

Olympic summer

Two Longparish residents fully experienced the thrill of the Olympic Games. David and Rekha Ankcorn had obtained paid jobs at Weymouth, the sailing venue, but then Rekha saw an advertisement for volunteers. After an audition in February they were both accepted to take part in the Paralympic opening ceremony and as Ambassadors in Weymouth - Portland. Rehearsals for the opening ceremony started in June, first in a film studio, then at the Ford factory in Dagenham, where there was more room for 600 large umbrellas to be deployed, and finally in the stadium itself. For the last 2 weeks before 29 August they stayed in London as there



were rehearsals every day. They found it fascinating. They were able to see some of the Olympics and were particularly impressed by the equestrian events at Greenwich. Their training for the Ambassadors' role of welcoming and helping visitors to Weymouth for the Olympics and Paralympics was fitted in around their other commitments. It was all done on a voluntary basis but they found it enormously rewarding and great fun. They met

people from all over the world, both visitors and athletes, and found it satisfying and exhilarating to be part of such a happy team. They were impressed by the efficiency of the whole organisation and pleased that Sebastian Coe found time for a chat with them.

It was a summer never to be forgotten and they are just coming down to earth again. They have had letters of thanks from David Cameron, a souvenir baton, many photos and especially warm memories of all the people they met and helped. Some of you may have seen them at the Fête in the costumes they wore at the opening ceremony.

Mary Jo Darrah

Fête Grand Draw winners

1 B.Locke	11 Cyril	21 Sasha
2 K Baker	12 Trowern	22 J Roberts
3 N Biddicombe	13 Jolliffe	23 Sheila B
4 Di Cox	14 J Griffin	24 K Scotland
5 P Anderson	15 S Miller	25 Stanley
6 L Milne	16 A Bremridge	26 Wright
7 R Thompson	17 T Cook	27 Frank
8 W Ellicock	18 A Lillywhite	28 R Twine
9. Griffith	19 Taylor	29 N Dunford
10 C Leeman	20 Fenella	

A big thank you to everyone who sold tickets and to the kind people who gave me prizes. Congratulations to all our winners.

Jan West

FOLS 100 CLUB RESULTS

1st Prize - Number 120 - Lindsay Howie
2nd Prize - Number 117 - Mrs J Chambers
3rd Prize - Number 124 - Alison Cooper

Longparish Fête 2012

Profit of £7,000 - Many thanks everyone

The clear profit from the fête on 1st September is £7,000. This is a major achievement. The money will be divided equally for maintenance and support of St Nicholas Church and for the Village Hall.

The Parochial Church Council and the Village Hall Committee are extremely grateful to everyone involved in raising this sum: individual and corporate donors, stall holders and helpers and all those who came and spent freely on the day.

It was a wonderful day. It rained the day before and the day after, but we had perfect weather all day. Everyone seemed to enjoy the entertainment. Juggling Jake amused all ages with his circus skills. The Garston Gallopers Morris Dance troupe added a wonderful rustic atmosphere to the afternoon and the Basingstoke Silver Band gave us some good music. For the third year running Alix Booth entertained the children (and many adults) with her two masterful and charming Punch and Judy shows. She is very popular at children's parties - see www.alixpartypuppets.co.uk for contact details.

All our brilliant volunteers turned out as usual with their excellent stalls. Special mention goes to Teas which attracts lots of customers, encouraging them to stay on, soak up the atmosphere and spend money.

Very many thanks to everyone for your wonderful support, time, assistance and generosity. The fête next year will be on Saturday 7th September 2013.

I have now moved out of the village to Goodworth Clatford and also having run the fête 3 times (the customary spell) will not be doing it next year. The village therefore needs a volunteer to take it on. It is not as onerous as it might seem. It could easily be done by a team of two which would help share the load. I will be able to provide full notes on what has to be done and give advice where needed. If anyone would like to offer their services on their own or with someone else please contact John Young, Churchwarden, j.young233@btinternet.com, Tel: 720233, or John Scott, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, johnhscott01@btinternet.com, Tel: 720018.

