



## May Fayre Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 12 noon – 3pm at the School

**Fun for all the Family**  
**With special guests - Andover Sound**

**Entrance 50p**  
**Children free**  
**No dogs except guide dogs**

We would be grateful for any donations of any of the following:

Good Quality Books and Toys  
Bottles for the Bottle Tombola  
Cakes, Biscuits and Preserves for the Cakes & Refreshment Stalls  
Quality Recycled/Unwanted Gifts for the Gorgeous Gift Stall

All donations can be left in the collection boxes outside the school reception from 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Cakes, Biscuits and Preserves can be brought to the Community Hall from 9am on the day of the fayre.

Our team of volunteers will be out and about the local area in early May collecting bottles for the tombola.

You can also make donations of bottles in our collection boxes outside the School.

If you would like any further information or have a donation that you would like us to collect please contact either Leanne Hollingdale on 01264 369899 or Shirley Carter on 01264 729305.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May

### May Fayre Plant Stall

We need plants of all sorts for the May Fayre plant stall. So if you have a surplus of bedding or vegetable plants or can split herbaceous plants please give some. Please drop them off at school on the morning of the May Fayre or let me know if you'd like me to collect them beforehand.

Thanks very much.

Maggie Barber tel 720459

### St Nicholas Wives Group

The President, Chairman and Committee would like to thank all who attended the church service on the 19th March. As the group is now dissolved they have donated from their account the remaining balance of £40 to St Nicholas Parish Church.

Maria Neal Treasurer

### Winchester Cathedral Refectory

Our next session is on Monday 22nd June

### Woodcock in Longparish



A PhD student from Oxford University (Zoology Department), along with staff from The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust based at Fordingbridge, Hampshire, has been studying the migration and winter ecology of the Eurasian Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*) around Longparish. Day and night and in all weather, you may have seen a rather determined individual tracking the tagged birds. Presently 20 birds have been tagged with light-weight radio transmitters. Many birds are resident here in the UK, but winter populations of woodcock are also boosted by migratory birds which have flown here from Russia, Scandinavia and Eastern Europe. It has been suggested that high numbers of migratory birds might be masking a decline in our resident population. The researchers are comparing the behaviour and habitat use of resident and migrant woodcock to provide information that will inform management policy for the future conservation of the species. They hope to identify through stable isotope analysis the proportions of resident and migratory birds and to shed light on their migration routes. This year's field season ends in mid-March and the GWCT and Oxford University would like to thank the residents of Longparish for their support and hospitality this winter.



(Eurasian Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*))

Fieldwork has been undertaken by Adele Powell (Oxford University), Samantha Leir-Veater (GWCT) and John Simper (GWCT), supervised by Dr Andrew Hoodless (GWCT).

Samantha Leir-Veater.

(This article was submitted in March but had to be held over for space reasons.)

### Longparish Playgroup



At Longparish Playgroup we had our outdoor play area resurfaced. This means the children can use this area all year round. Now that spring has come the children have been very busy planting some sensory gardens, an imaginary garden for the small world toys and a garden for the bugs to live. Hillier nurseries very kindly donated the plants and Kevin Hobbs from the nursery came to talk to the children about gardening and cut a ribbon to officially open the new area.

(We are still collecting for the Car Boot Sale, please)

## Longparish Community Association

### Equipment Available

The LCA has acquired a number of pieces of equipment over the last few years and we would like to make them more widely available to members of the LCA. The equipment includes:

- In the village hall there is table football; table tennis; dodgeball and a pool table.
- More mobile games include new age curling; giant jenga and score 4; foam ten pin bowling; softball; tailball; football kit and a Wii.
- Party tent and 80 wine glasses
- Computer projector (you need your own laptop) and hanging screen
- Large charcoal barbeque
- Race signs, fluorescent waistcoats and orange plastic hazard fencing
- Flip chart easel and assorted stationery items

Most of these items are available free to members, though we will make a nominal charge in some cases. Full details are available on the Community Association pages of [www.longparish.org.uk](http://www.longparish.org.uk). Or contact Fiona Gould on 720709.

