Hill & Valley

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



Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday draws us together in a unique way. Young and old gather to remember and reflect, each allowing some aspect of the reality of war to touch their soul.

Some who gather will bring memories of active service. Some will carry in their heart the memory of a loved one who made the ultimate sacrifice. Increasingly, many of us will be stretching our imaginations to try to grasp what those people must be feeling.

But all will be praying that as time rolls forwards that we will find ways of resolving differences and aggression which do not involve warfare.

When I was a teenager, I was in a military band. The band had a large number of ex-servicemen and women, many of whom had served in various wars.

Every year, we played for the Remembrance parade in Ealing. And I remember how the band changed its atmosphere and became less jokey and quieter.

We also played every year for a large group of Jewish servicemen at the Cenotaph in London. To this day I have never felt anything like it as a large group of men and women said absolutely nothing during the silence there – the silence was deafening!!

Silence was the only language that could somehow do justice to the feeling, the memory, and the imagination.

Silence *is* the true language of remembrance. But it's not the awkward kind of silence that is an outward expression of irreconcilable hostility – the sort of silence that is often only broken by guns and bombs.

It's a silence that is calm and mutual - the recognition that what matters is so much more than we can ever say that we might as well honour that fact by shutting up.

The silence of Remembrance Sunday is this sort of silence. It is the recognition that in order to do justice to what has happened, to do justice to the cost of war - its sacrifice and shame - we do not need to tell another story or sing another song.

Rather we need to be silent together. We need to recognise that sometimes the most important thing we can do is hold our tongue.

But we also know that while the power of remembrance connects us with sadness, it also inspires us in hope.

We remember not to allow the past to capture us in its worst moments but to build us up for the future. We remember not only to honour the fallen, but to raise them in our hearts and to promise to live lives worthy of their sacrifice.

Jesus knew the power of remembrance when he took a loaf of bread, blessed it and gave it to his friends saying, 'this is my body' and gave them wine to drink saying, 'this is my blood' and told them to remember him in this way. The kingdom of God – the long hoped for future of justice and peace, mercy and truth - is made of such simple things.

It is our duty to continue to remember and honour those who in the cause of peace have given, and continue to give, their lives, their health and their youth, are honoured.

And it is our duty to pass this on to the generations yet to come, who will themselves one day stand in silent remembrance and grow in hope.

Richard The Revd Richard Sutcliffe



Services in the Parish Churches

November 2025

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

Sunday 2nd - All Saints / All Souls

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors 10.30am Holy Communion
St Nicholas', Longparish 10.30am Holy Communion
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne 10.30am Holy Communion
6.00pm All Souls Service
St James', Woodcott 9.00am Holy Communion
Home Zoom Service at 10.30am

Wednesday 5th

St Peter's, St Mary Bourne 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 9th - Remembrance

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors 10.50am Remembrance
St Nicholas', Longparish 10.50am Remembrance
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne 10.50am Remembrance
St James', Woodcott 9.00am Holy Communion
Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online

Sunday 16th - 2 before Advent

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors 6.00pm Taize Service
St Nicholas', Longparish 10.30am Family Service
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne 10.30am Holy Communion
St James', Woodcott No service
Home Zoom Service at 10.30am

Wednesday 19th

All Hallows, Whitchurch 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 23rd - Christ the King

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors 10.30am Holy Communion
St Nicholas', Longparish 10.30am Holy Communion
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne 10.30am Holy Communion
6.00pm Benefice Evensong
No service

Home Zoom Service at 10.30am

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

1256 893573

brightwatersbenefice@gmail.com

Revd Russell Smart: © 01962 760508 revrussellsmart@gmail.com

Rev Canon Dodie Marsden:
© 01264 738211
dodie.marsden@gmail.com

- 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 rachel.borgars@methodist.org.uk

From the Church Registers

Baptisms

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

Alexander Marshall Dawnay

Longparish - 19/10/25

Eliza Margaret Dawnay

Longparish - 19/10/25

Funerals

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

Robert Charlton - Burial of ashes

Longparish - 21/09/25

Martin Frank Sutcliffe - Burial of ashes

St Mary Bourne - 4/10/25

Rozanne Phillips - Burial of ashes

St Mary Bourne - 10/10/25

You or someone else, please email stnbrightwaters@icloud.com giving the name (no surname required) and include a reason if you wish, or contact a member of the local ministry team.

Sunday 30th - Advent Sunday

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors
St Nicholas', Longparish
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne
St James', Woodcott

10.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion
No service

Home Zoom Service at 10.30am





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LONGPARISH PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

www.longparish.org.uk/parish-council

Council Chair: Emma Palmer (emma.palmerpc@longparish.org.uk

or 07881 923150)

Parish Clerk: Hayley Thomas (clerk@longparish.org.uk or 01256

396868)

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

RECENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

25/02239/CLEN Land Southwest of Faulkners Down Farm, Picket Piece

Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of land for storage and processing of feedstock,

digestate and dirty water and storage of propane in association with biodigester plant

Parish Council comments: No objection

25/01846/TREEN The Barn House, Forton

Proposal: T1 Leylandii – reduce height by 2.5m and trim side

faces by 1m front and back

Parish Council comments: No comment. TVBC approved

emergency tree works prior to the

Parish Council's review.

25/02197/DDCA River Cottage, Forton

Proposal: T1- Copper Beech – fell dead tree to rear of property

Parish Council comments: No comment. TVBC approved emergency tree works prior to the

Parish Council's review.

Full details of planning applications can be viewed on the Test Valley Borough Council website view-

applications.testvalley.gov.uk/online-applications/

VACANCY — COULD YOU BE OUR NEXT PARISH COUNCILLOR? Longparish Parish Council currently has four vacancies. With just six serving councillors, the Council is operating near the minimum number of members required and we need your help! We are looking for community-minded individuals to join the Parish Council and help us make a difference in Longparish. Becoming a parish councillor is a rewarding way to support the village and help influence local decisions on planning, open spaces, and community facilities. As a Councillor, you will have a voice in decisions that affect the village and help us keep Longparish a vibrant and thriving community. Should no candidates come forward, the Parish Council risks falling below a quorate number of members

which would allow Test Valley to assign councillors to the Parish Council, taking decisions about the village out of local hands. So if you have ever considered joining the Parish Council, now is the time!

