

Issue No. 249

Hill & Valley

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

50p

June 2021



Dear Friends,

I do hope that as lockdown eases, you can find time to safely be with family and friends as the weather gets better and enjoy the outdoors. I believe April and May were just about the coldest and wettest since records began!

Last month the world wide Church celebrated the day of Pentecost; Pentecost celebrates the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church. The New Testament Greek words for Holy Spirit are also translated as 'guide' and 'comforter', all aspects of the Trinity that fills our hearts with hope and strength for today and the future. When we root our day in God's presence we take on a new perspective, this includes knowing God as 'Father', something which the Reverend Richard Sutcliffe profoundly explores below.

The Reverend David Roche
*Area Dean and Priest in charge,
All Hallows, Whitchurch with Tufton and Litchfield*

Fathers' Day this year is celebrated on the 20th June.

When Swee and I were preparing to welcome our adopted son, I remember wondering if Mac would call me Dad - after all he already had someone he knew as Dad. I kidded myself that I wouldn't mind what I was called, but that was a lie. I was desperate to be a father and to have someone bless me with that name.

Of course, Mac began calling us Mum and Dad as soon as he moved in with us - no more Richard and Swee. Calling us Mum and Dad was something that he wanted as much as we did. It gave him a feeling of comfort and security.

I know that there are many people that have had toxic and destructive examples of fathers - but real fatherhood is not like that. At its heart is the concept of unconditional love, and for me the ultimate need to protect and keep my son safe, and provide the things he needed to be happy.

In Christianity, our description of God as Father is key to our understanding of that part of the Trinity. And where I think when I was younger, I might have felt it easier to relate to God as Son, as human and walking alongside us; now as I have experienced fatherhood, it has given me a better understanding of our relationship of God as Father. I understand more the intimacy of being one of God's adopted children. I understand more his desire to protect us and love us - but also the need to let us go and make their own choices, hoping his love will help us to make the right choices in our own lives.

So let's adopt this secular celebration of Fathers' Day, and celebrate all that is good about fatherhood. Let's celebrate the positivity of that particular parenting role - as a complement to motherhood - seeing those aspects of God as Father as our ultimate role model.

Happy Fathers' Day!

Rev. Richard Sutcliffe
St Mary Bourne

Services in the Parish Churches

June 2021

Our churches are open for services. **But the times may be different from previous years, so please check.**

Because of the need for safety for all in our Benefice, each week we will have an 11.00am Zoom service - see * below. If you are in a vulnerable category or are unsure, please stay safe, stay at home and come to Zoom, at least for a little while. All Zoom details (incl. the link) are available from the Church wardens or Dodie Marsden.

June 6th - Trinity 1

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	9.30am	Family Communion
St Nicholas', Longparish	11.00am	Morning Prayer
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	11.00am	Family Communion
St James', Woodcott	no service	
* Home Zoom service at 11.00am		

June 13th - Trinity 2

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	6.00pm	Evensong
St Nicholas', Longparish	11.00am	Morning Prayer
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.30am	Family Service
St James', Woodcott	9.30am	Holy Communion
* Home Zoom service at 11.00am		

June 20th - Trinity 3 *Father's Day*

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	11.00am	Holy Communion
St Nicholas', Longparish	9.30am	Morning prayer
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.30am	Morning Prayer
St James', Woodcott	no service	
* Home Zoom service at 11.00am		

June 27th - Trinity 4

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	11.00am	All Age worship
St Nicholas', Longparish	9.30am	Holy Communion
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	3.30pm	Confirmation service
St James', Woodcott	9.30am	Matins
* Home Zoom service at 11.00am		



Benefice Contacts during the interregnum period:

For all enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals in any of the parish churches, please contact Karen in the Benefice Office ☎ 01264 738 308 or email: office.brightwaters@btinternet.com

If you wish to contact the Revd Canon Dodie Marsden, please call ☎ 01264 738 211 or email: dodie.marsden@gmail.com

If you are unable to contact Dodie, in an emergency, please call ☎ 01264 720 215 or ☎ 01264 738 489

• 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 or email: rachel.borgars@methodist.org.uk

From the Church Registers

Funerals

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

We would like to record the deaths of:

Richard Boulstridge (husband of Ursula) who died on 11th May aged 83

Barbara (Barbie) Taylor (mother of Quiller) who died on 6th May 2021 aged 93

Thomas Hiscocks (husband of Ruth) who died on 30th April aged 93

Pamela McNiven Young (mother of Simon) who died on 12th April aged 95

Phyllis Philips (mother of Derek, Trevor and Roy) who died on 29th March aged 97

Pat Woodward (father of Sarah) who died on 21st March aged 83.

Gerald (Gerry) Sutton

1944 - 2021

Passed away on the 9th of May, from recurring brain tumours, with his wife Carolann by his side. Gerry lived on the Central Coast N.S.W. Australia. He was the younger son of long-term resident, the late Marjorie Sutton of St Mary Bourne (Trestan Cottage). Gerry and his wife enjoyed time there and made many special friends.



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I have to say, I'm feeling a bit of an anti-climax to coming out of lockdown. As I write this, the weather is still very wet, yet sprinkled with the odd burst of warm sunshine which does enough to make us remember what summer is like just before the next downpour. Going to the pub is lovely, but it still feels a little forced... sitting down at one table and not being able to move. The wearing of masks is getting very boring and at the end of a shift at the shop it is all I can do, to rip it from my face in pure relief.

We haven't planned to go abroad for the uncertainty, and so the summer, whilst I am sure will be full of fun and laughter, lacks the excitement of discovering you can't find your passport an hour before you leave for the airport and the whiff of a new, hotter country as soon as you step out of the aircraft door. It also means that I am insanely jealous of anyone who is going further than Cornwall on their holidays. I feel like a spoilt child for feeling this way and we, of course, have so much to be thankful for but I do feel the need to really let rip this summer... to make the most of every spare moment. BBQ as much as possible, join friends for sundowners in the early evening sunshine and to treat my loved ones (and myself) a little more than I would otherwise.

I plan to do this mainly by denying us nothing.... An ice lolly on a Monday morning, if we so wish; beautiful rump steak from Bere Mill for the BBQ; a lovely Lavender Blue cake for Saturday tea; scrummy olives with pale Rose wine; cold beers; fresh asparagus and strawberries from the Pick Your Own... all of these (and you know where I'm going with this don't you?!) can be gotten from your lovely, friendly village shop!

So, if you're feeling like a treat and can't muster the energy or inclination to go very far, pop in and see us. We really do have lovely things as well as all the basics you need to enjoy your summer... and if you've managed to book a holiday abroad, I hope you have a lovely time... I really do!

Lara and the Team x

.....



Open Garden

Down Farm House garden - North of Whitchurch - **RG28 7FB** - will be open for the National Garden Scheme charities on **Sunday 6th June** from **2 to 5pm**. Home-made teas, pond dipping for the children and plant sale. Entry **£5** for adults, children under 12 **free**. Yellow signs from the viaduct cross roads.

.....



Coffee at The George Inn

All ages are welcome again, from all the villages, to a social coffee morning at **The George Inn** St Mary Bourne on the second Tuesday of the month, starting **Tuesday 8th June** at **10.30am**. £2.50 for coffee and biscuits - For more information contact Win Coventry - ☎ 01264 738 199.

