

News from St Nicholas' Church

A Peaceful New Year to all readers! From next month, we are planning a minor change in the monthly Service rota, to try to make the starting time of some Services more hospitable. The Church Council has been considering the change for some months in response to suggestions, and weighing the advantages and disadvantages. A note in this Magazine last year raised no comments, and therefore it is hoped that the change will go ahead smoothly.

So, from February 2012, on the first Sunday of the month the Service will be a Parish Communion at 9.30am (same time but a change from the usual Matins). On the fourth Sunday of the month, the Service will be Matins held at 11.00am. There will also be an occasional Service of Evensong.

All Services are listed each month in the magazine, and we always appreciate any comments, as we wish to meet the parish needs for what is at the heart of village Church life—its Worship.

Martin Coppen, Rector

Longparish School News

As always, December was a very busy month! We began with a Ukulele concert, in which all children from Years 1 to 6 took part; it was lovely to see how the children have developed into seasoned performers who can relax and enjoy concerts.

This was followed the next day by our celebration of St Nicholas' Day, 6th December, which is an important annual service for us, as the school is affectionately known as 'St Nicholas' School'. During the service, the outgoing Child Bishop, Simeon Evans, handed over his



clothing, his staff and his mitre to the new Bishop, Amelia Bennett, seen in the picture. It is tradition that the role passes from a Year 4 boy to a Year 4 girl. The Revd. Dodie Marsden led the service, alongside the Revd Terry Hemming and it was noted that a female member of the clergy ordaining a female bishop was nothing if not modern and forward thinking!

The stage then went up the next day, as rehearsals began in earnest for our whole school nativity, which was to be performed a week later. This year, the children took on many of the producer roles, which mirrored the play. They impressed us with how eagerly and quickly they took on script writing, choreography and directing duties.

During the shows it was wonderful to see all the children perform with such enjoyment, I am sure there are many future stars of the stage and screen amongst them! Many were eager to sing solos and children from Year 1 upwards took on speaking parts. Thank you to all who came to see the show and for the very positive feedback we have received. Thank you also for your very generous contributions to the collection which was taken at the end of the show, this raised over £300 for the School Council's Playground Project.

Our Carol Service in St Nicholas Church brought the term to a fitting close, with instrumentalists, soloists, readers and the choir all playing an important part. I would like to congratulate the choir on singing the many descant parts so well, many of which would prove challenging for older choirs. Again, I would like to thank all parents and members of the community who joined us to fill the church; it is wonderful to feel part of such a supportive community.

Alex Foggo

Winners of FOLS 100 Club Christmas Draw

1 st	Andrea Harris	£100
2 nd	Sarah Nicholson	£50
3 rd	Natalie Parker	£25

Date for your diary

**Friends of Longparish School
Annual Quiz Night
Saturday 10th March**

More details in the next issue.

**LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB
TUESDAY 24 JANUARY
AT 7 pm
In Longparish Village Hall**

JOHN BAKER will be speaking on
"LOVELY LILIES AND HOSTAS"

This meeting will be our first for 2012 and we will be re-enrolling for this year. New Members welcome from within Hill & Valley Parishes.

Raffle towards cost of future speakers.

Any queries please get in touch with
Rosie Lowry 01264720325
rosie@yewcottagealongparish.com
Marion Bell 01264720205

Longparish Community Association

The start of the New Year is renewal time for subscriptions to the Longparish Community Association. The cost is still £1 per individual and entitles members to a discount on tickets for some of the activities organised by the LCA. If you haven't joined before now is the time to do it and get a full year's value!

The Community Association supports and organises a range of popular activities in the village, such as KidzZone, the Recycled Teenagers, Tuesday Talks and the Midsummer Fun Day. There is a renewal form on the back of the January events diary or you can download a form from the village website. Please contact Christine Beresford on 720421 if you need a printed version.

LCA Wednesday Talks

Wednesday Talks are organised by the Longparish Community Association for the village. They are entertaining and convivial evenings with bar and opportunities for questions and discussion. A bit like a book group without having to read the book!

You don't have to be a member to attend, and there is no admission fee. We just ask that anyone attending makes a donation on arrival.



Wednesday 18 January at 7.30pm in the **Village Hall**
Jeremy Barber will be taking about his experiences as a

"Novice on the Silk Road".

Wednesday 8 February: Matthew Dryden on

"Penguins in the Surgery - a general practice in the Falklands"

Wednesday 28 March Richard Wills on

"History of Middleton House and Estate and other diversions".

Christine Beresford



Smooth Movers

are on a Christmas break, but will warmly welcome new members for next term starting on January 5th in Longparish Village Hall on Thursday mornings from 9.15-10.15.