Please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@longparish.org.uk to register your interest or find out more.



Interested?

Please contact the Parish Clerk at <u>clerk@longparish.org.uk</u> to register your interest or find out more.

WWW.LONGPARISH.ORG.UK

We are looking for communityminded individuals to join the Parish Council and help us make a difference in Longparish. As a Councillor, you will have a voice in decisions that affect the village and help us keep Longparish a vibrant and thriving community.

Love where You Live

Walk and litter pick – another way to keep fit! Thank you to all those who litter picked on the Longparish Clean Up Day.

Next group litter pick is on **Friday 14^hNovember**, **9.15am**. Meet at the Village Hall with free coffee afterwards at the LCA coffee morning, this month at the Plough from 10.00am.

Tel Christian Dryden 720 398 or email drydencr@googlemail.com



LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB

Tuesday, 25th November 7 pm At Longparish Village Hall, SP11 6PB

Christmas Party and Gardening Quiz









Usual Raffle with a Gardening/Christmas Theme Members Free. (Guests welcome £5.00) Any queries please to Rosie Lowry 01264720325 Or Marion Bell 01264720205





With the indoor cricket season kicking off in October, the update from Longparish CC this month is of other related activities. The 1st team attended the annual Hampshire

Cricket League presentation evening and dinner at the Ageas Bowl on 17 October 2025 to collect their League winner's trophy and medals. Many congratulations to the team on this fantastic achievement!

Also, a handful of players from the senior teams ran the Bournemouth Half Marathon on 12 October 2025 to raise funds for the Club to put towards improving facilities at the ground. A fantastic £1500 has been raised by their efforts and the Club would like to extend its thanks to all involved for their efforts and to all who generously sponsored the runners.



As mentioned earlier, the indoor cricket league season at Dummer Cricket Centre began in early October and Longparish CC has entered two teams this year. We're hoping that this season will be as successful as last year's for our teams.

Meet at The Plough
Friday 14th November
from 10am - 11:45am
Drop in for a chat, everyone welcome.
Coffee or Tea and biscuits, all for £1.00



LONGPARISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Longparish Village Hall 12.00 - 2.00pm

The Lunch Club is open to everyone in the community.

It is a place to come for warmth, company, break from your desk.

We serve a light lunch, of soup and roll followed by cake and tea and coffee for just £3.

So that we have an idea of numbers, please book beforehand.

Friday 28th November

Friday 19th December - Christmas Lunch,

Longparish school choir will be singing-essential to book early, current members take priority, as numbers will be limited.

To book a place Tel Andrea Harris 720 457 or Christian Dryden 720 398 Transport can be arranged



🍁 🍁 - LONGPARISH WILDLIFE AN EARLY AUTM<u>U</u>N WALK

We left home, the dog and I down the back path, and a lone **Jackdaw** is sitting on the chimney, and a few **House Sparrows** are on Arthur's feeders. At the shop, turn right, more **Sparrows** at Preston Cottage and two **Woodpigeons** and a **Collared Dove** are on the wires.

At the Pony Paddock are some **Rooks** and a few more **Jackdaws**. Turn left into Mill Lane it is very quiet at the moment, only a **Blackbird** on the hedge in front of me. Stop at the bridge, the usual **Grey Heron** is on the little bridge, and a few birds are in the dogwood beside me; I will have a look on the way back.

Turn left towards the ford and stop to look at what's on the lake this morning. There are fewer birds here now, they fish the lake most days. I can see Mallards, Gadwall, Tufted Duck, Moorhen, and a Pied Wagtail. On to the ford: more ducks and a Pheasant in the small paddock.

Turn right onto Nuns Walk and a **Magpie** flies over, and a **Carrion Crow**, so on we go. Stop at the gate and the usual **Buzzard** is sitting on a fence post; nothing else here. Turn right onto the bridge and there is a **Little Egret** up river, and a **Kingfisher** flies down the river and makes a sharp turn to the right when he sees me.

Turn right back onto Mill Lane and there is a small flock of **Goldfinches** in the dying ash tree. A **Robin** is in front of me and a **Greenfinch** in the tree beside me. So, on we go to the bridge, just before we get there, a **Kestrel** is in the field to my right, hovering, looking for something to eat.



Now at the bridge, I can see at least five **Blackcaps** they love the dogwood's black berries. There are also two **Chiffchaffs**; there are a lot of insects in amongst the dogwood's branches. On we go I can see a **Goldcrest** in a yew tree; that's our smallest bird.

Turn right and a **Red Kite** is flying around the pony paddock, having a look at Pete's **Bantams**. I think I will take a small detour up beside Gordon's and have a look up the field. I can see eight **French Partridges**, then a flock of **Long-Tailed Tits**, **Great Tits**, and **Blue Tits** appear. Glad I came this way and home.

I hope you enjoyed our walk today we saw 30 different birds.



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Christmas is nearly here..

Join us with family, friends or colleagues for a fabulous festive meal.

Our mouth-watering Christmas menu is now online for bookings from

17th November – 24th December



New Winter Menu!

A treat in store for you. Come and try our new Winter menu and enjoy delicious home-cooked dishes for lunch and dinner.

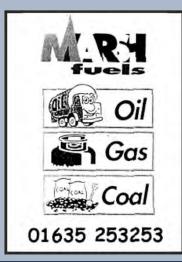
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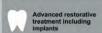


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Longparish Little School

This year was a bumper year for Pumpkin Animals.

We were truly astonished by the number of people who attended the pumpkin

competition this year, as well as the incredible pumpkins on display.



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who channelled their creativity into decorating their pumpkins, and to Maggie and Laura for taking on the challenging task of judging. Congratulations to Jeremy for growing the heaviest pumpkin, and to all the winners in the various age categories for their beautifully decorated animal-themed pumpkins.

We are delighted to announce that we raised an impressive £555, which will go towards the joint gardening and cooking project between Little School and Robin class.







Longparish Church of England Primary School



Wow, wow, wow!!

We were absolutely blown away by the volume of donations we received for Andover Food Bank, thank you very much to our fantastic community for coming together.

This Harvest celebration would not have been possible without the kindness and generosity of our school community. These thoughtful donations will bring comfort and support to those in need.

Andover Food Bank were very appreciative and even had to return back with a bigger vehicle to fit everything. Well done to our Year 6 who helped sort and carry all the donations.



