

Issue No. 254

# *Hill & Valley*

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

50p

December 2021

January 2022

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

It is a long time since I watched the film of Charles Dickens' 'A Tale of Two Cities' and even longer since I read it! But his opening paragraph is rather apt for what we have lived through: "It was the best of times, the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope it was the winter of despair."

We have come to the end of a second year affected by a global pandemic and these words resonate with our experiences. There have been some very dark times for our communities as we have had to adapt to government announcements and changing legislation, coping with stress, loneliness and mental health issues but there have also been many positives; new ways of doing things differently, new ways of connecting, building community in new ways and I think we have all been grateful that we have the countryside surrounding us. This part of Hampshire is, indeed, a very special place. But a post-Covid New Year will soon be upon us so what can we do? Here are three ideas...

1. We can be involved in the shaping of our world with heightened awareness of equality, diversity and inclusion in our communities.
2. We can all play our part in building a waste free world (Earthshot challenge #1)
3. We can be influential and instrumental in providing help, support and relief for the world's poor.

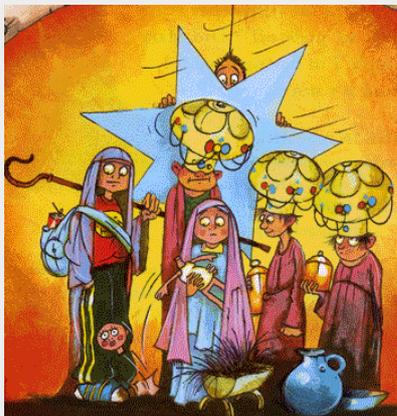
Are these new ideas... no, of course they're not, they're ancient, probably about 1400 BC, although written rather differently! But they are tried, tested and proven to be of great worth.

And here are three more personal ideas for 2022...

1. Take up a hobby (new or renewed)
2. Make 2022 the year you do 12 random acts of kindness perhaps anonymously, one a month.
3. Do something you have never done before.

Finally, because we all loved Gervase Finn's 'A Wayne in a Manger' last year, here's one more story. (With credit and thanks to him and the children of the Yorkshire schools he inspected.)

### The Visitation



"Who are you?" Mary asked while she was dusting the shelf. "I'm the Angel Gabriel," the boy replied with a dead pan expression. "Well, what do you want?" "Are you Mary?" "Yes," she said. "I come with glad tidings." "What?" "I've got good news." "What is it?" "You're having a baby." "No, I'm not."

"You are." "Who says?" "God, and He sent me to tell you. And it will be a boy and he will become great and... he will be called - err, umm, Son of the Most High and..." Interrupting Mary asked: "What if it's a girl?" "It won't be."

The angel added: "Oh, and you are to call him Jesus." "I don't like the name Jesus; I want to call him Gavin." "No," the angel snapped, "you have to call him Jesus." "Alright, then. But I don't know what I'm going to tell Joseph." "Tell him it's God's." "Ok," said Mary smiling for the first time.

When the angel had departed Joseph entered. He had a brown dressing gown on and a multi coloured tea towel on his head. "Hello Mary," he said cheerfully. "Oh hello Joseph," she replied. "Have you had a good day?" "Pretty good really"...she told him. "What happened?" he asked. "Nothing much." Prompting her, he asked: "You have something to tell me, haven't you?" There was a slight pause before she replied. "Yes, I'm having a baby - oh, and it's not yours."

@ Gervase Phinn: A Wayne in a Manger 2005 Ch. 7 The Visitation.

There is something very special and heart-warming about the Nativity.

December and January are the seasons of Advent and Epiphany, and in the middle it's Christmas, and they are filled with preparation and hope - excitement and trust. This is a time when we can know afresh generosity of spirit and kindness.

What more is there to say but to hope that along with family, friends and neighbours, near or far, whether we are alone or together, every person in our benefice will have a Happy Christmas.

Dodie



**Come and join us to discover more about the story of hope we celebrate at Christmas.**

Using the book 'Finding Hope Under Bethlehem's Skies' we will explore the Biblical book of Ruth and find out the wonderful roots of the Christmas story. Each week the afternoon and evening sessions will be the same so you can mix and match!

**Afternoon Sessions, Venue:** Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall  
 Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December - 2.30pm  
 Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December - 2.30pm  
 Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December - 2.30pm

**Evening Sessions, Venue:** Zoom  
 Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December - 7.30pm  
 Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December - 7.30pm  
 Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December - 7.30pm

Please contact Rev Helen [revhelenosullivan18@gmail.com](mailto:revhelenosullivan18@gmail.com) for more details and the Zoom joining codes for the evening sessions.

## Services in the Parish Churches

### December 2021 & January 2022

All Zoom details are available from the Church wardens or Dodie Marsden.

#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Advent 2

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.00am	<i>Family Communion</i>
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>



**Home Zoom service at 10.30am**

#### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December

St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.30am	<i>Midweek Communion</i>
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#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Advent 3

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	9.00am	<i>All Age Communion</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>All Age Communion</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>All Age Communion</i>
	4.00pm	<i>Christingle</i>
St James', Woodcott	no service	



**Home Zoom service at 10.30am**

#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Advent 4

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	<i>Carol Service</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	6.00pm	<i>Carol Service</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	6.00pm	<i>Carol Service</i>
St James', Woodcott	4.00pm	<i>Crib Service</i>



**Zoom service at 10.30am from St Andrew's**

#### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	4.00pm	<i>Crib Service on the Recreation Ground</i>
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#### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve

St Nicholas', Longparish	5.00pm	<i>Christingle</i>
	11.00pm	<i>Midnight Mass</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	5.00pm	<i>Nativity on the Recreation Ground</i>
	11.30pm	<i>Midnight Mass</i>
St James', Woodcott	no service	



#### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>All age Communion</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>



#### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December - Boxing Day

All Saints, Barton Stacey	10.30am	<i>Benefice Service, Holy Communion</i>
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#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - Epiphany

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	<i>All Age Communion</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>



**Home Zoom service at 10.30am**

#### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January - Baptism of the Lord

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	6.00pm	<i>Evensong</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>All Age Morning Praise</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>All Age Communion</i>
St James', Woodcott	no service	

**Home Zoom service at 10.30am**

#### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January

St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.30am	<i>Midweek Holy Communion</i>
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#### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January - Epiphany 2

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	<i>Matins</i>

**Zoom service at 10.30am from All Hallows**

#### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - Epiphany 3

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	9.00am	<i>All Age Morning Praise</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>All Age Communion</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>All Age Morning Praise</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Evensong</i>
St James', Woodcott	no service	

#### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January - Presentation of the Lord

All Hallows, Benefice service	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
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With a few changes happening over the coming months, as your local vicars, we wanted to make sure everyone in our local churches and villages knows how to get in touch to find out about church services, baptisms, weddings and funerals. We are here for everybody regardless of whether or not you attend church regularly.

For all enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals in any of the parish churches, please contact the Church Office Administrator:

☎ 01256 892535

[parishadmin@ahwhitchurch.org.uk](mailto:parishadmin@ahwhitchurch.org.uk)

Rev David Roche:

[revd.davidroche@hotmail.com](mailto:revd.davidroche@hotmail.com)

Rev Helen O'Sullivan:

[revhelenosullivan18@gmail.com](mailto:revhelenosullivan18@gmail.com)

Rev Canon Dodie Marsden:

[dodie.marsden@gmail.com](mailto:dodie.marsden@gmail.com) ☎ 01264 738211

• 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](mailto:rachel.borgars@methodist.org.uk)

### From the Church Registers

#### Baptisms

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

**Charlie and Clemmie Marsden** at St Peter's, St Mary Bourne on 20<sup>th</sup> November

**Freddie Rambridge** at St Nicholas, Longparish on 21<sup>st</sup> November

#### Funerals

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

With deepest sympathy we record the following:

#### **Kit Fleming**

#### **Allan Snow**

*We remember them and their families in our prayers*

## LONGPARISH PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Sally Lawman

[clerk@longparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@longparish.org.uk) or telephone 01264 738716

### REPORT FROM PC MEETING ON 8th NOVEMBER 2021

#### Planning

The Parish Council had **NO OBJECTION** to the following planning applications:

- Revised application for erection of rear extension at **68 North Acre**
- Erection of new dwelling and garage following demolition of existing dwelling and garage at **Highfield**
- Installation of a swimming pool at **East Aston House**

**Bryan Hirst Recycling Centre, Bullington Cross** – although not asked to consider this application, as it falls outside the parish boundary, the PC decided to consider and submit an **OBJECTION** to the proposal in response to a request from residents from Bullington.

