him by the knee. As he did so he was startled to see a revolver lying on the floor of the carriage and a small trickle of blood. Examination showed that the passenger was dead, apparently from a bullet wound in the head. The body was identified as that of Longstanton man. The village stationmaster was told to break the news to his wife. The news caused great consternation in the area 13 01 31 p12 CIP

1913 02 07

Suicide of Longstanton man on train

13 02 14 p11

Longstanton smallholdings

1913 10 24

The Isolation Hospital should have a discharging hut. The hut provided two compartments. The patient to be discharged was taken into one, stripped and bathed, the clothes were taken away and disinfected, then taken to the second compartment where the patient dressed. This was one way of avoiding the carrying back of disease to the villages and was absolutely essential. Longstanton residents complained about their water. Fifteen people used a pump fed by water from a spring which required cleaning out. They had to go half-a-mile to obtain drinking water from a public supply 13 10 24 p7 CIP

1914 02 13

Now there are several motor 'buses running daily through Longstanton, in addition to the other ever-increasing motor traffic, it is to be hoped the authorities will take steps to improve the corner between All Saints' Church and the blacksmith's shop. The day school being situated within a few yards of this dangerous spot, improvements are urgently needed. In the meantime school signs are urgently needed at each approach in addition to the present ordinary motor cautions – 14 02 13g

1914 02 20

Longstanton electors considered selling the gravel pit allotment to the County Council for the purpose of opening up a roadway from the small holdings to the station end of the village. But the majority were opposed 14 02 20h

1914 09 11

Enlistment – Lolworth, Boxworth, Over, Bourn, Linton, Cottenham, Elsworth, Swavesey, Bottisham, Longstanton, Sawston, Comberton, Waterbeach

1914 12 11

Longstanton Crisp kia

1921 03 16

Fire in one of All Saints' Cottages, Longstanton – 21 03 16a

1929 03 27

Some interesting observations on windmills were made by Mr H.C. Hughes to the Cambridge Photographic Club. His talk was illustrated by large number of slides. The oldest drawing of a mill in existence was in Longstanton church, cut in the clunch of the porch. Doubtless as the miller was always a bad man his boy took after him and having been turned out of church had spent the time drawing his father's mill on the church. He spoke of the mill at Haverhill with its rotary vanes, the six-sailed mill at Wisbech and the mills at Stretham and Fulbourn, both of which were still working. The latter should be preserved if any should, so beautiful was it on the long rolling slopes behind the Roman road.

1931 10 30

Two new church bells were dedicated at Over to complete the octave. One is a thank-offering from F.G. Weston, vicar, while the other is in memory of Horace Bernard Woolley, vicar of Longstanton 1905-1929. It was given by Ingle Robinson, younger son of the clerk of the church from 1839-1883 and the united efforts of Over ringers. Round were then rung as an octave for the first time. 31 10 30a

1934 07 11

Longstanton church rethatched photo – 34 07 11

1936 07 18

Samuel Fletcher, a Longstanton diary farmer told the court he had an old motor van that he used as a fowl house. He noticed that the radiator had disappeared; he considered it was worth ten shillings. A cowman's wife said that a Cottenham scrap dealer had offered a shilling for it. But he only gave her three pence together with another three pence for some old rags. Had she got the full amount she would have offered it to Mr Fletcher but as it was so little she did not bother about it. She did not think it wrong as the van was no good. The scrap dealer later sold the radiator for one-and-sixpence. 36 07 18

1937 01 15

The head offices and showroom of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company in Sidney Street, where all the most modern and efficient appliances for heating, cooking, refrigeration and lighting can be seen, were built in 1909. Today the total number of consumers is in the region of 25,000. Recently the villages of Willingham, Longstanton and Oakington were supplied with gas and mains are being laid to Sawston. 37 01 15b

1940 05 24

Roast Pork. — Eleven fat pigs were roasted alive and 11 more were severely burnt that they had to be destroyed after fire had broken out in a piggery at Longstanton on Saturday night. Over 100 chicks were also destroyed. The sties were burnt to the ground. Two brooders — which are believed to have caused the fire — were similarly burnt out. The pigs were owned by Mr. Thomas Henry Hazel, a smallholder. Neighbours and police attempted to quell the outbreak by forming a bucket chain from nearby pumps to the scene of the blaze. Mr. Hazel opened the doors of the sties to let the pigs escape and when they were afterwards rounded up many were found to be too badly burned to live. The fire was first noticed about midnight by a railway signalman.