The contributions made remind us of the true spirit of Harvest—sharing, caring, and giving with gratitude. Together, we are making a difference.

It warmed all our hearts, seeing all the children perform with such energy and it was a pleasure to see so many of our community to come together for this special event.

We treasure the close bond that we have we our local church and our close relationship with Reverend Russ Smart along with the church team to ensure this remains.

Each class have been enjoying taking their worships within the church and we are looking forward to working together to look at combined worship spaces and displaying our work in the church too.

It has been a fantastic start to the term, with the children eager to learn, showcasing fantastic learning behaviours and eager to start our Sustainability journey to become agents of change for our planet. Alongside this outdoor learning has enriched our curriculum further.

We look forward to sharing the progress of our journey along the way.

Mrs Jordan Acting Headteacher

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More from the Longparish Little School



River Dipping Adventure

The children enjoyed a fantastic outdoor learning experience as we ventured down to the river for a hands-on river dipping session, with

Wessex Rivers Trust. With nets in hand and wellies on, they eagerly explored the water, trying their best to catch a variety of river insects and creatures. Once they made their catches, the children used ID cards to identify what they had found. Among the exciting discoveries were trout,

water snails, shrimp, bullhead fish, stickleback fish, water beetles, and many more fascinating species. Their enthusiasm and curiosity were wonderful to see!



We also learned

about the journey of water and the chalk found in the riverbed. The children observed how bubbles moved through the chalk when placed in water, a brilliant way to explore natural science in action. To round off the afternoon, we played a fun and informative game about feeding ducks. The children learned which foods are safe and healthy for ducks, such as cooked plain rice, sweetcorn, peas, oats, and seeds. We also found out ways we can



save water, so it doesn't get taken from our beautiful rivers and affect all the wildlife that lives there.

If you have a child that would like to join Little School, we are now

taking applications for September 2026. To arrange a viewing please call 01264 720455.



Barton Stacey WI

Barton Stacey WI plays an important role in the community, offering women a safe, welcoming place to meet others, have fun, learn about lots of different

things, and be active.

One of the subjects that has always been important to the WI nationally, is sustainability and the environment. Our September meeting reflected this theme and our speaker, Sarah, was a real inspiration as she explained the importance of colour and the role it plays in everyday life. She shared styling tips, how to enhance our wardrobe to suit our individuality, and emphasised the importance of shopping pre-loved, supporting both the environment and our purses. We enjoyed the talk so much, and Sarah has kindly invited us to a private shopping evening at the charity boutique where she works, which we are really looking forward to.

Did you know that statistically, women are less likely than men to receive CPR from a bystander and less likely to be defibrillated in public? The most recent national WI campaign focussed on enabling bystanders to be lifesavers, and in November we will be supporting this campaign by welcoming Matthew from St John Ambulance to our meeting. He will be teaching us about CPR and the use of a defibrillator, important skills that everyone should be comfortable to use on anyone. Given the importance of this topic, depending on numbers we will be opening this meeting to non-members.

Barton Stacey WI is a group of local ladies who meet on the last Thursday of each month in the Barton Stacey Village Hall, from 7.30pm. We offer a warm welcome and encourage guests to our meetings to see what becoming a member of the WI can offer. Other than the annual membership fee, there are no other obligations, and there is always time for tea and cake at every meeting!

For more information, please contact Donna Oliver (email: bartonstaceypres@hampshirewi.org.uk) or Marian Witcomb (bartonstaceysec@hampshirewi.org.uk).

Lantern Walk

Create a festive lantern at the Village Hall and walk with us on **November 30**^{th.} Lanterns can be decorated and then we will walk to the church and sing some songs around the Christmas tree.



Christmas Fayre

December 6th in the Community Hall. Volunteers always appreciated if you would like to help, please get in touch: lpchristmasfayre@outlook.com



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Results of the September 2025 Draw 100 Club St Nicolas Church

The membership currently stands at 61, and the prizes below are therefore based on that number. We would like to get up to a minimum of 100 numbers/members, and we would be extremely grateful if you would consider becoming a member of the club and supporting your parish church in this way.

Prizes are allocated on a percentage basis. First prize is 25% of the total income for the month, second prize 15% and third prize 5%.

September Results

 First prize:
 No. 30
 £76.00

 Second prize:
 No. 14
 £46.00

 Third Prize:
 No. 52
 £15.00

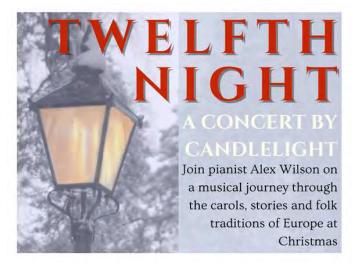
You can join at any time during the year, and it works like this - Membership is set at £5.00 per number per month. There is no limit to the numbers you can purchase. If you would like to join, please let me know, and I will let you have the relevant forms. Or, if you have any other queries about church finances or how the church is administered, for example, please contact me:-

John Young, Churchwarden & PCC Stewardship Officer, St.

Nicholas 100 Club

Tel: 01264 720233 Mob: 07860 630489 or

Email: jayoung1322@gmail.com

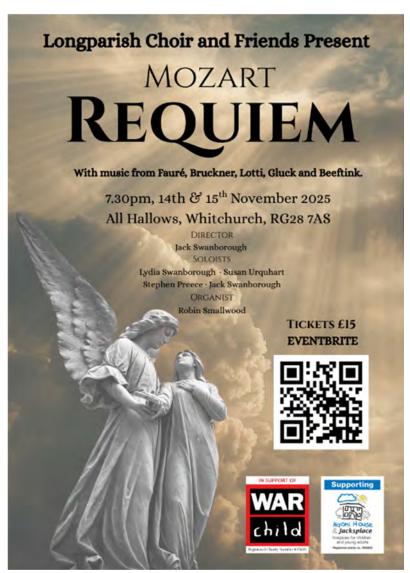


'Twelfth Night - a concert by candlelight'
Classical pianist Alex Wilson invites you to join him on a musical tour through the songs and folk traditions of Europe at Christmas. We will explore the Christmas story and revel in the excitement of Christmas Eve; we will navigate our way through nearly 300 years of musical storytelling. Our journey features traditional celebrations from the UK to Romania, taking in Italy, Denmark and

everywhere in between. We will hear new music by Sadie Harrison based on beautiful seasonal melodies from Ukraine, and an intimate retelling of the Christmas story using traditional French carols. Poignant, simple melodies and lively, celebratory sound worlds, shining light on beautiful music that deserves to be heard. This is Christmas described in soft, delicate tones - without sleigh bells and tinsel but full of discovery, familiarity and warmth. This enchanting musical journey is the inaugural concert for an exciting new concert series commencing in 2026 based in St Nicholas Church, Longparish, and is showcasing the beautiful newly installed grand piano. Test Valley Concert Series will be bringing world class classical musicians to the parish, as well as providing a showcase for local talent. Details will be announced very soon.