SMB

ST MARY BOURNE VILLAGE SHOP

& post office

Annual General Meeting

St Mary Bourne Village Shop will be holding their AGM on **Tuesday 29th June**

Village Centre Main Hall - 7pm

May 2021 - 1☺☺ Club Draw:

£50 - M & E Maclay	£20 - M Crofts
£20 - H Wurzer	£10 - A & M Stanes

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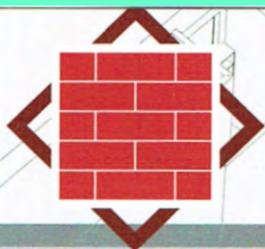
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Your Parish Council

Dates for Full Parish Council Meetings

- Tuesday 22nd June
- Tuesday 20th July
- Tuesday 17th August
- Tuesday 21st September
- Tuesday 19th October
- Tuesday 23rd November
- Tuesday 21st December
- Tuesday 18th January 22
- Tuesday 22nd February 22
- Tuesday 22nd March 22

Summary Report - Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 18th May 2021

The May parish council meeting will be covered in the July/August edition of Hill & Valley

All minutes and reports can be viewed at
www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk

Details of all Planning Applications for the Parish can be accessed on the B&DBC website:
www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning or by contacting the Parish Council Clerk ☎ 01264 738 039

Newly registered Planning Applications June 2021

Creation of outdoor swimming pool and erection of pool house - **Stoke House, Windmill Lane** - 21/01368/HSE - 19 April 2021

Replace existing aluminium windows, add canopy and kitchen extension - **Portway, Church Street** - 21/01203/HSE - 17 May 2021

Recent Local Planning Authority Decisions

• Roadside of property - removing small, overhanging, dead and dangerous trees. Removal of overhanging limb on sycamore close to house Paddock roadside. Removal of any broken/hanging/dead branches make area safe. Paddock Side - removal of approx. 10 small ash trees along the roadside, all either dead/dangerous/dying. Reduction of 3 ash and sycamore along paddock edge by 2/3 leaving a finished height of 10m and spread of 7m. 1.5m reduction of over-extended sycamore limb over the house - **1 Springhill** - T/00156/21/TCA - **raise no objection**

• Erection of two storey side extension including alterations to roof following demolition of existing single storey side extension, gabled roof and garage - **Beech House, St Mary Bourne** - 21/00779/HSE - **granted**

• Installation of replacement windows and doors - **6 Applegate** - 21/00275/HSE - 15 February 2021 - **granted**

• Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding; erection of a replacement dwelling - **The Cottage, Gangbridge House** - 20/03470/FUL - **application withdrawn**



The Community Library - Club Room
Saturday mornings between 10.30 and 12.30

'Watercress and Winterbournes' Your Brilliant Local Volunteers

You've probably heard of the partnership scheme focused on the Bourne Rivulet and other local chalk streams, Watercress and Winterbournes. But you may not know that the scheme would be impossible without our amazing volunteers – the Chalk Stream Champions. By giving us their time, knowledge, and passion, these special community members enable us to protect our precious streams. Let's meet a few in your area!

Sarah, Stoke

"I have lived in Stoke for 10 years and we are fortunate to have the Bourne Rivulet flowing along the bottom of our garden. I first got involved through the Flood & Emergency Group, working on flood mitigation and riverbank restoration, before becoming a volunteer with *Watercress and Winterbournes*.

I now carry out monthly invertebrate sampling at various sites and have also participated in surveys for water chemistry and non-native invasive plant species. The sheer diversity of invertebrate life in our chalk stream is astounding and I hope to get better at identifying the various riverfly larvae to species level. Standing in a chalk stream in waders on a sunny day is certainly one of life's pleasures!"

Nigel, Stoke

"We live at the Stoke end of Gangbridge Lane and are lucky to have the Bourne Rivulet run through our garden and along the side of our field, which is an old water meadow.

My daughter Charlotte lives in London but comes down to help me conduct riverfly surveys. Additionally, we will open our garden and field to two *Watercress and Winterbournes* groups in the summer.

The Bourne Rivulet is beautiful, especially at this time of year, and we are excited to be involved in various projects within the scheme. We hope to learn more about winterbournes, the history of ours, and how to conserve it for future generations."

We have big plans for protecting our chalk streams, but we need passionate volunteers like Sarah, Nigel, and Charlotte to make them happen. Becoming a Chalk Stream Champion is a great way to support our work, gain new skills, and meet likeminded nature lovers.

The time commitment is flexible, and you'll receive training to ensure you get the most from your time with us. However, you join in, you'll have the support of the scheme team, the partners, and a welcoming volunteer community. To find out more about getting involved visit

www.hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes/volunteering



Maggie Shelton with Watercress and Winterbournes volunteers

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Our UK peatlands store an amazing 3.2 billion tonnes of carbon. When considered globally, this is even more impressive, as they cover just 3% of land area, but in that pack 30% of all soil carbon! In a healthy state, they are beautiful, dramatic landscapes, home to rare and endangered wildlife such as large heath butterflies and wading birds like dunlin. They help to alleviate flooding by slowing the flow of water, and filtering it, making it cleaner when it comes to our water processing plants. 70% of our drinking water comes from upland peat areas according to the Wildlife Trust.



UK peatlands store three times as much carbon as its forests, but over 80% of the UK's peatlands are damaged and 94% of lowland peat areas. When damaged, the peat becomes dried and exposed to the elements, and instead of storing and taking up carbon they emit it back into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide. Peat forms at an incredibly slow rate, accumulating on average only 1mm a year - that means it takes 1,000 years for one meter of peat to form. The stores of carbon in our peatlands need careful long-term management. This will keep the existing carbon locked up in the ground and with careful peatland restoration work lead to the capture of more carbon as well as a reduction in flooding, cleaner water and more places for wildlife to thrive.



The main damage in the past occurred because of the drainage of peatlands in an attempt to make them more productive for agriculture and for commercial forest planting in places like northern Scotland. Peat is still damaged by overgrazing and fires caused by barbeques or unregulated heather burning. Gardeners are one of the main culprits these days as peat has been a major ingredient of the compost used in gardening for many years. This peat is dug out of these wild places, damaging some of our last remaining peatlands and we now even import peat from pristine areas of Eastern Europe to supply our leisure habits.

How you can help. Check all purchases for specifically labelled peat free compost and ask for peat free repeatedly until stores change. Even 'Low peat' products, those that claim to be from 'sustainable sources' and the soil in potted plants can still contain a high proportion of peat. The Wildlife Trust has done some research to help you and I have phoned all the local suppliers. The best ones are in bold. All products made by **Melcourt and Dalefoot are peat free** and all **RHS and Coop composts** are as well. **Dobbies and Travis Perkins are 90%** peat free, **Hilliers, Lidl, Homebase, Asda and B&Q stock peat free brands** and plan to go peat free within a couple of years. Locally **Yew Tree Nursery** near Highclere stocks several brands while Rosebourne and Vigo Road have one if available. Tesco's was more vague and amazingly Waitrose admitted they had no plans to go peat free. Our

local **Apsley farms** soil improver/mulch is both peat free and organic, but Penwood Nursery has no peat free options. Peat is also used for many of our potted plants and shrubs and beware the soil pellets in gift boxes that need water to rehydrate them. **B&Q, Dobbies, the Blue Diamond group of garden centres, Hilliers and Asda** stock ranges of plants grown without using peat. Locally **Hardys** near Overton has only peat free plants.

Alternatively sterilising your own damp compost for delicate seeds etc. is possible. Place some in a baking tray covered in foil at 80 degrees centigrade for half an hour. Do not go above 90 degrees as this kills off the good bacteria. Apparently, it can be a bit smelly while cooking!



St Mary Bourne & District Flower Show and Fête 2021



The Committee is delighted to confirm that the 74th Annual Flower Show & Fête will return in full this year at the Recreation Ground in St Mary Bourne on



Saturday 24th July - 12.30 to 3.30PM

There are many classes to enter for both adults and children. So do look at the full **list of classes** which can be entered online. Bring along your flowers, vegetables, fruit, crafts, cakes, jams, art, photography and much, much more! Lots of cups and prizes to be won.

Also, an all-day BBQ run by the famous 3 Amigo's, Pimm's Bar, Beer Tent, Ice Cream van and afternoon tea served in the Village Centre Main Hall.

Stalls run by local businesses plus Homes & Garden, Books, Cakes, Toys and Plants to be bought.

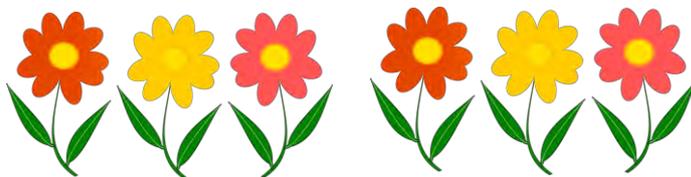
Traditional fête activities include:

- **Dog Show** - *will your pooch be the cutest!?*
- **Tug of War** - *see if you can beat the firemen!*
 - Test Valley Brass Band • Fire Engine
 - Welly wanging • Plate smashing
 - Penalty shootout • Coconut shy
 - Bottle Stall • Bouncy Castle
 - Auction • Bric a Brac • Whisky draw



Brilliant **raffle prizes** including the chance to win a **hot air balloon ride!**

So, put the date in your diary and get growing. We hope you will support the village by bringing all your friends and family along too. It's good to be back!