During the Village Hall refurbishment we shall be Smooth Moving in Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall.

Longparish Community Association - working to make life better

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

Is your New Year resolution to lose weight and get fitter? Come and join us for our 62nd race on Sunday 8 January starting at 10am at the Cricket Ground! Details and the entry form are in the LCA area on the village website.

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. Supporters of all ages are very welcome



Despite drizzle, a decent-sized field turned out to contest the Christmas edition of the L2SOTM. We welcomed new runner Kerry Loon from Larkwhistle and it was good to see Ali Lowry back after a two year absence.

Storming through the field came Matthieu Fident who was the first person home and the fastest overall.

Matthieu has been promoted to 'senior' and received the cup as *Most Improved Man*.

Most Improved Lady, only just behind Matthieu, was Sheila Evans. The first runner home legally old enough to accept the prize generously donated by Jack Ellicock for the Christmas run was Jim Dundas, just 15 seconds behind Sheila.

We had a good number of runners in complete or partial fancy dress which made running interesting, especially for Jacqui Healey, who had to hitch her up dress the entire time.

Prizes for fancy dress were awarded to Jacqui, John Scott (Santa's elf) and to the Mayon-White family for the best-decorated buggy.

Mince pies, cake and mulled wine afterwards helped warm us up and gave the festivities a kick start. Thanks go to Simeon, Jack and Maggie for marshalling and timekeeping, Andrew Gibson for photos, Jim and Jack Dundas for the cake, the Goulds for the signs and to the Cricket Club for the lovely venue.



LCA Afternoon Tea

Sarah Nicholson is hosting the monthly tea and chat at Nordale. Do come along on Friday 20th January 2.30 to 4pm. You are assured of a warm welcome. If you need a lift give Gloria a call on 720425 and she will arrange one for you.

January Haikus

New resolution

walk more, observing nature,
counting syllables.

Grey morning skies -
the sun sulks, procrastinates,
then flees in twilight.

Longparish Parish Council

Planning

Testwood Trout Farm

Whilst recognising the need for an agricultural workers dwelling and fish processing, the Council objected to a proposal which includes an additional building. This is because the Council felt that it might be possible to accommodate the needs of the business without a second building.

Should the application be permitted, the Council has requested appropriate conditions relating to tying the dwelling to agricultural use only; limiting the processing to fish reared at the farm; and the removal of the mobile home and caravan once the dwelling is complete.

Draft Core Strategy

TVBC has published its draft Core Strategy & Development Management Plan Document [DPD] and its draft Designations DPD for public consultation. You can see these documents in the Planning area of the TVBC website or at Beech Hurst. The Core Strategy sets the vision and strategy for the Borough until 2031. It sets out the proposed locations for development; and includes policies which will be used to determine planning applications. The Designation DPD contains settlement boundaries, local gap boundaries and other designations that have been used to inform the Core Strategy.

The public consultation on both documents will run from 6 Jan to 4.30pm on Friday 17 Feb 12. The Parish Council will consider its response at the February meeting or at a separate planning meeting if that is needed. There will be more on the effect of the proposals on Longparish in the next Hill & Valley. Please do let Parish Councillors know about any observation or comments that you may have, so as to help further our own discussion and comment.

Open Spaces

Village Clean Up Morning

The weather was perfect and over thirty people did a huge amount of work at the Autumn Clean Up Day. Thank you all. A fuller report appears elsewhere in this edition.

Playground

We hope to hear shortly that the grant application to TVBC for half the cost of new equipment for younger children has been approved.

Pocket Nature Reserve at The Common

Paul Knipe has cut paths regularly and done some hedging, planting and tree work. Paul will be arranging working parties for volunteers on Sat 21 Jan, Sun 19 Feb and Sat 17 March. The work is both convivial and rewarding. Please contact him on 720713 to find out more.

School Landscape Programme

The County School Landscape Programme is working with the school to develop a plan to make best use of the school grounds. The first stage was a site evaluation,

developed by a steering group, facilitated by a landscape architect from HCC. There is a link to this document on the front page of the village website. Jeremy Barber and Graham Darrah, who are members of the steering group, would welcome any feedback you'd like to give and can show you hard copies.

Highways

Although no start dates are yet available, the repainting of the white lines/repairing the surface at the North Acre junction and dealing with the tree root problem in Mill Lane in the most appropriate way, are firmly logged in the Highways programme. Now that the Southern Water work is complete, they will also take steps to repair the damaged verges in Mill Lane.