The concert will last 60 minutes, without an interval, with mince pies and mulled wine served before the music starts. Saturday 13th December 2025, 7.00pm at St Nicholas Church, Longparish. Doors open 6.30pm Tickets: £15.00 Adults, £5.00 Under 16s (card/cash on door). Ticket includes mulled wine (or soft drink) and a mince pie.

Profits from the concert will be donated to St Nicolas Church funds.



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AUTUMN IS HERE...

ow we have those proper Autumn mornings, whereupon you open the door and suddenly the light gets softer, and you realise you must dig out that sweater, that hat and perhaps even a coat.



There is though something magical about autumn...

Everything just starts to slow, the evenings feel longer (in a good way) the kitchen smells inviting and, in the evenings, you lean towards just curling up on the sofa or sitting by the fire at a local tavern...

CHARITY FASHION SHOW

by Colour Consultant Kate Moss Jones organised and hosted a women's fashion event in celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness month on the 1st October. The event was held at Winchester Rugby Club, with all ticket proceeds going to **Breast Cancer Now UK**.



The event sold out within days of advertising, selling more than 120 tickets online and at the door, raising around £2,000 for the charity, a superb achievement. Instagram: *kate mossjones houseofcolour*

THE SKIES ABOVE US

n case you hadn't noticed the wildlife is not the only thing we see in the skies above us here ...

At the Northeast end of the parish, we are regularly overflown by the **RAF** and the **Army Air Corps**.



The Chinooks we see are primarily based at RAF Odiham in Hampshire, which is home to the UK Chinook Force, including three operational squadrons (Nos. 7, 18, and 27).

The Apache helicopters come from the Army Aviation Centre in Middle Wallop, Hampshire, which serves as the training base for the fleet. Five squadrons are based here.



They do not normally publish flight plans, so it's just by chance you see them and maybe grab a photo opportunity as we have this month.

If you fancy a day out, then the **Army Air Corps Museum** is based in Middle Wallop it's well worth a visit and is only 30 – 40 minutes' drive from here.

Colour photos – Bob Lethaby, Kate Moss Jones, Phil Luckett Hurstbourne Priors

LADIES COFFEE MORNING

ur November Coffee Morning is being held by Fiona Obert on Thursday, 13th from 10.15am at Bourne Cottage (no55/56). All ages are welcome, hope to see you there!

For more information or offers to host a coffee morning, please contact Susie Sorby Tel 01256 892665





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Abotts Ann Based

PARISH CHURCH OF ST ANDREWS

T Andrews is the parish church of Hurstbourne Priors and an important part of our community.



It has been a place of worship for over 1,200 years and is steeped in history – it is probably the oldest church in the Diocese of Winchester.

In 820 England did not exist as a unified country, but rather as several independent Anglo-Saxon kingdoms like Mercia and Wessex. King Egbert of Wessex (the Great Grandfather of **King Alfred the Great**) was the dominant ruler and the Viking Age and raids were just beginning and setting the stage for the future.

England was by then predominantly Christian, having undergone conversion from the earlier Anglo-Saxon and Roman pagan beliefs. In the same year 820, the charter of Denewulf (Saxon Bishop of Winchester) refers to the consecration of St Andrews and our church today is believed to stand on the remains of what was the original Saxon building.

The earliest part of the present church dates from the 12th century a time of transition after the Norman conquest, marked by a booming economy driven by wool and trade, population growth, and the expansion of towns. It saw the beginnings of a money based economy and a cultural shift with English replacing Norman French as the main language. The influence of the monarchy increased, and monasteries and churches grew reflecting the strong influence of religion.

In the 18th Century a south transept was built for the use of the Portsmouth family (the Portsmouth Aisle).

Then in 1870 the nave was rebuilt and the old wooden balcony replaced by a tower. The chancel was also heavily restored, but you can still see some of its medieval details, including the sedilia (recessed seats in the wall beside the altar), the chancel arch and the outline of the blocked priest's door in the south wall.



The Bell Tower originally contained six bells which, from their dates, were installed in different periods. The treble is dated 1667 but is believed to be a recast of an even earlier treble bell. The bells were restored and re hung with two new bells in 1999 in time for the millennium.



The Church Organ

The Organ was designed by Sir Hubert Parry, the famous composer, and was played by him at the opening ceremony in 1906. His son in law Harry Plunket Greene (author of the book on angling "Where the Bright Waters Meet) sang as a member of the choir on that occasion.



On the south side of the church there is a Yew tree which, is judged to be between 700 and 800 years old and to the east there is a Horse Chestnut which is at least 200 years old and formerly believed to be the second largest in England. Sadly, because of storm damage this is no longer the case, but it is still a magnificent tree.

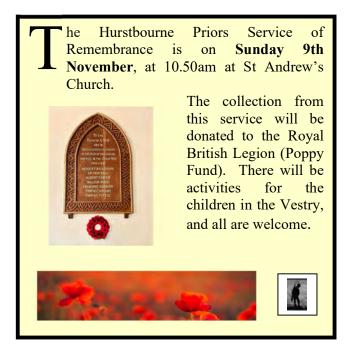
A group of volunteers ensures that the church is open daily from 10am to 4pm from the end of March to the end of October. During winter months the church is usually open during the day on Sundays. Details of services at St Andrew's Church are listed in the Hill and Valley and all are warmly welcome. If you would like to join the mailing list to receive information about services and other church events, please contact Ann Orr (annjorr@btinternet.co.uk)







REMEMBRANCE DAY



PAVILION REFURBISHMENT

It's vital that we save our pavilion and secure funding for its refurbishment.

The Parish Council has now submitted its application to Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council for Community Infrastructure funding; we are awaiting the outcome.