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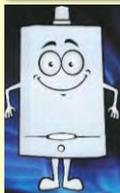
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Star Gazing Highlights in June



10 June - New Moon

- moon will be located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun and will not be visible in the night sky. Best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters as no moonlight to interfere.

10 June - Annular Solar Eclipse. An annular eclipse occurs when the moon is too far away from the Earth to completely cover the Sun. This results in a ring of light around the darkened Moon. The Sun's corona is not visible during an annular eclipse. The path of this eclipse will be confined too extreme eastern Russia, western Greenland & Canada. Partial eclipse will be visible in Europe, north-eastern United States and Russia (NASA map & Eclipse information) (NASA interactive Google).

21 June - June Solstice. The North Pole of the Earth will be tilted towards the Sun, which will have reached its northern sky and will be directly over the Tropic of Cancer at 23.44 degrees north latitude. This is the first day of summer (summer solstice) in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of winter in the Southern Hemisphere.

24 June - Super Moon - third and last of the 3 Supermoons in 2021. The moon will be located on opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. Known as the Strawberry Moon by early Native American tribes as this is time of year to gather ripening fruit. Moon will be near its closest approach to Earth and may appear slightly larger and brighter than usual.

May I recommend, "**Under the Stars" - A journey into Light by Matt Gaw** ISBN: 978-1-78396-582-3. Artificial light is everywhere. Not only is it damaging to humans and wildlife, disrupting our natural rhythms, but it obliterates the subtle lights that have guided us for millennia. In this beautifully written exploration, Matt Gaw ventures forth into darkness to find out exactly what we are missing. "Under the Stars", is an inspirational and immersive call to reconnect with the natural world, showing how we only need to step outside to find that, in darkness, the world lights up.

Royal Observatory and Planetarium Greenwich

- Why not sign up for newsletter to hear about events and activities?

Clear skies are ideal for enjoying and observing dark night skies in our rural location. Please try to minimise light pollution by reducing outdoor lighting. This benefits wildlife, environment and humans alike. Remember to wrap up warm when Star Gazing. Make a flask. Allow 15 minutes for eyes to adjust to dark. Use a recliner and enjoy these free shows.

HOW ABOUT A PANTO?

Wouldn't it be great if Priors Players put on a Panto in the Village Hall again? We're keen to get going but we need people - people to act and people to do costumes, make-up, scenery, lighting, sound, props, prompt and organise the front of house. That's a whole lot of people and we're hoping that one of them will be you!

Everyone's welcome, everyone's got something they can contribute, and everyone can have fun!

If you are at all interested in being part of a village panto, please come along to the Village Centre Club Room, Wednesday 28th July at 8pm. See you there!

There will be a short AGM beforehand at 7pm and all are welcome to join.

If you can't make it but would like to get involved or have any questions, please call Sophy on 07900 370493.

St Mary Bourne Bowling Club



Fancy a New Hobby? Like to try Lawn bowls?

We invite both complete novices and experienced bowlers to consider joining St Mary Bourne Bowling Club.

We are a friendly club based in the heart of the St Mary Bourne village, overlooking beautiful countryside and with the benefit of adjacent parking facilities.

We have a purpose-built clubhouse, including a fully licenced bar and function room, a large well-equipped kitchen, and male and female changing rooms.

There are no particular requirements for physical ability and bowls is a game for all ages. You will enjoy fresh air, meeting new people and a little exercise.

For anyone who wishes to try the sport, we can make equipment available - all you need is some flat shoes and little time. We will also find someone to introduce you to the sport and to share their experience.

'Interested'? - Then come along to our Open Day on Saturday 19th June 2021 - 10am onwards and give it a try.

Anyone who is interested in further information, please contact Alastair Bunce ☎ 07765 312178 or visit www.stmarybournebowlsclub.co.uk .



Postcard from Binley June 2021

"There's no place like Home"... Well, ain't that the truth! The last month has seen me travelling all over the country doing my bit as "Britain builds back better!", or whatever the latest slogan is. From the dark, wooded valleys of Devon in the west to the bleak Fens of Lincolnshire in the east. To the industrial heartlands of Stoke on Trent and Birmingham, then onward to the glorious Dales of Yorkshire and Cumbria in the North. For the first time in my life I went to Anglesey and completed an epic return journey through the Snowdonia National Park, over the Brecon Beacons and down the beautiful Wye Valley. Simply stunning. But in truth none can compare to our little valley. That slow descent into Hurstbourne Tarrant after a day on the road or coming over Woodcott and seeing the open bell tower of St. James's just gladdens the heart, the valley below bathed by a warm evening sun. And sat on a garden bench with my terrier, Maurice beside me we sniff the air together and drink in the sounds and smells of Binley. The racket of the rooks to my right, the lambs bleating to my left and all around us is birdsong. Equally beautiful is the tinkling of ice in a glass, the whiff of a decent cigar and the clatter of pans in the kitchen. Home at last! If I have my way I shall leave here feet first... but not just yet!

A few weeks back the sheep got moved to the field by my bedroom window. Each Saturday morning now I get out of bed, pull back the curtains and write the numbers down from the flanks of the first six sheep I see. These will go on my lottery ticket for that evening's draw. But up to now it's been a disaster. Number 25 is a big old ewe who hasn't moved in a month, so I have to keep picking her amongst others and of course 25 hasn't come up once! I'm tempted this Friday evening to go into the field and shoo her up the hill but then what if 25 gets drawn? It's a dilemma, I tell you!

We are fortunate to be geographically sandwiched between two great historic cities. Winchester and Salisbury. Of the two I prefer Salisbury. Winchester has become a little too metropolitan elite for my taste. It rather fancies itself. Salisbury is earthier, edgier. Its medieval streets look like they've seen trouble. I like that. And it's a city of eccentrics. The Cathedral spire, as any Russian KGB officer with a penchant for murder will tell you, is the tallest in Europe. Last week I happened to be in the Salisbury branch of Waitrose and as I rounded a corner by the fruit and veg aisle, I came across a stick thin elderly chap with a long grey ponytail and voluminous frizzy white beard. Nothing unusual in that, we are in Salisbury after all, but he was dressed in a white mini skirt, white high heels and matching handbag and accessories. Imagine Twiggy circa 1964 meets Uncle Albert, "Fools and Horses" circa 1987. Now live and let live, that's my mantra but what irked me somewhat was the fact he was feeling up the avocados. I politely and helpfully pointed him in the direction of the "Perfectly ripe and ready to eat" section further down the aisle and he was most grateful. We fell into conversation and it turned out he was a bit of an authority on the

subject. For a start did you know that avocados have more fibre than any other fruit and more potassium than a banana? Well neither did I! We got on like a house on fire and found many common interests in food, music and fishing though I was a bit sketchy on nail polish. Eventually I touched on the elephant in the room (not literally) and enquired as to whether perhaps he had a "Scottish arrangement" under the skirt? He became a bit evasive at this point but did admit to the "freedom" he felt. Whenever I see naturists or naked ramblers etc being interviewed they always claim "freedom" as their *raison d'être*. On the rare occasion I'm found in the buffo "free" is the last emotion I feel, more like frighteningly vulnerable especially if I'm barbecuing but each to his own, I suppose. But as we parted company and I left him/her tottering toward the wet fish counter I felt satisfied I had done my bit for LGBTQ relations.

This great country once ruled the world in producing eccentrics. It was after all only mad dogs and Englishmen that went out in the midday sun. But they are a dying breed now. In thirty years' time we will all be teetotal, banned from smoking, be transported around in driverless electric pods and sip on pulverised sprouts! Thank the Lord I'll be gone! Thirty years back the other way this valley was full of eccentrics, but they were known then as "Village Characters". The pubs were full of them and what fantastic characters they were too, both men and women. I have hundreds of stories, but I was reminded the other day about "Sleepy John". Sleepy John suffered sadly with what I believe is called "Narcolepsy". In short, he could at any time of the day at any moment fall suddenly asleep. These sleeps may only last ten minutes or maybe an hour but when he went under, nothing could wake him, not even Krakatoa erupting. Wisely, Sleepy John stopped driving and spent his days at various pubs where should his affliction occur, he would be in the company of friends who would look out for him. I can recall giving him a lift home once and just as I got him to his door he zonked out. I had to sit there for a maddening forty minutes! One day the news came through that poor old Sleepy John had fallen asleep for the last time. The Big Sleep. The following Sunday we gathered at The Coronation Arms to reminisce and raise a glass in his memory. At around one o'clock he walked through the door! You could have knocked me down with a feather! It was the one and only time I've witnessed the deceased turning up at his own wake and getting ***** in the process but then nothing surprises me about this place. Bottoms up!