#### Council Vacancy

Following the resignation of Mrs Danielle King in October, a vacancy exists on the Parish Council. Anyone interested in joining the Parish Council should contact the Clerk or the Chairman for further information.

#### The Plough Inn – Roof update

At the October meeting, the PC gave approval to engage a structural engineer to make a report about the condition of the roof, urgency of repair, and likely costs involved. It was reported that Councillors and representatives of LCPL had met with a surveyor, structural engineer, and roofing specialist at The Plough to go through the pre-purchase survey report, and all three specialists agreed that the roof is structurally sound and could find nothing of particular concern. This advice was offered free of charge. Some work is required to rectify tile slippage and improve the chimney flashing to repair a leak, and the roofing specialist has been asked to quote for these repairs. The Councillors were very reassured to receive this report, and agreed that this was positive news for LCPL, as the expenditure is unlikely to be as much as at first thought. Once the initial quote has been received, the Parish Council will be in a better position to decide if it should take any further action.

#### Open Spaces

The Clean-Up Day on 6 November was a great success with approximately 25 volunteers turning out – please see separate report from James Hillier.

Volunteer allotment manager, Gordon Leask, has decided to step down. The Parish Council thanks him for taking on this role, ably managing the waiting list, collecting fees, producing newsletters for the allotment holders, and implementing the introduction of formal allotment agreements. He will be succeeded by Hilary Murdoch.

#### Communications Working Party

The Parish Council received a report from the Working Party about their ongoing project to redevelop the website. Several development companies have been approached, and the group have been looking at other PC websites for ideas about content and layout. The Working Party will also consider other forms of communication, including social media, and discussed appropriate locations for noticeboards. It was reported that due to changes in the Benefice, the Hill & Valley business group will shortly meet to discuss the implications of the changes on the production of the magazine.

#### Hedge management to make highways safer – now is the time to cut back your hedges!

The question of speed and drivers' behaviour raises the importance of keeping hedges cut back when bordering roads and rights of way, particularly at junctions. It is the responsibility of landowners to ensure that their hedges are cut back to allow for good visibility for pedestrians, cyclists, mobility scooter users, riders, and drivers. Thank you to those who always maintain their hedges so road users can clearly see and be seen by other traffic, and so that pavements can be easily navigated.

#### Parish Council Meetings

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at **7.30pm on Monday 13 December**. 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 [christian.drydenpc@longparish.org.uk](mailto:christian.drydenpc@longparish.org.uk)) or by contacting the Clerk.

*Minutes of all previous meetings are available on the current or archived Longparish website*

<http://www.longparish.org.uk/parish-council/pc-minutes.html>



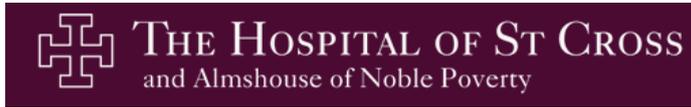
#### Greening the Country, Community by Community

-a blueprint for communities to take local action against Climate Change

Save the date for a **PUBLIC MEETING on 23rd March 2022 at 7.30pm** to find out about the small changes we can all make to have a bigger community impact on reducing our carbon footprint. Everybody welcome.

To find out more visit [www.greening-campaign.org](http://www.greening-campaign.org) or to become involved in **Greening Longparish**  
Email: [green@longparish.org.uk](mailto:green@longparish.org.uk) or call Christian on 720398

The Greening Campaign is Supported by the Parish Council



**St Cross** (officially The Hospital of St Cross and Almshouse of Noble Poverty) in Winchester was founded by Bishop Henry of Blois in the 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.

### Letter from The Reverend Terry Hemming, Master

What is on the other side of the walls? Vacancies exist for new residents.

It was good to welcome a number of you at the licensing here eighteen months ago (though how unwise to be put in a new post two weeks before lockdown!) and since then to have visits by both Longparish Gardening Club and Book Club. The meadows have had many new visitors during the pandemic including dog-walkers, runners, and many just wanting some exercise outside their home to our followers of Keats, our Canterbury and Salisbury pilgrims. Most haven't ventured into the Hospital (and therefore have not been able to ask for the dole). Yet from outside we hear remarks such as: "They are all monks there" or "They provide housing for retired clergy" and "They all have to be very poor" or "They are all people who have studied at Oxford", none of which is true. Many people wrongly think we have strict criteria for choosing the Brothers. Yes, we have flats for retired men and when they attend Chapel they are asked to wear their gowns but they are not people who have taken any religious vow or have any special history of church attendance. They are united by one bond: the need for secure housing. After that diversity rules, in educational backgrounds, from where they moved to St Cross (varying from Hampshire to Australia and many points in between) and even in religious views.

As the pandemic meant we were unable to invite prospective Brothers to stay, we currently we have a number of empty flats. So, we are looking for Brothers who wish to live independently but belong to a community. Lunch is provided Monday to Friday, but all the flats have kitchens for the Brothers to prepare their own meals. A Warden is on duty from 8am – 5pm during the week. There are various voluntary social functions; the only communal activity being the 15-20 mins daily service of Mattins at 10 o'clock, which all are requested to join. On Mondays this is followed by "pay parade" when each Brother receives a pound coin in a leather pouch. Many Brothers pay their contribution to the flats from their pensions but many others cover this cost with housing benefit. During the lockdown the Brothers were able to enjoy the grounds and the Parish of St Faith very kindly did their shopping so that they could shield. Consequently, no Brother has so far caught Covid-19 and we all have been double vaccinated.

As well as being home to the Brothers we warmly welcome the Parish of St Faith who have worshipped in our lovely Chapel since 1507. Visitors are astounded to learn that the building was originally intended for the thirteen Brothers of the original foundation and for any pilgrims passing through. We also host various other activities with musical events making most of the wonderful acoustics and have a beautiful Master's garden which is appreciated by those who have discovered it. For those wishing to do so regularly membership of the Friends of St Cross makes it much easier (and cheaper).

If you know of anyone who might benefit from being a Brother at St Cross the initial contact should be with the Clerk to the Trustees: [clerk@hospitalofstcross.co.uk](mailto:clerk@hospitalofstcross.co.uk) (01962 878218) or the Master: [master@hospitalofstcross.co.uk](mailto:master@hospitalofstcross.co.uk) (01962 853525).


GARDENING


LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB

There will be no meeting in December but we wish everyone a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS and look forward to meeting again on **TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022** at 7pm at LONGPAIRSH VILAGE HALL, SP11 6PB when our speaker will be GILLIAN TAYLOR ON 'My Greenhouse Year'

We will look forward to re-enrolling all existing members and new members welcome from within our Hill and Valley Parishes.

Any enquiries please to:  
Rosie Lowry  
01264720325 [rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com](mailto:rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com)  
Or Marion Bell 01264720205

### VILLAGE CLEAN UP



Thank you to everyone involved in the Village Clean Up Day in November – much was achieved including : scraping back encroaching undergrowth along the spinal path, litter picking, leaf sweeping, stream cleaning, bus shelter cleaning and footpath tidying.

I would like to thank everyone that made it possible: Collards (for the skip donation); Lower Mill; Middleton Estate; HLM Agric; Richard McAllister and Mick Blocksidge for superb tractor skills; Jo Clare for running the event; The Cricketers for the lunch and all the volunteers who gave up their time to keep our village beautiful!

**James Hillier**



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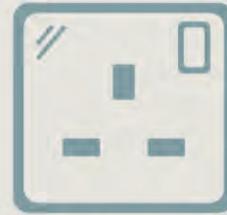
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## The Plough

The Plough is busy gearing up for the Yuletide festivities. Chef Dean has prepared some really delicious **Christmas specials** which are available alongside our usual bar menu: you can find details on our website [www.ploughinn.org](http://www.ploughinn.org), or come along to the Plough, sit by the fire and peruse the menu over a nice glass of wine.