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

The weather for the April race on Easter Sunday proved ideal for running, but less so for spectators and marshals; grey and dismal, in other words. Despite the unappetizing weather and the Easter holidays, 11 people turned up to run and we were pleased to welcome two new runners: Ali Lowry and Andrew Gibson.



The most improved runners were Sandra Jones and Jeffrey Wiseman. Well done to you both. Nearly everyone improved on their

previous run, Sandra and Jeffrey by over a minute each.

Thanks very much to everyone who helped and to the Cricket Club for the venue. The next race is on Sunday 10 May starting at the normal time of 10am at the Cricket Ground. Runners of all standards are welcome as are brisk walkers. It is a handicap race so the slowest have as much chance of winning the cups as the fastest. There will be refreshments afterwards and supporters of all ages are very welcome.



Kidz Zone will meet on 6th and 20th May 7-9pm in the village hall.

On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2009

there will be a

## MURDER IN LONGPARISH



This is wartime Longparish and we have some decidedly dodgy locals with pasts that don't bear scrutiny. Have all the village wives stayed faithful to their fighting men? Who is into shady dealing in the black market? How many spies are there around? Who's blackmailing whom? Which of the suspects isn't quite what they seem? With all these sordid secrets it is no wonder a murder will take place!

You (and your team if you wish) will meet at Longparish Community hall at 2pm for refreshments, where you will be given a briefing and the opportunity to buy your murder pack. You will then take your investigations out into the village to quiz suspects and hunt down clues. At 6pm you will return to the hall to complete your charge sheet, hear the reveal, have a meal and enjoy a reel. The winners will be the people who have arrived at the correct conclusion and found the most clues. There are prizes for the winners, runners up and best dressed detectives so start hunting out your wartime house coats and khaki.

Tickets include entry into the murder, supper & entertainment

LCA members: £12.50 each or £37.50 family ticket

Non LCA members: £15 each or £40 family ticket

Tickets are available from Longparish shop or Xandi Denny on 07887 845184.

Murder packs including a map of the village, suspect histories, clues and your charge sheet can be bought on the day for £5.

**You may meet all sorts of people as you wander around Longparish - remember "trust no-one"!**

This event is sponsored by Longparish Community Association



### May Afternoon Tea

Gina Snowden is hosting this month's get together on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May between 2.30pm and 4.00pm at Orchards. Everyone is welcome - if you need a lift call Gloria on 720425.

## Inspector says Longparish is an outstanding Church of England school.

Longparish School has been judged an outstanding Church of England school in a report carried out by SIAS - the Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools. This follows hard on the heels of the school's recent and very successful Ofsted inspection and its excellent performance in the Key Stage 2 league tables for Hampshire primary schools: Longparish came 10<sup>th</sup> out of 321 schools, using the CVA criteria (the progress children make between the ages of 7 and 11).

The SIAS inspection is typically carried out within eight weeks of an Ofsted visit and offers a complementary perspective on Church of England schools. In each of the four main categories of inspection, Longparish School was rated as Grade 1 and 'outstanding'.

In his report the SIAS inspector Alan Brown described Longparish as "a creative and stimulating school where the pupils' religious and spiritual life grows and develops in a friendly, secure environment". And he highlighted what he called "the vision and depth of thinking of the head teacher and the leadership team". Mr Brown further praised the Christian ethos and character of the school saying that it had "a strong impact on the pupils giving them a lively sense of purpose, enjoyment and concern for others." His report highlighted the way collective worship in the school is carried out saying that the manner in which it was planned was 'exemplary' and described the community hall as "as an excellent example of how a school hall can be developed to create a good environment for Christian worship."

The standard of the religious education was found to be very high with a creative and imaginative style of teaching and learning. Mr Brown remarked: "The classroom teaching seen was outstanding; with key stage 1 discussing the concepts of sadness and happiness; while key stage 2 used de Bono's Six Thinking Hats technique to reflect on Palm Sunday." He also noted that relationships in the classroom were 'excellent'.

