

## How to Cook the Perfect Turkey

That time of year is here again. Christmas lights are already lighting up the high streets, the shops are full of Christmas excitement and we are all worrying



about who and how many are coming for dinner (unless you are lucky enough to be invited out)!

What size turkey do I need? How do I cook it to perfection?

Here are my tips on

how I cook my turkey for the family at Christmas. As a rough guide you will need a 4kg bird to feed 6-8 people, a 5kg bird will do 10 and a 6kg bird will be perfect for a party of 12. Any more than that you will not only need a bigger turkey but a bigger house and oven as well!

The best way to cook the bird is simply break it down into two parts: the crown and the legs. Turkey breast and legs cook in very different times and perfect legs generally mean dry breast and perfect breast generally means the legs are going to be under cooked.

Ask your butcher to break down the bird into a crown and ask them to bone and roll the legs; this saves you all the hard, messy work.

### The Crown

Pre heat your oven to 180c.

In a roasting tray add a quartered onion, a roughly chopped carrot, a stick of celery, two cloves of garlic, two quartered pears, and a large sprig of thyme.

Rub the crown with softened butter and season with salt and pepper.

Place the crown on top of the chopped veg with the breast facing up and the cavity down. Tinfoil the tray and place in the oven.

Don't forget to weigh the bird before you stick it in the oven! The total cooking time should be 20 minutes per kilo + 90 minutes on top of that.

For the final 90 minutes remove the tinfoil allowing the skin to crisp up and colour, don't forget to baste the turkey well at 30-minute intervals. To check your turkey is cooked, pierce the meat with a fork and check that the juices are running clear.

Once cooked, leave the turkey to rest for a good 15 – 20 minutes then remove the crown from the tray. Add a pint of boiling water or chicken stock to the roasting tray, giving it a good stir, scraping all the little bits off the tray. Strain this through a fine sieve squeezing out all the lovely juice for your gravy and discarding the chopped vegetables and pears.

### The Legs

Untie the boned and rolled legs, score the meat slightly and rub in chopped garlic, sage and sea salt. If you want to stuff them with sausage meat or otherwise then this is the time to do it, although I really like the simple taste of sage and garlic.

Roll the legs back up and tie them with butcher's string then, in a hot pan, add a little rapeseed oil and brown the outside of the rolled legs all the way round crisping the skin up.

Place the legs in a roasting tray and cover with tinfoil or a lid.

I like to slow cook the legs so these I would recommend in a pre-heated oven at 140c and as a guide give them 30 mins per 500g plus 20 – 30 minutes on top of that. Again check with a fork that the juices are running clear.

Enjoy! James Durrant, Chef Proprietor, The Plough Inn

### Why not purchase your Christmas Turkey from The Plough Inn?

Whole, or with the crown and legs butchered for you.

Please place your orders with us by Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December and your fresh turkey will be ready for collection on

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Turkeys will be charged at £11.00 per Kilo

(All turkeys must be paid for when ordered)

Please ask us if you would like the legs to be stuffed and tied

(This will be an additional charge)



## ST NICHOLAS CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAIRE

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
Community Hall  
2pm to 4pm

Mulled Wine \* Grand Raffle \* Hamper Raffle \* Christmas Bunting \* Children's cake icing activity \* Presents for Mum & Dad \* Produce Stall \* Teas and Real Coffee \* Mince Pies \* Cake stall \* Bowls of Bulbs \* Christmas Wreaths \* Stalls with Zoe and Laura \*

\*\*\*\*SANTA and His Special Helpers\*\*\*\*

The proceeds of the fair are divided equally between St Nicholas Church and development projects in Mityana  
Contact Pam Weale 720362



## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 6pm  
Carol Service - Nine Lessons & Carols

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 5pm  
Christmas Eve - Christingle Service

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 11.30pm  
Christmas Eve -Midnight Mass

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 11am  
Christmas Day – Christmas Communion

All are welcome



*Wherwell  
Singers*

## Christmas Concert



**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 7:30pm**  
**St. Peter & Holy Cross Church, Wherwell**

Join the Wherwell Singers as they celebrate Christmas with a programme of seasonal favourites, including music by Rutter, Chilcott and Tavener plus traditional sing-along carols, mulled wine and mince pies. The choir will be joined by the organ scholar of Winchester Cathedral, Tim Parsons.

The retiring collection will be for the Alex Lewis Trust ([www.alex-lewis.co.uk](http://www.alex-lewis.co.uk)). Alex is known to many and his recovery from serious illness has been inspirational. Get your tickets early to save disappointment!