First of all, here are our all-important **opening hours** for Christmas and New Year:

- Christmas Eve 11am until 10pm (Food 12.00 - 5.30pm)
- Christmas Day 11.30am - 2pm (Drinks)
- Boxing day 12.00 - 9pm (Food 12.00 - 5.30pm)
- Monday 27th December 5pm - 10.30pm (Drinks)
- Tuesday 28th December 5pm - 10.30pm (Pie Night 5pm until 8.30pm)
- Wednesday 29th December 5pm - 10.30pm (Steak night 5pm until 8.30pm)
- Thursday 30th December 3pm - 10.30pm (Food 5pm until 8.30pm)
- New Year's Eve 12.00 - 5pm (For food and drinks)
- Reopening for a **New Year's Eve party** from 7.00pm (Tickets £10 per head).
- New Year's Day 12.00 - 11pm (Food 12.00 - 8pm)
- Sunday 2nd January 12.00 - 8.30pm (Food 12.00 - 5pm)

On the evening of the 17<sup>th</sup> December (Friday), the renowned and versatile **Longparish Choir** will be entertaining and delighting everyone at the Plough with some wonderful carols. Christmas jumpers and reindeer antlers are optional but encouraged and you're very welcome to sing along – song sheets will be available.

The following day, and with carols still ringing in our ears, we will welcome a very special visitor to the Plough. We're really delighted that **Father Christmas** has agreed to swing past for breakfast from 9.00 until 11.30 on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Please do come and join in the festive fun - but you'll need to book: it's £14.95 per child (including breakfast and a gift from Father Christmas). Adults are welcome for breakfast too (£9.95). HO! HO! HO!

On a less festive, but very exciting note, the beautiful **River Room** at The Plough is now open for business and pleasure: it's available for community activities, business meetings, parties and private dinners. For details and information on how to book it, please email [info@ploughinn.org](mailto:info@ploughinn.org), call Steve and Lucy (01264 720069) or visit [www.ploughinn.org](http://www.ploughinn.org)

And finally, there are still some **vacancies at the Plough**. We're looking for a full-time sous-chef/commis chef/chef de partie; a part-time cleaner and kitchen porters (to pot wash and work with the chefs). If you think you would like to join our team call The Plough or email [careers@lcpl.org.uk](mailto:careers@lcpl.org.uk)

From everyone at the Plough, **we wish you a very Merry Christmas** and look forward to welcoming you.



## The Cricketers Inn

-Longparish-

A big thank you for all your continued support!

In addition to our normal menu, we will be running a set Christmas menu in December too, see below:

### CHRISTMAS SET MENU

MONDAY 6th DECEMBER -THURSDAY 23rd DECEMBER 2021  
TWO COURSES £18.50 THREE COURSES £24

#### STARTERS:

- ROASTED BUTTERNUT AND RED PEPPER SOUP WITH A CIABATTA ROLL (V)
- HOMEMADE SMOKED SALMON AND CREAM CHEESE ROLLS SERVED WITH SALAD AND SOURDOUGH BREAD
- HOMEMADE PARMESAN CUP, FILLED WITH SMOKED CHICKEN, SUNDRIED TOMATO, ROCKET AND FIGS DRESSED WITH BALSAMIC

#### MAIN COURSES:

- ROAST TURKEY SERVED WITH SAUSAGE MEAT STUFFING, PIGS IN BLANKETS, BACON FRIED SPROUTS, YORKSHIRE PUDDING, GRAVY AND SEASONAL VEGETABLES.
- SEABASS FILLETS SERVED ON A CELERIAC MASH WITH TENDERSTEM BROCCOLI AND A PARSLEY SAUCE
- BUTTERNUT, BEAN AND CHEESE PIE, SEASONAL VEGETABLES ROAST POTATOES WITH GRAVY (V)

#### DESSERTS:

- CHRISTMAS PUDDING WITH BRANDY SAUCE
- HOME MADE CHOCOLATE BROWNIE WITH VANILLA ICE CREAM
- HOMEMADE BAILEYS BREAD AND BUTTER PUDDING WITH CUSTARD

### LONGPARISH WILDLIFE BY CHRIS BOWMAN

#### THE FOX

The Fox has reddish-brown fur, a white chest and a bushy, white tipped tail, called a brush. Its nose and ears are pointed. It's surprising how few people have seen a fox. They can sometimes be seen in the daytime but they are most active at night.



Foxes are persecuted in the countryside mostly on shooting estates. But the sly old Fox has moved into our cities like London. People think it's great to have a Fox living under their garden shed and regularly leave food out for them. They can be very destructive. If one

managed to get into a chicken hutch it would kill all of them. People think it's because the kill excites them.

Foxes are scavengers and will eat almost anything they can find, including insects, earthworms, fruit, berries, birds, small mammals (field voles), carrion and scraps left by humans. Females have one or more breeding dens, or earths, within their territory. Females give birth to four-seven cubs between March and May.

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### Friday Lunch Club

Last Dates for 2021 and welcoming in 2022

Longparish Village Hall  
12.00 - 2.00pm

The Lunch Club is open to anyone in the community. We serve a light home-made lunch of soup and a roll followed by cake and tea and coffee for just £3.

After lunch there is a talk or quiz - ideas for speakers always welcome.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December - **CHRISTMAS LUNCH** (the full works, Longparish School Choir and Christmas Quiz)

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January - Burns Night celebration

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February TBA

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Adventures in Greenland

Booking essential especially for Christmas Lunch  
To book a place and transport Andrea Harris 720 457 or Christian Dryden 720 398

### LITTER FREE LONGPARISH



November pickings, too blowy to make more of a picture

Longparish Friday Litter pick Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December and 14<sup>th</sup> January

- meet behind Village Hall 9.15 am and free coffee afterwards

December at the Cricketers, January at The Plough.



The Parish Council can provide litter picking sticks, hoops and bags. For information Tel Christian Dryden 720 398

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

Conditions were good for the November race and more than half our runners broke their handicaps. Well done all.

We welcomed new runners, James Grant, Laura Carswell and Dawne Laing and welcomed back Mark Curtis after a four-year absence. James and Laura finished first and second. Like many newcomers, they underestimated how well they would do in race conditions. Mr Handicap will sort that out next time.



Most Improved Woman and 3rd overall was Jo Clare with a personal best time. And it was good to see James Masters as our Most Improved Man. He is back to form after a long recovery from injury. Jo was presented with a hand sanitiser bottle as a temporary trophy. We'll hunt for the cup.

Thanks very much to Maggie Barber, Andy Smith, Nick and Sarah Collier, Pauline Brownlow and David Gould for helping and the Cricket Club for the lovely venue.

Our next event is on Sunday 12th December. It is our Christmas edition and will be followed by seasonal refreshments. Santa hats may be worn but are not compulsory. New runners are always welcome. You don't have to be fast. Please do give me a call or drop me an email if you'd like to join us.

Jeremy Barber

01264 720459 [mrieremybarber@gmail.com](mailto:mrieremybarber@gmail.com)

### LONGPARISH OF OLD

More information has come to light about the Longparish Boer War riot of 1900, briefly mentioned in the July/August edition of Hill and Valley. A search of the Salisbury and Winchester Journal archives reveals that the focus of the riot was Longparish bootmaker and Liberal Party activist William Tovey who angry villagers believed had expressed objections to Britain's involvement in the second Boer War.

PC White told the county petty sessions that he witnessed an angry crowd descend on Tovey's Middleton home and shop claiming he was unpatriotic and the demonstration turned violent when a stone was thrown, smashing a window of the shop by a rioter "protecting his hand with a tall hat". In the dock were three Longparish men Albert Gilbert, Leonard Pacey, and Charles Taylor who were accused of wilful damage. Then two men broke down the front door of the house.

The troubles were the culmination of a number of "hostile demonstrations" against Tovey after rumours spread following a meeting at the Wesleyan chapel during which a hat was passed round to raise funds for British "sufferers" of the war. Two pounds was raised but it was later claimed that Mr. Tovey asked that half the money be sent to the Boers. Word quickly spread through the village but Mr. Tovey claimed the story "an absolute lie" and he had said no such thing. It seems the court and the Crown had little sympathy with him and the prosecution withdrew the case and a separate charge brought by Tovey was dismissed where he was denied £7.00 compensation for the damage. The bench decided there was a lack of evidence despite PC White witnessing the whole affair.

Tranquillity appears to return to Longparish as Mr Tovey continued to trade in the village for a number of years and for a time acted as clerk to the Parish Council, while riots against the Liberal anti-war stance were then occurring in many parts of the country. Newspapers reported that even Lloyd George was "practically lynched" at a rally in Birmingham Town Hall. He escaped disguised as a policeman. **Henry Yelf**

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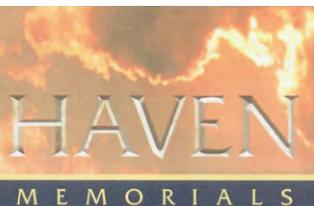
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## Longparish Little School

Thank you very much to everyone who donated, helped out and entered our pumpkin competition. All the decorated and carved entries were fantastic and



it was a very hard job to choose the winners. The heaviest pumpkin this year was entered by Matt at the Cricketers which weighed 60 pounds. The children had lots of opportunities to explore pumpkins at Little School. We scooped them out and made pretend pumpkin soup. We created faces for them and used hammers to hit in spikes for our pumpkin hedgehogs.