Tom Bremridge

Tel 01264 358656 tom@brem.eclipse.co.uk

Award for The Plough Inn

James Durrant, former head chef of Maze in London who took over The Plough in March 2012, has been awarded 2013 Pub of the Year by the Good Food Guide. It says "*Impressed as we were by his cooking skills during his short sojourn at Maze, we've been bowled over by his approach to running the Plough... The food here is simple, local and seasonal, backed up by real ales and a well-considered wine list. Every country village should have a pub like this ... with its convivial atmosphere and a feel-good factor that's the result of good food,... impeccable service and accessible pricing.*"

The Plough serves food every lunch and dinner time except Sunday evening.

M.J.Darrah

Longparish Parish Council

Parish Clerk

It is with regret that we have to report that David Kraft has tendered his resignation as Parish Clerk and will finish at the end of September. Unexpectedly, he took over a family publishing business during the year and, as it has grown and taken more of his time, he realised reluctantly that he was no longer able to give the time needed to do the Clerk's job fully.

The Council recorded its thanks to David at the September meeting and wished him well for the future. It was also agreed that the Chairman would assume the responsibilities of Proper Officer and the Vice Chairman the duties of Responsible Financial Officer for the time being. Jeremy Barber will continue to manage the Open Spaces, including the contracts.

Parish Councillor Vacancies

As mentioned in the September edition, there are two Parish Councillor vacancies. Please see the advertisement on this page.

Planning

New Applications:

The Council had no objection to:

- The felling and replacement of a new walnut tree at Yew Tree Cottage, Forton.
- A first floor extension to front elevation to provide ensuite and seating area, with insertion of a dormer window at Ropers House.

The Council has requested TVBC to consider whether the siting of a proposed new timber barn at Testwood Trout Farm for the storage of fish food, set apart from the main complex, is appropriate. It has also expressed concern that the application comes so soon after the last application for a complex of buildings which includes farm storage.

Raymond Brown Minerals & Recycling Ltd

Due to the level of business, Raymond Brown is seeking to extend the operating hours for their Materials Recovery Facility near the A 303 until 12.00 midnight, Monday to Friday. [There will be no lorry movements or external processing during these extended hours]. HCC has given permission for a 4 week trial.

The trial will run from 1 October and once complete, Raymond Brown will assess the impact of any noise and lighting before considering whether to make a formal permanent application. They will consult the Parish Council if they do progress with a planning application.

Should anyone in the village experience any impact from the night working, please do inform the Chairman [details below] so that we can ask Raymond Brown to investigate the cause and try to resolve it. If any complaints are received by HCC, the extended hours trial must cease upon instruction.

Open Spaces

Plans are in hand to move one of the two playground benches nearer to the new kit for young children.

The Autumn Village Clean Up day is scheduled for Saturday 24 November from 10.00am to 1pm.

Please see the advertisement below and help if possible.

B3048 Road Closure for repairs

The B3048 from the A303 to Wherwell will be closed at various times in October. Please consult the parish notice boards for details,

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 8 October.

Meetings are public and parishioners are welcome to come and speak by arrangement with the Chairman - Christopher Duxbury Tel: 720580 or email: clerk@longparish.org.uk

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU

We have two vacancies on the Parish Council

- If you can spare a few hours a month to help with the Council's work please join the Council.
- If you think 'they' should be doing things differently or like what 'they' are doing already please join the Council.
- If you want to help keep our village 'special' please join the Council.



To find out more about what the Council does and what being a Councillor involves please contact the chairman, Christopher Duxbury – tel: 720580 or email clerk@longparish.org.uk by 20 October 2012.

AUTUMN CLEAN UP OF VILLAGE

SATURDAY 24th NOVEMBER 10 am to 1 pm

VOLUNTEERS WANTED to help with the village autumn clean up day. One of the main objectives is to clear the stream of weed and dead leaves. The water level will drop by several inches and the stream will remain clear for the rest of the winter which reduces the risk of flooding. Other jobs include painting playground equipment, clearing branches in the cemetery and cleaning benches and road signs. There are plenty of other jobs as well so the more the merrier. Please reserve the date now. More details next month. Please help. Free lunch of sandwiches and chips for all volunteers!

For more information please contact Jeremy Barber on 720459 or email jeremy.barber@longparish.org.uk

Longparish Toddler Group

The Longparish Toddler group is going to be back, up and running on Monday 5th November from 10am - 11.30am in the Longparish Village Hall and thereafter every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month. Please pop in and have a play, there will be snacks for the children, coffee and biscuits for the mums, story time and a sing song, everyone very welcome. If any queries please contact either Lizzie Gairdner on 01264 720372 or Caroline Butler on 01264 720308.