1941 10 10

Married 50 years,—Mr. and Mrs. Albert Pledger, of the Grange, Longstanton, and formerly of Church Street, Gamlingay, were married on September 28, 1891, and are now 76 and 77 respectively. To celebrate the event. 30 guests were entertained at "Rutholme", Swavesey, the home of their youngest daughter. The toast of the couple, who were in excellent health, was proposed by Mr. Victor Pledger, of Barkway, the youngest brother of Mr. Pledger, and the aged pair replied, thanking everyone for the flowers, presents and greetings which had been sent them.

1944 12 01

Evacuated, then killed.—When the inquest on a baby girl killed in a car accident near Longstanton turn was opened and adjourned on Saturday, the father said he had evacuated his wife and child to the country for safety after their home had been damaged by a flying bomb. The inquest was held at Cambridge.

1946 03 06

Pte F. Wayman, Longstanton reported missing Apr 9 1943 now reported kia – 46 03 06

1947 06 26

Plans for providing Airey houses at a number of villages in the Chesterton R.D.C. area in lieu of permanent brick houses are being prepared. The Ministry of Health have ruled that during the next 18 months, rural authorities must erect one Airey house per three houses constructed. The architect is preparing revised lay-out plans for the sites at Fulbourn, Teversham, Longstanton and Elsworth. A lay-out plan for Coton, providing for a total of 54 houses was approved. Housing progress up to May 29th 1947 reveals 77 houses completed (includes 31 prefabs, 4 bungalows and 5 Swedish), 136 permanent houses and 19 temporary houses in course of erection

1950 01 04

Sanitary arrangements and general conditions at Longstanton church of England school were found to be in "a most deplorable condition" by an Inspector who visited after strong complaints from parents of children attending it. The report states cesspool drainage is hopelessly ineffective and foul water floods the boys offices frequently. School meals are prepared in the cloakroom which contains a water tap but no drainage and the playground consists of 65 square yards of unsurfaced ground rendered unusable by the discharge of rainwater gutters into it. The chairman of the school managers said nothing could be done short of a major work of reconstruction to the school's sanitary arrangements

1950 03 29

The Ministry of Education is to be asked to approve a provision for the erection of a new juniors and infants school at Longstanton in the 1951-54 building programme to relieve overcrowding there and at Willingham. No child over five was refused and the new school would be put in hand as soon as possible; meanwhile, a "very suitable hut" was to be used as temporary accommodation

1951 09 15

There was general approval of a proposal to unite the parishes of Longstanton All Saints' and Longstanton St Michael at a public inquiry and the meeting also brought forth a suggestion that the name of the village should be changed. It was suggested the combined parishes should be called "Stanton Green". There was in effect only one village and few people knew where the boundary between the parishes was located. There was one school, one post office, one police station, one village institute and one recreation ground. All these were in the parish of All Saints' whose council administered the same public service for the benefit of both parishes. If the civil parishes were united they would still be distinct ecclesiastically

1954 05 10

Longstanton's new school for five to 11-year-olds was opened - its gay colours and ultra-modern interior flooded by sunlight. It has been built on the latest lines at the lowest cost with wide windows providing natural lighting, three classrooms, an assembly hall, staff room and kitchen. Children of airmen stationed at the neighbouring Oakington will go there and it will also take in pupils from the overcrowded village Church of England school. Lord Tedder, Marshall of the R.A.F., said: "I envy the children. It really is a beautiful place".

1954 10 22

A new pumping station was opened at Kingston. The first bore hole had been sunk by the old East Hunts Water Company in 1934. It was altered for R.A.F. purposes at the beginning of the last war and in 1943 the Chesterton and St Ives Joint Water Board was formed. Three years ago permission was obtained from the Ministry and the present buildings started. The original water supply came from Bourn from a station that was built in 1900 and the next erected at Longstanton in 1930. Now with the ever-increasing demand for water had come the new station.