In Forest School we are learning about all the birds we might see in our gardens. We also made a campfire and toasted marshmallows.



The children have really enjoyed cooking and we have been learning about where all the different ingredients come from. The lovely Clare Sykes came in to make some amazing bread

hedgehogs with the children. We have also made our own pizzas.

We would like to say a big thank you to Jonathan Hopkinson who put a new water pump in our mud kitchen. The children have had great fun using the water to make delicious mud cakes.

If you would like to see some photos of all the exciting this we do at Little School you can go to our website [www.longparishlittleschool.org.uk](http://www.longparishlittleschool.org.uk) or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/longparishplaygroup> We are currently taking bookings for September 2022, if you would like to come and have a look around please email me at [claire@longparishlittleschool.org.uk](mailto:claire@longparishlittleschool.org.uk) or phone 01264 7205455.



## LONGPARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Our Remembrance Day Worship



We all gathered in honour of Remembrance Day and watched a short film clip that outlined the key themes and importance of the day. Our Year 6 Sports Captains shared a beautiful poem which set the tone of the Worship.

Our children stood for the one minute silence and reflected on the themes they had seen and heard. It was a truly fitting event.



### Roaring Rugby!



On Thursday 11th November, the Year 5/6 Tag Rugby team travelled to North Waltham Primary School to participate in the Georgian League. They won two of their matches convincingly and drew the third in a gripping final match.

We are very proud of their performance and give special thanks to Mr Williams for training them up in rugby club.

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 10 children from Kingfisher class (Year 3 /4) had the opportunity to represent Longparish at a Rugby Tournament held at Hurstbourne Tarrant Primary School. They showed team spirit and resilience throughout their matches, and went on to win the overall tournament and retain the shield. Each child received a medal for their achievements. Well done Longparish!



We have lots of things planned for the children for the festive season and wish all our families and the wider community a Happy Christmas!

**Nicky White**  
Headteacher

 All Saints Church, Barton Stacey will be hosting a return of THE Christmas Fair on Saturday 4th December from 12-4pm. Stalls include handmade gifts, produce, homemade soup and a roll, Danish waffles and maybe even a glass of something festive with a mince pie whilst you browse. Please do come and join us.

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## 5 Winter Wellbeing Wishes

By Chloe of *Keep Moving Pilates*

During the cold winter months when the appeal of curling up on the sofa in front of the fire all day beckons, our physical health and wellbeing can suffer. However, incorporating one change into your daily routine can make a huge difference. Here are some ideas – just pick one and do it every day!

- **Step Outside – within 2 hours of waking go for a 20-minute walk with your sleeves rolled up and take in the nature around you.** Sunlight especially in winter resets the body clock helping you feel more awake and promoting sleep at night, while increasing serotonin levels and improving blood pressure. Contact with nature boosts our immune system and mental health improving stress levels and lowering inflammation.

- **Short Bursts of Exercise – do 3x 10mins of high intensity activity eg: digging/skipping/stair-walking or cartwheels!** Little and often but more strenuous is proven to be as good for cardiovascular fitness, blood pressure than one longer workout and even better for reducing body fat and bad cholesterol. Challenging blood flow to the brain helps prevent cognitive decline.

- **Shower in Cold Water – start with 10secs, build up to 2mins.** Regular exposure to cold shock elicits a stress response which over time improves immunity and reduces the inflammatory response thereby decreasing the risk of many illnesses.

- **Stand on One Leg – while brushing your teeth or boiling the kettle!** Good balance reduces risk of injury, provides confidence in movement thereby promoting mental health. Balance is so fundamental to our mental and physical health it is an indicator of life expectancy.

- **Slow Breathing - take a minute before bed, inhale for 4 seconds, exhale for 6 seconds...** Slowing your breathing rate stimulates your parasympathetic nervous system combating high blood pressure, stress, anxiety and providing clarity of thought. Nightly practise will help your sleep and prepare you for when you need it most.

*Always check with your doctor before starting a new physical regime especially if you have problems with blood pressure, dizziness or joints.*

Contact [chloe@keepmovingpilates.co.uk](mailto:chloe@keepmovingpilates.co.uk) about Pilates classes in Longparish Village Hall



LONGPARISH CRICKET CLUB

### The Snows and The Kingstons



A new memorial bench has been installed at the club in memory of Robert (Bob) Kingston, after a kind donation from the family. It has a prominent position between the pavilion and the scoreboard.

Three generations of Kingstons were at the club on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November to sit on the seat and pay their respects, on the second anniversary of Bob's passing.

The club also sadly reports the death of Allen Snow, another Longparish CC legend, who passed away on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

The Snow family were central to Longparish Cricket from well before the Second World War. Allen's father was Cob Snow and his brother was Dick, who passed away just a few years ago.



If anyone is interested in playing cricket or becoming involved with the club, please contact either Justin Jackman, Junior Co-ordinator: [jackmanjustin@aol.com](mailto:jackmanjustin@aol.com) or Mark Benzing, Chairman, [mbenzing@aol.com](mailto:mbenzing@aol.com)

### BARTON STACEY WOMENS INSTITUTE

Barton Stacey Women's Institute at Barton Stacey Village Hall 7.30pm on Thursday 27 January 2021

Ladies you are welcome to our meeting when our guest speaker will be Neil Stace - The Sewing Soldier.

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**WEATHER – OCTOBER 2021**

Total rainfall for month	166mm	6.53in
It rained on	10 days	
Rainfall same month last year	239mm	9.40in
Total for 2021	906mm	35.66in
Total for 2020	990mm	39.00in
Max temp (on 10 <sup>th</sup> )	22C	72F
Min temp (on 21 <sup>st</sup> )	1C	34F

Warmer and wetter than average, but not as wet as last October's record 9.40 ins.

*John Smail*

**LADIES COFFEE MORNINGS**

The December coffee morning will be hosted by Susie Urquhart at Copper Beech, 45 Hurstbourne Priors on Wednesday 8th December from 10.15 am.

The January coffee morning will be on Thursday, 13th at Bourne House, 53 Hurstbourne Priors with Susie Sorby. All welcome on both occasions!

For more information, or if you would like to host a coffee morning, please contact Susie Sorby (tel. 892665 or [sbsorby@hotmail.com](mailto:sbsorby@hotmail.com))

**WORD OF THE MONTH**

**JOY** The word this December describes the participation in the joy of others: CONFELICITY  
*to the world* So some of us will be starting our seasonal *scurryfunge* (December 2019) in preparation for the Season of CONFELICITY!

*Barbara Carrodus*

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

The Parish Council meets every other month on the final Wednesday at 6.30 in the Village Hall and the next meeting is on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

All Parishioners are very welcome to attend. You do not need to give any notice, however, if there is a particular item which you would like to discuss and which you feel it would be beneficial for the Councillors to look into prior to the meeting, please contact either the Parish Clerk, Richard Waterman, on [richard.waterman150@btinternet.com](mailto:richard.waterman150@btinternet.com) or Clare Read, Chairman, on [clareread@aol.com](mailto:clareread@aol.com) or 07711 917375. Minutes from previous meetings are available to view on the Parish Website.

**CHRISTMAS IN HURSTBOURNE PRIORS**

There will be some special services at St Andrews Church in the week leading up to Christmas.

Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am a traditional Carol Service – with readings and carols

Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 4pm on the Recreation Ground – an outdoor Crib Service with readings and carols followed by refreshments. If it is raining, we will be in the Church.

On Christmas Day, 25<sup>th</sup> December at 9am – Christmas Communion



We warmly invite you to join us – you will be most welcome!

*Hurstbourne Priors PCC*

**SAFARI SUPPER – 12 MARCH 2022**

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## WHITCHURCH SILK MILL



There are lots of upcoming events at Whitchurch Silk Mill as our programme gets back to normal:

### Current Exhibition: Made in the Hood, until 9 January 2022

Made in the Hood is a group of artists and craftspeople based around north Hampshire. Their exhibition will showcase work including painted silk and silk papercraft, bobbin wire lace, fused and stained glass, ceramics, paintings, jewellery and textiles. Lots of lovely Christmas present ideas!

