

around..... Longparish

MARATHON EFFORT FOR PLAYGROUP



If your children are among the 162 who have used our playgroup in Longparish since it started 10 years ago then you'll know that they provide a fantastic service despite very cramped temporary accommodation. And, even if you have not used the playgroup, I'm sure you will agree that it and the school are vital parts of our community. The playgroup would like to have their own permanent home. Please help me to raise £70,000 so they can achieve this goal.

You may remember that I was run over around three years ago, spent a month in hospital and four months in a wheelchair, and ended up with a steel pin over a foot long in my leg. Since then



I have been working hard to regain fitness. You may have seen me jogging around the village in

fluorescent gear. I'm now ready to try a major project and will be running my first ever marathon in Paris on 9th April. Please sponsor me in aid of the playgroup. I'm meeting all the expenses personally so every penny will go to the playgroup. And it is a registered charity so the taxman will add to what you give.

We need some serious giving to reach the target. If you can spare £10,000 or £5,000 it would be fabulous. £1,000 or £500 would be a big help and if enough people can give £100 or £50 then it is achievable. You will get a leaflet and sponsorship form soon. Please help if you can. Thank you.

Jeremy Barber, 2 Forton, Tel 01264 720459

St Nicholas Wives Group

The next meeting of the Wives Group will be on Thursday 16th March at 7.30pm at Woodstock. The guest speaker will be Mr Tom Ferguson, Volunteer Co-ordinator Test Valley Community Services. There will be a Bring and Buy sale.

Sue Elford

A.D.V.E.R.T. IN LONGPARISH VILLAGE HALL

A.D.V.E.R.T (Andover District Variety Entertainment Group) returned to the Village Hall on 22nd January to provide an evening of great entertainment, a picture in music of the last century, produced with creative skill and flair that would be a credit to many a professional group. It was the first performance of their current show which they will be taking on tour around the Andover District, so for those who missed seeing the show in Longparish, (and I know that, sadly, there were a number who would have been with us had it not been for the dreaded 'flu bug) there are further opportunities not a million miles away.

A.D.V.E.R.T. made no charge for coming to us as they are happy to help us raise funds for the Village Hall. We raised £200 in total, including the proceeds of the raffle, and have sent a donation of £70.00 to A.D.V.E.R.T. to give to a charity of their choice.

Stuart Bevan

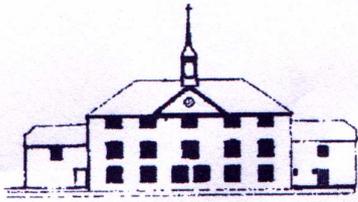
Community Health Council

The next public meeting of the Community Health Council, which is the local NHS watchdog, will be held at Stockbridge Town Hall on Monday, 27th March at 7.30pm. Dr Celia Grummitt, Senior Medical Officer at Winchester Prison, will be talking about 'Prison Health Care- present reality and future hopes'. There will also be a chance to raise issues with Health Service Managers, and to hear about future changes in the local health service, including those affecting Andover War Memorial Hospital.

Kingfisher sighting

A kingfisher was seen in November, sitting on a dead plant by the little stream that runs by the road near Ashburn Rest. How often have kingfishers been seen along there in recent years?

Letters to the editor are welcome



Friends of Whitchurch Silk Mill

On Tuesday 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 the evening is £5 for Friends and £6 for others including tuition and refreshments.

On Friday April 7th there will be a talk on William Morris by Mrs Emery at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm called 'Not Just Another Roll Of Wallpaper'. The cost will be £4 for Friends and £5 for others, including wine and nibbles.

The doors are open to everyone. Further details are available from Geraldine Mouat on 01256 892149.

Longparish Parish Council

Two new Councillors were co-opted on to the Council at an extraordinary meeting held on Monday, 14th February, to fill the vacancies left by the resignations of John Newlove and June Dunford. Councillors were very pleased to appoint Mrs Jenny Jolliffe of 'Mayfield' and Chris Dewbury of 1, Gladstone Terrace. Mrs Jolliffe has lived in the village for about 10 years and has been active in supporting first the Playgroup and then the School. Chris Dewbury moved here recently, and has had experience as a Parish Councillor in Whiteparish, a rather larger village.

