

Issue No. 237

Hill & Valley

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF HURSTBOURNE PRIORS, LONGPARISH, ST MARY BOURNE & WOODCOTT

50p

April 2020

EASTER Greetings



Dear All,

In these uncertain times our country is now focussing on isolation and the protection of individuals, especially those who are vulnerable. In our benefice we have the added complication of being in what the Church of England calls a vacancy (without a priest in charge). Some of you may be wondering what happens next. So, in answer to these very real questions:

Firstly, the Benefice (all four churches) will put together a profile and job spec for Craig's replacement. This will be followed by application forms, interviews and an appointment. Added to that, Winchester Diocese is setting up discussions with Whitchurch, Litchfield and Tufton to introduce a larger Benefice whilst retaining a priest in the vicarage in St Mary Bourne and in the one in Whitchurch.

Regarding services in our churches, all public worship services are now suspended until further notice. But weddings, baptisms and funerals may still take place with a small group present and appropriate precautions taken to reduce the risk of infection. All non-essential/non-urgent church meetings (including social events, festival gatherings etc) have been postponed.

However, we are ensuring our Church buildings will remain open every day. And on Sundays between 9.30 am and 11.30 am there will be an opportunity to come and pray with a specific focus, e.g. there will be Palm Crosses for people to take on Palm Sunday. Everyone is invited where possible to come 'to have time out' in these strange times.

Added to this, from 30th March we will have a time set apart in each of our churches during the week for prayers, a chat or a request for help, at around 7 pm unless notified:

Monday	Longparish
Tuesday	Hurstbourne Priors
Wednesday	St Mary Bourne
Thursday	Woodcott

There will be a rhythm of prayer throughout the days ahead.

We especially look to support our community and those who may be feeling isolated and in need. If you or someone you know has a need of any sort please do contact me or the wardens. Right now our church life cannot be about attending church on Sunday, but we hope that during this Eastertide it will be redefined by the prayer and service we offer in our villages.

With my love and prayers,

Dodie

Corona Virus Causes Suspension of Worship in Church

Until further notice there will be no services in any of our benefice churches. Funeral services and weddings may be conducted in church with very restricted attendance.

The decision to cease worship in church until further notice was announced by the Archbishop Canterbury, Justin Welby, and the Archbishop of York, John Sentamu in a letter on 16th March. The main points of their letter are reprinted here:

They said that far from having to "shut up shop", the Church of England must face the challenge by becoming a radically different kind of church rooted in prayer and serving others.

The Archbishops expressed the desire that church buildings may, where practical, remain open as places of prayer for the community, observing social distancing recommendations. They also invited clergy to maintain the ancient pattern of daily prayer and, where possible, the eucharist – live streaming their worship if they have the resources to do so.

They urged congregations to be in the forefront of providing practical care and support for the most poor and the most vulnerable during the crisis.

"Being a part of the Church of England is going to look very different in the days ahead," they wrote. "Our life is going to be less characterised by attendance at church on Sunday, and more characterised by the prayer and service we offer each day.

"We may not be able to pray with people in the ways that we are used to, but we can certainly pray for people. And we can certainly offer practical care and support.

"Please do carry on supporting the local foodbank and buy extra provisions for it. Ensure the night shelters wherever possible are kept open. There are many very encouraging schemes happening right across our country in communities to focus on caring for the most vulnerable and do continue to play your part in those.

"We urge you sisters and brothers to become a different sort of church in these coming months: hopeful and rooted in the offering of prayer and praise and overflowing in service to the world."

And the Bishop of Winchester the Right Reverend Tim Dakin said:

Although public gatherings for worship will not be taking place in the immediate future, we are as a Church, nationally, regionally and locally, developing new ways of ensuring that acts of worship are accessible by other means. And our love of God and neighbour will be expressed in new ways, responding to the challenge of the coronavirus, and focusing on our closest and most vulnerable neighbours.

Benefice Contacts during the interregnum period:

For the duration of the interregnum Karen Morrison (Longparish) has kindly agreed to be the Benefice Team Co-ordinator.

Phone calls to the St Mary Bourne vicarage will be diverted to Karen's home phone and she will be fielding all calls that currently go to the vicarage.

For all enquires about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals in any of the parish churches, please contact Karen in the Benefice Office ☎ 01264 738308 – email: office.brightwaters@btinternet.com

In an emergency, or if you wish to contact the Rev Canon Dodie Marsden, please ☎ 01264 738211 or email: dodie.marsden@gmail.com

If you are unable to contact Dodie in an emergency, please call 01264 720215 or 01264 738489.

- For details of **Roman Catholic Services** in Whitchurch or Andover ☎ 01264 352829
- **Methodist Minister** for our parishes: The Revd Rachel Borgars, 11 Lapwing Rise, Whitchurch, RG28 7SU ☎ 01256 895878 email: rachel.borgars@methodist.org.uk

From the Church Registers

Baptisms

"Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father."

Saturday 7th March - St Mary Bourne - St Peter's
Baptism of **Eliza Baird**, daughter of Ali and Annabel

Sunday 8th March - Longparish - St Nicholas'
Baptism of **Kitty Mullens**, daughter of Tom and Charlie
Baptism of **Toby Mullens**, son of Ali and Kirsty

Sunday 22nd March - St Mary Bourne - St Peter's
Baptism of **Luke Paxton-White**, son of Abby and Adam
Baptism of **Lola Goodman**, daughter of Daniel and Abby

Funerals

"Into God's loving care we commit you ..."

Thursday 19th March - Longparish - St Nicholas
Funeral of **Norman Bennett**

Friday 20th March - St Mary Bourne - St Peter's
Funeral of **Max Robinson**

Saturday 28th March - St Mary Bourne - St Peter's
Burial of Ashes of **Carol Dodson**

Scramblers in St Mary Bourne

There will be no Scramblers until further notice.

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Women's Fellowship - I am afraid that our meetings will have to be cancelled until all fear of the coronavirus is over. Keep well meanwhile. At our next meeting there will be more on Ethiopia including photographs, I hope!
Any queries to Eve Lind-Smith ☎ 738 681

THANK YOU

Diana Robinson and her family would like to thank all at Derrydown Clinic and the many friends of St Mary Bourne and the wider community for their support, friendship and many messages of condolence over the death of Max.

These have been of great comfort to us and most appreciated.

Dawn Chorus Walk - Come to see and hear lots of birds on our Dawn Chorus Walk at Binley Farm led by Alison Cross of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, who knows them all. It is the day before International Dawn Chorus Day. Meet at Sladen Green, Binley
Saturday 2nd of May at 5am
Numbers are limited so contact the Maclays on ☎ 01264 738 229
Mark Maclay

Toads on Roads

After being told of many squashed toads most years on the southern village and surgery roads I decided to find out how we could help them. Toads can travel up to two kilometres to reach their breeding pond or lake often starting their journey the previous autumn. To be

unceremoniously squashed within sight of their goal after all that effort seemed tragic. I registered the site with Froglife and our Sustainable Bourne Valley Group launched the official Derrydown Toad Patrol. You may have seen us in high vis vests shining torches into gardens and verges on warmer wet evenings very much hoping the traffic might slow down for us. We have a rota of 15 patrollers with 7 much more sharp-eyed children who go out in often miserable weather. The toads come out onto the main road from the gardens either side of the churchyard and especially popular are the private road and gardens opposite the surgery. These stand no chance at all at busy times as they have a feeble hop so mainly crawl often as an already established pair. The surgery road is less risky as the residents are now aware, but surgery hours need patrols and we have to look out for visitors. They are all put under the gate by the surgery where the water is as close as possible.

Toads breed in deep larger areas of water and are safe from predators as they can release poison from a gland in their necks if bitten. They collect in the lake and do the business around the full moon, then at some stage return to their summer territory. Frogs prefer small shallow ponds and start earlier, but we still are not sure which of the few local ponds they are heading to. There is another crossing area near Denham Terrace.

So far, this year we have moved 378 toads, 21 frogs and 1 newt! But from local reports we know there are many more managing to get to the lake later at night and from the footpath and recreation ground. As toads are an "at risk" species in Europe now isn't it wonderful that our beautiful water meadows and woods are home territory to so many of these engaging little animals.
C. Hoyes



Coronavirus update, March 15th, 2020

It feels like "information overload" at the moment so it is important to listen to the clear messages from the government and act on these. My key message is stay calm and don't panic.

The government website and NHS111 website have the most up to date information on what to do if you think you or a family member have coronavirus. Essentially if you have a new continuous cough OR a high fever (37.8 degrees or more) then stay at home for 7 days. You do not need to inform the practice or 111 if you are doing this.