NA



Obituaries

Hilda Wilson

16th March 1935 – 1st April 2021

Hilda was born in Salford, Lancashire on 16th March 1935 to Alfred and Hilda Axon. She lived with her grandparents during her early years as her parents were living in a rented room with no space for a child. But when her younger sister Ann was born seven years later her parents got a house close to the docks in Salford and the family could all live together. That area was particularly targeted by German bombers during the war but fortunately the family remained safe.

Hilda met her husband Teddy when she was 19 and they married soon after. Their daughter Jan arrived in 1956 followed by Paul in June the following year. Unfortunately, Teddy had a heart condition and passed away leaving Hilda a widow with two small children at the age of 28.

Hilda worked hard all her life. After her first job in the Docks office, she was employed in a furniture shop, and after that she took various secretarial/PA roles until her retirement. She then decided to move to St Mary Bourne to be close to her daughter and son-in-law Jan and Pete Torkington and her grandson James. Her son Paul had sadly passed away at the age of 39 leaving behind a wife and two small children Daniel and William.



Hilda settled at Lower Link, getting used to a much quieter life than she had led in Salford. She was part of the quiz team which played out of the Coronation Arms and the George and met new friends through that. She loved pottering in her garden and watching the birds on her bird table. And she was often seen walking Max the dog when Pete and Jan were at work.

Hilda's love of sport was passed down from her father Alf. She enjoyed watching boxing and walked to Old Trafford to watch Lancashire play cricket in her younger days. She was an avid supporter of Manchester United until the great Alex Ferguson left and she loved her snooker – Ronnie O'Sullivan being her favourite. She was very close to her sister Ann and they shared a common interest in all sports; checking results and discussing them together during long telephone conversations.

Hilda kept herself busy in retirement and was very comfortable living alone and 'doing her own thing'. Just after Christmas she started to feel unwell and tests showed she had advanced lung disease. She spent her last seven and a half weeks living with Jan and Pete who were able to care for her up to the end.

Hilda was a great character. Small, feisty and independent. She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Barbara Taylor 'Barbie'

14th May 1927 – 6th May 2021

Barbie was born in Lancashire to Quiller and Janet Jolliffe, the eldest of three girls. Her siblings were Freda and Suzy. She started school in Birkdale near Southport but with the outbreak of war she was sent to live with her grandparents in Polperro, Cornwall.

Barbie's grandfather was the harbour pilot in Polperro and also owned Jolliffe's café in the centre of the village.

After the war Barbie went back to live with her parents who had moved to the Conwy valley in North Wales. Her father Quiller was known as 'hairstylist to the stars' as he styled the hair of the celebrities who came to perform in Llandudno. Barbie helped her father in his business and throughout her life she would often comment on people's haircuts, good or bad!

Barbie met Doug in Llandudno and they were married on mid-summer day 1949. They moved to St Mary Bourne in 1950 where their only child Quiller was born in 1952.

Doug was a plumber and Barbie had various jobs in the area, including working at the cress beds. It was hard, cold and wet work but she had great fun there with the other ladies of the village.

At first Barbie and Doug rented 12 High Street from Fred Cook. After his death they were able to buy the row of three houses which were in a dilapidated state but had "potential". Doug converted the two thatched cottages into one which is now called The Cottage and renovated the brick house, now called The House. But the couple still maintained their links with North Wales and they subsequently expanded their countrywide hobby of antique collecting into a business which they based there.

Barbie was born in Lancashire and she loved Wales, but Cornwall, especially Polperro, was closest to her heart and she thought of herself as Cornish. This early love continued to thrive through her summer holidays there with young Quiller in the 1950s when they stayed with family members and she caught up with old school friends from the war years. Later on Barbie joined the Polperro Family History Society and contributed regularly to their publications.

After Doug's death in 2004, Barbie came back to Hampshire to live with Quiller, Kate, Helen and Laura in Stoke before moving into York Cottages, opposite St Peter's church. Barbie loved her second life in St Mary Bourne. She visited the George for coffee every day and went to the village shop at least twice a day. She was probably their best if not their most frequent customer.



Barbie was a knowledgeable, interesting and forthright lady who didn't suffer fools gladly but always had a twinkle in her eye. She was truly unique; an antiques enthusiast with a huge appetite to learn about history and nature, and a 'rock chick' who preferred Van Morrison, Rod Stewart and Led Zeppelin to the crooners of the day. In family life she was devoted to Quiller and Kate and she became a surrogate granny to Helen and Laura who she loved dearly. In recent years she enjoyed seeing Helen's children, Finley and Cora, growing up and it was always such fun for her at Christmas to be part of a family of four generations.

Barbie will be very sadly missed. She was a brave and independent lady of spirit who has left behind so many good memories for all those who knew her.

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Longparish Parish Council Report from Meeting Held on 5th May

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

Procedural

This was the statutory Annual Meeting of the Council, and Christian Dryden was elected as Chairman and Natasha Rouse as Vice Chairman. The chairmanship of the Planning Committee and Working Parties was also agreed. It was resolved to retain the Plough Inn Committee at least until the pub opens.

Finance

The Council agreed the Accounts and Notes for 2020-21 and the Annual Return and noted that these would be scrutinised by the Internal Auditor before being passed to the External Auditor. The Council also approved the revised Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment.

The Plough Inn

On behalf of LCPL, Stuart Montague reviewed the schedule of works for the refurbishment, and there was a discussion about how best to let volunteers know that they may be needed. Any Jolliffe advised that the recruitment process was underway, and several candidates had been interviewed for the Manager's post.

Open Spaces & Footpaths

A small scale Clean-Up Day took place in April, and useful work had been completed throughout the village. The Chair had met a representative of TVBC to arrange the reinstatement of a green bin near Long Bridge at The Cleeves and had also spoken to the landowner about replacing the bench.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 1930 hours on Monday 14th June 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).

St Nicholas Church
LONGPARISH

LONGPARISH
Parish Council



LONGPARISH COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

With the end of lockdown approaching, and the success of the vaccination programme, there is less of a need for the Longparish Community Covid Support Group in its original form. We would like to thank all volunteers who have helped out in any way and everyone who has supported their friends and neighbours over the last year.

We would like to think that anyone needing any sort of emergency help perhaps with shopping, a regular phone call, technology support, a lift to an appointment, emergency dog walking, prescription collection etc can call on Longparish volunteers through the Longparish Community Association at any time or through their own network of friends and neighbours.

WhatsApp groups have been set up by residents in different locations in the village, but those not on WhatsApp need also to be kept in the loop so please keep your neighbours up to date as part of the telephone tree.

*Christian Dryden Longparish Parish Council
Andy Jolliffe LCA*

Useful Contacts:

Longparish Community Support Group -
Email covidhelp@longparish.org.uk

LCA Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/Longparish

The Community Support Welfare Fund continues to be administered by St Nicholas Church in strictest confidence
Tel 01264 720 215.

Longparish Age Concern Village Agent will help people find the information and support they need to stay living safely and independently.

Tel 01962 868545

Email villageagent@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk

UNITY (Test Valley Community Services) contact 0330 4004116

Citizens Advice Bureau

Adviceline (England): [0800 144 8848](tel:08001448848)

[Andover Neighbour Care](#)

[Transport](#) Tel 01264 404142

[Home from hospital](#) 01264 336020

FoLS 100 Club Winners

1st - Gail Hunt

2nd - Netta Wills

3rd - Jan and Richard West



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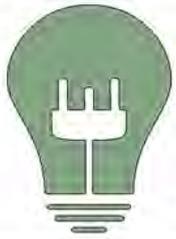
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Longparish Little School

We have been spending a lot more time outside this term. The children have really enjoyed exploring our newly refurbished outside area. They have been doing lots of building

using the tyres, planks of wood and crates to make their own obstacle courses. They have been investigating sound in the music area and there has been lots of mark making on our big chalk and painting boards. Our new nature area is extremely popular, we have been feeding the birds and planting some potatoes, beans and peas.