Longparish Village Hall Refurbishment

We're back! Our lovely refurbished Village Hall is now open for business. To book the hall phone Jacqui on 01264 720560 or email villagehall@longparish.org.uk

We are pleased to announce that the Practical Completion Certificate has been issued. The contractor has to sort out a couple of snags before we pay the final bill but we are now able to open the hall for hire. Information about facilities and prices is in the village hall area on the Longparish website and we are delighted to welcome back our regular users and to be the venue for some new activities.

We are very grateful to Aster Communities "Wishing on a Star" Scheme which has given us a grant towards a dishwasher, hot cupboard and fridge for the kitchen. We have ordered these and curtains and blinds for the stage and windows and hope they will be installed before the formal opening week end, 12-14th October.

On Saturday 13 October at 11am John Woodcock will cut a ribbon and declare the hall open. Light refreshments will be served and all are welcome. Members of the project team will be on hand to show you round, explain what we have achieved and answer questions. The hall will remain open until 4pm and again on Sunday 14th, 10am – 4pm. Please make every effort to visit even if it is for just 15 minutes, because we really want to show off our magnificent village hall. The hall is fully accessible with a new ramp at the front, disabled loo and a hearing loop. The heating quickly warms the hall up to a comfortable temperature and the lighting and new colour scheme provide an atmosphere which is relaxing and welcoming.

On the Friday evening the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee will entertain the corporate bodies and grant funders who have contributed towards the project.

For more information contact John Scott on 01264 720018 or email johnhscott01@btinternet.com

Over the next year or so we will continue to fund raise to buy the items that we can't afford at the moment. The next event is a Quiz Night on 17 November followed by a jumble sale on 1 Dec. We also have a Longparish 10k run and an auction of promises in the pipeline.

In the meantime we are collecting CDs, DVDs and Computer Games that you no longer need which are complete and in good resale condition for us to sell on the internet. There are two drop off points, one at Owls Lodge, Forton and the other at Riverby, Southside Road. Alternatively we can collect them from you if you contact either John Scott on 01264 720018 or Jacqui Healey on 01264 720560. Many thanks.

Possible bargains

Longparish Village Hall has a small fridge and two hostess trolleys we don't need any more. Would you like them? Best offer by 16 October secures. On display at the opening weekend. Contact John on 720018 or Maggie on 720459 to view or make your bid.

Harvest Festival Sunday 21 October

All Longparish residents are invited to come to a Harvest Festival Service in St Nicholas Church at 11am at which the renowned Longparish Choir will be singing and afterwards to lunch in the Community Hall.

Lunch tickets are available from the Village Shop or John and Jane Young (730233) or Terry and Ruth Hemming (720215)
£3.50 for adults and £2 for children
(or £10 per family)

Decorating for Harvest Festival

We will be decorating the church on Saturday morning, October 20th, from 9.30am. Please will all flower arrangers come and help. Any offerings of fruit, flowers and vegetables will be gratefully received and should be brought to the church.

Any queries? Please contact Eila Chamberlen 720691.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL REFECTORY Friday 19 October 2011

A team of people from Longparish, Hurstbourne Priors and St Mary Bourne help in the Winchester Cathedral Refectory three times a year. We are always glad to have new helpers and if anyone would like to come and join the team, please do get in touch with me.
JaneYoung 01264 720233 or j.young233@btinternet.com

Longparish Village Choir.

We are starting work on our autumn programme:

Harvest Festival, 11am Sunday 21st October. We'll be singing John Rutter's lovely anthem, Look at the World.

Remembrance Sunday 10.50 Sunday 11th November: The magnificent and very moving anthem, Greater Love Hath No Man by John Ireland.

St Nicholas Festival, December 2nd: The Bishop of Winchester will be blessing the new statue of St Nicholas. We will be performing a brand new anthem, Rejoice, by a young composer, David Hughes. A world premiere!

For more information about the choir contact Cathy Yelf 720790.

ST NICHOLAS CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Saturday 8th December
2 – 4pm in the Community Hall**

Christmas still seems a long way away, but will soon be upon us, so please put this date in your diaries. If you are currently making jams, chutneys or pickles and could make a few extra for the produce stall, they will be greatly appreciated.

Local Christmas gift or craft sellers can book a table at the fair to sell their wares for a small fee.

If you are able to help in any way with the fair, please let us know.