This is a challenging time for all of us, and causes us a lot of anxiety. So, for people who are already struggling with anxiety I have some useful suggestions. It is important to be kind to yourself, limit your exposure to the news, stick to guidelines, make plans and then tuck them away, limit discussions about it, maintain a healthy routine, ground yourself in the present, introduce gratitude and be mindful of assumptions. I would suggest you continue to seek anxiety support through our local iTalk or MIND, or via the NHS website or the practice.

We are all going to see changes to our working lives and life at the practice has had to adapt and change at pace. Our priorities are to protect our staff and our patients. One way to reduce risk is to reduce the footfall of patients required to come in to the surgery. We are set up to use video conferencing software and the majority of our future routine consultations will be using this technology. This will be a change for all of us. We continue to keep people informed of the changes, via our website, phone messages and texting service.

Already I have felt the warmth of people coming together and acts of kindness. I remember recently how the community came together during the snow "the beast from the east". There is no doubt this will be a challenging time for all. Let's continue to stick together.

Dan Lickman - GP, Two Rivers Medical Partnership

EASTER LILIES

The Easter Sunday flower arrangements each year traditionally contain many lilies donated by relatives and friends in memory of those in their thoughts at the Festival of the Resurrection. It is a gift symbolizing hope and beautifying the Easter services with sight and scent. We also make a display of the names of those who are being commemorated. If you would like to make a donation in memory of a member of your family or a friend who has died, please deliver it to **Eve Lind-Smith at The Cottage, High Street, SMB** or to her personally **by Palm Sunday 5th April at the very latest**. We ask for £1 for each person remembered, in an envelope marked **Easter Lilies**, with the name(s) **printed** on the outside of the envelope or on a card inside. NOTE: only list the usual Christian name and surname rather than full names- e.g.: Bill Jones rather than William Edward Jones.



HURSTBOURNE TARRANT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CORONAVIRUS UPDATE CANCELLATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Following the announcement by the Prime Minister on 16th March it has been decided to cancel meetings of the Hurstbourne Tarrant Historical Society until further notice. We do this with great regret but clearly it is essential for the protection of our members, visitors and guest speakers.

For further information please contact

Chairman: Andy Watson e-mail

andrew.w.watson@btinternet.com or 01264 736459

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ST MARY BOURNE VILLAGE SHOP
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These are strange times indeed. I hope you are all keeping well and safe. If the Village Shop can help with anything please do not hesitate to call us on ☎ 01264 738 337. We are doing home deliveries to the elderly, vulnerable and those self-isolating within the areas of St Mary Bourne, Hurstbourne Priors, Stoke, Binley, Dunley, Wadwick, Egbury and the Wykes. We are very much at the mercy of our own supply chain and what we are able to get delivered to the shop and also on the very wonderful people who have volunteered within our community to help us out but please be rest assured we will do anything we can to help.

Please note that we may need to reduce the hours of the shop and the post office as staffing issues may develop. We will try and keep you informed of these by our Facebook Page and through the Parish Council website as well as notices in and around the shop.

I wish I could be regaling stories of how Spring has sprung and that we will all be wearing flip flops soon and having lovely BBQ's in the garden... which I am sure we will. Keep your eyes on the prize, people! Good times will return and we will party once more. In the meantime, keep your head down and your hands washed... we're here for you if you need us.

Lara and the team x



Assistant Shop Manager

St Mary Bourne Village Shop and Post Office is looking for an Assistant Shop Manager to help run this busy and vibrant community hub.

The part time post requires a minimum of 15 hours per week with the possibility to extend these hours later in the year.

The successful candidate will have fantastic organisational skills, be computer literate, have a warm and friendly character, great attention to detail and be able to work as part of a team.

Retail or Post Office experience is desirable but not essential.

All training, including Post Office training will be given.

For more information on the role please email Lara at

smbshopcic@outlook.com

Applications must be made in writing along with accompanying CV to the same address

Village Shop - March 1 ☺☺ Club Draw:

£50 - M Pearce; £20 - K Dixon;
£20 - M&E Maclay; £10 - O Madge.

News from St Peter's Tower

On Sunday 23rd February a quarter peal was rung prior to the morning service to celebrate **Rev Dodie Marsden** being made an Honorary Canon of Winchester Cathedral. The band (below) rang 1260 changes of Shipway Place Doubles, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles, Plain Bob Doubles and Grandsire Doubles in 41 minutes.

1 Helen Thomas - 2 Sarah Cooney - 3 Carol Waller
4 Roger Thomas - 5 Ken Waller (Conductor) - 6 Chris Smith



On Sunday 1st March a quarter peal was rung prior to Evensong, as a farewell to our parish priest **Rev Craig Marshall** before his last service in St Peter's. It took 42 minutes for the following band to ring 1260 changes of Grandsire Doubles:

1 Eve Lind-Smith - 2 Carol Waller - 3 Brian Oakes
4 Joanne Waller - 5 Ken Waller (Conductor) - 6 Chris Smith

Go Stargazing in April

The planets **Mars, Jupiter and Saturn** will be visible close to each other in the pre-dawn skies for the coming weeks.

The planet **Venus** will continue to dazzle in the evening skies reaching its peak brightness **on 28th April. On 3rd**

April it appears close to the Pleiades open cluster which will look awesome through binoculars and telescopes.

The Lyrics meteor shower (shooting stars) peaks on **22nd April** and during a new Moon too. So, the skies will be nice and dark for observing.

Comet C/2019 Y4 (ATLAS) is exciting astronomers at the moment. It is brighter than expected and anticipated to get brighter. Currently a 'telescope only' object located in Ursa Major but over the coming months it will move towards Perseus where it will reach its brightest around **mid-May**, when it may be visible to the naked eye.

New Dark Skies Parliamentary Group

This group has been formed to help fight against light pollution. The group will work to identify political priorities relating to dark skies issues and advocate legislation to the UK Parliament to address them. You can follow the group on Twitter. If you live in an unprotected dark night sky region, which we do, please ask your local MP to consider joining the group.

St Mary Bourne & District Horticultural Society AGM - 6th March

Jeremy Barks (Chair) thanked everyone who had contributed to the success of the 2019 Flower Show & Fête. He named a "*very long list*" of people who do a "*tremendous job*" for this "*true community event*". The weather had been better than the previous year and people appeared to stay for longer. A successful innovation had been to serve teas both inside and outside. Three new attractions: *Tug-of-War*, *Welly Throwing* and a *Vintage Car display* had proved popular and would be repeated. The Firemen had agreed to come back to the 2020 show (subject to call-outs). The Society was grateful to Vitacress for generously sponsoring the Marquee. He concluded by thanking all the committee and especially James Croser (previous Chair) and Peter St Quintin (President) for handing over such a smooth-running operation.

Mike Strong (Treasurer) outlined the figures in his Financial Report which showed receipts of **£9,609** (up £1,392 on 2018 Show figures). There had also been increased expenditure, mainly through the purchase of three gazebos, but the net profit was **£6,712** - a record. The distribution to local charities and organisation had increased by over £1,000 and the Hort Soc had received some wonderful letters of appreciation. It had been decided to continue with the idea of membership because it made the committee "*answerable*" to how the show was run and gave "*the members a say*".

Peter St Quintin (President) congratulated everyone on the result which "*is not all about money. The show gives a lot of people enjoyment. It is a very good family outing. Well done*".

Election of Officers: (Chair) Jeremy Barks, (Deputy Chair and Showground) John Banbury, (Marquee) Rosie Case, (Marketing and Programme) Bat Redfern, (Arena) Sky Ralph, (Treasurer) Mike Strong, (Secretary) Sheila Marsh. The rest of the committee was elected en bloc. Retiring committee members Kathy Stewart and Kay Bone were thanked for their support.

Jeremy Barks said there was "*an open door*" to anyone who would like to get involved and join the committee.

Date of the 2020 Flower Show and Fête
Saturday 25th July.

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Summary Report - Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 10th March 2020

Five councillors and the clerk attended the meeting. Hampshire County Councillor Tom Thacker and Jo Boxer & Jane Barry-Walsh (representing St Mary Bourne Village Shop CIC) attended for part of the meeting. Three members of the public were also present for part of the meeting.

In the time for public speaking -

1. A High Street resident asked for assistance in preventing lorries hitting their thatched roof. The clerk would raise the matter with Hampshire Highways and the residents were advised to install a warning flag on the roof.