In the meantime, if you would like to contribute to the Pavilion Refurbishment Fund then donations will be gratefully received. Payment can be made by bank transfer to: Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council, sort code 30-90-21, account number 00262163. Please use Pavilion Fund as your reference.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

he Parish Council meets every other month, on the last Thursday of the month, at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. The final meeting for this year will be held on **Thursday 27**th **November**.

Any resident of the Parish can attend and there is no need to alert the Council if you are coming. However, if there is a matter which you might feel the members might want to look into before you attend please do let me know: 01264 772460 or email richard.waterman150@btinternet.com.

ST ANDREW'S SCOTTISH REELS

hugely enjoyable evening of Scottish Reels took place at Chapmansford Barn on 27th September in aid of the maintenance of St Andrew's Church.



We would like to thank Charles and Joanna Ekins for hosting the dance in their barn, all of the cooks who prepared the delicious lasagne, to Vitacress for their donation of salad, everyone who helped with transport and setting up, the committee for all their planning and organisation and John Carver, our caller who guided us through the dances making sure that everyone could enjoy themselves.

Fenella Williams and Ann Orr

SILK MILL FESTIVE EVENTS



ith the festive season almost upon us Whitchurch Silk Mill offers a rich programme of events and workshops.

Christmas at the Mill Shop

Support Whitchurch Silk Mill this festive season by shopping locally. Our shop offers beautiful gifts across all price ranges, including items made from our own silk. Silk scarves make luxurious presents, while our silk-covered A5 notebooks are ideal for journaling, planning or sketching.

Workshops – Unique Gifts & Experiences

Give the gift of creativity with one of our hands-on workshops. Suitable for beginners and experienced crafters alike, they offer a chance to learn new skills and to be inspired. Gift cards are available and can be used for workshops, shop purchases or café treats. If scheduled dates don't suit, contact us to explore alternatives.

Upcoming Workshops

- Weave a Wall Hanging, 6 Nov, 10am or 2pm: Learn weaving techniques on Louet tabletop looms and create a wall hanging. Small group tuition. £60 pp.
- Beginners Braiding, 15 Nov, 11am–1pm: Discover Japanese Kumihimo Braiding. All materials provided. £35 pp.
- Two-day Weaving Course, 28–29 Nov, 10.30am–4pm: Learn the full weaving process with our silk weavers and take home a finished piece. £150 pp.

Behind the Scenes & Talks

Silk Production Tour, 4 Nov, 11am-12pm Behind



the scenes of Victorian silk production. Watch our looms in action and hear stories from past and present weavers. £25 pp.

Dark Satanic Mills or Grim Reality? 11 Nov, 7–8.30pm: Historian Dr Richard Marks explores Victorian factory life and the rise of trade unions. £15 pp. Doors open at 6.30pm. Tea/coffee available for donation.



Festive Family Fun - "Elf on a Shelf"

The **Elf on a Shelf Trail** 6 Dec, 10.30am –12pm & 1.30–3pm: Follow the festive trail, enjoy activities and collect a chocolate reward. £6 per child, includes trail sheet, elf ears and treat bag (dairy or 'Free From' options).

Exhibition: Visible Threads

From 6 Dec 2025 to 22 Feb 2026, we welcome textile artist Jane Sanders. Using a 1960s Singer sewing machine and mixed media, Jane stitches portraits of iconic musicians in her distinctive style. Her work has an international following. More details on our website.



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

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 11th November at 10.30am

£2.50 for coffee and biscuits - For more information contact Win Coventry - 2 01264 738 199.

The Lunch

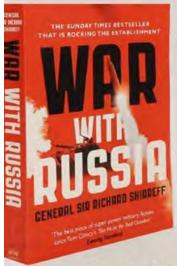
Our next Village Lunch is on

Wednesday 12th November at St Mary Bourne Village Centre, starting to serve

as usual at 12.30pm. Don't forget that for November and December our lunches are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, rather than the 3rd.

As usual there will be a raffle at our Christmas lunch on 10th December, and we would be very grateful for any prize donations being brought along to the November lunch. If you need a lift, please phone Chris on @ 01264 738110 by Noon on the Tuesday.

Armistice Day Lecture 2025



"The Strategic Impact of Russia's War in Ukraine and Whither NATO"

Speaker: General Sir Richard

Shirreff KCB CBE

Eormer Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (2011 - 2014)

Author: "War with Russia" (published 2016 - see left)

Co-founder and Managing Partner of Strategia Worldwide

Monday 10th November, 7-8pm St Mary Bourne Village Hall, SP11 6BE Drinks: from 615pm (pay bar), Tickets: £12 (on door or via TicketTailor)

All profits to The Poppy Appeal and St Peter's Church, St Mary Bourne



ST MARY BOURNE **PARISH COMMUNITY FUND**

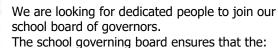
can support anyone living in the parish of St Mary Bourne (including Stoke, Binley, Egbury,

Wadwick, Little London & The Wykes) who is worried about essential living expenses, or unexpected extra costs due to illness, employment changes, family difficulties, medical conditions, or accidents.

For more information about the PCF for yourself or someone else, please contact:

Ruth Widén - 01264 738 250 - ruth.widen@btinternet.com All enquiries are treated in complete confidence.

St Mary Bourne Primary School



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- Headteacher effectively drives the educational performance of the school;
- School's financial resources are used efficiently;

Full Governing Board meetings are held at the school once a month on a Monday evening (18.00 - 20.00). In addition, governors make periodic monitoring visits to the school during school hours.

To be a school governor you do not need a background in education, we value a diverse range of skills and interests.

The role of school governor is subject to a DBS check.

If you are interested in this role, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school admin office for further information: -

Telephone: 01264 738 336

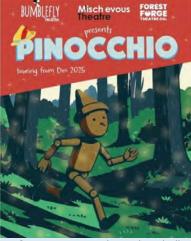
Email: adminoffice@st-marybourne.hants.sch.uk



Our next Family Service at St Peter's is on Advent Sunday 30th November at 10.30 am



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



The Travelling Players return with another thrilling festive show. Pinocchio has a nose that grows with each little fib, is naive, stubborn, thoughtless and very easily led; so watch as he falls in with the rascally fox and cat, gasp as he flies on the back of a pigeon, marvel as he is swallowed by a giant shark, doubt as he waits for gold coins to grow on a vine and wonder as he is turned into a donkey ... if he will ever become a real boy!