We have continued to look at life cycles. The coal tits nesting in our camera nest box are taking very good care of their chicks, our caterpillars and tadpoles are getting very big and we are waiting for the next stage of their metamorphosis to take place. The children have also loved having the ewes and lambs in the field next door.

Our Forest School sessions started again after the Easter break with our new Forest School leader, Babs. The children have already found lots of bugs and learnt about bees and wildflowers. They have used a drill, a bow saw and a hammer to create wooden bees and flower pictures. They have used ropes to help develop their grip and balance skills and have made lots of yummy food in the woodland café using leaves and twigs. Ed our sports coach has also returned, and the children have been practicing different movements as well as their throwing and catching skills.

If you would like to see some photos of all the exciting things we do at Little School you can go to our website www.longparishlittleschool.org.uk or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/longparishplaygroup>

We are currently taking for bookings for September 2022. If you would like to come and have a look around please email me at claire@longparishlittleschool.org.uk or phone 01264 720455.



CLARE SYKES would like to thank everyone for an amazing farewell she received from Longparish Primary School when she left just before Easter for her new teaching job just outside Newbury.

"Wow! What a send-off! I have loved every minute of my Longparish journey, from starting at Little School and then making the exciting transition to Big School; just after Easter I moved to pastures new - as a Food Tech Teacher!"

Heartfelt thanks for all the cards, beautiful gifts and thoughtful words - our home has turned into a florists! I'm just so thankful that we still live in lovely Longparish.

Thank you and see you soon LP Big and Little School!"

Here's great recipe that Clare has recently done with her new pupils, which she hopes you will enjoy!

Crumpets



Ingredients :

- 150g plain flour
- 200ml warm water
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp sugar
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp of yeast
- 1 tbsp warm water
- 2 tbsp of melted butter (for frying)

Instructions :

1. Whisk flour, water and salt in a bowl
2. Dissolve the yeast in a small bowl with the warm water
3. Add yeast, sugar and baking powder and whisk for 30 seconds
4. Cover with cling film and leave in a warm place for 20 minutes
5. Brush cookie cutters with melted butter
6. Brush frying pan with butter and turn on the hob to 4 - put cookie cutters inside pan
7. Pour some batter into cookie cutter - cook for $1 \frac{1}{2}$ minutes.
8. Turn heat to 2 - look for bubbles to appear then cook for 2-4 more minutes.
9. Remove rings by running a knife around the edge
10. Flip the crumpets with a spatula and cook on the other side for 30 seconds



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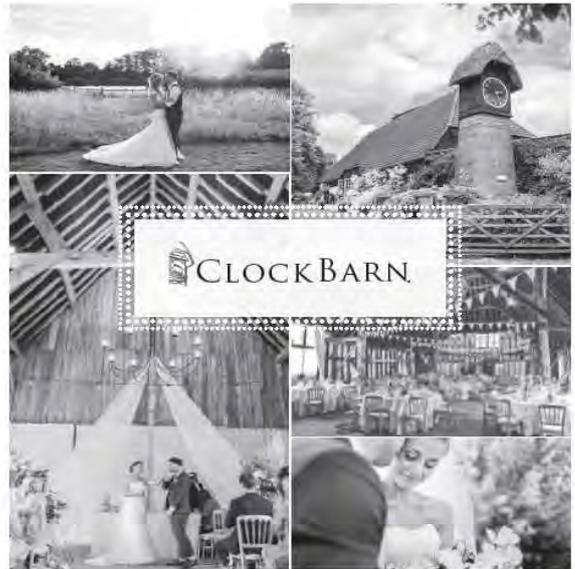
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The Longparish Mid-Summer Fun Day!

Saturday 26th June 2021

Welcome villagers, old and new to the Longparish Mid-Summer Fun Day! Our village will be hosting lots fun activities for the whole family to enjoy!

Competition Time! Great prizes to be won! Why not... decorate and display a wheelbarrow, watering can or unusual garden implement! Put your photos on the LCA Facebook page or email them to:

Mid-Summer@longparish.org.uk and have your innovative implements displayed for all to see! Let's get planting!

Prizes for:

- Best Child's Wheelbarrow!
- Best Family Wheelbarrow!
- Largest Wheelbarrow Display!
- Most Elaborate Wheelbarrow Display!



Cream Tea @ The Cricks (including Prosecco if you fancy a post-Lockdown treat!)

Save the Date!

Keep your eyes peeled on the LCA Facebook, LCA Website and Posters for more details!

Long awaited family fun!

L2SOTM - The Longparish Second Sunday of the Month handicap race

We welcomed new runners, Emma Ryan and Hannah Ross from Hurstbourne Priors to the 164th edition of the L2SOTM. It was great to be back after four months of Covid lockdown and we had two extra reasons to celebrate: it was Jim Dundas' 100th run and Wendy Beveridge's birthday.



As often happens, our new runners underestimated their abilities and Emma was first home, breaking her estimated handicap by over four minutes with Hannah not far behind.

First home off a non-estimated handicap was Forton's Dave Henery who beat his handicap by nearly two minutes to become our Most Improved Man. Jo Clare was Most Improved Woman with a new personal best by nearly a minute. Sylvia Crook and Jack Dundas also recorded best ever times and Jacqui Healey Hannah's happy at the finish ran her fastest time in nearly 8 years. Well done all!

Thanks very much to Maggie Barber, Andy Smith, Roger Bradley and David Gould for helping and the Cricket Club for the lovely venue.

If Covid relaxations go according to plan we'll be back on Sunday 13 June. You will be very welcome if you'd like to run or help out. Your start time depends on how fast you are. For your first race it will be based on your estimated time. After that your handicap will be based on your most recent result. Slower runners will start first with the fastest last so the winner is the person who improves most.

Runners must enter in advance and numbers are limited. There will be Covid rules to ensure the safety of runners and volunteers.

We issue a monthly email invitation a few days before each race and very occasional other emails. Please follow this link <https://tinyurl.com/vygzolzdb> to be added to our Mail Chimp list. Some email systems may treat your first email as spam so please look out for it and add us to your trusted list. There's more information on the village website <http://archive.longparish.org.uk/l2sotm/> or please feel free to give me a ring :
Jeremy Barber Tel 01264 720459

Afterword on ticks...

I was interested in Matthew Dryden's useful article on ticks in May as I quite often pick one up in the garden. Usually they are very small, a tiny black dot in the middle of an itchy bite. I find that the easiest way to deal with them is a blob of clear nail varnish, painted on, dried and left for 24 hours. The tick expires and can be peeled off with the nail varnish. Matthew says that this is acceptable.

Mary Jo Darrah

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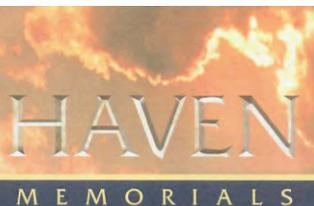
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BIRDS OF LONGPARISH

BY CHRIS BOWMAN

Nightingale

I was lucky enough to see and hear a Nightingale recently, which I have not done for a long, long time.

Nightingales have been in decline over the years but recent figures show they have been making a bit of a comeback. 15% bigger than a Robin with a smaller head and longer tail, russet brown above and dull brown-grey below. Quite a plain bird really but with a fantastic song.

When they arrive from Africa the male will find an area he likes. Nightingales seem to arrive at night so he will sing all night long until he attracts a female. Being a secretive bird, they are mostly found deep in undergrowth. The nest is on the ground or just above in scrub or dense herbage and is made up of a bulky cup of dead leaves and grass lined with finer material and feathers. 4-5 eggs are laid green or green-blue finally speckled with pale red-brown. Incubated for 13 days and fledging in 11 days. Young nightingales are just like baby robins. Food is invertebrates especially beetles and ants.

Well most of our summer visitors have arrived I've heard the Cuckoo but not seen it yet.

Sadly the picture is not one of mine.



LITTER FREE LONGPARISH - GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN 28th May to 13th June

Longparish Friday Litter pick Friday 11th June - meet behind Village Hall 9.15 am.

Why not join the band of regular litter pickers in Longparish by adopting a road or footpath.

The Parish Council can provide litter picking sticks, hoops and bags.

Tel Christian Dryden 720 398



GARDENING



LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB

Our first meeting this year of the Longparish Gardening Club will be a visit to Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants Tuesday 22nd June at 4pm.