At the same meeting the Council received with regret the resignation of John Spaul as Clerk. In the short time he served he did a great deal of work. The Council must now look for a new Clerk. Clerks from other Parish Councils will take the minutes for the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 6th March and the ordinary meeting the following week. Mary Jo Darrah has agreed to act as temporary Clerk between meetings until a replacement can be found. Her telephone number is 01264 720320. It would be a great help if there is anyone would be prepared to take the minutes at meetings after 13th March until we find a new Clerk.

The job of Parish Clerk

Sue Elford agreed to write a short piece on her experience as Clerk, and also to talk to anyone who might be interested.

I was Clerk to Longparish Parish Council for over 12 years and found it very rewarding. I had not been in the village very long when I was appointed so I had not met many people. Being Clerk was an excellent way to get to know people and also to find out much more about the village. The members of the Council were very helpful. Training days are provided by Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils, who also can give advice if problems arise. I found out about the workings of Hampshire County Council and Test Valley Borough Council in dealing with the correspondence which covered many aspects of village life.

I started in the pre-computer age, using a typewriter, and just at the end of my time moved to a computer. Writing minutes and letters is now easier, and a computer spreadsheet also helps with the accounts, and makes it easier to present information to the Council.

I was also Clerk to the Burial Board which means looking after all the administration connected with the cemetery. This job is now done by David Gould, which reduces the work load of the Clerk. I enjoyed working part-time and would encourage anyone who had some spare time to take the opportunity to work from home and become part of the village.

Sue Elford

Anyone interested should contact the Chairman, Rupert Dawnay 720221 or Mary Jo Darrah, Vice-Chairman, 720320 for more details.

Friends of Longparish School

Results of 100 club draws

January	1. Nick Dawnay	101
	2. Rosie Lowry	61
	3. David Webb	36
February	1. Sam Coggins	80
	2. Jenny Allen	109

3. Rupert Dawnay

76

Friends of Longparish School Quiz night

74 people came which meant that there were 9 teams competing and it was a most successful evening.

Mrs Brigitte Graham

St. Nicholas Church - Spring Clean 5th April

Most diaries still show the dates of major festivals and bank holidays, but, strangely, not the date of the St Nicholas Spring Clean (I wonder why not?) So to put matters to right, it's the 5th April, beginning at 10am. During the Spring Clean we attempt to reach the parts that other 'cleans' cannot reach. Life would be so much easier if spiders were terrified of heights!

I hope that as many of our Holy Dusters as possible will be reporting for duty but we are always pleased to have some extra help, so if you can give just an hour or so of your time, please do come to join us.

Daphne Bevan

Longparish Mothers' Union

Every branch in the Deanery was present at the 'Wave of Prayer Service' in January. During the service the Revd. Nona Harrison dedicated a Millennium seat cushion worked by Kathleen Hewlett and two altar kneelers to match the purple altar frontal worked by Priscilla Anderson and the late Dorothy Cook.

The next meeting will be a Deanery Lady Day Service on Saturday, March 25th at 12 noon at St. Thomas, Woolton Hill, followed by soup and a roll in the Church Hall.

Kathleen Hewlett

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Obituary

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Tom Scott - 10th August 1921 - 16th January 2000

His family, friends and neighbours were saddened and surprised by Tom's very unexpected death. His daughters and son offered this appreciation of their

father.

"Tom was born and brought up in Polwhilly Farm, Galloway, Scotland into a tight-knit farming community of family and friends. He enjoyed participating in the "Young Farmers' Club", and was eventually vice-president and also a very active member of the Curling Club. He and Ella lived on neighbouring farms. They married and had three children, Isobel, Mabel and John.

When he was 40, he and Ella came down to Kimmer Farm at Faccombe to manage a herd of Galloway cattle. They made many friends there, and after moving away to Sussex for a few years, finally returned to live in this area at Longparish seventeen years ago.

He was a man of the soil. His whole working life was devoted to the land and animals. He was never happier than when working with his dogs among the cattle and sheep in all weather and conditions. He was a respected judge of Highland and Galloway cattle at local shows. Some of the best memories of his grandchildren are of helping him out on the farm, feeding and caring for all his animals.

Tom was a very quiet, private man, and loved nothing more than to be with his extended family, son, daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He will be very much missed by them all."

Ella Scott and family would like to thank everyone for their many kind letters, cards and flowers following the sudden death of Tom. These were of great comfort at this time.

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The following anonymous poem was sent to the editor by a local resident.

Not how did he die, but how did he live?
Not what did he gain but what did he give?
These are the units to measure the worth
Of a man as a man regardless of birth.