Friday 12th December - 6.30pm Doors open 6pm

Tickets £7.50 - children under 6 £4.00

Please reserve all tickets in advance by email

villagecentre@stmarybourne.org

Children must be accompanied by an adult Refreshments and Licensed Bar



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The Parish Council held its monthly meeting on Tuesday 14th October.

Amongst other matters, the need for a visible set of rules for the use of the Recreation Ground was discussed (once displayed on the Notice Boards), so that there can be

clarity over what is permitted for all users.

Work on the **children's play area** has been helped by good weather over the past weeks, and it is up to schedule. However, it will not be available for use until everything has been officially approved and received certification from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. Notice of this will be advertised when received.

After several years of neglect, the **Village Pound** has been expertly reconstructed for the Parish Council by Allan Hitchcock; we are very grateful to him for volunteering his skill and craftsmanship on our behalf.

Defibrillator training: a reminder that there will be another training course in the Village Centre at 7pm on Tuesday November 25th (see top right).

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 11th November 2025 at 7.30pm

Planning:

T/00458/25/TCA	Springhill House SMB	Trees
23/2133/FUL	Gaston Wood Barn U. Wyke	Barn to residential
25/02001/FUL	The George Inn SMB	Guest rooms
25/02002/LBC	The George Inn SMB	Guest rooms
25/02138/LBC	Ricket Way, Gangbridge Lane	Front windows
25/02113/HSE	The Vicarage (Betton House)	Cob wall
T/00470/25/TCA	Summerbee Meadow, Stoke	Trees
T/00480/25/TCA	Knapp Cottage SMB	Trees
T/00480/25/TCA	Fairwood SMB	Trees
T/00495/25/TCA	The Old Forge SMB	Trees
25/02311/FUL	Coldharbour Farm SMB	Swimming pool
T/00496/25/TCA	Portway SMB	Trees
T/00513/25/TCA	Butler's Farm, Gangbridge Lane	Trees
25/02351/FUL	Egbury Farm Barns	Barn conversion

Copies of meeting minutes are available on the parish council website - and please email any questions or agenda points to Maxine Owen on clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk.

Facebook: Search for www.facebook.com/SMB.PCpage - and like and follow to get updates or arrange to pop along to the parish council office for a chat.

St Mary Bourne **Parish Council**

DEFIBRILLATOR **FAMILIARISATION AND** CONFIDENCE BUILDING

RAINING



Tuesday 25th Nov 7PM AT ST MARY BOURNE VILLAGE CENTRE

NO EXAMS, JUST FUN. SUITABLE FOR AGED 8 - 108

Contact Parish Clerk to add your name to the list clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk

PRESENTATION EVENING:

WHAT ANIMAL PURPOSELY **DECAPITATES ITSELF?!**

COME ALONG TO FIND OUT...



Join cambridge student Grace Burlison for a closer look at the creatures that prove the natural world is full of weird wonders.

Monday 8th December 2025 Drinks, refreshments & nibbles @ 7 pm for 7:30 start until 8:30 pm St Mary Bourne Village Centre, SP11 6BE



For more info contact graceburlo@icloud.com



St Peter's Church CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Saturday 29th November

St Mary Bourne Village Centre

2 to 4pm Come along, browse the stalls, meet your friends and enjoy a cuppa and a slice of Christmas cake. Everything on the stalls is kindly donated so the profits will go straight to

supporting our Village Church • The Deli is there to delight you • Buy delicious homemade cakes • Bric-a-brac • Toys • Books • Tombola•

Bottle stall • Raffle • Teas. Hope to see you there! Donations of Toys, Books, Bric-a-brac will be greatly received on the morning of the Bazaar.

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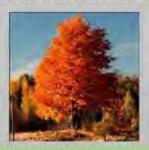
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the Boundary

Autumn is upon us and pumpkins have appeared here in the Shop - all be it miniature ones - we feel sure the bigger ones will follow! The Christmas stock has all arrived and is nicely priced and ready to be displayed; I feel a 'Vicky moment' coming on - by that I mean a moving round of shelves

and redisplaying of stock; Vicky loves it, and we have all learned not to stand still for fear of being moved!

Since losing Laryssa we have had no response to our advert for a **new Cook**, so have taken things into our own hands and are now selling *Bacon Baps* and *Sausage Baps*, and so far, they are flying out! I have to say a big 'thank-you' to the **Baristas** who have taken the task of preparing them in their stride, along with the toast and teacakes. Another 'thank-you' is to the **Shop Staff** who help us with serving customers, clearing and cleaning tables and washing up - team work at its absolute best, and Vicky and I really do appreciate it.

We also wanted to remind you that we are still happy to do **Home Deliveries** should you ever need it - just give us a call, we can take your Order and Payment over the phone and then arrange a convenient time to deliver to you.

Finally, we want to say a really big **'thank-you'** to our wonderful **Volunteers.** If it wasn't for you all we wouldn't be able to do what we both love best... but we can always do with more volunteers, so if you like a cuppa and a chat with our lovely community, then volunteering could be just for you; if you think you would like to give it a try, then pop in and see Vicky.

That's it for now...

Sandra & Vicky

The Boundary Shop & Café - 1⊕⊕ Club October 2025 draw:

£50 - Rosie Case £20 - Sam Millar £20 - Serena Coulton £10 - Lesley Taft The next 1⊕⊕ Club Draw: Saturday 8th November You can now apply in the Shop to join the 100 Club for 2026.

Pay at the till by cash or debit card. £25 gives you 48 chances to win a monthly cash prize + an extra £50 draw at Christmas.



The Night Sky

The life and work of William Huggins Thursday 20th November - 7.30pm Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre

This month's meeting has a decidedly historical feel. Sir William Huggins was the Victorian pioneer of astronomical spectroscopy and 2024 was the bicentennial of his birth. Hugh Allen's talk will celebrate the life and work of Sir William and his wife and scientific collaborator, Margaret Huggins. Hugh plans to transport us back to the latter half of the 19th century to bring to life the birth of astrophysics using extracts from William and Margaret's scientific papers and correspondence as well as some of Hugh's own observations. Our speaker is a keen amateur astronomer and is the chair of Wells & Mendip Astronomical Society.