2. A High Street resident raised concerns about drain and gulley clearance and sewage leakage. She was informed that the parish council and County Hampshire Council are liaising with Southern Water and she should contact Hampshire County Cllr Tom Thacker in the first instance. Updates from the Environment Agency and Southern Water are regularly put on the parish council website.

County Councillor's Report - Cllr Thacker reported on a) ground water and sewage issues b) residents' need to register vehicles before 1st April for continued free use of Hampshire Waste & Recycling Centres (A notice would be put on BVS and in Hill & Valley), and c) future plans for Hampshire libraries.

St Mary Bourne Village Shop - Lease and Extension Plans: The clerk had received legal advice about the original lease of the land to the St Mary Bourne Village Shop Association. It was resolved that a new lease should be drawn up to lease the land and building to St Mary Bourne Village Shop and once signed the Village Shop CIC (Community Interest Company) should register this with the Land Registry.

Jo Boxer and Jane Barry-Walsh (on behalf of the Shop CIC) presented preliminary plans for a proposed extension to the shop to provide additional retail space, an "eco" area, and a café. After discussions about costings, grants and fundraising, the parish council agreed in principle to provide more land to be leased to extend the shop.

Flood and Emergency - update: The parish council was liaising with the Environment Agency, Southern Water, Hampshire CC and Basingstoke & Deane BC to resolve issues with groundwater infiltration of the sewer. Updates are on the parish council website. Residents should immediately report sewage flooding to Southern Water on 0330 303 0368.

Footpaths - Agreement had been reached for an extra access point from the tarmac path at Bells Meadow onto Footpath 37 with a gate to be installed by the parish council. The chair signed the agreement.

Recreation Ground and Lake - Play areas: The clerk was getting quotes for remedial work, cleaning, and also for replacing the fencing around St Mary Bourne play area.

Parish council meetings

The parish council will continue to meet only when required to discuss essential business. Councillors who are isolating will not attend. The meetings will be short and the public are strongly advised not to attend. If you have an urgent matter you would like to raise with the parish council, please submit it in writing to clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk and it will be read out to the next meeting. You will then receive a written reply. If it is not urgent then please wait to bring your issue to a meeting later in the year.

Annual Parish Assembly

The parish council is required by law to convene a parish meeting before 1st June each year and at present the meeting is scheduled for 28th April. No emergency legislation has yet been brought forward to relax this deadline, although it is being considered by the Ministry for Housing, Community & Local Government. If the parish council is instructed that the rules have been changed, the Annual Parish Assembly will be postponed to later in the year.

Recycling Notice

If your car reg number has not been registered with the 'Tip' by 1st April you will be treated as an 'out of county' customer and charged £5 a visit. Follow the link below to register up to 3 cars or 4x4s to access Hampshire Household Waste Recycling Centres.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/recyclingcentres/vehicle-registration/register>

Postcard from Binley March 2020

The snowdrops that proliferate around here have gracefully bowed out to the myriad species of daffodils that put on such a spectacular annual show. We are proudly known for our daffs here in Binley and I have really begun to miss "Daffodil Sunday", an annual event when Binley was given its little chance to shine as two houses opened their gates and gardens to the Great British Public and raised money for good causes. The weather was always favourable and one experienced what was quintessentially an English occasion, the chance to spend a reflective few hours amongst the flora and fauna, appreciate the birdsong and to take afternoon tea. But even so, a walk around the village on a fine early spring day is still possible and it rejuvenates the soul no end. The park at Binley House dominates but a ramble down the lane through Sladen Green past Maclay's is a joyous experience, the woods peppered yellow and cream with a blue underbelly from grape hyacinths. Try it some time.

Binley's singular claim to fame (apart from daffs and the Hurdlers Arms which really was more *infamous*) is that Adolf Hitler came calling in the guise of a V1 rocket that landed here in July of 1942. It was destined for London but lost its way as so many of us do and ended up here. Nobody was hurt, it didn't explode but a number of cows were particularly upset. The site is called "Doodlebug corner" at the top of Binley Hill. My mother grew up in the east end of London during the war and tells me that these flying bombs had a very distinctive sound and while you could hear it you were safe, it was once the engine cut out that blind panic ensued. Over six thousand civilians lost their lives to this indiscriminate weapon.

I would take my boys when they were young up to "Doodlebug Corner" to look for bomb debris. A rusted-out milk churn was definitely part of the fuselage and a broken plough blade was certainly part of the tail fin. These rusting parts were carried back triumphantly to our house and put on display in

All planning applications for the parish of St Mary Bourne can be looked up by visiting the parish council website

www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk - go to 'Planning' and 'Planning Tracker' and use the options available - or by contacting the Parish Council Clerk ☎ 01264 738 039.

Details of all planning applications can be accessed on the B&DBC website - go to www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning

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their bedrooms. A child's imagination should be nurtured. Perhaps nowadays more than ever.

I have spent the past weekend up a ladder checking that the wire mesh that covers my thatched roof is tight and secure. One of the setbacks of living under straw is that once the harvest is in and the temperatures drop every furry critter sharp of tooth and claw wants to come and live with me. They will run around above my bedroom ceiling and stash hazelnuts from the garden in to the fuzzy pink insulation stuff. How they get in I am at my wits end to know and the sound at 2am this morning that I took to be a chainsaw was in fact a rat grinding its teeth on a wooden joist. It was no relief to be told that rats teeth, or the incisors at least, never stop growing! That's why they have to continually grind them. Imagine that? But my battle with this particular rat has been running for some weeks now and it's driving me to drink! Every night at one o'clock he drops in and starts his antics. I've tried every conceivable form of trap and poison and he ignores the lot. This is not going to end well, for one of us at least!

So, after a lousy night's sleep I dropped a slice of marmalade toast this morning and for the first time in sixty years it landed toast side down, i.e. marmalade side up! I shall buy a lottery ticket on the strength of that and then pop in to William Hill's to back a 33-1 outsider. I've felt guilty about enjoying marmalade ever since a girlfriend of sorts called me pretentious for owning a jar and said its use was symbolic of the English middle classes. What complete nonsense! She's probably a member of Extinction Rebellion now, that *would* be her cup of tea! Taking the war against English preserves to the streets and gluing herself to the front of Jaffa HQ. Lord help us!

NA

Several European Protected Species (dormouse, great crested newt and most species of bat) plus other very rare species including five sorts of bumblebee, two butterflies, the cirl bunting, turtle dove and many rare plants all rely for their survival on a healthy hedge system. Many of these species need some mature trees as part of the hedgerow.

Hedges are protected by the fact that permission has to be sought to remove them and the number of hedges is more stable now, but sadly many of our hedges are not in a good state. Ideally hedges should be layered (partially cut through and bent horizontally) at 10 years old and then sporadically after that to increase basal growth and branching. This prevents so much damage when cutting. Layering is impossible with so few people now working on the land and flailing is the norm. In some areas this can lead to reduction of the thick varied basal growth and eventually leave sparse woody plants with split torn branches. They cope with this treatment remarkably well but for how long? Also, these sparse hedges no longer shelter animals in their base and gradually lose their variety of plant species. This can also happen with uncut neglected hedges.

The scarcity of young hedgerow trees to replace mature ones when they die is a major cause of concern across Great Britain, the number of isolated hedgerow trees is falling. It has been calculated a further 15,000 -20,000 new hedgerow trees need to be recruited to the population each year just to keep the population of mature trees in hedgerows stable. Some councils tag young trees along hedges to let them grow up to maturity. This is a quick way to acquire large trees as they have already been there many years. This complicates the flailing, but has huge benefits for carbon capture and biodiversity.

Hedgeline is the partnership that brings everyone interested in hedgerows together, to share knowledge and ideas, to encourage and inspire, and to work with farmers and other land managers to conserve and enhance our hedgerow heritage. Hedgeline embraces the proposal of a 40% increase in hedge planting and welcomes further discussions on the issue. **They recommend that everyone with the capacity to promote planting and seeding of hedges through urban and rural landscapes should commence or continue with the urgency that the climate change emergency requires.**

How you can help:

Nurture the hedges we have and plant more; the thicker the better! Have variety in your hedges if you have several. Leave some areas to grow tall and keep others short and thick. It is suggested it is best to only cut every three years and rotate cut areas each year for maximum wildlife benefit. If you do need to cut a hedgerow every year, try and avoid cutting the grass and other plants at the base each time, particularly in the autumn. Instead, cut this vegetation once every two or three years. The majority of insects and other invertebrates that live in hedgerows overwinter in their bases and will be harmed by the cutting of this low-growing vegetation. Avoid strimming as hedgehogs live and have their nests at the base of hedges around now. Everyone knows by now that hedges should be cut in the winter when dormant and never between March and the end of July because of nesting birds. Let some of your hedge plants grow on as well spaced full-size trees.