(Numbers are limited and details already circulated to our members)

Please also note that the garden at **Lower Mill, Longparish, SP11 6PS** will be open for the NGS on Sunday 4th July at 1-5.30 pm and the LGC will be helping with teas.

Our second meeting will be a garden visit to Preston House, Preston Candover on Tuesday, 27th July.

Any queries please to :

Rosie Lowry 720325 rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com
or **Marion Bell** 720205

Longparish Fete

Saturday 11th September 2021

We are still working on the assumption that things will be OK for September 11th. Let's hope the Indian variant will not set things back!

On that basis, please let me know if you can volunteer to help in some way – e.g. those who ran stalls in 2019, are you able to do the same again this year please? There are lots of other jobs to do too, so if you can help in any way it would be greatly appreciated.

Schools will be back, and I know many are anxious to get away on holiday after release from lockdown, but please try and keep 11th September free. Having not had a fete last year, we need the income!

The fete is such a great way of getting our wonderful village together too – let's celebrate.

Please contact John Young

Email: j.young233@btinternet.com

Tel: 01264 720233 Mob: 07860 630489

KEEP TEST VALLEY BEAUTIFUL RETURNS

The Keep Test Valley Beautiful group has been reformed to fight the huge Incinerator bottom ash pile proposal at Raymond Brown's "Enviropark".

Temporary permission was given for the extra dump as operators Fortis, part of the Raymond Brown/Collard Group, couldn't sell the ash during the lockdown. Now they want to keep the site there forever – and make it bigger. KTVB, which successfully fought the Wheelabrator incinerator scheme say that, as industry gets back to normal, there's no permanent need for the dump. If Fortis get their way, storage of the potentially toxic IBAA will jump from 4,000 tonnes to 63,000 tonnes, a fourteen-fold increase. KTVB say it is "unfortunate" that our local Test Valley planners have told the County Council they have no problem with thousands of tons of ash (IBAA) being dumped on our doorsteps, despite strong objections by Longparish and Barton Stacey Parish Councils.

IBAA has limited uses - mainly roadbuilding - because it contains traces of metals, including mercury and cancer-causing hexavalent chromium, the material which was at centre of the well documented – and filmed - campaign by Erin Brockovich. The dump lies above an aquifer which feeds the Test and Dever and supplies our drinking water. Fortis say by enlarging existing bunds and laying a concrete membrane the aquifer will be safe. KTVB is not so sure.

David Wright, former chair of the KTVB said: "We have major concerns about the management of the surface water run-off. The application suggests it will be dealt with by 'evaporation', but HCC's flood and water management team said this proposal is 'unacceptable'. They say that if the run-off water has to be contained within the application site, it should be considered a pollutant and treated as such."

Existing piles of bottom ash elsewhere at the "Enviropark", tower way above containing bunds. Smell and dust have led to numerous complaints to the Environment Department. KTVB say it's another example of creeping development. The company failed to get the incinerator built and is now using the pandemic to make a temporary measure permanent. Fortis say sales of IBAA were strong before the pandemic, therefore sales will again rise, if they haven't already. If extra space is needed in the short term, Fortis have two larger, storage sites not much more than an hour's drive away. David said "As far as we can see, the need for extra space has only ever been temporary, so the proposal to build a permanent multi acre storage seems an unnecessary desecration of a greenfield site. Some say the real reason is to establish this as an industrial rather than greenfield site, perhaps to improve the chances of success of another Wheelabrator type project down the line. I have some sympathy with that view."

Hampshire County Council planning department will still accept objections directly by email to planning@hants.gov.uk or by letter to Strategic Planning, Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester, SO23 8UD for the attention of Philip Mallard. Quote application 21/00812/CMAN.

You must include your full name and address including postcode and, if you object, you must say so. Each member of the household can complain separately. And numbers count.

Henry Yelf



LONGPARISH CRICKET CLUB



The cricket season has started, a full set of senior and junior fixtures are in place...and the rain in May hasn't stopped...

However, Longparish Cricket Club are delighted that the construction of their new state of the art, two-lane practice net system has completed, which looks very impressive and gives the clubs facilities a significant boost. Why would you want to play cricket anywhere else?



The club is now starting to organise an official opening ceremony, which is intended to be for villagers and families, as well as those who play cricket. Further details to follow.

Despite generous financial support from many sources, especially TVBC, the club has spent most of its cash reserves on the nets project and still has its usual operating expenses, including over £1k a year for match balls. The club is runs several fundraising initiatives, including **match ball sponsorship** and a **100 Club**.

If you would like to participate in these fundraising activities, please contact our Fundraising Officer **Alison Allen** (committee@longparishcc.co.uk). To join the club, please contact the **Junior Coordinator, Justin Jackman**, (jackmanjustin@aol.com) for details of membership at junior and senior levels. More information : <https://longparishcc.hitscricket.com>

Mark Benzing, Chairman
Longparish Cricket Club

Stuart Bevan

Stuart Bevan sadly passed away on 10th May. Many people will remember Stuart and Daphne Bevan who lived in Longparish for over 31 years before moving to Newbury in 2007.

Stuart contributed enormously to the life of Longparish. He was churchwarden for 17 years, chairman of the village hall committee for 14 years, he ran the Longparish Fete for many years and was the first chairman of the steering committee which led to the new facilities on the school site. He and Daphne entertained generously and many people will remember parties in their garden.

If you would like to write to Daphne, please do so c/o Mary Jo Darrah, Saddlers Cottage, Longparish



THE PLOUGH UPDATE

The last month has seen a tremendous transformation at The Plough. Ongoing works in the garden, including removal of huge chunks of unwanted

concrete, are clearly visible but what you can't see from the road is all the stuff that's been going on inside.

The dusty, dirty structural works (pulling down ceilings, changing doorways and installing a new steel beam in the bar area) are behind us. Electricians and plumbers are sweeping through making essential updates and we expect to turn lights and heating back on soon. The ceilings are being replaced; refurbishment of the toilets continues and the Plough's iconic bay windows are being extensively repaired.

Elsewhere our volunteer army has done an amazing job of decorating the long River Room (upstairs); the community room (outside) and the manager's suite (which is ready for fitting-out).

Which brings us to some big news: we are delighted to announce that we have found a new manager who has agreed to bring his family and live and work at the Plough Inn. That's all we can say at the moment but watch this space for more details.

And there's another very important development: Our premises licence has been granted: we are now officially a pub! In May, many of you attended the Zoom meeting where we unveiled our plan for branding; presented our beautiful new pub sign (see above) and previewed the tremendous interior scheme. We hope you found it illuminating and inspiring!

This month work continues inside and out at a great pace, thanks to our wonderful volunteers who have worked tirelessly to break up concrete, clear the garden, pull down ceilings, dig, hammer, paint, roller, fill, fetch and carry. Thank you so much to all of you. We still have plenty to do before we open, later this summer, and are really looking forward to many more busy (and sociable) weekends (and weeknights) with our fantastic volunteers.

We would really love you to join us, even if you only have a couple of hours to spare. It would be very much appreciated. If you would like to help out in any way (prepping, painting, cleaning, gardening, shoving stuff about) then please do email volunteer@lcpl.org.uk or call 720069 and leave a message: we'll get back to you.



For general information about The Plough Inn please visit ploughinn.org



The Cricketers Inn

Telephone 01264 720424 Email

thecricketerslongparish@gmail.com

Hello everybody. As you all know we opened indoors on **Monday 17th May**.

It has been an absolute joy to see you all again and I can't thank you enough for all of your continued support, and compliments on our food, drinks and service.

We have the village choir doing a **Sing in the Sunshine** on **Saturday 5th June**, do come along and (hopefully) welcome in the summer!

We are launching our new menu on **Friday, 28th May**.

Here are our opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

11.30 am – 3pm & 6pm – 11pm

Friday, Saturday and Sunday

11.30 am – 11pm

Food served everyday 12pm – 2.30pm & 6pm – 8.30pm

Tea, coffee and homemade cakes are always available.

Our wood fired pizza oven will operate **Saturday and Sunday afternoons between 2.30pm and 6.30pm** for eat in or takeaway, starting on **Saturday 5th June**.

We are still operating a takeaway service for food and drinks during our service times, please call or email with your order and a pick-up time.

Once again, thank you all for your support – **Matt, Jack, Pauline and the team**.