### Pins & Needles December

Join us on 3 December between 2pm and 4pm for the next in our regular adult crafting sessions, to learn a new skill or just to enjoy the company of some like-minded crafters. Tickets at £10 include tuition, all materials and a hot drink from the café. Places are limited, so book as soon as you can.

### Christmas Fair, 4–5 December

Whitchurch Silk Mill Christmas Market has grown this year. The unique location on the banks of the River Test with handpicked high-quality exhibitors and a bustling atmosphere is sure to attract visitors from near and far. We'll be selling a range of tempting seasonal treats and delightful Christmas gifts by local makers, bakers and sellers. Open both days 10.30am to 3.00pm.



**Rag Rug Wreath Workshop, 5 December** as part of our Christmas weekend festivities, take part in this brilliant Christmas wreath workshop, made with rag rugs, giving you something you can use year on year! Places are limited, so book as soon as you can.

**The Weavers Arms, Friday 10 December** normally open for the Whitchurch Pub Race, this year The Weavers' Arms pop-up pub is open for one night only, on the banks of the River Test as part of our Christmas at the Mill programme. Open 6pm to 10pm, with a pub quiz, bar and snacks. The quiz starts at 7pm, with £10 per team to enter the quiz (up to 6 people).

### Baby & Children's Preloved and Gift Sale in the Mill grounds this festive season, Saturday 11 December

10.30am to 4.00pm. Sellers, this is your chance to have a declutter before Christmas, so book your place, any questions, please email [lisa.gale@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](mailto:lisa.gale@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk) Quality used and new items only, please. Buyers, come and pick up a bargain while helping to reduce, reuse, recycle. Maybe don't bring the kids to this one if Santa's stocking is going to get a helping hand in being filled up! £2 entry to the Sale in the Mill grounds, general admission applies to Mill entry.

Contact: [info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](mailto:info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk) – 01256 892065 – [www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](http://www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk)

### TUFTON FOOTBRIDGE UPDATE

As many of you are aware the prolonged closure of the footbridge over the River Test at Tufton is causing a great deal of inconvenience to residents and visitors alike.

Hampshire Countryside Service believe that they do finally have a workable solution to the problem. Plans have been made very difficult by Natural England and the Environment Agency forbidding any machinery to enter the river following an incident in the Itchen 2 years ago. It is hoped that a wooden structure will be able to be lifted onto the existing concrete base, a new handrail will also need to be fitted. The existing one no longer meets health and safety regulations.

The Parish Council, with the support of our MP Kit Malthouse, have been pushing for this unsatisfactory situation to be resolved as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, it is highly unlikely that the replacement will be in place before the end of this year. However, we have been assured that the Countryside Service are hopeful that the work will be completed during January, weather permitting.

In the meantime please can we ask all walkers to keep to the footpaths and not trespass onto private land in an effort to find an alternative route.

*Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council*

### ANDOVER FOODBANK – THANK YOU

Thank you so much for your very kind Harvest donation of 69.74kg given to support people in our community who are currently struggling. Your support means we can help families and individuals get the help they need to put food on the table, while they adjust to changing circumstances. We have seen a lot of need this year but also experienced amazing generosity and for all of you who donated through your church, store collection points, online, by post or direct to our door, we are very grateful.

*Thank you.  
Jenny Lelean*

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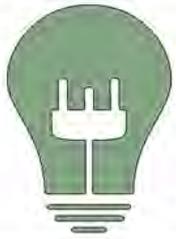
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## NEWS FROM TESTBOURNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

It is that time again and our Year 11 students have been working tirelessly on their Mock exams in preparation for their final exams, which are due to be taken in the summer. Mocks provide students with a valuable experience. We mimic the final exams as closely as possible so students rehearse the process of lining up in candidate number order, entering the exam room silently and operating within exam conditions. This removes any surprises and helps our students to feel confident with this process. Year 11 mock exams also provide students with a realistic indication of their performance so that they can reflect on and adjust their revision strategy. We are very proud of our students and how mature they have been throughout their mock exams. Keep up the good work!

Recently, we have seen great successes in our PE extracurricular activities as our students play their way through various matches and tournaments. From our badminton and table tennis teams, to our football and netball teams - we would like to take this opportunity say well done to all our sports teams and the effort each member puts in.



At the time of writing, we are eagerly awaiting and preparing to host this year's Testbourne PTFA Christmas Fair. Unfortunately, this wonderful event was not able to run last year due to Covid restrictions. We are really hopeful that it will be able to run, as close to normal, this year, and have booked Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> December for the event. This year, we are fundraising to purchase a canopy for our playground to protect our students from the elements, and the Christmas Fair will contribute a significant amount towards our goal. We hope to see you there!

Finally, we are anticipating the end of our SCOLA Building Reclad Project first phase. This phase is perhaps the most complex as it involves the middle section of the building, which houses the canteen, kitchen, several classrooms and other services. We are particularly looking forward to a much improved, larger dining space when completed.

Mrs Erin Sudds, Head of School  
[admin@testbourne.school](mailto:admin@testbourne.school)

## THE HARMONIUM SINGERS CONCERT ON 18 DECEMBER

After an enforced break last year the popular Christmas carol concert from The Harmonium Singers is back in style, as the choir not only celebrates a return to singing but also its 50th anniversary. Founded in 1971 to sing carols in the streets of Andover with an antique portable harmonium, the choir has developed over the years into a full chamber choir, often giving concerts in St Mary's Church in Andover.

This year's Christmas concert, entitled *In the bleak midwinter*, is once again set to raise the roof at St Mary's and the much-anticipated event is always an attractive mix of old and new carol arrangements, along with traditional favourites for all to sing. This year sees the choir's new musical director, Andrew Wyndham, take centre stage as Bruce Randall becomes Chair after leading the group for many years.

For those with concerns about Covid, Bruce has reassurance: 'We are very conscious that some people may still feel nervous about attending a live concert, but we will take extra steps with social distancing to keep everyone safe. To that end we are asking people to book their tickets in advance so that we can arrange group seating as required, avoiding queues and congested areas. Also there will be no interval, but the new individual seats in St Mary's are very comfortable and more spaced-out following the major reordering of the church in recent months.'

Tickets are £10 from The Lights, Newbury Building Society and choir members, with no charge for under-14s. Proceeds will go to Andover Crisis & Support Centre, which provides help and support for women, men and children who have been affected by domestic violence and abuse.

**The concert takes place at St Mary's Church, Andover on Saturday 18 December at the earlier-than-usual time of 7.00 pm. Further information: Veronica Bacon 01264 771285 [www.harmoniumsingers.org.uk](http://www.harmoniumsingers.org.uk)**



Photo: Elise Williams

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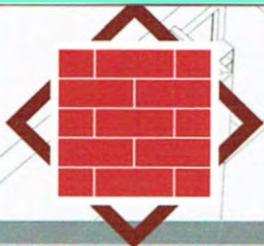
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**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
ST ANDREWS, HURSTBOURNE PRIORS**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is responsible for the financial affairs of the church parish and the maintenance of its assets, such as the church building and churchyard. It also assists the clergy in the management of church affairs in the parish and promoting the mission of the church.

Martin Brian-Evans has announced that he will be retiring as Churchwarden in March 2022 and we also have a vacancy on the PCC following the sad loss of Mark Williams.

Elections will take place at the Annual Meeting of the PCC in March and we will therefore be looking for nominations for these positions. If you are interested in serving on the PCC and would like to know more, please talk to either of the Churchwardens or the Clergy.

*Martin Briant-Evans and Fenella Williams  
Churchwardens*

**CHRISTMAS RUBBISH AND RECYCLING**

**Hurstbourne Priors and Tufton**

Our household rubbish and recycling collections will NOT be affected by Christmas and New Year holidays this year. We thought it would still be helpful to give you the collection dates:

- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December: Both waste collections as normal
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December: Household rubbish only
- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December: Both waste collections as normal

Please note that wrapping paper cannot be recycled and therefore households will be allowed to put out additional black bags with their household rubbish for this collection ONLY. If you have extra recycling then it can be put in a cardboard box or clear plastic sack.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January: Household waste only

Tufton's waste collections are the opposite way round so the collection on the 7th January will be for both bins and will allow additional bags as above.