**Light Touch
Our Hedge Heroes**

Pioneered by Bronze Age farmers, hedge planting was embraced by the Romans and steadily increased until the mid-18th

century. After half a century of turbulence, we have just 450,000 kilometres of hedgerow in the UK approximately half of the number before the Second World War in some areas. Some are several thousand years old.

Well-tended hedges:

- Shelter and feed many species of wildlife from small mammals, birds, amphibians, and insects to flowering plants, fungi, mosses and microbes essential for the web of life on earth. A healthy ecosystem takes hundreds of years to establish.
- Prevent soil erosion and form a natural barrier that prevents polluting fertilisers, pesticides and sediment from reaching watercourses by forming a physical barrier, increasing infiltration into the ground and lastly by recycling the fertilisers.
- Store water more quickly in heavy rain than crops or pasture with their longer roots then release it in dry weather by evaporation to help slow the rate of flow in water catchments and reduce flooding.
- Help combat climate change by storing carbon in woody growth, roots, leaf litter and in the organic matter at their base.
- Provide vital connectivity for wildlife and plant species through an increasingly hostile agricultural and urban environment as long as they interconnect across the rural landscape.



The AGMs of the Village Shop and the Village Centre were held together on **26th February**

St Mary Bourne Village Centre AGM

Karen Crofts (Chair & Trustee) and Mel Cavell- Wells, (Treasurer & Trustee) reported on a "*really good year*". Full reports can be read on the Village Centre website - www.stmarybourne.co.uk. Karen thanked everyone involved during the year and particularly thanked the Parish Clerk, Jo Exelby, for being flexible around other hirers of the Club Room, Lorna Hancock for running the Community Library and Claire Gervat for another year successfully managing the Film.

The committee had budgeted conservatively last year. Income from hirings was 19 % up from 2018 and 22% above the budget set for 2019.

Repairs and maintenance had been mainly routine but major expense is anticipated in the future to replace the main hall lighting system. A highlight had been the long-awaited installation of a new oil tank; landscaping around the area was planned. Two live theatre events have been booked for 2020. Oli Madge had joined the committee and other people would be very welcome. There was currently a vacancy for another trustee. One trustee would stand for re-election next year.

Mel Cavell-Wells outlined the figures and stressed that the Village Centre aimed to offer "*fair prices with desirable provision*". The committee would continue to invest in the premises "*which provide an opportunity for the village to come together*" which is the principal aim of the Village Centre's charitable status.

Following government advice to avoid public gatherings, the decision was taken on 17th March to close the Village Centre until further notice.

St Mary Bourne Village Shop CIC AGM

Jo Boxer (Community Interest Company Director & Chair) reported on a "*very successful year*" summarised under three main points:

- 1) Financial Security - The shop was now in profit, debt-free and looked to be sustainable for the long term,
- 2) Services - There had been an expansion of ranges at all price levels. The Post Office was costly to run but was important to very many people.
- 3) People - The shop was a warm, friendly, welcoming place which brought people together. It was an asset for the village. Volunteers would always be welcome and the Shop was grateful for donations during the year from the Flower Show, Jazz, Tennis Tournament, 100 Club, Duck Race raffle, Shop Calendar & proceeds from various garage sales.

She welcomed three new Directors - Mike Crofts, Graham Thorne & Livvy Seys. Fiona Foote was thanked on her retirement and presented with a gift.

Lara Madge (Shop Manager) said she was "*very lucky*" to have such a "*wonderful team*" in Gwen, Gordon & Nadine. The shop had consolidated its strengths during the year. The break from major fundraising had provided the opportunity to evaluate and plan for the future. The new head of the Post Office had agreed an increase of

£5,000 (nearly double) commission for rural post offices next year. There are plans to extend the Shop to create a community café. Reports on progress will be regularly posted on BVS & in Hill & Valley.

John Scott (Treasurer) said that the year's figures were "*spectacularly good*" but there would always be a need to fundraise for major projects. At the end of last year, the shop was debt-free and loans from benefactors had been repaid. Audited accounts would be prepared for the next AGM.

Obituaries

RICHARD (Dick) GEORGE ARCHER

4th June 1925 - 11th February 2020

Dick was the third child and second son of the Rev. George and Griselda Archer. He and his elder brother Harry and sister Elizabeth were later joined by younger sisters Alethea, Pamela and Helen. Dick spent his childhood at Broadstone, Dorset where his father was the vicar, with occasional holidays with cousins or friends.

He went to boarding school aged 8 in Winchester from which he attained a bursary to St Edwards School, Oxford. He enjoyed rowing for the school and also shooting for which he won many awards, but due to lack of finances he was unable to stay on to take university entrance exams.

After working briefly at the Bank of England, in September 1943 he joined an army engineering course in Plymouth and was commissioned into the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME). In 1947 he was sent to the Middle East where he served in Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Palestine, Iraq and Kuwait.

Once demobbed, he got a job as a Mechanical Engineer with British Aluminium specialising in Aluminium Smelter Construction. He stayed with the company for 25 years, working for them in many places, including the Highlands which he loved. After leaving British Aluminium he worked for Wimpey in London and went on business to Malaysia and China for a year or more with return visits home on leave at regular intervals. Dick married Rosemary Dykes in 1956. Their daughters Caroline and Elizabeth were born in 1959 and 1964. They were married for 63 years until Rosemary's death on 19th July 2019.

In 1960, Dick and Rosemary bought a section of Crabbet Park in Sussex where Rosemary founded the Worth Arabian Stud and lived there for 40 years. But they eventually decided to reduce the number of their horses and move to St Mary Bourne to be closer to their daughters who lived nearby. Dick and Rosemary settled happily in South Lodge joined by Elizabeth, where they made many new friends.



Dick was a man of many interests - a keen photographer and reader, a loving father to Caroline & Elizabeth, a devoted and supportive husband to Rosemary, and a hospitable neighbour. He was a regular worshipper at the 8am Sunday morning service at St Peter's until advanced deafness detracted from his enjoyment. This loss of hearing and increasing dementia brought new challenges but he maintained a degree of mobility until his final stroke.

In particular Dick's love of music was immense and formed an important background throughout his life. The music at his thanksgiving service had been specially chosen by him recently.

The family are grateful to all his carers and to the staff of Twyford Ward, Winchester who looked after him in his final hours.

DENIS MAXWELL (Max) ROBINSON

4th February 1946 - 18th February 2020

Max was born in Bristol on 4th February 1946. His father Denis had been an RAF Spitfire pilot and a great-uncle Felix had flown biplanes for the Royal Army Flying Corps, so an interest in flying was instilled in Max from an early age. His mother Inez came from the Highlands of Scotland. A younger brother Barry arrived in 1951. Unfortunately, Max's parents separated in 1954 and both then remarried. His mother moved to France and his father moved to London with his new wife. In 1955 Max got a half-sister Sue in London and a half-brother Ronald in Paris. Max and Barry remained with their father to be educated in Britain.

Max attended the City of London School for boys where he excelled at Physics, other sciences and Maths and enjoyed playing rugby. His flying career started at school where he joined and eventually ran the Combined Cadet Force RAF section and gained his Private Pilot's Licence in 1964. He won a flying scholarship to the College of Air Training, Hamble which he joined in 1965 making lifelong friends. He passed the course, excelling at Astro Navigation which proved to be useful later for his sailing days.

During this time Max had met Diana in London when she was on holiday from boarding school. Her father had plans to retire and move with the family to New Zealand and would not allow them to marry until she was 21. However, Diana had made up her mind that Max was "the one" and she wanted to stay in England so they married in October 1968. Their children Chester & Polly were born in 1973 and 1976. The family moved to Vernham Dean in 1971 then moved away to Woolton Hill in 1976, but they always longed to come back to the valley. After moving to Stoke in 1998 and then briefly to Hurstbourne Tarrant, they finally moved to Ash House, St Mary Bourne.

Max joined BOAC (later British Airways) as a Navigator on 707s in 1967, transferring to 747s (where he was the youngest captain for a while). In 1979 he joined Singapore Airlines for a year (whilst BA laid off aircrew in a recession), but then re-joined BA and remained with them until 2001.