Next Parish Council Meeting

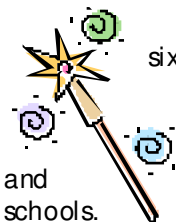
The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 9 January 2012. Meetings are public; and parishioners are welcome to come and speak by arrangement with the Chairman - Christopher Duxbury Tel: 720580
Email: chairman@longparish.org.uk

NEWS FROM TESTBOURNE

December is always a special time in our school year, with many opportunities to celebrate Christmastime. Our musicians and singers were much in evidence – our Big Band playing for the opening of the Whitchurch Christmas Lights, our choirs adding to the festive atmosphere at the Kingfisher Day Centre and Berehill Nursing Home, and all our music makers joining together with the Overton Primary School Choir at our annual Carol Concert at All Hallows in Whitchurch, a heart-warming evening that really put us in the mood for Christmas. As one member of the congregation commented after “You hear a lot about how awful the youth of today are – but that was great”.

MORE MITYANA MAGIC

This year December was even more special than usual because of the visit of students and a teacher from our partner school in Mityana, Uganda. The students were looked after by buddies and then local families in St Mary Bourne and spent time in classes and visiting primary schools. It was an exciting adventure for us all, culminating in a moving farewell assembly, complete with drums and dancing. There was a lot of learning for us all - summed up for many Testbourne students by one Year 11 boy who said, “Miss – it has really hit me. I feel so embarrassed that we have so much that we waste and take for granted”. A real life lesson for us all.



AN OLYMPIC YEAR AHEAD

We are now looking forward to a memorable new year that will be marked in particular by the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games, perhaps the only time many of us will witness a home Olympics in our life time. Our Olympic and Paralympic mural in the Sports Hall and the values of Courage, Determination, Equality, Excellence, Friendship, Inspiration and Respect will be a reminder to us of all we aspire to achieve in the year ahead. We look forward to bringing you our news and wish you all a Happy 2012 from all at Testbourne.

Village Clean Up - Saturday 21 November

The weather was perfect and over thirty people ranging in age from under 8 to over 80 did a huge amount of work at our Autumn Clean Up Day.

Jobs done included

- Clearing the stream. This has made the water level drop which will help prevent winter flooding. Plus, of course, the place looks much tidier.
- Clearing the road and footway from the Village Hall car park to the School. This will make it much easier and safer for parents with children and buggies who use it daily to get to School and Playgroup
- Clearing vegetation from the steps leading down from the Forton flyover to the A303 which were horribly overgrown and slippery
- Pruning, clearing leaves and washing the gates in the cemetery
- Putting in new fencing and a gate at the Playground to reduce the danger of young children straying onto the road.
- Cleaning of road signs.



Thank you very much to everyone who helped and a particular thank you to Raymond Brown who kindly provided a large skip and to the two Micks whose tractors made it so much easier to fill it.



Thanks also to Claire Sykes who made a lovely cake which went down very well at coffee break and to Alice Evans who fed volunteers at the other end of the working party with delicious chocolate biscuits.

Afterwards around 25 of our tired volunteers enjoyed a well earned lunch of sandwiches and chips at The Cricketers.

A rake with a green metal handle was left behind. Would the owner please phone Jeremy on 720459

Jenny Jolliffe and Jeremy Barber Open Spaces Committee

St Nicholas Christmas Fair

Many thanks to everyone who supported the St Nicholas Christmas Fair on 3rd December, especially those who donated jam and chutneys, baked cakes or made donations for the hamper tombola and gifts stall and those who helped on the day.

The Fair made a profit of nearly £1400 which goes towards the maintenance of St Nicholas Church.



The church decorated for Laura Troughton's wedding

We hope everyone who came had an enjoyable afternoon. Jane Young and Eila Chamberlen



Help is at hand to switch to digital TV

TV is switching to digital all over the UK and in 2012 the traditional TV signal will be switched off in the Meridian region. If you don't have digital TV by the time of switchover, you will lose your TV channels.

Eligible people have been sent a Help Scheme information pack through the post explaining the help available. Most people will be asked to pay £40 towards the standard option of help. It is free for some.

You are eligible for the Help Scheme if you are:

- aged 75 or over, or
- live in a care home (for six months or more), or
- receive (or could get):
 - o Disability Living Allowance (DLA), or
 - o Attendance or Constant Attendance Allowance, or
 - o Mobility Supplement, or
- registered blind or partially sighted.

For more information, call 0800 40 85 900 or visit helpscheme.co.uk

Perhaps you know someone in Test Valley who needs a helping hand at Switchover time? If so, please ring Andover 362600 and give your contact details so Mollie Antrobus can get in touch with you.



