

around..... Longparish

VILLAGE FETE 2000

There will be an open meeting in the Village Hall on Thursday, 10th February at 7.30pm to discuss arrangements for the Village Fete, which will be held this year on Saturday 5th August.

Last year we held a similar meeting and had a wonderful response with new ideas being generated and, importantly, commitments being made to take on tasks and just make it happen! - so much so that we did not need to have any further meetings. So please do come along and make it all happen that way again. If for whatever reason you weren't able to join in last year, please come and join the 'team' - new faces and ideas are always welcomed and valued.

Stuart Bevan tel. 720412

FoLS December 100 Club draw winners

1. Mrs Haley-Vetter - no.45
2. Mrs Mary Jo Darrah - no.97
3. Mrs Fiona Gould - no.16
4. Mrs Olive Smith - no.31
5. Rupert Dawnay - no.91

14th February FoLS Quiz Night

It will be held in Longparish Village Hall at 7.45 for 8pm. and this year there will be a fish and chip supper. Please make up your own teams of eight to enter. Tickets cost £4.50 and are available from Brigitte Graham Lyewoods, Forton, tel. 01264 720256

Longparish Mothers' Union

A very enjoyable afternoon was spent at the December meeting. After prayers we sang carols and a delicious tea followed. Members then exchanged Christmas gifts.

The next meeting will be on February 23rd at 2.30pm at Riverside Cottage and the speaker will be the Revd. Nicola Judd speaking of 'Grannie's Memories'.

Do you have any old **spectacles** tucked away in your drawers? If you have, people in the Sudan could use them, so please pass them on to me at Riverside Cottage, Forton, Longparish.

Kathleen Hewlett tel. 01264 7200394

Millennium Presentation

On January 6th, Epiphany, which commemorates the visit of the three kings to the stable in Bethlehem with their gifts, the children of Longparish School were given a special present from the governors to mark the Millennium. At a special service in St. Nicholas Church, attended by many parents, the Rector and John Ellicock, Chairman of the Governors, gave each child a copy of the New Testament with a special nameplate. Many of the children wrote delightful letters of thanks.

This intriguing story had to be held over from the last issue for lack of space.

JACKDAW CAUSES TERROR!

By William Keen

An exclusive interview with Eleanor Frere!

I managed to get an interview with Eleanor Frere, a pupil of Longparish School. Eleanor said, "Jack came in while we were changing for P.E. It pooped on Aaron's chair and Joseph's R.E. book. It was not frightened of people. It was pecking people's shoes in the playground. It seemed very tame to me. I was scared of it when it was close but I didn't mind when it was further away."



I think it was more friendly than rough." In the end Mrs Bone caught it in a net and took it to her home where it had the company of her racing pigeons. After a few days Jack came back! We followed the same procedure and he hasn't come backyet!

Holy Dusters

St. Nicholas Church, Longparish

I am sure all who use and love our Church take joy in seeing it kept clean and tidy. We have a small team of volunteers who are doing their best, but more help would be much appreciated. We try to maintain a rota that only calls for a contribution of a couple of hours every three months. Please do consider supporting the Church in this way.

Daphne Bevan tel. 01264 720412

Film productions and locations in Test Valley

(This request for inclusion, dated Nov.23, from TVBC Leisure Services had to be held over from the last issue for lack of space.)

Many exciting developments have taken place since Leisure Services at Test Valley began to promote the borough as a potential area of film and TV production. The most notable development was the recent filming of the BBC's adaptation of David Copperfield, by Charles Dickens, which was filmed at Mottisfont, the Wallops and at Houghton Lodge.

Leisure Services have produced a film locations brochure which features some of the best locations the area has to offer. It also lists a number of services that support the industry, from specialist ones like underwater and aerial photographers to individuals that can either make or provide props and special items like vintage cars.

Many homeowners have registered their properties on the Council's locations database, and local people have made suggestions of other buildings and properties that could lend themselves to being used by the film and TV industry. Location managers prefer to use areas where they can film a number of different locations or shoots. The more diverse the range we can offer, the more chance we have of securing other productions being filmed in the area, with the economic benefits that brings.

The Leisure Services are planning to produce an information booklet for Location Managers which will list local services such as places to stay, caterers and taxi companies. Location Managers often require services that can operate at short notice, or that offer a 24 hour service. If you can help we would like to hear from you. If you can provide a specific service used by the film industry, such as the hiring out of lighting equipment or recording facilities, then it would be to your advantage to register the information with us for the booklet. The service is free.