In 1993 Max had the chance to bid for flying Concorde, resulting in taking a pay-cut but it was a unique opportunity. He always enjoyed the challenges of this exciting aeroplane and on the occasional 'charter' flight, if there was a spare seat, he could take family or a friend. There is a rumour that on one such trip, Concorde slightly misrouted back to Heathrow to the excitement of Freddie Wedge and the crowd at the annual Fun Run on St Mary Bourne Rec.

There were many Concorde trips including a Round-the-World trip in 1999 when Max recorded several "World Speed Records". But after the Paris crash in 2000, Concorde's days were numbered and Max had reached BA's then mandatory retirement age of 55.

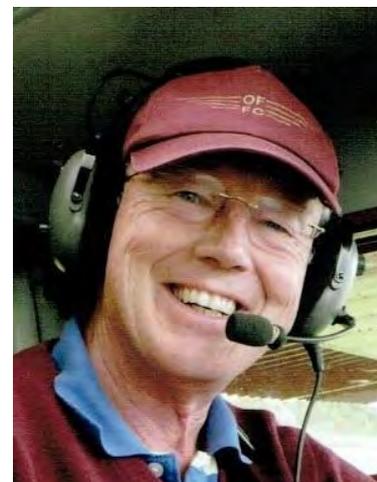
But he wasn't ready for retirement. Max subsequently flew freight 747s for Dragonair and later a private 747 for the retired Emir of Qatar. His commercial flying days came to an end in February 2011 after a remarkable career in aviation and Max sold his Luscombe Silvaire in 2012 when his friend and co-owner John Hunt was no longer able to fly with him.

Max's love of flying had been his all, but he turned his attention to home life in St Mary Bourne and walking his beloved Isla. Locally, he very much enjoyed 'boys' outings with the Bourne Valley Bon Viveurs and sailing was another joy.

Family summer holidays in the past had been spent afloat in a succession of small yachts pottering around the Solent with occasional trips across to France or to the West Country in all weathers. Now Max's astro-navigation skills were useful again when he helped to sail Rob Child's newly-acquired yacht back from Sweden, followed by many more trips on the yacht to Scotland or across the Channel. In 2018 Max joined Rob's crew to bring another yacht from Maine USA across the Atlantic to the UK via Bermuda and the Azores. It was a true challenge but also enormous fun and Max was eternally grateful to have had this opportunity.

Soon afterwards Max was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumour. He stoically underwent surgery followed by radio and chemotherapy treatments and was determined to enjoy life, watch his grandchildren grow up, and continue his daily dog walks. Unfortunately, in October 2019 the tumour was no longer responding to treatment and NHS Palliative care team in Andover took over. Diana and the family are so grateful for all the wonderful support they provided. Max had wanted to celebrate Christmas, go to the Salisbury pantomime on New Year's Eve with his older grandchildren and to enjoy his 74th birthday on 4th February - all of which he achieved. Max spent his last days at home reminiscing on the many exciting places he and Diana had visited in the world.

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LONGPARISH COMMUNITY SUPPORT during the Coronavirus Outbreak

Thank you to everyone for pulling together to weather this outbreak.

The Coronavirus outbreak changes day by day so please follow the current NHS and government guidelines. This is easily accessed via HCC website or ask the Community Support Group to print off relevant advice.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus>

I know people have been checking on their neighbours to see that they are OK and don't need anything. A regular phone call may be just what is needed as well as practical help.

Don't hesitate to contact the Longparish Community Support Group - we have lots of volunteers and good ideas for getting through the next weeks.

The shop too has a good range of all the basics and is nearby.

Tel 07765 467 006 covidhelp@longparish.org.uk

Times like this can be very challenging on our mental health too.

How do you look after your mental wellbeing? From HCC website.

Understandably, you may find that social distancing can be boring or frustrating. You may find your mood and feelings are affected and you may feel low, worried or have problems sleeping and you might miss being outside with other people.

At times like these, it can be easy to fall into unhealthy patterns of behaviour which in turn can make you feel worse. There are simple things you can do that may help you to stay mentally and physically active during this time such as:

- look for ideas of exercises you can do at home on the NHS web site : www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/easy-low-impact-exercises/

- spend time doing things you enjoy – this might include reading, cooking, other indoor hobbies or listening to the radio or watching TV programmes
- try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, drink enough water, exercise regularly, and try to avoid smoking, alcohol and drugs
- keep your windows open to let in fresh air, get some natural sunlight if you can, or get outside into the garden

Longparish Community Support
Local volunteers have offered to help.

CORONAVIRUS
help if you need to stay at home

You may need shopping, a prescription, an errand to run, or even a loo roll. There are local Longparish friends and neighbours who have offered to help out if you need extra support with practical errands or just a regular phone call. If you need help at any point in the next weeks or if you'd like to offer help please

call 07765 467 006 or email covidhelp@longparish.org.uk

Or message the LCA Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/Longparish/

Any personal details will be used solely to provide community support during the pandemic and will be deleted once no longer required.

This volunteer group has no access to emergency healthcare advice or practitioners.

Please follow the published guidelines www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

If you cannot get the advice you need online call 111



Reed Bunting

See birds of

Longparish page 5

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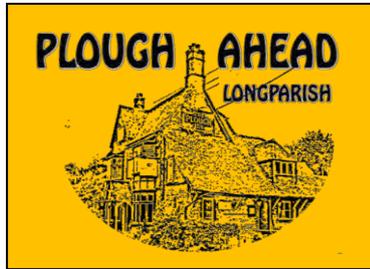
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Plough Ahead

by David Marklew,
member of Plough
Ahead, the steering
group formed to save
The Plough



Share Offer Launch Friday 17th April

It feels bizarre and highly inappropriate writing to update you on our mission to save the Plough amid a global crisis. It does, on the other hand, reflect the importance of community spirit, and, as we've seen for many years, very recently with the 'binTheIncinerator' response, Longparish is blessed with an abundance of that.

Despite the challenges we are all facing, we press on with our quest to buy the Plough as a Longparish owned community facility. For our generation this means reinstating a public house that has been at the heart of our community since the early 1700s. While we cannot predict for future generations, if we succeed, we know it will be secured as an asset serving the community in keeping with the needs of the time.

The plans for a huge incinerator were outside our control; yet together, as a community we thwarted it. Coronavirus is looking like our worst nightmare; however, as a community we can support each other, fight it and work together to defeat it.

The Plough can be something much more within our control. Under the joint ownership of community shareholders it is far more than a pub; it is a historic property and unique facility, a flexible asset, able to serve the changing needs of our community, a commercial business driving community engagement and reinvesting in the community.

We hope and pray that the Coronavirus will be defeated swiftly and that our families, friends and neighbours stay safe. We'll surely need a welcoming local when this is over.

So Longparish, let's come together again and seize the opportunity. Let's buy the Plough and together we can create something special for us and future generations to enjoy.

You can find out more here. www.ploughahead.co.uk

FOLS 100 CLUB MARCH PRIZES

1st Mrs Wills (44) £20
2nd Elizabeth Hanbury-Bateman (64) £10
3rd Robyn Dawson (4) £5

Longparish Parish Council

Report from Meeting Held on 9 March

Planning

The Council had no objection to:

- Erection of carport & veranda at **Foxponds, Longparish**
- Internal alterations to form staircase to cellar at **Longparish House**
- Replacement door, side panels and top light, and alterations to eaves at **Longparish House**

The Plough Inn

Following a briefing at the PC meeting in February from Longparish Community Pub Limited (LCPL), the PC has been researching the procedure for obtaining a Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loan. LCPL is confident that they can fund the purchase of The Plough Inn with a combination of a grant and loan from The Plunkett Foundation, the sale of community shares and, if required, commercial borrowing. If the PC is able to secure and pass on a PWLB loan in place of any commercial loan, LCPL will be able to benefit from a longer loan term and a much lower interest rate. The PC supports the development of The Plough as a community facility and believes that a thriving business will benefit the whole parish. There is intended to be no cost to the PC: LCPL will cover all costs, and there will be no increase to the Precept, as all loan repayments will be met by LCPL, with a year's payments in advance. The PC would consider taking a PWLB loan to support a similar business proposal for other Assets of Community Value within the village should the need arise. PC representatives plan to obtain legal advice available from Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) to confirm that the PC is permitted to "on-lend" to LCPL and to find out how the loan can be secured against the property. LCPL is shortly to publicise their share offer. The PC resolved, in principle, to apply to the PWLB to borrow a maximum of £350k over 50 years on the condition that they are permitted to on-loan the funds to LCPL with a first charge over the property. The PC requires a formal written request from LCPL for the maximum amount required and the term of the loan.

Spring Clean-Up Day

The date of the next Clean-Up Day is Saturday 25 April. Volunteers to help on the day are very welcome, and should make themselves known to James Hillier.