Not what was his station but had he a heart?
How did he play his God-given part?
Was he ever ready with a word of good cheer
To bring back a smile or banish a tear?

Not what was his church or what was his creed
But had he befriended those really in need?
Not what did the words in the newspaper say

But how many were sorry when he passed away?

Campaign against Cancer Magpie Scanner Appeal

Phase 1 of the Campaign, the Magpie Scanner Appeal, was launched with the aim of providing £1.8 million pounds to provide much-needed MRI scanning facilities at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital. This appeal will shortly be coming to an end, although fundraising continues at the moment. A new purpose-built unit has been created providing MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) and CT (computer tomography) scanning for the 220,000 people living in the Winchester, Andover, Eastleigh and surrounding areas. MRI is one of the most effective, non-invasive diagnostic tools available today.

The Appeals Office would like to say a great, big thank you to everyone who has contributed towards the appeal and do hope that you will support Phase 2.

Phase 2

The aim is to raise £££££s to fund a **state-of-the-art early diagnostic and treatment centre** for cancer sufferers. The time is now right to build on achievements and support the development of early cancer diagnostic facilities. **Early diagnosis saves lives.** Will you consider helping us?

The Appeals Office tel. no. is 01962 825089.

Longparish Church of England School

January ended with the Inspector calling - not one but four, and the Inspector's Inspector came too! Yes, we were Ofsted again, this time a so-called 'short inspection' that lasted three days. It's never easy knowing that your every movement is being scrutinised but the staff and pupils held up very well under the pressure. Now we await the results.

The lucky Year Fives had a chance to get away from it all at the beginning of February with a residential visit to the Kingswood Centre near Bembridge on the Isle of Wight - a joint venture with fellow pupils from St Mary Bourne.

An initiative that has had particularly pleasing results is the Better Reading Partnership, organised by Mrs Chermiside Sergison. Over a ten week period a specially trained adult has been working with a small group of children to improve their reading skills. Following its successful trial the scheme will be developed further in the near future.

And for any adults who fancy the chance of improving their own skills, this time in IT, FOLS (Friends of Longparish School) may have the answer. They are holding free training sessions in March with properly qualified experts on basic computer familiarisation, the Internet and e-mail. If you then felt able to pass on some of your new found knowledge to the pupils, so much the

better. Anyone interested should contact **Brigitte Graham 01264 760256** or **Emma Procter 01962 760002**.

KIDS' CORNER

Hi Everyone!!

Hope that you all had a good half term holiday.

Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale Update!

On 12th February the Harrisons, Barters and Proctors held a Bring and Buy sale. There were lots of things for sale including books, toys, cakes, and a clothes stall. There was also a successful raffle. In total the sale raised £94 for the Blue Peter Appeal.

That's all for this month.

Bye

Phil

Kids' Page is edited by Phil Barber, 2 Forton, Andover, Hants, SP11 6NU. Tel (01264) 720459

LONGPARISH PLAYGROUP

We have lots of people who want to use Playgroup so we want to give priority to people from Longparish and Hurstbourne Priors, especially if they expect to use Longparish School.

If you would like your child to use the Playgroup and she or he will be 3 between July 2000 and July 2001 please contact the supervisor, Maggie Barber, on 01264 720459 to arrange a visit and put their name on the waiting list.

We can't give you priority if we don't know about you!

SOCIAL HOUSING

Pat Phipps of the Rural Housing Trust is coming to speak at the Parish Council Meeting on 13th March 7.30 about the provision of low-cost housing in villages. Do come if you are interested.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF LONGPARISH PARISH COUNCIL IS ON MONDAY, 6TH MARCH AT 7.30 IN THE HALL. ALL ARE WELCOME.

The Hawker memorial window in St. Nicholas Church, Longparish

One of the most striking windows in the church was given in memory of Major Lanoe George Hawker V.C. D.S.O. R.F.C. by his sister and his brother, Lt. Col. Tyrrel Mann Hawker who learnt to fly with his elder brother, and died at the age of 91 at Little Marryats, Hurstbourne Priors. The window was designed by Francis Skeat and dedicated on 26th May 1968. At the top of the window is the Hawker coat of arms. He was related to the Hawkers who lived in Longparish House in the nineteenth century, a very distinguished military family. The dominant figure is St. Michael, the patron saint of aviators, who is looking down on the airfield at Bertangles, near Amiens, from which Hawker's 24th Squadron flew in 1916. The reproduction is too poor here to show the details of the hangars, or the sparrow falling from the sky on the left. Two pilots stand watching 'the last man home'.