Jane Young (720233) or Eila Chamberlen (720691)

Longparish School News

The first few weeks of the Autumn term have been action packed, with Chaffinch class enjoying a residential week at P.G.L. Liddington and starting their Bikeability course (the modern version of Cycling Proficiency), both junior classes receiving rugby coaching, Heron class visiting Laverstoke Park and School Council Elections taking place. It has also been lovely to welcome our new Year R children, who were all full-time by the start of the second week. They settled in extremely well and have already taken an active part in the school community, voting in the elections.

SATs results

We are pleased to inform you of our SATs results in Reading, Writing and Mathematics achieved by last year's Year 6. Level 4 is the expected attainment for 11 year olds, however the test papers that all children sit also test children's ability at Level 5, which most children are expected to achieve by the age of 14. Additional Level 6 tests were also taken by a few of our Year 6 pupils, with Level 6 being exceptional achievement at age 11.

The results are as follows:

100% of Year 6 achieved Level 4 or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

In addition, Level 5 was achieved by 75% in Reading, 56% in Writing and 69% in Mathematics. We are also pleased to report that 19% achieved Level 6 in Mathematics. Congratulations to all of last year's Year 6, whom we hope are now flourishing at their new secondary schools.

Admissions

If you have a child who will be 4 before 1st September 2013 and are starting to think about selecting your preferred school for your child's education, we are holding Open Days on the morning of Thursday 18th October and the afternoon of Tuesday 13th November. These days provide parents with the opportunity to see the school in action and to meet pupils and staff. The closing date for this year's applications is midnight on Tuesday 15th January 2013. If you would like any further information regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact the Admin. Office on 01264 720317.

Below is a report from some of our school journalists, which I hope you will enjoy reading. Alex Foggo

P.G.L

From 10th to 14th of September, Chaffinch class went on a residential visit to P.G.L Liddington near Swindon. It was a week packed full of adventure and activities.

One of the first activities of the week was the climbing wall. Katie S, Katie N, Zak, Jack, Simeon, Charlie, Ella and Harvey all got to the top of the climbing wall. It was an amazing sight! Everyone said that it was fantastic, really cool and great fun.

Meanwhile, other groups were doing quad biking and the tunnel trail, which is a pitch black maze of tunnels where we had to work as a team to get through without getting

lost. Zak was group three's leader and was very good at directing and instructing.

The food was lovely! For breakfast we had things like bacon, sausages, vegetarian sausages, hash browns and lots of other delicious food. Every meal, (apart from breakfast), we had a salad bar where there was lots of different salads, bread and fruit - it was soooo yummy! Every lunch and tea we had something different to eat.

These are all of the activities that took place throughout the trip: trapeze, fencing, abseiling, aeroball, zip wire, crate challenge, tree top study trail, low ropes, vertical challenge, giant swing, archery, climbing, quad biking and tunnel trail. In addition to these, every evening we did an activity like orienteering and wacky races (which involved lots of acting and having fun) and we also had an end of the week disco.

Overall it was an amazing experience and we thank everybody who helped us like the instructors and parents who drove the minibus.

By Lydia Coleman, Nina Smith and Ella Harris

FOLS Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 2nd October at 8pm in the Community Hall.

Please come and join us for drinks and nibbles, hear what we have been hard at work raising money for and perhaps share some of your ideas for the future. You will be under no obligation to join our friendly team, however, we are always looking to recruit new volunteers! Hope to see you there.

Contact Clare Sykes 01264 720443.

LONGPARISH MUSIC NIGHT

Saturday 20th October 2012

8pm Longparish Community Hall

A fantastic evening of live and disco music for you to let your hair down to, with music from the 70's onwards ...

Featuring local live band



£ 8 per ticket or
£15 per couple



nibbles included
bar drinks available (small donation)

- ALL PROFITS TO FOLS -

Tickets available from Longparish shop
or any FoLS committee member

For further information, please contact:

Andrea Harris - 01264 720457

Clare Sykes - 01264 720443

Helen Smith - 01264 366782



LCA Tuesday Talks start again!

"The Everest Marathon" on **Tuesday 9 October** at 7.30pm in the comfort of the newly refurbished Village Hall.

Jeremy Barber will tell us about his epic run on the Roof of the World which helped him to raise over £9,000 for the Village Hall project.

Doors open at 7pm. No need to book, just turn up.