Head teacher Mrs Alex Foggo was described as having "a clear vision for the school" with teachers that are "articulate, thoughtful and purposeful and focused." Mr Brown noted finally that the school's staff is fully committed to the improvement of the academic attainment of the pupils and to the belief that the spiritual and personal development of each pupil is important. And he concluded that "the school promotes a Christian vision of a more equitable, just and tolerant society. It is a church school deeply committed to the pupils and the wider communities it serves."

Head Teacher Alex Foggo said she was delighted with the results of the report. 'It is wonderful to have such positive confirmation of the high standards that have been achieved by the school through the commitment and hard work of our dedicated team.'

Alison Cooper for FOLs

## Walk the Hampshire Downs for your favourite Charity

The Rotary Club of Basingstoke is organising a Charity Spring Walk on Sunday 10th May over three circular routes of between 4 and 9 miles, starting from underneath the Hannington television mast. Walkers are able to nominate their own charities, sports club, church etc., which will receive 90% of the sponsorship money collected, the other 10% going to Rotary charitable activities. The £6 entry fee covers the cost of catering, refreshments and organisation. This is an ideal opportunity to combine enjoyment of the lovely Hampshire countryside with support for a worthy cause of your own choice.

Entry and sponsorship forms are available from Richard Mallinson on 01256 893556 or email [richard.mallinson@homecall.co.uk](mailto:richard.mallinson@homecall.co.uk)

## Handyman wanted!

Do you know a good handyman or are you one? The



Longparish Parish Council is looking for someone to do various maintenance jobs around the village such as

- Sorting out the Forton bus shelter which is leaning over
- Making a bench for the bus shelter near the shop
- Painting the playground equipment

If you'd like to give us a price for doing these jobs or would like to recommend someone you have used please contact the Chairman, Jeremy Barber on 01264 720459, email [jeremy.barber@longparish.org.uk](mailto:jeremy.barber@longparish.org.uk)

## LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB TUESDAY 26TH MAY 2009

Meet at Longmead House from 6pm for  
**LONGPARISH EVENING GARDEN VISITS  
LONGMEAD HOUSE and LOWER MILL  
AND PLANT SALE**

*(by kind permission of Mr and Mrs J Ellicock  
and Mrs K-M Dinesen)*  
(£3-00 TO NON-MEMBERS)

Refreshments will be available.  
*Please bring as many plants, cuttings, seeds as possible to sell towards club funds.*

Any queries please contact Rosie Lowry 01264 720325

Please note change of email address  
[Rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com](mailto:Rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com)

**Next meeting: Tuesday 23rd June**  
Longparish Garden Visits  
to Broadacre House, Saddler's Cottage,  
Home Farm Cottage and 3, Woodwalk Cottages.

## Longparish Parish Council

This report covers the April meeting and a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee. Minutes of meetings are in the parish council area on the village website [www.longparish.org.uk](http://www.longparish.org.uk).

### Paul Jarrett

Before the opening of the meeting the Chairman reported with great regret that Paul Jarrett, who so recently resigned as Clerk after serving for eight years, had died on Sunday 22nd March. Christopher Duxbury and Mary Jo Darrah had attended the funeral. The Council remembered him in silence.

### Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 11 May

The APM will be on Monday 11 May at 7pm in the Community Hall. The APM is your opportunity to hear what the council has been doing in the last year and ask questions. There will be a presentation about the refurbishment of the Village Hall. All parishioners are welcome and there will be light refreshments afterwards.

### Open Spaces

TVBC have confirmed that the green litter bin at The Cleaves should be emptied on the same day as normal rubbish collection and should be refastened to the stand each time. If you notice a problem please contact the parish council chairman.

Thanks very much to everyone who turned out for the clean up day on Saturday 18 April. Your work helps keep our village special.

### Communications

About 40 new villagers and newcomers spent a very pleasant evening together on 17 March. Thanks very much to all who came and especially to Linda Blundell for the excellent refreshments.