Annual Parish Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will also be the Annual Parish Meeting, starting at 1900 hours. Everyone is welcome to attend to hear about the activities of the Parish Council over the past year, and the activities of other local groups.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 2000 hours on Monday 20 April in the Village Hall. Parish Council meetings are public, and parishioners are also welcome to speak on specific agenda items by prior arrangement with the Chairman – Christian Dryden (Tel: 720398, or email: clerk@longparish.org.uk).

Minutes of previous meetings are available on the current or archived Longparish web-site (longparish.org.uk).

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Age Concern Hampshire is pleased to announce that Longparish now has its very own volunteer Village Agent, **Pam Weale**, who has lived in the area since 2015.

Village Agents are local volunteers who can help people to find the services they need to stay living safely and independently at home. For example, she can provide information about the Blue Badge scheme, local groups, safety in the home, reliable tradespeople or meals on wheels.

You can contact Pam on 07593 439018 or email her using villageagent@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk

The Village Agent Service is delivered by over 50 volunteers across Hampshire, coordinated by Age Concern Hampshire and supported by Hampshire County Council.



For more information, visit our website: www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk

Longparish Little School

We have some new “pets” at Little School. Some frogspawn has already turned into tadpoles and we are now watching to see when the little frogs’ legs appear. In our bird camera box we are watching a Coal tit build a nest, hopefully they will lay some eggs soon. We also created our own pond for our small world frogs to live in. We have made some fir cone bird feeders to hang up in our outside area and we watch to see what birds come and eat from them. We have also just started to look at the changes in the seasons and what happens in spring time.

We had lots of great story book characters come into Little School for World Book day. The children had been taking part in a sponsored read over the half term holiday. Mandy from the library came in to present the certificates to the children.

If you would like to come and join us at Little School we are currently looking for bank staff to cover when staff are absent. Ideally we would be looking for people with an Early Years qualification or maybe someone who would like to undertake a qualification. Please phone the number below if you would like further information. We also have Forest School sessions on a Monday and Wednesday mornings. We are always keen for extra helpers on these sessions, so if you are interested please do contact us.

We are now enrolling children from September so if you would like to come and look around please phone 01264 720455.

NOT WANTED ON VERGE ALIEN INVASION REPULSED

By Henry Yelf

Fresh from beating off the advance of the Wheelabrators, a fresh alien invasion of Longparish has been sent packing. Hordes of galanthus woronowii - four thousand of them –

It all started innocently when Cathy Yelf decided the village needed some late winter cheer with a mass display of snowdrops. A team of volunteers, supported by the LCA and Parish Council, set about planting snowdrops “in the green” last spring and then bulbs in the autumn, on verges and under hedgerows throughout the village.

The “in the green” snowdrops were spot on. It was only when the bulb-grown plants emerged that all became clear. They were not the native variety which had been requested, but instead Turkish intruders. The broader leaved galanthus woronowii snowdrops are very different from the traditional galanthus nivalis variety. HORRIFIED, Cathy rang the supplier. HORRIFIED, the supplier contacted the grower. HORRIFIED, the grower immediately came clean and replaced the aliens with the correct plants. Money was also forthcoming to pay for replacing the unwelcome visitors with the fresh plants. That job is being done by Paul Knipe and his team.

An extra 3,000 snowdrops were also ordered and Cathy is looking for volunteers to help plant them. Contact her at cathy.yelf@sky.com or 07775 683452. Meanwhile lessons have been learned. The supplier has developed what he calls a “plant passport system” to prevent the same mistake happening again. If you fancy playing host to the Turkish variety to plant in the privacy of your own garden, about 4000 are available at 10p each (or offers). Any money raised will go towards supporting the pocket nature reserve in the village that Paul Knipe also cares for.



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Galanthus Nivalis



Alien Snowdrops
Galanthus Woronowii



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LCA - L2SOTM - The Longparish Second Sunday of the Month handicap race

The rain held off for the March race and conditions were good. We welcomed new runner Jon Woods and welcomed back Wayne Summers and Steve Davis after long absences.

Monty Lawson broke his handicap by nearly five minutes to become our Rising Star. Second home and Most Improved Man was Dennis Doney with a welcome return to form. Third home was Wendy Beveridge who became our Most Improved Woman for a record-breaking 19th time. Wendy is a steady runner but the trophy goes to the most improved, not the fastest. That's the joy of a handicap event. So please don't feel that you have to be a highly trained athlete to join us. All abilities are very welcome.

Monty recorded his best time ever as did Wayne and Andrew Jones. Well done all!



Wendy shows off the trophy

Thanks very much to everyone who helped.

We are sorry that the April L2SOTM is cancelled because of government advice on the coronavirus. But please keep running if you can; it's good for your health, both physical and mental.

You can see the full results and photos and find more information in the L2SOTM area of the Longparish website <http://archive.longparish.org.uk/l2sotm/>



Longparish Cricket Club

As per the recent ECB announcement, all recreational cricket is to be suspended indefinitely due to coronavirus.

LCC will post on its website when training and matches will resume. It is hoped that the nets will be put up at the beginning of April and will then be available to members for individual practice. The Committee are also very pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Benzing as Longparish CC's new Chairman and Treasurer. Mark has some great ideas for the development of the club within the community of Longparish and is hoping to secure outside funding to build new practice nets at the ground in the very near future.

We hope that there will still be some cricket played this summer - so if you or your children are interested in playing for the club please email Justin Jackman at jackmanjustin@aol.com

Raymond Brown A303 Enviropark

A Parish Councillor attended the liaison meeting in March with Raymond Brown/Fortis/Collard Group. No incidents had been reported by residents in the last six months although one was made known to the Parish Council after the event. Please contact the PC for minutes of the meeting.

Should residents have any queries regarding the Raymond Brown A303 Enviropark, Collard Group or Fortis operations, please do not hesitate to contact the following:

Collard Group (Materials Recovery Facility)

T: 01264 720257

E: waste.solutions@rcollard.com

Fortis IBA Ltd (IBA Processing Facility)

T: 023 8027 3750

E: martyn.jones@fortisiba.com

The quicker they are made aware of a problem, the quicker it can be addressed.

You should also inform The Environmental Protection Team so that a record of incidents can be kept by TVBC.

Tel: 01264 368000

Email: envhealth@testvalley.gov.uk

BUSTER – RIP

The black and white village cat which won the hearts of a generation of Longparish villagers, has been commemorated with a carving to remember him by. Owned by Andrea and Martin Hulme, Buster was soon adopted by the Little School and was often found having forty winks on his very own chair. He appeared in robust health on the day he died at the age of 10. After his regular patrol and visit to school, Buster wandered home to Shallow Waters where he had an embolism and sadly had to be put to sleep.

A collection raised over £300 to pay for the sculpture which was unveiled at the Christmas Fayre. It sits on a bench outside Longparish school, with a plaque reading, "In loving memory of Buster. Our beloved village cat. Always in our hearts and forever in our thoughts" With the carving keeping his memory alive as the years pass Buster is likely to become firmly established as part of Longparish folklore.



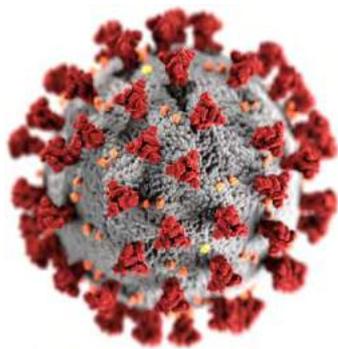
LONGPARISH GIN WINS TOP PRIZE



Many congratulations to Jonathan and Sarah Nelson for scooping the top prize for their London gin distilled here at their River Test Distillery in Southside Road



Sarah Nelson told us: Over 900+ worldwide gins entered this year's 'World Gin Awards 2020' with 'London Dry' being the biggest and most prestigious of all the categories - 40 judges were involved with blind tasting samples over a couple of months. For England, there were 6 Bronze medals awarded (Winchester Dry Gin won a Bronze), 6 Silver, 4 Gold and 1 top prize of 'Best' which we won. We are still pinching ourselves! <https://rivertestdistillery.co.uk/>



CORONA VIRUS WREAKS HAVOC WITH LONGPARISH EVENTS

The organisers very much regret having to cancel or suspend the following events in the village until further notice

- | | |
|--|---|
| All cricket | Pints of view |
| Film nights | Toddler Group |
| Coffee mornings | Smooth Movers |
| Lunch Club and Litter Picking | Cubs |
| L2SOTM | Gardening Club |
| All services in church except sparsely attended weddings and funerals | Craft Club |
| FOLS May Fayre 16th May | Karate |
| Longparish Choir VE Day Concert Sat 9th May | Metta Yoga |
| | Fit Club and Core Stability |
| | Pilates Chloe is starting on-line classes for all ages and ability including elderly. Phone 07866 582882 or email chloe@keepmovingpilates.co.uk |

BIRDS OF LONGPARISH by Chris Bowman

REED BUNTING - picture page 1

I thought I would tell you about the Reed Bunting. At the time of writing this one has been on my feeders for two weeks. They are river birds so you would only expect one to come to the feeders in very cold weather. I think it must visit other bird feeders in North Acre.