Longparish Cricket Club

Sponsored by Barker, Son & Isherwood, Solicitors

Review of 2010

A fantastic year for Longparish Cricket Club started with a successful indoor campaign in which all senior sides in the Winchester & District leagues achieved promotion and Longparish U16 retained their indoor title following an unbeaten campaign. In the North Hampshire junior indoor leagues Longparish U13 finished second, a point behind League champions Cove U13 and the Longparish Lightweights were crowned Division 1 champions after a winter without a loss.

Stepping outside, the club held a hugely successful balloon launch that raised much-needed funds for the club and Ken Ball was awarded a lifetime achievement award by Hampshire Cricket for over sixty years of service. When cricket commenced, the club enjoyed their best run in the National Village Cup competition for some years. A very young side lost narrowly to SPL side, Sparsholt, in the regional semi final and U16 William de Cani topped the national batting averages for the competition. Colts cricket continued to thrive with large numbers attending the regular Monday night coaching sessions. Longparish U13 looked to be in good form but a weather-affected schedule resulted in only two league games completed, both wins. Longparish U11 fared better with the weather and won 7 of their 8 games and were awarded a "Spirit of Cricket" award at the Rosebowl in Southampton. Longparish Colts also starred in the cricket skills competition held before each of Hampshire's 20/20 matches, winning their regional heat and finishing second in the final.

In midweek 20-over cricket Longparish excelled, winning the Winchester & District top division and losing the semi-final of the Tichborne trophy to Easton & Martyr Worthy. The Longparish CC race night was, as always, a huge success that raised much-needed funds for the club. Thanks to The Cricketers Inn for hosting the event and to Ray Smith for organising the whole shebang! In the Hampshire leagues Longparish finished fourth in Division 3 and Longparish II, mid table in NW Div II. Sunday cricket was fun, competitive and a valuable introduction for Colts to the longer form of the game. The season ended with another eventful tour of Devon and a successful presentation evening with a barn dance and hog roast at the Longparish Community Hall.

After a lengthy application process the club was awarded Clubmark accreditation: the Sport England kitemark that recognises standards of coaching, facilities, club infrastructure and safety at sports clubs. U11 Scott Sturt was selected for the League representative side and William Samways, Jordan Blackmore and Callum Giles await the results of recent trials for winter training squads. William de Cani was selected to play for Hampshire U16 but declined the offer citing prior Village Cup commitments. Billy Mead continues to shine in the Hampshire U13 squad.

A new scoreboard is on its way, partially and kindly funded by a grant from the Vitacress fund and plans are underway for an artificial wicket. Currently all sides are

doing well in their indoor campaigns. Thank you to all who have supported the club throughout 2011.

Results of November 100 Club Draw

£35 Neil Bonathan
£15 Jeremy Barber
£15 Peter Herbert

Chris de Cani



Longparish Village Hall Refurbishment

We are delighted to report that NatWest Community Force has awarded us £6,000. Thank you very much to everyone who voted for us. Every single vote counted as there was a dead heat for third place. Individual gifts have now passed £50,000 bringing the total raised so far to over £245,000. Over 90 people have given to this appeal. Thank you all very much. Our target is £270,000 so, if you have not given yet, please give it serious consideration. It's still not too late and we'd be very grateful for any donations, large or small.

Further Gift Aid forms were issued with the November Hill & Valley and we have set up an online giving site which is at the following website:
<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/longparishvillagehall>

We hope to choose a contractor in January so that work can start in February.

Fundraising events continue with another Bridge Tea organised by the Gardening Club on 14 February and on 6 July there will be a performance of Much Ado About Nothing in the lovely gardens of Lower Mill.

We are putting together a fitting out budget for which we will seek further grant funding. This will include items such as curtains, fridge, dishwasher, oven, stage and audio-visual equipment, tables and chairs.

For further information about the refurbishment see www.longparish.org.uk/amenities/hall_refurbishment.php or contact John Scott 720018.



Potato Weekend.

Saturday January 28

Sunday January 29'

10am to 3pm

**at Testbourne Community School,
Whitchurch,**

Come to buy your seed potatoes for 2012.

There are over 140 varieties for sale as well as onion sets and pea and bean seeds.

There will be lectures and cookery demonstrations and a huge variety of other stalls including the exciting seed swop stall (seeds to buy at 50p per packet if you have no seeds to swop).

For further details phone Wendy on 01264 720386.