Admission is free but donations welcome.

There is a cash bar.

Future Tuesday Talks are:

- **Tuesday 13 November:** "The Natural History of Longparish and its surrounding area" - Paul Knipe on our local flora and fauna
- **Tuesday 11 December:** "Adventures in Oman" - Tom Bremridge's account of life in the mysterious South East Arabian sultanate

Don't forget to put the dates in your diaries now!



After a short break over the summer we are back up and running in time for the Autumn Term!

Kidzone is open to boys and girls aged 11 years, (or in Year 6) up to 18 years. We have fun indoor and outdoor activities and a popular tuck shop! We arrange activities and visits, and provide a relaxed and informal space for our kids to meet, interact and chillax. Longparish Community Association very kindly supports Kidzone, and all the parent volunteers are fully CRB checked, but we are always looking out for more brilliant parent volunteers to help out, and would love to meet you and your kids!

Come along to our first session in the newly refurbished Village Hall on Wednesday 10th October from 7pm-8.30pm. We meet on alternate Wednesdays during term time, and we look forward to welcoming you there. Contact Dave & Andrea Harris 720457 or Alice Evans 720702



Fabulous 16th Longparish Pumpkin Contest from 3 - 5pm Saturday 20th October

I hope your pumpkins, large or small are growing well. It's fast approaching - pumpkins, squashes, gourds, marrows of any shape and size, bring them along and win a prize!

The 16th year of contest will be held in our brand new Village Hall starting at 3pm. Hot dogs and light refreshments will be available (no charge but donations welcome). It's free to enter but please support the raffle (all proceeds in aid of Playgroup) and bring a raffle prize if you can.

There will be prizes for the heaviest pumpkins, the smallest pumpkins, as well as the usual prizes for decorated pumpkins. For more information contact Sylvia Crook on 720819 or Laura Wearn on 720066.

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

It was a lovely morning and the fine weather plus the Olympic spirit brought out a large field with some people we hadn't seen for a while and new runners Jonathan, Eleanor and Lucie Nelson, Jesper Stroier and James and Pauline Masters. You are all very welcome. Jack Ellicock says it was just the same in 1948 when the last London Olympics inspired people to take up sport.

First home was Eleanor Nelson but she was on an estimated handicap so it was her sister, Katie, a couple of seconds behind who took the Rising Star trophy as most improved junior. She beat her previous best by an incredible 4 minutes and 56 seconds. Ian Beveridge was Most Improved Man and Jacqui Healey was Most Improved Woman.



Thanks very much to Maggie Barber, Anna Nelson, Amanda Goldsmith and Jack for marshalling, to Maggie for the flapjack and Jim

Dundas for the scrummy cake, David Gould for the signs and to the Cricket Club for the lovely venue. Thanks also to Sarah Nelson and Paul Goldsmith who accompanied juniors round the course.

We look forward to seeing you at the next race on Sunday 14 October starting at 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. Supporters of all ages are very welcome.

LCA Recycled Teenagers

The next trip on Thursday, 4 October, will be a drive through the New Forest to Lyndhurst stopping at Kimbridge Farm Shop on the way back for a cup of tea. The minibus will leave North Acre at 11am. Please contact Corinne on 720643 for further information.

LCA Coffee mornings

LCA Coffee mornings are planned for Friday 26th October in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall, 10.30 - 12, and also on 16th November and 14th December.

Welcome to Longparish

On Monday 3rd December at 7.30, the Longparish Community Association, St Nicholas Church and Longparish Parish Council will be hosting a welcome evening with entertainment to give newer Longparish residents the chance to meet more established villagers and find out about what activities are going on in our busy village. It will also be the venue for the two minutes of formal business that is the LCA AGM.

The event will be held in our wonderful new village hall and the LCA will provide food, drink and entertainment. Please put the date in your diaries and there will be more information next month.



Longparish Cricket Club

sponsored by Barker, Son & Isherwood, Solicitors

With competitive cricket finished for the season Longparish embarked on a three day jolly to Devon which saw Longparish

cricketers of all ages contribute to wins over Axmouth on the Saturday and Seaton on the Sunday. The sporting weekend also featured several games of golf, pool, darts, fishing for massive mullet at the mouth of the river Axe and some energetic dancing with the cream of Seaton society in its finest late night establishment. The end of the season also saw a successful Colts day in which many took part in a sponsored "Crickathon", conducting cricket training drills from dusk till dawn and raising several hundred pounds in the process.