If you would like further details or to make any suggestions, please call the film liaison Team at Test Valley Borough Council on 01264 368844.

St Nicholas Wives Group, Longparish

The next meeting of the Group will be on Thursday, 17th February, at 7.30pm at Nordale, when the speaker will be Julie Dupenois with 'Weekenders' clothes.

Friends of Whitchurch Silk Mill

On Tuesdays February 15th and March 14th Helen Overton will be helping us to learn the art of painting on silk at the Parish Hall, London Road,

Whitchurch, from 7.30pm. The cost of each evening is £5 for Friends and £6 for non-Friends including tuition and refreshments. The doors are open to everyone and further details are available from Geraldine Mouat on 01256 8892149

Hatmaking

Longparish Playgroup is holding a one day course on hatmaking in Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall on Saturday, 5th February from 9.30am to 5pm. Expert tuition and materials will cost about £30 to £40. Experience is not required, just enthusiasm. Proceeds are going to Longparish Playgroup.

For further details and booking please telephone Jane on 01264 738051

IN MEMORIAM

Doris Martin 1st December 1910 - 26th December 1999

Doris was born in Forton. Her early life was shaped here, by being the youngest of the 7 children of William and Ruth, and going to Longparish School. She was something of a tomboy, apparently, enjoying playing football with the boys. She left school to enter service with the Durnford's. Then, lodging during the week in Basingstoke, she went to work first for Thorneycrofts, then for Kelvins which was later acquired by Smiths Instruments. She clearly had discovered an ability for precision machine work. She started commuting by bus, then by motor scooter, which also took her and her niece, Ruth, on many a holiday around the British Isles. Towards the end of her working life in Basingstoke, she rented a flat at Stag Hill, and continued to live there in retirement, with part-time jobs as a laboratory assistant and waitress, still visiting Longparish at weekends.

She was taken seriously ill in November 1978, and after an operation to replace a heart valve, she took the decision to leave Basingstoke, and come back to live permanently in the family home in Forton Hill Cottages. Although a small person, she was a presence in village life, attending village functions and sales: a gatherer of many things, she bought woollens at sales which she then unravelled and recycled into new knitwear for birthday or Christmas presents. She was a regular at the Bingo in Whitchurch. One great love of her life was the garden which she worked energetically and with great skill. She truly had "green fingers", and a faith in the future, planting trees that she knew she was unlikely to enjoy. She enjoyed sharing the produce of her garden with others. She also loved animals, especially cats, and there was usually one around her

house - loved and utterly spoiled. She was practical and resourceful, fiercely independent and had a tenacious loyalty. She had some courage too, as she did not allow the hearing loss she apparently suffered since she was young to isolate her. She will be greatly missed.

We offer our sympathy to John and Ruth in their loss of their aunt.

Gladys Elliot 8th January 1929 - 28th December 1999

Gladys was born in Winchester Hospital. Her mother, Alice Shrimpton, worked for Mrs Dance at Finckley, and later they moved to Little London. So Gladys' early years were spent around north Andover, and after leaving school she worked with Joan Mew in Mr Burfoot's Pie Shop in Andover. She married Billy, William Harry Elliot, a Scot, in St Mary's Church Andover in the 1950s. Billy was still serving in the forces, in the SAS, and it seems that this took them to live in Cyprus for a number of years. There are also some memories that Gladys was in the Territorial Army, where she drove a bus. They came back and settled in Clatford, where they lived until they moved to North Acre in the 1980s. They enjoyed dancing, they were both in the Lions. Billy died around 1995, and it seems that Gladys never really picked up from that. She died, soon after Christmas, at her home. She is missed by members of her family, friends and neighbours.

Dorothy Cook 10th July 1929 - 25th December 1999

Friends and family were distressed and very saddened at Dorothy's sudden death on Christmas Day. Her niece, Sandra Fisher, pays tribute to a much-loved and respected member of this community.

"Dorothy was born in a nursing home in Winchester, the eldest of what turned out to be the 7 children of Albert and Dorothy French. Her childhood was spent with Granny Major at Leckford and Wherwell, and the family moved to Barton Stacey when Dorothy was 9. After leaving school at the age of 14, Dorothy completed an apprenticeship in a dress shop in Winchester (now Debenhams). It was at the young age of 14 that Dorothy met the love of her life, Geoffrey Howard Cook. They were married on 19th July 1947 and made their home in Forton, then moved into a cottage opposite the Village Hall in Longparish, and then on to Post Office Cottages. Dorothy and Geoff produced three children, very sadly two died in pregnancy and the third, Malcolm Geoffrey, who was born on 21st March 1952 died at 27 days old. Dorothy continued to work, successfully running a roadside café called "The Wooden Spoon", together with her mother and June

Hoare. Trusthouse Forte then invested in this franchise, and The Wooden Spoon became the Little Chef. Dorothy worked at Radio Rentals in Andover, moving into an administrative position at Worthy Down. Dorothy and Geoff then made their final move, which brought them back to where they started, in Forton. After many years' service at Worthy Down, Dorothy worked at the Mushroom Farm at Leckford until she retired at the age of 60.