1959 02 21

Longstanton youths had left a trail of destruction in the village over Christmas. They smashed a telephone kiosk mirror, knocked over flour bags, pushed over road signs and sprayed oil over a caravan showroom windows. PC Murdon said they'd drunk four light ales at the Railway Tavern pub on Christmas Eve then biked to Willingham, causing damage on the way. 59 02 21a

1959 05 27

British Railways announce that passenger train services between St Ives and Kettering and the freight train services from Buckden and Grafham stations will be withdrawn on June 15th. In addition trains running between Cambridge and St Ives on weekdays which at present serve Kettering will also be withdrawn. Arrangements will be made to augment the service to St Ives by the 10.17 am Cambridge to Peterborough train calling at Histon, Oakington,

Longstanton and Swavesey stations and an additional train leaving for St Ives at 5.15pm calling at all stations. 59 05 27a

1961 08 24

Histon station has completed a hat-trick of wins in the garden section of the annual competition for best-kept station. They are one of four in the region to gain the top award of £10 which will go towards the cost of seeds and plants for next year. The new stationmaster, A.S.G. Harris, has taken a keen interest in the competition with strong support from his three porters who have done the bulk of the work. Longstanton, Oakington and St Ives stations also won recognition. 61 08 24b

1961 09 01

Mr C.A. Moulton, stationmaster at Longstanton for the past year, is leaving his post to go to Suffolk where he will combine the duties of two stationmasters at Halesworth and Brampton. His railway service began in 1936 as a weigh-lad at Grimbsy Town goods yard and he has previously been stationmaster at Ancaster, Moulton and Wisbech St Mary. 61 09 01

1964 03 25

Longstanton farmer's daughter, Sarah Stroude, travelled by punt to reception – 63 03 25b

1964 07 05

Snowy the roadman is the first person newcomers to Oakington notice, for he always wears a 'bowler' to work. Walter Reginald Farr was born in Longstanton and has been a roadman eight years. He has three bowlers including a Sunday best which he only wears at weekends with his dress suit when he goes for a walk. 'Snowy' sports a colourful, grizzled beard, yellow at its thickest but now greying at the sides. His face is a lobster red and he has bright, friendly blue eyes. He takes a pride in the village and there is no doubt the village take a pride in him. 64 07 05

1965 01 12

Longstanton prehistoric monster bones given to Museum Archaeology – 65 01 12

1965 12 02

Longstanton station may become loading point for farm produce – 65 12 02a

1966 02 28

Longstanton postmistress Miss Rignal retires – 66 02 28a

1966 04 26

Longstanton churches in need of repair – 66 04 26a

1966 04 29

Railway stations to be sold at Six Mile Bottom, Sutton (pic), Bluntisham, Haddenham, Harston, Wilburton, Stretham, Dullingham, Isleham, Longstanton – 66 04 29a

1974 09 24

Fears were expressed at a special meeting of Longstanton parish council that the village would become a "garrison town" when the army take over the RAF Oakington in April. The chairman said plans for 200 extra married quarters made a complete nonsense of the village plan. They are recommending that the quarters, if built, should be on the other side of Oakington's airfield, adjacent to that village. Although one member suggested the council were "passing the buck" others felt there was "nothing wrong" with building the quarters in the next village. Oakington had been pressing for expansion

1975 01 10

The road across Oakington airfield linking it with Longstanton may be reopened to buses, cyclists and pedestrians. It was closed 18 years ago when the airfield was established. County Surveyor Mr Robert Lacey said he doubted if there was a case for the reopening of the road to all traffic because the building of the Bar Hill flyovers nearby would give a better access to Longstanton than through neighbouring villages

1975 01 18

The question of whether to re-open the road across Oakington airfield is developing into an inter-village row. Villagers at Oakington and Girton say they do not want the road opened to traffic, but a number of people at Longstanton are in favour of the idea. The chairman of their parish council pointed out the new flyover on the A604 would cut out most of the inconvenience and danger to motorists and this may well be completed before any decision on the airfield road is taken.

1975 05 13

The influx of army children to Hatton Park county primary school, Longstanton, is causing problems. A report showed there were now 144 army children, 17 RAF and 106 village children in the school. With the arrival of the newcomers 40-50% of each class was considered in need of remedial teaching.