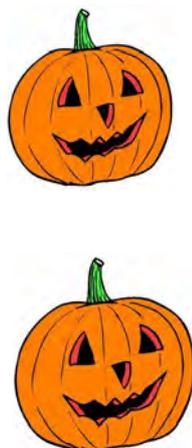
Christmas trees (real ones only!) can once again be recycled as part of your green waste collection if you are subscribed to that service. Please ensure all decorations are removed. Between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January real trees can also be dropped off at BDBC recycling points. The list has not yet been published so please check at [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/christmas-tree](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/christmas-tree)

If you know your neighbours are going to be away on a collection day then please do offer to put out their bins for them.



*Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year!  
Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council*

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**'Family Theatre' at  
St Mary Bourne Village Centre**



**60 minutes**

Jack sells his beloved cow Daisy for a handful of beans. Overnight nature takes its course, and soon there is a giant beanstalk leading up into the clouds. What will Jack find up there? Will he be able to turn his fortunes round? Bumblefly and Forest Forge are back with their ever-popular Christmas show. They have welcomed Mischievous Theatre into the mix, who is the wonderful Clive Holland; many of you will remember from Hänsel and Gretel, The Elves and the Shoemaker and The Frog Prince. This piece of traditional storytelling will be filled with all the mischief and mayhem you have come to expect, including asking some questions which get overlooked in the usual telling. What ever happened to Daisy the cow? Who was the mysterious bean seller?

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December - 7pm**

**Doors open 6.30pm**

**Tickets: £5 - children under 12: free**

Please reserve all tickets in advance by email

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*The St Mary Bourne Village Centre team wishes  
all our hirers and supporters a Merry Christmas  
and a very Happy New Year.*

*We thank you for your continued support in 2022!*



**The Community Library - Club Room**

**Saturday mornings between 10.30 and 12.30**

**The Lunch**

The team is looking forward to seeing everyone again in the New Year as we re-start our regular monthly community low-cost light lunches in the Village Centre. Our first lunch will be held on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022**, starting to serve at 12.30 pm. As before, our lunches will be held on the third Wednesday of each month, except for November and December which will be on the second Wednesday. Still **£3**, no need to book and if a lift is needed phone Chris on ☎ 01264 738110 by the day before.

Sip, Shop & be Merry

**St Mary Bourne  
Sip & Shop**

**Wednesday 1 December 7pm**

**Fashion Show, Wine Bar,  
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**Fashion Show by No 1 George Street plus:**  
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**Village Shop 1😊😊 Club**

Application Forms to join the 2022 Village Shop 100 Club are available at the Shop. £25 gives you 48 chances to win a monthly cash prize + an extra £50 draw at Christmas. Payment by cash or debit card only please. Proceeds in support of our Village Shop.

**November 2021 - 1😊😊 Club Draw:**  
**£50** - I & L Sarson    **£20** - C & M Farrell  
**£20** - E Lind-Smith    **£10** - M & B Cradduck

**Coffee at The George Inn**

All ages are welcome, from all the villages to a social coffee morning at **The George Inn St Mary Bourne on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December and 11<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am**

£2.50 for coffee and biscuits - For more information contact Win Coventry - ☎ 01264 738 199.



At Two Rivers Medical Practice we are increasingly concerned with the problem of climate change and have committed to implement changes at the surgery to reduce our carbon footprint and environmental impact. The climate emergency is also a health emergency and healthcare in the UK accounts for 5.4% of the UK's carbon emissions. We need to enhance the health of our current population without compromising the health of future generations and this means operating within the sustainable bounds of the planet.

### 'It's good for you, it's good for the planet'

Fortunately, many of the solutions to this problem can also improve our health. For example, eating a mainly plant based diet, engaging in active travel (i.e., by foot or bike), exercising in nature, avoiding smoking and reducing air pollution can help to prevent and manage many chronic diseases. This in turn can reduce your need for long term medications and other medical interventions which not only benefits your health but also the carbon footprint of the NHS.

Led by Dr Edgecombe, we have signed up to the RCGP endorsed Green Impact for Health Toolkit. This is a points-based toolkit through which the practice can earn awards in sustainability. We are currently working towards the bronze award.

Before COVID struck, Dr Edgecombe attended the Green Impact for Health conference in Frome, Somerset. Frome Medical Practice was the first practice to achieve the gold award. It was really inspiring to see the changes they have made to reduce their carbon footprint and enhance the care given to their patients. They achieved this by working alongside a network of social prescribers and with many local community groups such as The Men's shed, befriending services, gardening, nature, music and exercise clubs.

At Two Rivers Medical practice, we would love to compile a similar list of local projects to signpost patients to. Please email the surgery, FAO Dr Edgecombe if you know of anything suitable.

We are very excited to be working towards a more sustainable future for general practice.

Please follow our website and Facebook page for updates and tips on how to participate.

Further reading and resources can be found at <https://www.greenerpractice.co.uk/>.



'Tis the season to be jolly... And I for one am really looking forward to it. 2021 hasn't quite been the year we all expected. Covid, unfortunately didn't disappear by Spring 21 (I might have been fearfully optimistic to think it would), the summer wasn't all that, weatherwise, and we seemed to have been plunged back into a 70's like situation with supply shortages of food and increasing energy bills. But at least we can travel again... which is a massive blessing! For those of you travelling over the Christmas period to see family or to go find some winter sun or those of you skiing, I hope you have a fabulous time. For us others staying at home, do not fear! We have everything you need at your Community Village Shop to make for a cracking time!

If you haven't ordered your Christmas turkey and other bits and pieces, let us know. We might be able to sneak in the odd late order or two. To keep us all jolly we have mince pies, Christmas puds, Christmas Cakes, normal cakes, warming soups, fresh fruit and veg, crisps, dips, snacks... the list goes on... Magnums of wine, Champagne, Port, Sherry, Sloe Gin, mulling spices... Last minute guests? We've got you covered. We also have lots of small gift ideas, perfect for stockings or a thank you gift. Come and have a look... we think you'll like what you see!

As this is the final entry in Hill & Valley for 2021, I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who makes the shop, what it is. In case you're wondering what that is, it is a fantastic community asset that stands on its own two feet (in fact, we are in the top 15% of highest turnover of Community Shops in the country); that contributes wholly to a sense of community in the village engaging with over 30 volunteers and employing five village residents and giving four youngsters their first taster of working life. It is so much more than just a shop... it's village life at its best.

So, to Nadine, Gordon, Vicky and Julia – thank you for all your hard work – we are very lucky to have such a fab team. To Oscar, Leonie, Lucie and Teilo – thanks for working for us at the weekends. To all our lovely volunteers (too many to name) – you are awesome!! Thank you, thank you! And to the ever-supportive Shop Committee, you are all amazing, giving up so much of your time. Lastly, to our gorgeous customers! Thank you for supporting us, we have been so happy to be there for you this year and look forward to serving you in 2022.

On that soppy note, we will leave you to enjoy your Christmas! Happy Christmas everyone.

*Lara and the team xxxxx*



# Parish Council

## Summary report from the **November** meeting of St Mary Bourne Parish Council

Five councillors and the Clerk attended the meeting. Five members of the public were present for part of the meeting.

**Time for Public Speaking** - Parishioners made favourable comments about clearance work recently taken place around the lake, but concerns were raised about the poor state of fencing, the need for prior consultation with lakeside residents and the potential effect of chemical weed control measures on wildlife. They were informed that a Lake Management Plan was being drawn up to represent all interests and the Clerk was talking to the Lengthsman about fence repairs. Another matter raised was the difficulty for parishioners to read minutes from council meetings on the website and the lack of updated minutes on parish noticeboards. Concern was expressed about the building work and camber at the entrance to the Spring Hill development which might cause potential flooding and access difficulties during the winter months. The Chairman was still working on this with the Borough Council. A report was read out from a parishioner wanting to know whether gully & grip clearance work would be carried out by the lengthsman before the danger of groundwater flooding down Bourne Hill in winter storms. The Chair responded that all the identified work had been done by 4<sup>th</sup> November and HCC would soon be undertaking drain clearance work in the High Street. There were further questions about the appointment of a Tree Warden and communications between the Parish Council and the owner of Black Garden.

**County Councillor's Report** - HCC Cllr Thacker had sent a report about HCC Community Climate grants including money for training parish council officers and wardens and community grants for projects which might contribute to HCC's climate targets. For more information, visit

[www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/parish-town-council-investment-fund](http://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/parish-town-council-investment-fund) .

Cllr Thacker had reported the kerb damage at Stevens Green to the relevant HCC engineer who had assessed this was not a safety hazard and therefore would not action any repairs.