Everyone is welcome to our talks and there's no charge for your first meeting. After the talk, if the skies are clear, we will set up telescopes and look at the stars! For more information search online for:

"Andover Astronomical Society" or email: andoverastrosoc@gmail.com

Community Evenings at St Mary Bourne Village Centre Tuesday 18th November 2025 - 7.30pm Watercolour painting



Local artist **Rebecca Anning** will demonstrate basic watercolour techniques, and you will be able to have a go at creating something yourself to take home.

No experience or artistic ability is necessary! This event is free to the local community, and everyone is welcome. *There will be a licensed bar for* refreshments.

You can just turn up on the day, but it will help us with planning if you could let us know that you intend to come by emailing

villagecentre@stmarybourne.org

Andover Choral Christmas Concert

Conducted by Craig Lawton
Nova Foresta Philharmonic

Pergolese/Durante —Magnificat
Bullard— A Light in the Stable
Choir and audience carols

Saturday 6th December 2025 - 7.30pm St Mary's Church Andover

Mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets £16 from choir members or online from ticketsource.co.uk (QR code). Free entry under 16.











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November 2025

Postcard from Binley

It's been a hedge hoggy kind of day here in Binley. Firstly, and tragically I found the Binley Hedgehog dead at the bottom of Red Lane this morning. Growing up in a London suburb I've seen a thousand squashed hedgehogs, but this one cut me to the quick. Some of us have been monitoring this little chap and taking personal delight in his existence. What was once so common is altogether so rare now, and so we treasured him. Now I am royally cheesed off. But would you believe it, at last light as I let the dogs out for a final mooch about, there in the middle of our drive was another one! Donning some leather gardening gloves, I lifted him and my spirits up and popped him on the track by the side of the field. I wish him all the luck in the world.

Coming out of Binley, heading south the lane is carpeted with beech mast; further on, as you enter the avenue of ancient oaks, it's acorns that adorn the road. I don't think I've ever seen such a harvest, and I walk daily along hedgerows heaving with fruit and hips. The sloes this year are incredible! Even my miserable fig tree has reluctantly given up fruit. Early morning walks have produced bumper crops of mushrooms that hit the frying pan within minutes of being cut. Glorious! The Englishman is cautious when it comes to mushrooms. Field and Horse are generally his limitations but Italian and Polish friends of mine all indulge in the huge range of edible mushrooms that exist here. The autumn woods produce ceps, and I should be braver and seize the moment, but I cannot trust myself to get it right. Perhaps someone will pick a few for me? Fat chance! Mushroom pickers are a secretive bunch and rarely share their spoils!

September has blended into October with barely a murmur. Hard to believe that just a matter of weeks ago there was no tangible grazing for livestock after the summer drought but around me the meadows are green and lush. I am sat under an old oak tree above the house on a beautiful, warm sunny afternoon. Around me acorns are dropping like pennies from heaven and I'm hoping one will hit me on the head. The field in front of me is full of sheep in fine fettle, all bathed in that watery autumnal abstract light, and although I feel my time should be used more constructively, I cannot tear myself away from the simple joy of sitting down alone in the countryside and drinking it all in. I should count my blessings.

Much excitement this morning as I have been invited by the owners on a VIP tour of the new egg production facility here in Binley. The Binley Eggplant as I call it. Collected by the proprietor in his mule, I must say that on first sighting one could be forgiven for thinking Shabana Mahmood has finally got her new prison building programme off the ground but no, this is what state of the art egg production looks like. Shiny high rise electrified fencing abounds, techno wizardry is manifest and the flock of Burford Browns (confusingly black) look as happy as pigs in.... well, you know. Interestingly, rubber snakes are utilised on the roofs of the buildings to see off seagulls who can be a real pest. I questioned if buzzards or kites fancied their chances, but apparently

not. The Goshawk, a rare enough bird is the one they

Foot baths are everywhere, and I haven't been subjected to this much disinfectant since a few dubious encounters in Thailand back in the 80's. But I came away incredibly impressed, clutching a free box of Binley's finest brown eggs and wishing Ronnie and Beebs every success.

History of the Hill & Valley area in Ten Objects 9 - Longparish, Font cover



Three, two, one, Blast off! Stored in an outhouse of Upper Mill, Longparish for some 40 years, courtesy of the Dawnay family, was this early contribution to space exploration.

An inconvenient relic of local Victorian heritage, it became redundant when the original 18th century baptismal font was re-installed in St Nicholas in 1958. First, it was disconnected from its wall brackets, which had allowed it to swing in and out of position over the 19th century font for which it was designed, then left to stand in the south-west corner of the church.

Eventually, it was given refuge at Upper Mill and just stayed there, losing lustre by the year, but at least kept dry. Given the generous offer by Rupert Dawnay to clean and restore it for its return to St Nicholas, what else could the PCC do other than receive it back? So it stands proudly trumpeting the restoration of the church by Henry Woodyer in 1851-2, but doing nothing much, other than gathering dust and astonishment.





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All Saints' Winter Lecture 2026 The State of Our Rivers -Reflections and Prospects

7.30 pm for 8.00 pm, Friday 16th January 2026 Farleigh School, Red Rice, Andover, Hants

Alan Lovell - Chair - The Environment Agency



In January 2023, Alan Lovell gave a well-attended lecture entitled "Restoring confidence in the quality of English rivers - the Challenge for and the Role of the Environment Agency" in which he covered the role of the EA, the chronic under investment by the industry and the level and value of fines.

He promised then to come

back in three years to give an update, and we are delighted that he is delivering on this commitment.

As well as reviewing the last three years, Alan will also give his views on the future, particularly in the light of the recent findings of the Independent Water Commission. This proposes an overhaul of the water regulatory system by merging the powers, functions and responsibilities of the current regulators, Ofwat, the Drinking Water Inspectorate, together with the water-related roles of the Environment Agency and Natural England. The stated goal is to halve sewage pollution incidents within the next five years.

Is this enough and will these changes at last, really clean up our rivers and improve the performance of the water companies? Will the agricultural sector also deliver the improvements required? Alan will review the Government's plans and whether these reforms and ambitious targets will positively impact water quality in our Chalk Streams across the Test Valley catchment area.

Alan Lovell has been the Chair of the Environment Agency since September 2022. In his executive career, Alan was CEO of six companies, of which two were in the renewable energy sector and three in construction, including Costain Group plc. In Andover ive call Alan has been a non-executive Interserve Group, Lloyd's of London, Sug and the Consumer Council for Water. He has chaired the University of Winchester and the Mary Rose Trust and was High Shering Hampshire in 2010-11. Alan is a Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire.