On 23rd November 1916 Major Hawker did not come home, but after a prolonged dogfight was killed by shot in the head by Manfred von Richthofen, and his De Havilland 2 came down behind German lines. It was the end of a spectacular flying career. Lanoe Hawker was born in 1890 in the house then called Homecroft, later the Green Man, and now Greenholme. He intended to follow his father into the Navy but instead was commissioned in the Royal Engineers. At the same time he was learning to fly, and in 1914 he joined the Royal Flying Corps, whose job at that time was mainly reconnaissance and photography. Hawker was

not content with that and especially from 1915 saw his role as fighting the enemy planes. He took up with him not just the usual revolver but a rifle, grenades, darts and bombs. Later he mounted a Lewis gun on his plane. He was unusually daring and aggressive and showed a complete disregard for his personal danger. In August 1915 he was awarded the Victoria Cross for his success in air combat and for his consistent gallantry.

Late in 1915 he was asked to train his own new squadron which was to specialise in fighting in the air. From February 1916 it was based at Bertangles to support the army in the battle of the Somme. As a Major and in command Hawker was not supposed to fly behind enemy lines. He never put himself down to fly, but he would turn up at the last minute, especially if one of the young pilots was due to go on leave, and tell him to go off early. He did that the day he died.

One of the pilots who flew that last mission with him gave the address at the dedication of the window, Air Marshal Sir Robert Saundby. He said that when he first joined No. 24 Squadron he regarded Hawker with admiration and an awe which soon gave way to respect and affection. 'Hawker had all the qualities which I then most admired, and which I admire still. He was, it goes without saying, superbly courageous, but that in itself can mean but little. More to the point, he was conscientious, reasonable, fair and just, and remarkably modest.'

(The information here comes from a compilation held by the Church. I hope that all who have Village Handbooks have corrected the error I made about the death of Hawker in the section on the Church.

Mary Jo Darrah)

Dates for your diary

APRIL

- 1 09.30am **Longparish Clear Up Day** Sugar Lane
 2 2-5pm **Daffodil Sunday** at Binley
 3 02pm **Good Companions B&B** SMB Club
 08.00pm **SMB Quiz Night** at the School
 4 9.30-2.30 **Quiet Garden Drop in** Upper Ashe
 02.15pm **Eddie Male** SMB Methodist Hall
 07.30pm **Oklahoma** Testbourne Theatre
 5 10.00pm **St Nicholas' Spring Clean**
 07.30pm **Oklahoma** Testbourne Theatre
 6 02.00pm **Women's Fellowship** in SMB Club
 07.30pm **Oklahoma** Testbourne Theatre
 07.30pm **St Nicholas Wives** Woodstock L/P
 7 07.30pm **Oklahoma** Testbourne Theatre
 07.30pm **William Morris talk** Whitchurch P.H
 07.45pm **Candide** in SMB VH
 8 **SMB School Easter Fair**
 07.30pm **Oklahoma** Testbourne Theatre
 07.45pm **Candide** In SMB VH
 11 02.15pm **Ruth & Tom Hiscock** SMBMeth.Hall

- 13 07.30pm **'Herbaceous Plants'** H.Tarrant CH
 15 10-3pm **Easter Craft Fair** Andover
 17 02.00pm **Good Companions** SMB Club
 02.00pm **Welcome Club Beetle** L/P VH
 18 02.15pm **Sheila Few** Methodist Church Hall
 22 07.30pm **Mad Hatters Disco** SMB VH
 27.30 **Whitchurch Deanery Pilgrimage**

MAY

- 1 12noon **May Fair** H.P. Recreation Ground
 4 07.30pm **Longparish Village Hall AGM**
 5 07.45pm **Race Night** at the George, SMB
 8 07.30pm **Longparish Parish Council** VH
 10 **Grand Sale** Parsonage Farm H/T
 13 10.30-1pm **White Windows Garden open** L/P
Longparish School May Fayre
 16 **SMB Parish Council**
 18 **SMB Annual Parish Meeting**
 27 11-4pm **Whitchurch Silk Mill Garden Sale**

Please send any dates you want to advertise which are not in the text of the magazine to Mary Jo Darrah 01264 720320