Old photos, kindly loaned for scanning by Chris Wheable are now on the village website.

### Roads

The North Acre pavements have finally been mended and the rough ground between the Withies and the road has been surfaced with tarmac.

### Planning

The Council had no objection to a small extension at 4 Woodwalk Cottages and tree work at 2 Mayfield Villas.

TVBC are consulting about whether to grant a Pollution Prevention and Control Permit for the woodchip drying facility at Pachington. Councillors will visit the premises and then consider the matter at the May meeting.

The Council considered that a 4 metre noise reducing bund between the shooting ground and the village was preferable to a lower bund topped with a two metre high fence.

### Footpaths

The footpaths leaflet has been very popular and over 4,000 copies have been used. A new edition will be



available shortly and thanks go to Martin Lampard for editing it and HCC for advice and financial support.

The path from the shop to Upper Mill has been made much more accessible. HCC

have replaced the stiles with kissing gates so there are now no stiles on the path and thanks also go to Longparish Estate for cutting back the overhanging trees.

### School

**Admissions Policy.** The Governors have provided a detailed response to the Council's concerns that the admissions policy operates to exclude some children from the village. Whilst understanding the rules the governors must apply the Council remains concerned and hoped there could be greater flexibility.

**SATs Results.** The Council congratulated the school on an excellent result in the value it added to children's performance in the Standard Assessment Tests (SATs)..

**Duck Poster Competition** Becky Bourne reported that she had enjoyed visiting the school to judge the posters the children had made to ask drivers to go slowly to avoid the ducks and ducklings on the road. She was impressed by the standard of the posters made by the 5-9 year olds and awarded four prizes of Easter eggs.

### The next parish council meeting is on Monday 11 May starting after the Annual Parish Meeting.

Meetings are public. Parishioners are welcome to come and can speak by invitation.

Jeremy Barber Chairman. Tel 720459  
email [jeremy.barber@longparish.org.uk](mailto:jeremy.barber@longparish.org.uk)

### Weed Cutting in the River Test

Weed cuts are strictly controlled by the Environment Agency which sets dates for three programmes of cutting along the whole river. During these periods cut weed is allowed to float downstream and is removed at a weir just this side of Romsey. You may have seen the machinery and the massive heap of weed there.

The first cut is done just after the flush of mayflies known as Duffers Fortnight. This year the cut will be from 8 to 18 June for the stretch of river including Longparish with 19 and 20 June as clearing off days. You may have noticed that the river level dropped dramatically during last year's cut. As part of that programme of work Jeff Smith, the water keeper, also cut the weed in the feeder stream which runs to the river from Sugar Lane. The aim of the cutting is to manage the water flows and levels; not to denude the river and stream of weed altogether.

Bands of weed are left as necessary to provide cover for fish and invertebrates. The feeder stream is also cleared from the Ash Burn Rest to Sugar Lane on the two village clean up days which helps the rate of flow.

This year the other windows for cutting are 13-23 July and 11-18 August. Details of next year's dates will not

be known until March 2010. We will publish them in Hill & Valley when they are available.

Weed can be cut any time from 14 October 2009 to 25 April 2010 provided it does not interfere with trout spawning. But too much cutting would result in the river being too shallow in the summer.

If the Environment Agency judges there to be a serious risk to property they may also authorise emergency cuts.

### Obituary

## Trevor Elkins

2 January 1937 – 3 March 2009



Trevor Elkins died unexpectedly after a brief illness. He and Penny came to live in the village in October 2006, settling for retirement after a peripatetic life in the Army. In that brief time they became active in the village community.

Trevor joined the Parochial Church Council and was a valued and enthusiastic member of

the Benefice reading group. He also contributed to the Water Management group set up to understand and alleviate the problem of flooding in the village. He joined the Trustees of the Longparish Community Association and also ran in the L2SOTM handicap races. These activities indicate the scope of his interests. He loved White Windows, becoming intrigued by the history of the house, and he felt very much at home in Longparish and its beautiful countryside.