The Longparish CC presentation evening had a Caribbean theme and was a great success. A hundred or more feasted on goat curry, roti and red snapper washed down with rum punch to the sound of Chicky's disco before the gongs were given out. The 1st team batting cup was awarded to U17 William de Cani for his 640 runs at an average of 58.2 and the 1st team bowling cup was won by Chris Clarke for his 17 wickets at 3.3. Justin Jackman took the 2nd team batting award after hitting 382 runs at 38.2. Martin Savage retained his 2nd XI bowling trophy with 23 wickets at 2.77. The Midweek cricketer of the year award was picked up by Barry Blackmore and U17 Alex Coetzee was crowned LCC Young Player of the year. Martin Savage was voted Players' Player of the year and U15 skipper Ollie Coetzee picked up the BSI Cup for the Colt who had impressed the most throughout the year. Evergreen Gary Taplin was declared Fielder of the Year for falling over in all the right places and Chris de Cani picked up the Sprague trophy for LCC's all round good egg of 2012. William de Cani picked up the indoor cricketer of the year award, U17 Ben Gardner took the young indoor cricketer of the year award and Alfie Smith won the LCC Fantasy Cricket league. Thanks were given to Middleton Estate for providing the venue for Longparish CC to play their cricket, and to the scorers, umpires, groundsmen and all who put so much time and effort into making LCC the thriving club that it is today. Gongs given out, dancing commenced and the bar was drunk dry.

After several months of voting in the Lloyds TSB Community Fund awards, Longparish Cricket Club finished top with well over a thousand votes, a fantastic effort for a small village club. The £5,000 first prize has part-funded the installation of an artificial wicket that will provide a true and even surface on which Colts can play and train and fewer Colts games will be lost to the weather. Thank you to everyone who voted for Longparish Cricket Club. All involved with the club are bowled over by the level of support.

On Saturday 17th November the club will be holding a Christmas Gift Sale in the Longparish Community Hall, doors open at 10am to a wide selection of stalls that will feature a great range of gifts. Tea, coffee and cakes will be on sale and maybe mince pies. Chris de Cani

Hundred Club Winners

£35 Charlotte Wills

£15 Frank Hibberd

£15 E Spence Herbert



LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB

TUESDAY 23RD OCTOBER

at 7 pm in Longparish Village Hall

ROGER PARSONS

"A World of Sweetpeas"

Roger Parsons is a professional horticulturist who has been growing Sweet Peas as a hobby since 1985 and other Lathyrus species since 1991. Since 1993, he has been custodian of a National Collection of Lathyrus species and from 1998 custodian of a seed bank of Sweet Pea cultivars. Roger has won Coveted Gold Awards for his Sweet Peas at National Sweet Pea Society exhibitions.

Roger and his wife, Alison, will be bringing seeds from the national collection for sale.

Members Free. Non-Members £5.00.
Raffle towards the cost of future speakers.

Any queries to Rosie Lowry 01264720325
rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com
Or Marion Bell 01264720205



BIRDS OF LONGPARISH THE LINNET

The linnet is a member of the finch family, a bird which can be seen along the road by Vale Farm, in the summer in pairs but in the winter in large flocks with other finches. The linnet has a wingspan of 21cms, about the same size as the goldfinch. It's a slim bird; the upper parts are brown, the throat is a dull white. It has a red nape and head patch, also a red breast. Its legs are brown, its eyes black and it has a grey pointed beak. They start nesting



in mid April until as late as early August. The nest is usually well hidden in a thick bush or hedge, even in young fir trees. It is made of small twigs, roots and moss lined with hair, wool and sometimes feathers. 4-6 eggs are laid, smooth with variable colour, pale whitish blue, sometimes light grey with spots and specks or with streaks of pink or purple-brown. The linnet's food is

mostly seeds from grass to thistles.

I have a new tick for Longparish, a redstart seen on the 3 September in the hedge between Longparish House and Woodwalk Cottages. There seem to be a lot around this year; they must have had a good breeding season

WELL! The collared doves are still sat on the nest. It's 14 weeks now. I have seen the male taking more sticks to the nest. Perhaps they are using it as a resting place. In the last 14 weeks I have only seen the nest empty twice, so they must both take it in turns to use it.

chris bowman