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WEATHER – APRIL 2021

Total rainfall for month	26 mm	1.02in
It rained on	2 days	
Rainfall same month last year	75 mm	2.92in
Total for 2021	291mm	11.45in
Total for 2020	456mm	17.95 in
Max temp (on 23 rd)	22C	72F
Min temp (on 12 th)	-3C	26F
Number of frosts	17	

We had the frostiest April for 60 years with more frosts (17) than in February and March combined.

It was the coldest April since 1922 and the driest since 2007 (we had 27 consecutive days with no rain).

John Smail

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS MIDSUMMER CELEBRATION AND CHARITY AUCTION

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS
Midsummer Celebration Dinner and Auction
Saturday 26th June 2021

**Calling all Villagers including
your family and friends**

To this fundraising event being held in aid of St Andrew's Church.

Tickets are selling fast, so if you don't want to miss out, please email MidsummerCelebrationHBP@gmail.com and reserve your places by 3rd June.

Drinks and canapés will be served at The Barn House, 50 Hurstbourne Priors, with a three-course set dinner including wine in the Village Hall.

Dinner will be followed by a charity auction of prizes.

Ann Orr, Lulu Beasley, Emma Ryan and
Denise Bradley

MAY FAIR NEWS

1



MAY FAIR PRESERVES STALL



The Preserves stall is back in production with Marmalades, Jams and Chutneys at £3.50 per jar.

To find out what is currently available to purchase, please email Josephine at:

josephine.hutchinson@btinternet.com

All proceeds from the sale of preserves to the Hurstbourne Priors May Fair which raises funds for our village amenities.

*Thank you for your support
Josephine and Denise*

MAY FAIR PLANT STALL

A very big thank you from the May Fair Plant Stall to all the wonderful people who supported us both from this Valley and further afield.

It has been a monumental challenge owing to the extraordinary behaviour of the weather - some plants just simply didn't grow while others grew too quickly and were cut down by the frost and the vicious wind. We therefore offer special thanks to all those who accepted 'damaged goods' and hope that by the time you read this most, if not all, of them have fully recovered.

At the time of writing, 18th May, we have taken orders for over £1,600.00 - THANK YOU AGAIN!!



And a special thank you to Katherine for managing all the technicalities of the on-line orders so efficiently alongside family and a full-time job!

Precelly Murray

LADIES' COFFEE MORNINGS

Hopefully we can celebrate the lifting of restrictions with this month's coffee morning on Monday, 21st June, from 10.15 am to 12 noon. Clare Read will host it at Hurstbourne Priors House (tel 896672) and all children are welcome too.





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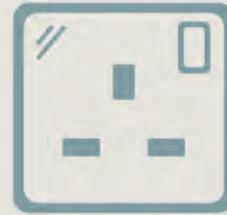
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WHITCHURCH SILK MILL



Welcome Back to the Friday Country Market

The Friday Country Market has resumed in the Mill's garden and it's been lovely to see all the producers again and, of course, to be able to buy their varied and colourful wares. The market is here every Friday from 9.30–11.30.

Mill Open and a Very Special Offer

It's exciting to have the whole of the Mill site open again and to be able to welcome visitors. Although some restrictions have eased, many social distancing restrictions will remain in place so you can safely and confidently enjoy your visit. In celebration of the re-opening, all our windows were washed inside and out. That's 800 panes of glass! A proper challenge for the window cleaners.

To say a big thank you for helping to raise more than £1.7m to create a sustainable future for the Mill we're offering free entry to National Lottery players from Saturday 5 to Sunday 13 June 2021. We are open Tuesday to Sunday, 10.30am to 5pm. To redeem this offer all you need is one National Lottery ticket or scratch card per family, adult or group of adults. Paper and digital tickets/scratchcards for all National Lottery games qualify.

Our Blogs

Are you reading our regular blogs, on the website and via social media? Their subject matter is varied, educational and entertaining and we recommend them wholeheartedly. Recent blogs have featured Shannon Bye, our weaver and tackler, offering her thoughts about textile industry waste and how to purchase textiles more sustainably; Amy Hammett, our marketing and social media volunteer, telling the story of a black silk weaver in Tudor London; and Brittany Peckham recounting what she learned during a work experience placement with our Visitor Experience Team. We provide annual work experience placements for university students, who get a chance to work behind the scenes and learn what it takes to run the Mill.

We Are Recruiting for Our Digital Media Volunteer Team

During lockdown we've been harnessing the power of digital media to bring the Mill experience to virtual visitors. We are active on social media and YouTube and would like to grow our volunteer team so we can keep creating great and engaging content for our followers and visitors.

- Do you have an interest in, or experience with, social media?
- Have you created content for online platforms?
- Would you like to gain experience volunteering for a heritage organisation?

If so, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Zoë Umpleby, Visitor Experience Coordinator, for more information and for an informal chat about joining the Digital Media Volunteer Team at Whitchurch Silk Mill. E: zoe.umpleby@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk

Regular Events

Our regular events including Mini Millers, Young Millers and Pins & Needles will resume as soon as we're able.

Contact: info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk – 01256 892065 – www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk

FOOTBRIDGE AT TUFTON - UPDATE

We are very pleased to report that the Hampshire Countryside Service has been very busy carrying out a full survey of the footbridge and have already put the work out to their contractor. They have assured us that the work is going to be carried out as quickly as possible. We are also very happy to report that, to the best of their abilities, the bridge will retain its character and will be rebuilt in a similar style.

Hurstbourne Priors PC

THE MONTH OF JUNE

June is most likely to have been named for the Roman goddess Juno, patroness of marriage and the well-being of women. Another interpretation says that the name came from the Latin *juvenis*, "young people," who were celebrated at this time of the year.

The longest day of the year is 21st June when the sun is at its most northerly point. Midsummer's day is the day after the solstice and is associated with witches, magic fairies and dancing. On Midsummer's eve, bonfires would be lit around the country. This was to try to strengthen the sun which appeared to be getting weaker as the days started to get shorter.



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DIARY OF A WIMPY CYCLIST

The H man gave me Kudos...



According to the rules, it is completely unacceptable to intentionally turn one's steed upside down for any reason under any circumstances – the only exception is during mid-rotation while crashing. There were no crashes for me at the recent Beast to the East event that set off from Bishop's Waltham on Saturday, but I did suffer from a terrible bout of ignominy at the start: In order to transport my bike in the car I remove the seat post. On this new bike, however, the seat post is held in place by a locking nut that promptly descended into the bowels of the frame. I had to turn my steed upside down and shake it vigorously as if seeking a pound coin from a beer bottle – much to the mirth and horror of the onlookers at the event. As penance I let my fellow sportive competitors all set off before me – so I could swear at my bike in the pouring rain of the car park.

My wife is always incredulous, nay deeply impressed, at the sheer volume of faffing (*in German, Pfaffing*) required ahead of a cycling outing: Bike computer, pump tyres, check brakes, add front light, rear light, water bottles ("bidons"), ginger nuts, bananas, jelly babies, adjust hat, mount glasses, tie on the race number, tighten shoes, send tracking link to family, switch on heart rate monitor – then go undo all your clothing for a pee in the village hall.

Over the next four hours, I clawed my way back through the various small groups of riders – I was labelled "Bananaman" by a few of the ladies, which I took as a great compliment then remembered the fruit in my rear pocket. A cruel Butser Hill sorted the field into walkers and riders, at an average of nearly 12% gradient, and compounded by a blustery cold wind and rain-fogged glasses and further hills such as Winchester. The only stop – a feed station - seemed to be an eternity (2hrs 20mins) away, near South Harting. In true Strava comedy, someone has named the segment 'Straight out of SHarting'. Knowing the weather, and invoking the spirit of Oates, I had elected to wear the cycling equivalent of a wetsuit but overlooked the soggy socks that blessed me with numb toes – "I'm going out, I may be some time". My thanks to Claire at BigFeat Events for organising a great day.

May has so far been a wash-out, so it has been important to seize the weather windows where we can. Today in Whitchurch I snatched a moment with a coffee from Kudos, and it felt briefly barmy – dreaming of a Portugal beach almost. It turns out that I came in second on my Saturday Beast ride after four hours and 90 kilometres of gritted teeth and hailstones, but the effort is all for training for my Royal British Legion ride later this year – please spare a couple of quid if you can on JustGiving – look for my name.