It's slightly larger than a house sparrow. The male has a black head, broad white collar and white stripes from its black beak to the collar. Its back is very similar to a sparrow only brighter, white buff chest with a few brown stripes.

They start nesting in early May, 1-2 broods. The nest is well hidden in sedge tussocks, dead rushes, reeds by water, made from sedge, grasses and other waterside plants and lined with finer plant material, hair and feathers.

4-5 eggs are laid. They are very pale purplish and lilac-grey, with scrawls, spots and blotches of brownish black. Incubated for 12-15 days. The chicks fledge in 3-5 days before they can fly. The less time they are in the nest the less chance of predation. Their food is mostly seeds and plant material.

By the time you read this it will only be two weeks before the first swallows arrive.

Prayer list in St Nicholas St Nicholas church is open every day until dusk and is a lovely, tranquil place to spend a quiet moment and say a prayer in these troubled times. There is a prayer list at the back of church and anyone can add the name of a friend or relative who is ill or experiencing a difficult situation. You can just add a Christian name and don't need to include anything about their situation although you can if you like.

In normal times the names are included in the prayers during a church service, but now there will be some people in the congregation who will include them in their personal prayers.



THE HOSPITAL OF ST CROSS and Almshouse of Noble Poverty



The Reverend Terry Hemming installed as the New Master

St Cross (officially The Hospital of St Cross and Almshouse of Noble Poverty) in Winchester was founded by Bishop Henry of Blois in 1132, making it the oldest almshouse in England still in use for its original purpose and arguably the oldest charity in the country. The principal activity of the Hospital continues to be the provision of individual, private apartments for a living community of about twenty-five elderly men. Known as 'Brothers' they wear black or red gowns and a trencher hat for daily church and other formal occasions.

The installation service was held at 3.00pm on Sunday 8th March. It was led by the Right Reverend David Williams, Bishop of Basingstoke and attended by many local clergy and dignitaries and numerous former parishioners of Terry's in Longparish, St Mary Bourne and Hurstbourne Priors.



L to R: Ruth Hemming, Right Rev David Williams Bishop of Basingstoke, Terry Hemming, Mr William Corbett Chairman of the Trustees of St Cross

The service, in the wonderful Norman church of St Cross, was a feast of beautiful music and dignified liturgy. Terry was required to make a 'Declaration and take the Oaths required by Law.'

The Declaration of Assent: I, Terry Edward Hemming do so affirm and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness; and in public prayer and administration of the sacraments, I will use only the forms of service which are authorized or allowed by Canon. There followed two further oaths: of Allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen and of Canonical Obedience to the Bishop of Winchester

Terry gave a short address introducing himself in which he described his very close former association with St Cross. His father had sung in the choir there and Terry was a schoolboy at St Faith's school just down the road. He promised to faithfully serve the 25 brothers of St Cross Hospital and the Almshouse of Noble Poverty.

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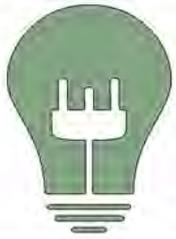
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WEATHER – FEBRUARY 2020

Total rainfall for month	184mm	7.24in
It rained on	24 days !!	
Rainfall same month last year	82mm	3.22in
Total for 2020	309mm	12.16in
Total for 2019	113mm	4.44in
Max temp (on 23 rd)	15C	59F
Min temp (on 6 th)	-1C	30F

February is usually one of the driest months, but not this year! The Met Office says that February 2020 was the wettest February ever....there's a surprise! Our worst day for rainfall was the 16th when we had 38mm.

Our total rainfall for this year is nearly 8ins up in the first two months.

Last February, we saw the hottest winter day ever, 20.3C (69F).

John Smail

WORD OF THE MONTH

PERISTERONIC - pertaining to or resembling pigeons. This adjective was invented in the 19th Century from the Greek *peristera* and features in the name of the National Peristeronic Society (for pigeon-fanciers). However, yet again I will be discouraging them nesting on the wisteria outside the bedroom window!

Barbara Carrodus

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The Trustees of Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall are looking for new members to join the Committee. The team meet three times a year and take it in turns to open the hall for hirers when needed.

If you would be interested in being involved with the running of this valuable village amenity please contact Caroline Glover on 01256 893550.

HILL AND VALLEY – MAY ISSUE

With so many events being cancelled, your articles for next month's pages of the Hill and Valley are especially welcome. Please send me your contributions by Wednesday, 15th April.

Fenella Williams

CHURCH AND VILLAGE CLEAN UP

On a bright and sunny Saturday morning a wonderful team of residents gathered at the Pavilion for the Annual village and church clean up. It was a great turnout with many eager hands – some quite small – working very hard to get everything looking lovely.

A huge bonfire was lit and fed by an eager bunch of children clearing up after all the tree clearance in the

graveyard, very closely supervised by Ed. Fenella headed up a fantastic team of polishers and dusters in the church and others braved the highways to clear up the verges.



The littlest helper



Super heroes to the rescue

In all 18 sacks of rubbish were gathered. It appears the local litter bugs beverages of choice are Red Bull or takeaway coffee. This year we even found a bathroom sink.... Luckily this year chocolate mini eggs and hot chocolate

joined the brownies and coffee so all ages of helpers were happy. Very many thanks to everyone who turned out.



A well earned break!

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A SPECIAL CELEBRATION



At the Family Communion service on 1st March, we celebrated 80 years of worship at St Andrews for Gina Yates who moved here with her parents on 1st March 1940.

Thank you

Thank you to the Churchwardens, PCC, Rev'd Terry Hemming and to everyone at the service celebrating my 80 years of attending St Andrew's Church on 1st March.

A day of many memories, made possible by dear friends giving me lifts from Andover to services and other events since the death of my husband Ken, (a former churchwarden) in 2005. To them I am truly grateful.

With my thanks, my love and may God bless you all.

Gina Yates



Meet Holly, she is about 14 years old and in good



health for her age. Her owner is sadly in hospital so unable to keep her. She is very friendly and loves attention. We feel at her age she would be more suited to a quiet household with no dogs or young children. Snowy is still looking for his

forever home and has now had lots of dental work done so we're hopeful he'll find a new home soon.

We have a coffee morning coming up on Saturday 2nd May at Cholderton Village Hall, use the postcode SP4 0DN to find us. This will run from 10am -12noon, we will have plenty of cake on offer as

well as a raffle and a bric-a-brac sale. Please come along to join us and help us to raise money for the cats in our care. There will be free parking opposite the hall, on the grassed area behind the pub car park.

For all homing, fund raising and volunteer enquiries; Telephone: 0345 260 1501 or

Email: sylvia.cp@outlook.com

To view all cats currently up for adoption visit www.andover.cats.org.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Given the current Coronavirus outbreak Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Anyone who wishes to bring a matter to the attention of the Parish Council during this time should contact either the Clerk, Richard Waterman on richard.waterman150@btinternet.com or the Chairman, Clare Read on clareread@aol.com

The Parish Council will still be considering planning applications and matters affecting the Parish but by electronic means.

*Richard Waterman,
Clerk to Hurstbourne Priors PC*

ANDOVER FOODBANK

Thank you for all your generous donations. They are, as always, greatly appreciated.

During the current Coronavirus crisis its "Business As Usual" at the Andover Foodbank and we will endeavour to keep that situation for as long as we are able to. As you can imagine, demands on the foodbank are increasing dramatically and so we are in need of your donations as much as ever.

This week we are in need of the following items:-

FOOD ITEMS

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HELPING HANDS

We hope that everyone has heard about the Hurstbourne Priors Helping Hands who are here to help anyone who is needing support during this unprecedented Coronavirus situation.