Geoff was chairman of the Multiple Sclerosis Society and Dorothy became its welfare Officer. She fulfilled this role with much enthusiasm. Dorothy's other interests centred around the Church and community. She was a member of the Women's Institute, Mothers' Union, Church choir (with Sandra), and Bowls. She loved dancing, live shows (Andover Operatics) bands, children - she was a frequent visitor to Naomi House Children's Hospice - and school plays. I would say that Dorothy lived life to the full."

Postscript: In the Mothers' Union "Wave of Prayer Service" at St Nicholas on 16th January, a kneeler was dedicated which Dorothy finished working just a day or two before she died; a gentle tribute to a lovely lady.

Acknowledgement

Doris Martin

The relatives of Doris Martin would like to thank everyone who sent messages of sympathy and support during her illness. Please accept this as a personal thank you.

Longparish Parish Council

Councillors were very sorry to hear at the January meeting of the death of Councillor John Morgan who had represented Harewood Forest Ward on Test Valley Borough Council since the Council replaced Andover Rural District Council in 1974. He attended as many of the Parish Council meetings as he could, and was always willing to help and advise both the Council and individuals and to share the benefits of his wide experience of local government. He will be missed.

The Council was also sorry to hear of the resignation from the Council of Mrs June Dunford. She has been a member for 20 years and has been active in many aspects of Council business, rarely missing a meeting. She used her knowledge of the village and its people to bring to Council matters she knew were of local concern. There are now two vacancies on the Council. One, and perhaps both, will be filled by co-option at the March meeting.

The Council agreed the budget for 2000-2001 with the precept unchanged at £11,000. This allows for £5000 to be saved for the future renovation or replacement of the Village Hall.

The Council regretted the Hampshire County Council's decision not to continue the routine salting of the U54 over Southside Hill that results from the decision to spread the salting budget more equitably round the county. Longparish residents luckily have alternative, if longer, routes out of the village in freezing conditions, using the main village road.

A programme of committee meetings was agreed which will be displayed on the notice boards. The Annual Parish Meeting will be on March 6th at 8pm in the Village Hall.

but backfilling and larger developments are rarely permitted. Those who saw the exhibition were impressed by the work that had gone into the draft, and many left comments, or took away a draft for further study.

The next stage is that the draft will be revised in the light of comments made and sent to Test Valley Borough Planning Department for their views before the final draft is drawn up.

WEST END MAGIC

Why go to the West End when the West End can come to you? Hold on to your seats as Three's Company take you on a whirlwind tour of all your favourite musicals. The evening includes selections from Les Miserables, Phantom of the Opera, Cats, Sunset Boulevard, Oliver, Showboat, Chicago and Beauty and the Beast, to name but a few. A show for the whole family.

'An evening of top quality and highly professional entertainment'.

A very thrilling performance by three talented performers and enjoyed by people of all ages'.

LONGPARISH VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 26th FEBRUARY

Tickets £4 Children £2.50

Available from **Stuart Bevan**

Acre Stores

Jeremy Barber

Longparish Village Design Statement

On Saturday, 15th January, between 30 and 40 people saw the exhibition on the first draft of the Village Design Statement, which sets out what the VDS Group, led by Catherine Sweet, considers, after wide consultation, should be planning guidelines for the future.

The key question on which villagers were asked for their views was how much growth should be welcomed and what form it should take. Current policy allows infilling in some areas of the village,

KIDS' CORNER

Hi Everyone!!

Welcome to the new millennium!!! Hope that it's been a good one for you so far.

Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale Update!

On 15th January Charles Graham and Longparish Playgroup ran a sale. There were loads of stalls selling books, cakes and toys, and much much more. The organisers were ably assisted by the Drydens, Harrisons, Doodmans and many others. The sale raised £151.07.

There will be another sale at 9 Hurstbourne Priors on Saturday 12th February 10:00am 'til 4:00pm. Please come and spend lots of money - it's all for a good cause.

That's all for this month.

Bye

Phil

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