A close friend, Brigadier Jim Dennis, wrote this tribute. "A fiery Welshman – as we discovered during our formative years at Welbeck, Sandhurst and Shrivenham, where he built, mended and sailed the boats we used – at the same time educating us in the finer points of electronics!

His Army world was at the frontiers of technology; an expert in artillery guided missiles, he serviced and repaired them, commanding workshops in the field, tested and fired them in Australia and the Hebrides. He helped to develop them during appointments in Canada and Coblenz – reaching interpreter level in French and German on the way!

A tenacious sportsman, expert sailor, rugby player, skier and dogged runner. A great family man, complete engineer, warm and reliable friend – a shoulder to lean on. He was a fine brother officer."

Canon Martin Copen offered further tribute to him, "Trevor was a man who looked for the wider picture, and helped others to do so too. In the reading group, we appreciated and greatly respected his wide reading, not only in English but also Spanish and French (in which he had studied a higher degree), his very broad culture. You could never quite guess what he was going to say, the angle he was going to take: it was refreshing and full of insight. He was honest, probing in a gentle way, both learning and teaching through the art of conversation and

humour. Trevor revelled in wide-ranging discussion, particularly in going deeper into the meanings and delighting in beauty of language, striking phrases, and humour. He was alert to meaning and depth, perceptive and aware.

He leaves us much to celebrate and think about. His was a life in which faith took meaning because it came to him in maturity. He took the step of baptising himself when his father was serving in Egypt. The family life he and Penny shared with their younger family has given them great personal resources. Together they have shown them how to love and be there for one another through the most difficult of times. He has opened our eyes to something of the wider story, the beauty and robustness of language, the longing of the heart to know God."

He and Penny have three daughters, a son and nine grandchildren to whom he was devoted. We offer them all our deepest sympathy on Trevor's death.

### Thank you

We would through the pages of Hill and Valley like to say a very sincere thank you to everybody in Longparish and the surrounding villages for the many cards, letters and prayers we received on the sad death of my husband, Trevor Elkins. We were overwhelmed by the support and help. Thank you to the friends who arranged the beautiful flowers in the church and prepared and served the refreshments and to those who gave up their free time to help with the parking. We would like to acknowledge everybody individually but the task became too big! We will always remember the friendship that was extended at this very difficult time and this has helped us through the days - thank you.

Penny Elkins and family.

### Back on my bike again - 24-30<sup>th</sup> May

Well I am doing the 'Help for Heroes' bike ride again. Must be either mad or just love lycra! The objective as an individual is to raise a minimum of £2,000. The exciting cycle challenge some takes us from Southwick Park in Portsmouth, a hugely important part of naval history – across the channel to Cherbourg and Northern France. This challenging route traces some of the region's most significant WW2 battle sites, including the Northern beaches around Arromanches and the area south of Caen which witnessed the culmination of Operation Goodwood.

This will be a great physical challenge (390 miles in 5½ cycling days), but also an amazing emotional journey. We finish our challenge by cycling through central Paris on Free French day commemorating the liberation of Paris. An exciting day today as it was back then, as we cross the river and follow the route many soldiers took in the liberation of Paris. We cycle towards the capital city where a wonderful celebration welcome awaits us. A wreath will be laid at the Arc de Triomphe as we cycle past and down the Champs Élysées and on to the finishing point at the iconic Eiffel Tower. A long, emotional yet rewarding day to finish the cycle challenge. If you would like to sponsor me on this trip please either ring 01264 720548 or email julian.curl@btopenworld.com and I will get a sponsor form to you, thank you.

Julian Curl

### The Stockbridge Gallery - Britain's only art gallery dedicated to Dogs in Fine Art opened in Stockbridge, on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009

On display and for sale is a selection of paintings in a range of media as well as sculpture, prints and photographs and a selection of high quality decorative items. The inaugural exhibition is entitled "Old Dogs...New Tricks," and juxtaposes period dog painting and sculpture with contemporary works from some of the finest artists working in the genre today. The exhibition will run through until 16<sup>th</sup> May.