Tickets

Tickets cost £15.00 per person.

Booking tickets

To buy tickets, please open the link below or use the OR code. This will take you to an online booking form with full instructions on payme

https://forms.cloud.micros

Time & Venue

Doors will open at 7.30pm. The Farleigh School, Red Rice, SP1: available near the Hall.

Sarah Vine - How Not to Be a Political Wife Thursday 6th November, 7.00 for 7.30pm

Sarah Vine was married to Michael Gove for twenty years. An unflinching account of life at the heart of politics and what it's like to have politics rip the heart out of your life. A story of high hopes and dirty tricks, broken friendships and divided loyalties, laughter and glamour.



Rachel Joyce - The Homemade God Wednesday 12th November, 7.00 for 7.30pm

Rachel is the author of THE UNLIKELY PILGRIMAGE OF HAROLD FRY and MISS BENSON'S BEETLE. In her new novel, she explores memory, identity, grief and sibling bonds. Rachel is very popular with Book Clubs, why not bring yours!



Tim Bouverie - Allies at War Wednesday 19th November, 7.00 for 7.30pm

Revealing the political drama behind the military events, ALLIES AT WAR offers a fresh perspective on the Second World War and the origins of the Cold War, by the bestselling author of APPEASING HITLER.



Tickets £17.50 including a glass of wine Doors open at 7pm for drinks, the talks start at 7.30pm FoodbankVenue, unless otherwise stated is: The Old Dairy, Hatherden, Andover, St. 1 044 MBER (opposite The Bell and Crown)

More information about each event is available on our website: www.booksatthebarn.co.uk

Louisa Symington & Sarah O'Rorke booksatthebarn@gmail.com



Voices from the N

An evening of carols and poems with Andover Chamber Choir

7pm, Saturday 20th December 202 St Mary's Church, Andover

7pm, Saturday 20th December 2025

An evening of carols and poems

with Andover Chamber Choir

oices from the Manger

St Mary's Church, Andover

Tickets: £18 on the door, £15 in advance, under 16s free. Refres Available at The Lights, Andover (in person and online) and throug Proceeds in aid of Andover Foodbank

Tickets: £18 on the door, £15 in advance, under 16s free. Refreshments included. Available at The Lights, Andover (in person and online) and through choir members.

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Hill & Valley - 20 years ago...

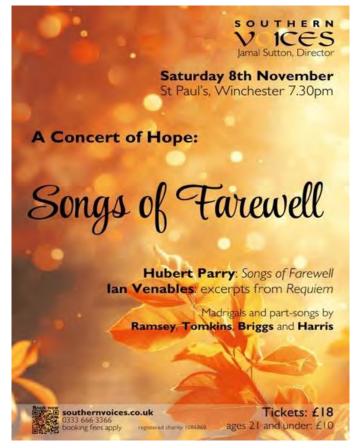
UNDER 12 PLAY AREAS

We have in the parish a play area in St Mary Bourne which is very well used and important to life in the community and a smaller area in Stoke which, although naturally not so well used, is equally important to Stoke. Neither play area meets the modern mandatory standards, let alone the Disabled Discrimination Act, and over the coming months it is quite likely that apparatus will either have to be repaired or replaced; the worst scenario being an enforced closure. This is not, however, an immediate threat and I have been asked by the Parish Council to examine the feasibility of bringing both areas up to standard.

Some informal discussions have taken place with contractors and estimates (for St Mary Bourne average £23,000 and for Stoke £13,000) suggest that £40,000 in total would enable us to have first class, rather than average, facilities although by reducing our ambition, no doubt £30,000 would enable something worthwhile to be done. We are fortunate in that two local building developments should result in £12,000 becoming available from B&DBC, and the Parish Council can make about £10,000 available from council funds. We therefore need a further £10,000 to £18,000, depending on the eventual agreed specification and estimates. We are, of course, seeking grants from all possible sources but the recent successful bids for a variety of local projects, including the New Recreation Area, may well count against us. Our target is to get an agreed specification during November, get estimates in December, get funding or grant promises in and agree contracts in January or February, and then build in March/April next year.

Philip Winchcombe Cllr with play area responsibilities







Being Seen... Winter months present a serious hazard to all road users because of 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!



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HURSTBOURNE PRIORS

- 5 Bonfire Night Guy Fawkes
- 9 10.50am *Remembrance Service* St Andrew's Church
- 13 10.15 to 12 Noon Ladies Coffee Morning with Fiona Obert Bourne Cottage (no 55/56)

14 Birthday of H.M. King Charles III

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 ipg format if possible.

ST MARY BOURNE & WOODCOTT

- 1 10am to 12 Noon Repair Café The George Inn
- 5 10 to 11.30am Stoke Coffee Morning Honeysuckle Cottage
- 10 from 6.15pm for 7 to 8pm Armistice Day Lecture Village Centre
- 11 10.30am Coffee at The George Inn
- 7.30pm Parish Council meeting Village Centre
- 12 12.30pm 'The Lunch' Village Centre
- 18 7.30pm Watercolour painting Village Centre
- 7.30pm Andover Astronomical Society -HBT Community Centre
- **25** 7pm Defibrillator Training Village Centre
- 29 2 to 4pm Church Christmas Bazaar Village Centre
- 30 10.30am Advent Sunday Family Service St Peter's

Saturday mornings - 10.30am to 12.30pm -

The Community Library - Village Centre Club Room

B3048, Highway to the North

is available as an attractively illustrated booklet, combining the whole 11.1 mile jaunt published in *Hill & Valley* in 2024. It can be bought from *Acre Stores*,

Longparish and The Boundary Community Shop in St Mary Bourne.

At £5, it is an inexpensive, local gift...and all the sales proceeds go to Longparish and St Mary Bourne schools.

LONGPARISH

- **3** 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting Village Hall
- 9.15am Village Litter Pick Plough Inn
- 14 10am Coffee Morning Plough Inn
- **25** 7pm Garden Club Village Hall
- 28 12 Noon to 2pm Friday Lunch Club Village Hall

30 tba - Lantern Walk - Village Hall



Front cover photograph: Nina Hill, Longparish

Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall: Mrs Helen Ford,

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