Simon Mattison

ANDOVER FOODBANK

The Andover Foodbank would like to thank you for all your continued support which is, as always, greatly appreciated.

If you would like to make a donation to the Andover Foodbank, we are currently in need of the following items:

FOOD ITEMS: Long Life Fruit Juice (1ltr)

NON-FOOD ITEMS: Shampoo/conditioner, Men's deodorant, Shower gel

Job Vacancy at Andover Foodbank

Warehouse Supervisor Andover Foodbank, 12 hours per week, £12.50 per hour.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated Warehouse Supervisor to manage the day to day warehouse operation including stock management and delivery. You will coordinate volunteers in the warehouse and help ensure that we provide a reliable, accessible, and compassionate service of food and associated support for clients. The role is for 12 hours a week at £12.50/ hour.

The full role description and details of how to apply is available in the news section of our website www.andover.foodbank.org.uk

Jenny Lelean

Andover Foodbank

Tel: 01264 362111 www.andover.foodbank.org.uk

WORD OF THE MONTH



LIMICOLOUS - dwelling in mud or muddy regions. As we wait to hear if this May is going to be a record breaker for rainfall, *limicolous* may well describe our riparian neighbourhood currently.

Barbara Carrodus



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How to contact your Member of Parliament Kit Malthouse

@ kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk

01264 401401

Or write to me at my constituency office:

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NEWS FROM TESTBOURNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

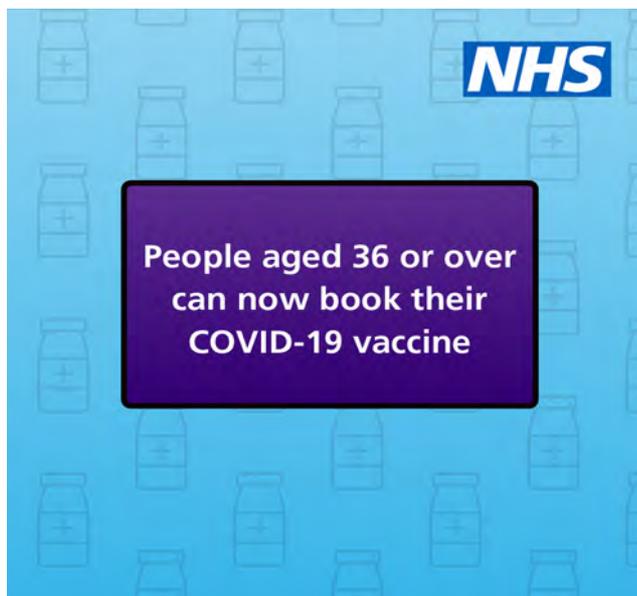
It is wonderful to see students and staff settling admirably back into school-life. Our Year 11 students have been hard at work with their mock exams and we have been extremely impressed with their maturity and diligence during this period. We are confident that they will have pride in their efforts and as such, we would like to congratulate each and every one of them here in this article. Well done!

A lot of exciting and engaging learning has taken place this term. One example that stood out was the Year 9 Health and Social Care students recently having a taste of parenthood as they took care of robotic-training babies during our Virtual Baby Programme. It was a very bizarre experience to walk past a classroom and hearing babies crying! Students had to provide the necessary care for a newborn, including activities such as rocking, feeding, changing and winding their virtual baby. This gave them a valuable experience and insight into parental responsibilities. On the subject of parenthood, our resident duck was seen with 14 ducklings of her own! It is a shame we do not offer a Virtual Ducklings Programme!



At the time of writing this article, our Testbourne Student Prefects, led by our Executive Prefect Leadership Team and Art teacher Mrs Horner, are actively organising our participation in ‘Denim for Dementia Day’ (a charity fundraiser for Alzheimer’s Society). Lots of effort has gone into making posters, arranging competitions and activities for the event that takes place on Friday the 14th of May. Be sure to check out our Facebook page and website, where we will post pictures, videos and the total amount of money raised.

*Aaron Baker - Marketing & IT Officer
Testbourne Community School*



St Mary Bourne

- 6 2 to 5pm - **Open Garden** - Down Farm House
- 8 10.30am - **Coffee at The George Inn**
- 19 10am onwards - **Bowling Club Open Day**
- 22 7.30pm - Parish Council Meeting - Village Centre
- 29 7pm - **Village Shop AGM** - Village Centre
- Saturday mornings** - 10.30am to 12.30pm
- The Community Library** - Village Centre Club Room

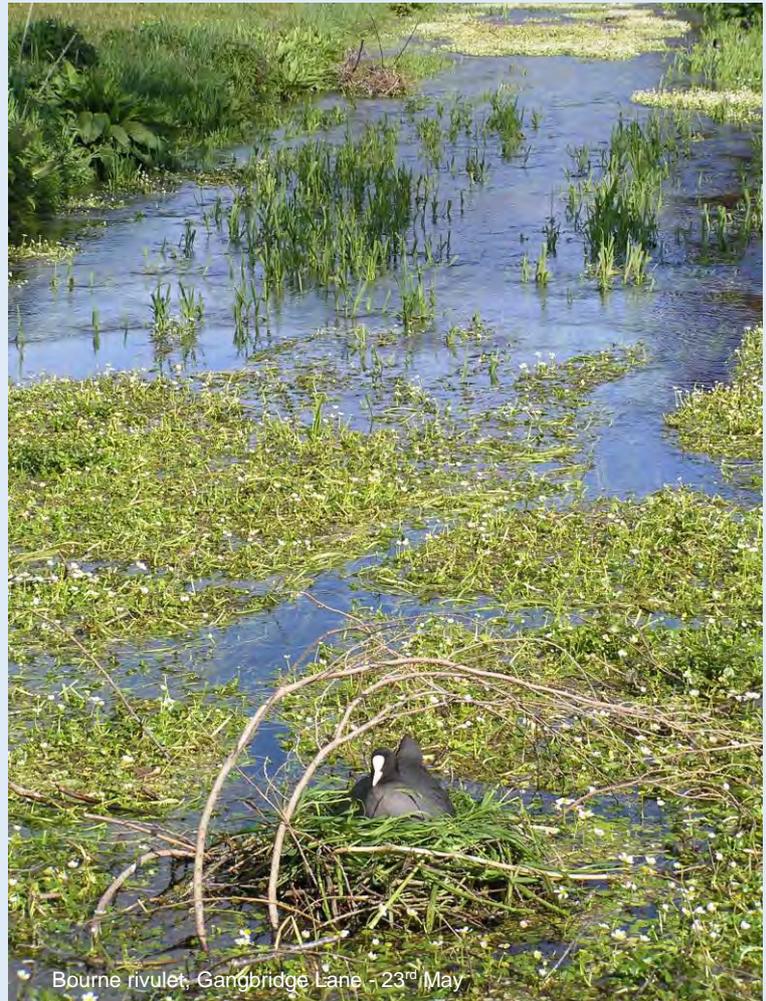
Longparish

- 11 9.15am - Friday Litter Pick - Longparish Village Hall
- 13 10am - L2SOTM handicap race - Cricket Ground
- 14 7.30pm - Parish Council Meeting
Longparish Village Hall
- 22 4pm - Longparish **Gardening Club**
visit to Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants
- 26 The Longparish **Mid-Summer Fun Day**
see LCA Facebook, LCA Website and Posters
around the village for more details

Hurstbourne Priors

- 21 10.15am - **Ladies' Coffee Morning**
Hurstbourne Priors House
- 26 7pm - **Midsummer Celebration**
and **Charity Auction** - Village Hall

If you have a seasonal 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.



Bourne rivulet, Gangbridge Lane - 23rd May

Andover Artisan Market - Sunday 20th June
10am to 2pm - High Street

Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall: Mrs Helen Ford, ☎ 07789 691018, e: helenford62@hotmail.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

Village and community halls will be able to gradually open up for many of the usual functions and activities.

Copy date for the July/August 2021 Hill & Valley edition: Wednesday 16th June 2021

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

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Websites

* Hill & Valley pages on-line

Hurstbourne Priors:

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

Longparish:

Parish Council: www.longparish.org.uk *

St Mary Bourne:

Parish Council: www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk *

Village Centre: www.stmarybourne.co.uk

Community Hub: www.stmarybourne.org

The Bright Waters Benefice: www.brightwatersbenefice.com

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