1975 07 04

St Michael's church, Longstanton, a part-thatched building dating back to the 13th century will be preserved for future generations. The church, which stands empty and has been the target of hooligans, is to be put under the care of the Redundant Churches Fund. It was declared redundant in November 1973 and was without heating or lighting. There are minor repairs to be carried out before the church will once again be opened to the public.

1978 10 10

British Rail seems rather attached to the traditional style level crossing gate. Each time one is smashed to pieces by a train at Great Shelford they replace it with a new one. The crossing is a traditional manned gate system – branded by a Government report in 1968 as a 'creaking anachronism'. Since then there have been level crossing accidents at Shelford in January 1969 and October 1971, Longstanton, Whittlesey, Prickwillow and Brinkley Road crossing near Newmarket. The sight of BR workmen installing yet another manned gate at Gt Shelford has done little to allay the public's fears of their safety.

1979 01 23

The railway line between Swavesey and Cambridge will be used for a passenger service on March 31st for the first time since its closure in 1971. Trains will call at Longstanton, Oakington and Histon – at least for one day. A special train is being organised by the Railway Development Society in conjunction with British Rail. It will leave Swavesey at 1pm and arrive at Cambridge an hour later, returning at 5.30 pm. The fare for adults will be about £1, children 75p and cycles free.

1980 03 24

Rail transport enthusiasts who want the Cambridge to St Ives branch line re-opened have hired a 10-coach Inter-City train. It will set off from Swavesey station and call at Longstanton, Oakington and Histon before running non-stop to Liverpool Street. The branch line closed to passengers in October 1970 but the track has been kept open by block freight trains carrying Spanish oranges and pulp to Cadburys at Histon and bringing out sand from Amey Roadstone. But the track has recently been lifted beyond Fen Drayton and the station site at St Ives has been obliterated by the new by-pass.

1984 03 07

George Webb Haulage, which started over 40 years ago, are willing to move anything. Now they have moved themselves from Willingham to new offices in Longstanton. Two years ago Marshall's of Cambridge rang to ask why they did not use British trucks. When they heard the

Webbs' specialist needs were not catered for they arranged a meeting with the manager of Leyland trucks. The resulting vehicle is now in production at the Scammell factory. 84 03 07

1085 10 14

Longstanton traction engine museum – 85 10 14a

1986 01 28

Tansley Typewriter Company, which has been selling and servicing typewriters for over 60 years, has made a successful transition into the world of computers. Their showroom in Longstanton High Street features the Olivetti MP24 SP personal computer with a 20 megabyte hard drive. The company has a team of four engineers who travel as far as Peterborough and Bedford to carry out installations and also service electronic typewriters and word processors 86 01 28a

1986 05 23

British Rail is considering reopening part of the disused Cambridge-Huntingdon railway to provide extra transport for the suggested new village in the Swavesey area. They would use the existing platforms at Swavesey, Longstanton and Oakington but would have to build a new one at Histon. Most of the line closed to passenger traffic some years ago but some is used for occasional freight trains to the Chivers factory and fruit orchard complexes 86 06 23

1988 01 07

Oakington and Longstanton villagers are fighting the Army's proposals to build a mock battlefield near their homes. Two lakes would be dug out to create a series of mounds for general infantry training and another for practice helicopter landings. As the Army is not subject to normal planning rules it could use bulldozers noisier than four combine harvesters, which would be unbearable, residents complain. But SCDC say the airfield has been there 47 years and troops must be trained somewhere 88 01 07b

1988 01 29

Plans to build 200 houses on 15 acres of land at Home Farm, Longstanton, have been turned down twice by SCDC. But they could now go ahead provided developers are willing to pay for a by-pass 88 01 29

1988 10 10

The road between Longstanton and Oakington, across the airfield, may be opened for general use – 88 10 10

1990 03 24

Hundreds of people swamped the first passenger train between Swavesey and Cambridge for 20 years and at least 200 were left standing. The special service, chartered by the Railway Development Society was overwhelmed. There were 500 waiting at Swavesey, 100 at Longstanton, 200 at Oakington and another 100 at Histon. The train arrived at Cambridge station more than 20 minutes late. 90 03 24b 90 03 26a

1990 05 07

'Snowy' Easton retires from Co-op, started in 1939; ran own butchery business Longstanton – 90 05 07b