Full details have been circulated via the village email group but anyone wanting more information can contact either Clare Read on 07711 917375 and clareread@aol.com or Ann Orr on 01256 895983 and annjorr@btinternet.com

We have a team of lovely helpers to assist with shopping, collecting prescriptions, basic IT support, and a whole host of other things. All available to those who are self isolating, anxious about going out or just in need of a bit of help during this time. If anyone would like to offer help and support do please also get in touch.

In the meantime for those wishing to take some exercise and have lost their village map showing the footpaths please contact Andy Milne on amilne@acsltd.plus.com with your address and he will pop one through your letterbox.

As you will see in this issue the May Fair has been cancelled but Precelly is pushing on with her wonderful array of plants and vegetables so, if you are able, get into the garden and plan a wonderful summer display.

The church will be open during the day for those wishing to spend some quiet reflective time there.

Remember, we are all in this together and no one is alone.

VILLAGE EVENTS HIT BY THE CORONAVIRUS

It is with great regret that the organisers have had to cancel or suspend the following events due to the coronavirus:

- Ladies Coffee Morning
- Parish Council Meetings
- 19th April – Vox Cantab Concert
- 3rd May – May Fair
- 8th May - Longparish Choir VE Day Concert

All Church services are suspended, except weddings and funerals with very limited attendance. The Church will be open during the day for prayer and reflection.

MAY FAIR 2020



It is with great sadness that the May Fair organising team have to announce that this year's May Fair has been cancelled due to the outbreak of Coronavirus. The restrictions on gatherings of people make it impossible to arrange and the health and well being of our community and everyone taking part must come first.

However, the good news is that Precelly has started the propagation of plants and vegetables and we will still be holding a plant sale at some stage in May. Please keep your eyes out for more details in Hill & Valley, on the village web site and via the village email as to how we are going to manage this.

In the meantime please make a note that next year's May Fair will be held on Monday 3rd May, 2021

SAFARI SUPPER

In the early evening of Saturday 8th March people passing through the village may have been surprised to see coloured glo-sticks hanging on gates and doors. Then at 6.20 or so, they would have noticed an unusual volume to traffic moving sedately up and down the village. The annual Hurstbourne Priors Safari Supper was getting under way as everyone taking part headed off to their first destinations for drinks and nibbles.

It is something of a mystery tour as nobody knows where their journey will take them when they set off.

At the end of each course, the hosts open the envelope which reveals where people are going for their next course until after pudding when we all gather in the Village Hall to share our evening's adventures.

A huge thank you goes to Ann and Crispin Orr and Mandy and Martin Briant-Evans for organising and co-ordinating a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

APRIL FOOLS DAY

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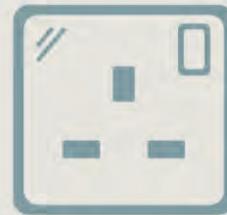
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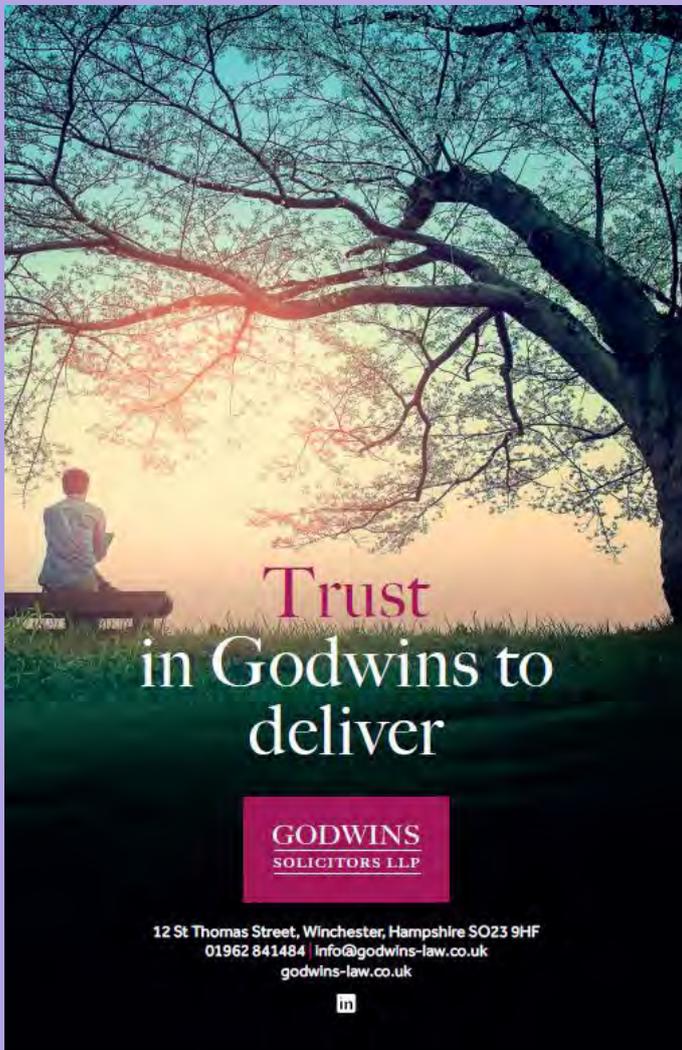
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Saying goodbye to Craig and Jane



On Sunday, 15th March a large congregation gathered in St Andrew's for Craig's last service in the Benefice before he and Jane move to their new benefice in Yorkshire.

Eleven bellringers representing all three towers in the Benefice (Longparish, Hurstbourne Priors and St Mary Bourne) rang before the service.

We were joined by Longparish Choir who sang during the service with a solo from Susie Urquhart. Finally, everyone joined in a rousing chorus of "Ilkla Moor Baht 'at" to send Craig and Jane on their way to Yorkshire.

As the lunch that we had originally planned to hold after the service had to be cancelled, the actual goodbyes were said in church. Sadly, John Woodcock, Patron of Longparish could not be with us, but he sent a speech which was read by Georgi Leask.



On behalf of the Benefice, Eve Lind-Smith presented Craig and Jane with gifts: a stole with a design of fish and water for Craig as a reminder of the Bright Waters Benefice and for Jane, an embossed silk velvet scarf from the Silk Mill.

We say goodbye to Craig and Jane with our grateful thanks for their love and care for us during their ministry here and offer our best wishes to them in their new benefice.



Steam and Speed

On a chilly afternoon on 17th December, 10 year old Rosie Macmillan from Apsley Estate was standing in Wellington boots in the chalk stream at Chapmansford Farm (with kind permission from the Ekins). Trying not to get wet in the icy water, she was waiting for the Duchess of Sutherland steam train to cross the viaduct so that she could take a photo to for her art portfolio project. Eventually the delayed train hurtled by and Rosie took her shots.

Also taking photos that day was Press Association photographer, Andrew Matthews whose camera had a far greater zoom. He generously sent Rosie an image that she could work from. Here you can see Rosie and her acrylic painting on canvas which she completed on 5th January.





The 'Dutchess of Sutherland' crossing the viaduct inspired 10 year old Rosie Macmillan - see the full story on Hurstbourne Priors page 4, inside back cover.

LMS Princess Coronation Class 46233 Duchess of Sutherland, built in 1938 for the London, Midland and Scottish Railway (LMS) for its express passenger services, including the Royal Scot service between London and Glasgow. Withdrawn by British Railways in 1964, the locomotive was acquired in 1996 by The Princess Royal Class Locomotive Trust. In 2001, 46233 was restored to mainline operating condition and since then has been a regular performer on the national network. In March 2012, 46233 was rolled out in 'authentic (Brunswick) green' livery, as used by British Railways during the early 1950s. In September 2018, the engine regained its original number '6233' and LMS 'Crimson Lake' livery to mark its 80th birthday.

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If you have a photograph that could be used for the front cover of Hill & Valley, please send it to one of the editors listed below. Please send any contributions in portrait and jpg format if possible.

Front cover photograph: *Michael Widén*

The Village Halls are closed until further notice. More information from the contacts listed below.

Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall: Mrs Anne Yeaman, e: hbpvillagehall@live.co.uk

Longparish Village Hall: Mrs Jacqui Healey, ☎ 07748 322533, e: villagehall@longparish.org.uk

Longparish Community Hall: During school open hours, Mrs Christine Leach ☎ 01264 720317

St Mary Bourne Village Centre: Miss Angela Cook, ☎ 01264 738158, e: smbvillagecentre@btinternet.com

Copy date for the May 2020 edition: Wednesday 15th April 2020

Your contributions - letters, pictures, comments or articles are always welcome. Contact your parish editor by the copy date.

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* Hill & Valley pages on-line

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Parish Council: www.hurstbournepriors-pc.org.uk *

Longparish:
Parish Council: www.longparish.org.uk *

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