**Borough Councillor's Report** - B&DBC Cllr Carr's report included the cut-off date (15 Dec) for applications for B&DBC Community grants and also contained information about school governor vacancies, the Local Plan update with rural parishes' possible contribution to housing need and the B&DBC 4 year budget which had approved an increase in planning officers, waste collections/customer service and some grants.

**Other matters** discussed during the meeting included:

- Local Plan Update - Following a meeting with B&DBC Principal Planning Officer the chair would liaise with the original members of the Neighbourhood Plan committee to consider a review of this plan.

- Footpaths - A gate had been installed from Footpath 37 into Bells Meadow.

- Flood and Emergency Group - Restoration work of the river bank adjacent to the lake was continuing.
- Recreation Ground - The cricket wicket maintenance grant had not yet been received from B&DBC.
- Parish Council Notices - The Parish Council agreed that they would like to use the new Village Centre noticeboard which was likely to be positioned on the side of the Club Room or nearby.

It was agreed to retain the parish council telephone number (01264 738039).

Email: [clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk)

Next Full Parish Council Meeting:  
**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021, 19.30**  
**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 19.30**  
 Village Centre Club Room - Public welcome

All minutes and reports can be viewed at [www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk](http://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](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning) or by contacting the Parish Council Clerk ☎ 01264 738 039

## Newly registered Planning Applications December 2021

- Erection of stable building - **Danebury House, Upper Link** - 21/03301/FUL - 22 October 2021
- Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed erection of single storey rear extension - **Little Brook House, Church Street** - 21/03252/LDPO - 15 October 2021
- Erection of two storey rear extension and single storey rear/side extension - **1 Belle Vue Cottages, Baptist Hill** - 21/03218/HSE - 12 October 2021
- Erection of detached building forming store and garden room - **Jasmine Cottage, Doiley Bottom** - 21/03157/HSE - 5 October 2021
- Replacement rear windows, insertion of windows, and construction of gas bottle store - **Wessex, Egbury Road** - 21/03073/HSE - 25 October 2021

## Recent Local Planning Authority Decisions

- Erection of a steel framed agricultural building - **Swampton Farm, Gangbridge Lane (Wadwick Bottom)** - 21/03174/AGPD - 8 October 2021 - Prior approval required
- Erection of an Agricultural storage barn - **Mayfield, Binley Bottom** - 21/03062/AGPD - 27 September - **Raise no objection**
- Erection of rear conservatory - **Droveside, Chapel Lane, Stoke** - 21/02692/HSE - 17 August 2021 - **Granted**
- Erection of single storey stable building and creation of parking and turning area - **Land Adjacent To Breach Farm House, Egbury Road** - 21/01541/FUL - 4 May 2021 - **Granted**



## St Mary Bourne United Charities Trust

is a small local trust with funds to help people in the parish who are in financial difficulty because of illness, frailty or any unexpected event. Please contact the Clerk, Ruth Widén on 01264 738250 or [ruth.widen@btinternet.com](mailto:ruth.widen@btinternet.com) for more information in complete confidence.

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**Christmas Top Tips from Sustainable Bourne Valley**

- Use recycled and/or recyclable wrapping paper
- Look for plastic-free glitter and crackers
- Buy sustainable gifts or

experiences, support local businesses and the Village Shop

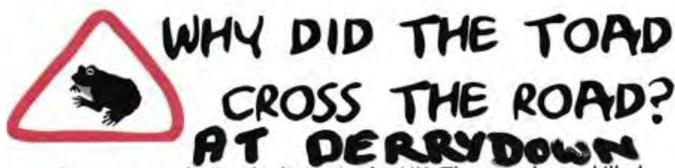
- Try for a 'No Waste Xmas Dinner' with vegan or vegetarian option
- Alternatives to sending Xmas cards are telephoning or emailing friends



**St Mary Bourne Repair Café**

will be open again at **The George Inn** on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

and again on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January**. Our helpers will be available from **10am to 12.30pm** to help you to repair your appliances etc. while drinking a nice cuppa and having a chat. Why not bring in your Christmas lights for a service or your decorations to fix?



Common toads are declining in the UK. Thousands are killed crossing roads each spring as they make their way to breeding ponds that they have used for generations.

**Can you spare some time to help local toads cross a road?**

Volunteers are needed to help a local 'Toads on Roads' patrol on mild, wet evenings in February and March.

If you are interested in helping please contact:

*Caroline Hayes on 01264 738579.*

All you'll need for patrolling is warm clothes, something reflective, a bucket and a torch. You can take part as little or as often as you like!



**froglife** [www.froglife.org/toadsonroads](http://www.froglife.org/toadsonroads)



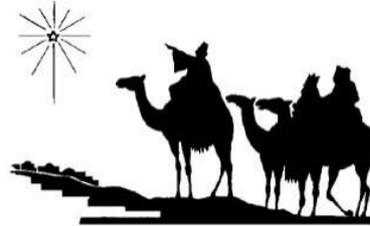
Everyone is invited to

**The Nativity**

on the Recreation Ground, St Mary Bourne, at 5.00pm on Christmas Eve

and to the

**Epiphany Service** on 2<sup>nd</sup> January at 9.00am at St Peter's Church to meet a camel or two!



All the Christmas services are on page 2 at the front of the mag.

**ADVENT CHURCH CLEAN**

~ Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December ~

*Please, please come and help*

It is a great social time. Come any time between **9.30am to 1.30 pm**. We are preparing for Christmas. Please put this **date** in your **diary now**. If you could spare just **half an hour** to help with a thorough clean of our church that would be wonderful. It's all hands to the pump. **Refreshments provided**

This is a very special clean for a very special time after so many months of restrictions. For any information call me on **738681**.

Look forward to seeing you then  
Many thanks, *Eve Lind-Smith*



**Latest Recommended Posting Dates**

Allow plenty of time for posting. Post items and gifts for Christmas early, particularly for International deliveries.

Ongoing Covid restrictions, reduced air and freight capacity, high volumes and winter weather conditions are all impacting transportation and local delivery across the globe.

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Signed For  
**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December** - 1<sup>st</sup> Class, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Signed For  
**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December** - Special Delivery Guaranteed

**Festive bin collections**

Unless bad weather affects bin rounds, there will be NO change to your collection days over the festive break this year as Christmas Day and Boxing Day fall at the weekend and we'll collect on the bank holidays. Put out your grey bin on your usual day before 7am, together with your green bin on your normal recycling week. [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bincollections](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bincollections)

**Real Christmas tree recycling**

Garden waste customers can put their Christmas trees out for collection with their garden waste. Alternatively you can take your real Christmas tree along to one of the tree recycling drop-off points available from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2021. For more information see [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/christmas-tree](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/christmas-tree)

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## Postcard from Binley

December 2021

I had to do something the other day that I haven't done in donkey's years and that's catch an early commuter train from Andover to London Waterloo. Flaunting my new Senior Citizens Railcard, I upgraded myself to First Class for two reasons:

- 1) With my old knees I needed the guarantee of a seat and
- 2) If I'm going to catch Covid on a packed commuter train I want the posh version.

The journey started just after 7.00am where the noticeable difference is we have mood lighting, more room and our seats are blue. The Standard Class, if they can get a seat is red. This segregation makes me feel warm inside and I settle down with *The Times* which I pretend to read as I people-watch those superior souls around me. I'd expected to see a carriage full of double-breasted old bores harrumphing their way through the Daily Telegraph but instead found an earnest bunch of jobsworths all furiously tapping away at laptops and iPads. What an earth are they doing at this hour that can't wait until they get to the office? In my day it was The Racing Post, a can of Holsten Pils and a Mars Bar?

Conversation is minimal if at all and occasionally some poor wretch comes staggering through from second class (yes, let's call it that!) desperately trying to find a seat to park their weary backside. They are almost always dragging an obscenely large suitcase and wearing a rucksack that appears to be full of house bricks? What do these people carry around with them? This is when the tutting starts. The woman in front of me started it and seemed well practiced. She was obviously displeased that the electric door that separated "us" from "them" was open and gave a sharp "tutt" swiftly followed by an intake of air that was then forced loudly back out. I believe it's called a "huff". So "tutt, huff!" This was picked up and repeated by other first-class passengers as they were either struck by the rucksack or had their toes crushed by the suitcase. Enthused and not wishing to look out of place I joined in and found I could tut and huff with the best of them, although at one point I think I huffed and tutted, but I don't believe anyone noticed so I got away with it.