The gallery is the brainchild of Victoria Armstrong, a successful local businesswoman, whose love for dogs and art led her to obtain a first class honours degree in art history, in 2007, while still running her company. While researching for her degree dissertation, 'The dog as a theme in western art,' and expanding her own private art collection, Victoria identified there was an opportunity to provide a unique gallery devoted entirely to canine art.

One of her favourite award-winning contemporary artists is Paula Vize, who lives in Longparish and works mainly in acrylics and watercolours. Paula is well represented



by works in her signature style such as 'Wet Day Dogs' (shown here). Also, unusually, examples of her work in both pastels and oils are also on display.

The Stockbridge Gallery will also offer a commissions and framing service.

It is located at The Old Post Office in the High Street in Stockbridge and is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 5pm and other times by appointment. More information can be seen on [www.dogsinart.com](http://www.dogsinart.com)

### Watership Cantabile

with their musical director, David Holland, are a local mixed-voice choir who sing a wide variety of music from all over the world. In recent years they have performed many concerts in Newbury and surrounding areas and are well known to audiences there. They are delighted to perform their first concert in Longparish on Saturday 13th June at St Nicholas's church starting at 7.30 pm. They will be bringing a selection of music, ancient and modern, all with a Shakespearean theme. The music will be linked by narrative and dialogue from the appropriate plays. Admission free. Refreshments.

Retiring collection for church roof.

### Wherwell school fête

**Saturday 16th May 2009, from 12.00-2.30pm**

Free car parking  
Admission 50p per adult.

Lots to do for all the family: Viking re-enactment, armoured vehicles, shopping tent, produce stall, face

painting, grand draw with lots of exciting prizes, dancing performances by the school children, plus lots more.

*Come and enjoy the fun!*



THE NATIONAL TRUST

### YOUR COUNTRY (HOUSE) NEEDS YOU!

Mottisfont is known internationally for its rose garden, but how many people know the handsome old Abbey houses an outstanding collection of early 20<sup>th</sup> century art, with the world-famous River Test flowing through the tranquil, green grounds.

Mottisfont is forming a new group of volunteers who will assist the Visitor Reception team. Mottisfont is looking for a select band of around 12 volunteers who are friendly and engaging and would like to work on a rota basis at weekends. Full support and training is provided, so if you would like to find out more about this great opportunity and can spare four hours every other weekend email [helping.mottisfont@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:helping.mottisfont@nationaltrust.org.uk), or call 07977 060750.

All this additional activity has led to the formation of a new Central Volunteering Team of volunteers that will work with the Property Manager and her team to manage and coordinate the full range of volunteering activity at Mottisfont. The staff at Mottisfont would love to hear from you if you are interested in any one of the four roles available. One will concentrate on coordination and administration and would suit someone with a flair for organisation; this will be supported by another role that leads on recruiting new volunteers, perhaps someone with an HR background? The third role will focus on outreach activities and publicity, providing a link to volunteer centres; this will be supported by a role that supports the training needs of volunteers, so may appeal to someone with that background. More than anything each role requires a flexible and friendly approach. If this has sparked an interest please contact Mike Hudson for further information on [mike.hudson@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:mike.hudson@nationaltrust.org.uk) or call him on 07977 060750, the deadline for applications to be received for these four roles is 29<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

### Hurstbourne Tarrant

#### Village Garden Walk

**Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2.00pm to 6.00pm.**  
**Tickets - £5 – to include Cream Tea**

Visit some of the village's beautiful gardens.  
Afterwards, enjoy a scrumptious cream tea  
at IBTHORPE HOUSE

where there will also be a PLANT SALE  
Tickets will be on sale, in advance, at the **shop or garage**, and on the day at the Pavilion, where parking will be available, but you may buy tickets at any of the gardens en route. Children go free. No dogs, please.

**Proceeds in aid of the Hurstbourne Tarrant Village Hall Project**