BIRDS OF LONGPARISH THE LITTLE EGRET



The little egret is one of the newer birds to be seen in Longparish. They first arrived in England in significant numbers in 1989 and first bred in Dorset in 1996. The little egret is the bird villagers most often ask me about. It is regularly seen in the streams and rivers around the village. It's an all white bird with a plume of feathers from the back of its head, black beak and legs with bright yellow feet. Sometimes it is confused with the cattle egret which also is in England now, but there are only a few and none have been seen in the village yet. The cattle egret has an orange/yellow beak and no yellow feet.

The little egret starts nesting in April in a colony, building a nest of sticks, sometimes quite large, in a tree or high bush. There can be as many as ten nests in a single tree. Three to six matt-green/blue eggs are laid that become discoloured during incubation. The young hatch after 22 to 25 days, and are fed by both parents for 40 to 45 days. The little egrets' main food is fish but they will also take frogs, voles, small and baby birds.

I hope you all have a very happy New Year. Keep your eyes open; you don't know what you might see.

chris bowman

John Woodcock's Tuesday Talk

On 13th December John Woodcock delighted an appreciative audience with reminiscences of people and places in Longparish. Aided by old photos, projected by Henry Yelf, he started at the Station and worked his way through the village to Longparish House, recalling with great affection the families he knew as a child when his father was Rector. He remembered occupations like carting, Charlie Wooton saying Whoa to his first tractor at the end of a furrow, Frank Tonge who drove the first steam engine in the village much to John's envy, the farms, pubs and shops. He had photos of village cricketers alongside such greats as Richie Benaud and Len Hutton whom he brought to play against the local team. He talked from memory in his inimitable friendly, informal way.

While preparing for the talk he came across the following review from the Andover Advertiser, which shows the continuity of village life, though few reviewers today are quite as kind as this one. Perhaps he was a member of the cast?

MJD

100 years ago

Andover Advertiser January 1912 Review of Longparish pantomime

Pantomime – A pantomime, entitled Cinderella, was produced in the Village Hall on Monday and the two following nights, with a matinée on Tuesday. The hall on each occasion was packed, and many more were unable to obtain admission. The Pantomime was produced under the management of Mr E.P. Wilkinson, who is to be heartily congratulated on the performance and scenic effects, as also on the fairy dance and stately minuet, which were special features of the programme.

Miss Ivy Bliss made an ideal Cinderella, and looked charming in her blue satin sequin dress captivating all hearts when she took her seat in a beautiful motor car for her journey to the palace ball. Miss A. Hayes proved a stately Queen and bore herself with grace and dignity, she had not a long part but what she had was done extremely well. Miss Gladys Clarke was most wonderful as the Baroness von Rouge, and her make-up was equally wonderful; every time she came on the stage the house was convulsed by her drolleries, it would be difficult to find anyone more fitted to fill this part. The Baroness's daughters, Acetylina and Electra, were most amusingly portrayed by Miss Clarke and Miss Margaret Snow, and their appearance was always a signal for much applause and laughter. Mrs Beech Jones was a very lovable fairy godmother, and spoke her lines with much charm and distinction. She was supported by six of the daintiest little fairies imaginable in the persons of Misses G. and V. Withers, M. Stidston, R. King, E. Ware and D. Jones, whose delightful dance was encored every time. The Duchess of Van Dieman's Land was delightfully taken by Miss A. Newman in a charming gown of rose coloured satin. Mr Louis King was excellent as the King and was vociferously encored for his song "My wife's gone to the country." His acting was majestic throughout. Mr T. Snow as Prince Alongo took one of the most difficult parts, inasmuch as he had to be natural, which he succeeded in being, and proved himself a really capable actor. The part of Buz Fuz (lord in waiting) was filled by Mr Douglas Scott, who acted and sang splendidly, his song "At the hall" was composed by himself especially for this pantomime, and is worthy of a place in the programme of any West End theatre: he is always a great favourite with Longparish audiences. Mr Beech Jones made an excellent Duke of Van Dieman's Land, and his help throughout was vastly appreciated by the other members of the company. Master E. Randall, as footman and policeman, acted the various parts with great spirit, we should like to have seen more of this talented young actor. Master C. King, as train bearer did his part capitally.

The proceeds are to be devoted to the paying off the debt on the Village Hall, and many thanks are due to Mr and Mrs Wilkinson for brightening the commencement of the new year with so excellent an entertainment. (*editor's bold print*)

E.P. Wilkinson, the son of a former Rector, then lived at Eastfield House.

Miss Alice Hayes was the postmistress.

Louis King lived at The Croft and had a chicken farm. His daughter, Rosamund King, mentioned as a fairy, married Henry Gay who farmed at Papermill; she later moved back to The Croft. Her brother was Cecil King.

Miss Margaret Snow was Dick and Mary's aunt and Thomas Snow their uncle.

The Village Hall was built in 1910