Just after Basingstoke a little chap came into our carriage with the obligatory headphones, rucksack and iPad and proceeded to open a folding stool which he plonked in the middle of the aisle and sat on. The tutts and huffs now hit disco decibels and were added to by a mad swivelling of the eyes. I tried this and it made me feel quite nauseous, so I stuck to the tutting and huffing. Eventually a guard came by and ejected the poor devil which seemed to please my fellow first

class travellers who all broke out into smirks. I could do a smirk; I'd paid for the privilege of smirking after all and received an unsolicited wink in return from some old dandy in a chalk striped suit and pink socks. I wasn't one hundred percent sure if he had me down as one of them or "one of *them*" so I hid behind my newspaper and tried to avoid eye contact.

But sitting with this happy band at this time of year reminded me how much I miss the office Christmas party and I am sure many of you will be looking forward to your own. It was the one day of the year where I could tell my boss what I really thought of him and get away with it or declare unrequited love for one of the secretaries and on more than one occasion get some back. When I attended my first office party my father told me a story as a word of warning that he swore was true that I took to be his original but as I've since read it elsewhere, I must doubt that, however I shall tell you anyway.

A young chap is attending his first Christmas party. He starts on the rum punch, moves on to gin and tonics, ploughs through a dozen vol aux vents and some pineapple and cheese on cocktail sticks and an hour or so later is clutching a large whiskey and chatting to his boss's wife. He becomes a little feverish, the room begins to gently spin and suddenly his stomach starts to rumble, and he gets those sharp stabbing pains that we are all familiar with. Making his excuses he runs from the room and down the corridor to the bathrooms but alas nature and gravity beat him to it. Embarrassed beyond belief he flees the building and legs it around the corner to the local department store where he buys the first pair of trousers, he lays eyes on. Clutching the carrier bag, he makes a mad dash for the station and arrives just as his train is departing. He leaps on board and locks himself in the lavatory. As the train gathers speed through suburbia, he flings the offending trousers and undergarments from the window and reaches into the carrier bag where he removes..... a "V" neck sweater. He'd been given the wrong bag!

The sleepless nights I've had wrestling with this poor chap's conundrum don't bear thinking about! Yes, he could turn the sweater upside down, put his legs down through the arms and pull it up but what about the "V"? Does he wear it to the front or back? Either way will surely invite trouble? Answers via email to [postcardfrombinley@gmail.com](mailto:postcardfrombinley@gmail.com) and a



to you all!

NA



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## Free chalk stream sessions for schools and youth groups

What's weirder and more wonderful than nature? How about a habitat which is found almost nowhere on Earth, comes from a giant rock sponge, and can vanish like it was never there? If you're part of a school or youth group near the Test and Itchen headwaters, you can explore the magical world of chalk streams with our free education sessions!

The seven headwaters include the Bourne Rivulet, Upper Anton, Upper Test, and others further afield. These beautiful chalk streams are teeming with wildlife and heritage, but their rich history is matched by an uncertain future. We want to engage the next generation with these precious places, so they can protect and enjoy them for many years to come.

Luckily, local young people can now learn all about these amazing ecosystems through the Watercress and Winterbournes Landscape Partnership Scheme. We're keen to involve the Bourne Valley, whose residents have shown such a passion for this important topic and would love to hear from schools and youth groups in the area.

Our sessions are designed to be flexible: some stand alone, while others combine to form a more in-depth learning experience. Liven up a class or assembly with an interactive talk that takes you on a journey from source to sea. Visit a nearby stream to dip for wildlife and hunt for heritage features. Up the ante further with quizzes, model building, landscape art, and achievement badges.

Sessions are available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays all year round. They are free, although for a small cost you can add a visit to a mill, water meadow, or watercress farm. If your session involves travelling to one of the streams, then we can offer up to £150 towards your transport costs. No matter which location you choose, your time with us will be fun, hands-on, and memorable.

For more information visit the Wessex Rivers Trust website or contact the Watercress and Winterbournes Education Officer, Tracy Standish, at [tracy@wessexrt.org.uk](mailto:tracy@wessexrt.org.uk).



## Being Seen...

Winter months present a serious hazard to all road users with reduced visibility due to shorter days/longer nights and bad weather conditions. Road safety organisations recommend that pedestrians wear **reflective strips** (or something white) and carry a **torch** so they can

be spotted by motorists on unlit country roads & lanes.

**Stay lit and don't get hit!**

# Books <sup>at the</sup> Barn

Local authors' Christmas talk



**Jon Stock & Charlie Corbett**

**THE MAN FROM HACKPEN HILL & TWELVE BIRDS TO SAVE YOUR LIFE:**  
Nature's lessons on happiness

**Tangley Village Hall, Wildhern Lane,  
Wildhern, SP11 0JE  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
7 for 7.30pm**

Jon Stock, (writing as J.S.Monroe) is an ex-*Telegraph* Weekend editor, and author of five spy thrillers. *THE MAN FROM HACKPEN HILL* is an original and twisty thriller set in rural Wiltshire, and Porton Down.

When Charlie Corbett's mother died, he turned to nature and wildlife to help anchor him at a time of great uncertainty, anxiety and depression. In *TWELVE BIRDS TO SAVE YOUR LIFE*, Charlie shows us there is joy to be found in the very smallest of events.

**Tickets are £15 and include a glass of wine. Doors open at 7pm for Drinks, Talks start at 7.30pm and run until 8.30pm including questions. The Book Mark of Stockbridge will be selling books, and the authors will be signing them after the events.**

**For more information on all our events, please go to: [www.booksatthebarn.co.uk](http://www.booksatthebarn.co.uk)**



## St Mary Bourne

- 1 Dec 7pm - *Sip & Shop* - Village Centre
- 4 Dec 10am to 12.30pm - Repair Café - The George Inn
- 11 Dec 9.30am to 1.30pm - Advent Church Clean- St Peters Church
- 14 Dec 10.30am - Coffee at The George Inn
- 14 Dec 7pm - Jack and the Beanstalk - Village Centre
- 14 Dec 7.30pm - Parish Council Meeting - Village Centre Club Room
- 24 Dec 5pm - **The Nativity** - Recreation Ground
- 8 Jan 10am to 12.30pm - Repair Café - The George Inn
- 11 Jan 10.30am - Coffee at The George Inn
- 11 Jan 7.30pm - Parish Council Meeting - Village Centre Club Room
- 19 Jan 12.30pm - **The Lunch** - Village Centre

## Longparish

- 12 Dec 9am - L2SOTM Race, Longparish Cricket Ground
- 13 Dec 7.30pm - Parish Council Meeting, Longparish Village Hall
- 10 Dec 9.15am - Friday Litter Pick - meet behind Longparish Village Hall
- 17 Dec 12 noon - Friday Lunch Club Christmas Lunch, Village Hall
- 17 Dec Longparish Choir, Christmas Carols at The Plough
- 14 Jan 9.15am - Friday Litter Pick - meet behind Longparish Village Hall
- 25 Jan 7pm - Longparish Gardening Club - Longparish Village Hall
- 27 Jan 7.30pm - Barton Stacey Women's Institute - Barton Stacey Village Hall
- 28 Jan 12 noon - Friday Lunch Club Burns Night Celebration - Village Hall

## Hurstbourne Priors

- 8 Dec 10.15am - Ladies Coffee Morning - Copper Beech
- 19 Dec 10.30am - Carol Service - St Andrew's Church
- 23 Dec 4pm - Crib Service - Recreation Ground
- 13 Jan 10.15am - Ladies Coffee Morning - Bourne House
- 26 Jan 6.30pm - Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall



**Andover Artisan Market**  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December**  
 10am to 2pm - High Street

### BLADEN STUDIO OPEN DAYS

Join Tom Coates and Mary Jackson to view their paintings in oils and watercolours  
**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December - 11am to 4pm**  
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 01264 736539

**Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall:** Mrs Helen Ford, ☎ 07789 691018, e: [helenford62@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:helenford62@hotmail.co.uk)

**Longparish Village Hall:** Mrs Jacqui Healey, ☎ 07748 322533, e: [villagehall@longparish.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:smbvillagecentre@btinternet.com)

**Copy date for the February 2022 Hill & Valley edition: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

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](http://www.hurstbournepriors-pc.org.uk) \*

#### Longparish:

Parish Council: [www.longparish.org.uk](http://www.longparish.org.uk) \*

#### St Mary Bourne:

Parish Council: [www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk](http://www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk) \*

Village Centre: [www.stmarybourne.co.uk](http://www.stmarybourne.co.uk)

Community Hub: [www.stmarybourne.org](http://www.stmarybourne.org)

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