Tickets £8, available online:  
[www.wherwellsingers.org](http://www.wherwellsingers.org)  
via Kim Lampard on 01264 720529, or on the door.

## Christmas Tea Party



1950s/60s songs.

The party will be held in the Village Hall starting at 1.15pm with tea and cakes served in the interval and finishing about 4pm. Admission is free and we will have a raffle.

All welcome from Longparish and we would be delighted to see those from surrounding villages, so please tell your friends. Please contact Maggie on 720459, Corinne on 720643 or Jan on 720654 to book your place.



## BIRDS OF LONGPARISH - THE GOLDCREST



The goldcrest is our smallest bird; its body length is 13.5cm (3.5 inches), which is tiny and is a close relative of the rarely seen firecrest, of which, I have only ever seen one in the village. The goldcrest, as its name implies, has a gold streak running from its beak to its nape, with a black stripe each side. Its plumage is olive above and buff underneath, with two white wing bars, black eyes and legs. The firecrest is the same size but the crest stripe is brighter, with a black stripe each side and a white stripe connecting round the front of its head making a u shape. Its plumage is darker olive.

The goldcrest is often seen outside of the breeding season amongst large flocks of tits. It is usually found in yew or fir trees where it finds most of its food, it will also hover to catch insects and is on the go all the time, never stopping in one place for long. They begin nesting in April and may often produce two broods. The nest is a delicate little basket hung under the branch of a yew or fir tree, and I have found that together with cobwebs, the cup is lined with hair and feathers. The eggs are white to very pale buff brown, with very fine brown specks on the larger end. 9-11 eggs are laid, incubated for 15-17 days and they fledge in 17-22 days.

As another year comes to a close, my last swallow was spotted on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November; it was around the Cleeves, by itself, just casually catching insects as it prepared for its long trip to Africa. The winter birds are now arriving and I have spotted fieldfares and redwings already, they love berries, so keep your eyes open, you never know what might fly by! I saw three yellow hammers down along the spinal path in the hedge that runs up beside stubble field, just before the pony paddock.

Chris Bowman (photo by [deansfamily.co.uk](http://deansfamily.co.uk))



### LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB

There will be no meeting in December. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and we will be re-rolling on that evening for next year. New members always welcome.

Any queries to Rosie Lowry 01264 720325  
[rosie@yewcottagealongparish.com](mailto:rosie@yewcottagealongparish.com) or Marion Bell 01264 720205



## Remembrance Day 2014



Longparish began its marking of Remembrance Day 2014 with the customary gathering in the cemetery by the War Memorial. Following the very wet Saturday, we were pleased to have a dry morning and the mist lifted as we

started the service with the names read out by John Smith for Hurstbourne Priors and for Longparish by Jonathan Frere.



Mr Sid Pennefather was there as our representative of those who served in the Second World War and there were others in uniform and many wearing their medals. Ed Gairdner played the last post and reveille to mark the silence before over 100 people returned to St Nicholas Church for the service of Remembrance. The choir sang the anthem, 'For the Fallen' and Robin Smallwood played the organ. The Reverend Terry Hemming conducted the service. Our collection for the British Legion this year amounted to £567.72.

The stories of local men named on the Longparish War Memorial were on display during the Sunday Remembrance Day service. However, the twelve illustrated panels had to be removed shortly afterwards when the damp atmosphere caused them to distort.

After reprinting, using a different process, they were replaced in the church where it is expected they will remain until the middle of December. They can also be found on the Longparish website, [longparish.org.uk](http://longparish.org.uk). The illustrated panels are the result of several months of research by Henry Yelf and Jo Webb and were graphically displayed by Georgina Knipe and Geoff Hayes with printing sponsored by Longparish Parish Council. The panels are displayed alongside a collection of poppies made by the pupils of Longparish School. The stories feature 12 men who died during the First World War and it is planned to later add details of the remaining 17 WW1 victims named on the memorial.

The task has been made more difficult because only one of those named, Naval Steward Percy Mills, has relatives still living in Longparish. Mills died when his ship HMS Gurkha was mined off Dungeness.

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November the whole school gathered with parents and other villagers to observe the silence at 11am and once again Ed Gairdner played the trumpet with the children reading the prayers and the call to remember.

Terry Hemming and Henry Yelf

## Village Hall Report



This is my first report as chairman and I am delighted to have an opportunity to contribute to the future of this wonderful village hall. It is a credit to the village

and all who have worked so hard to get it to where it is today.

We are now moving into a new phase – the major structural work has been completed and we are looking to improve the small things that will make the hall more comfortable and user friendly. By the time you read this, new tables will have been delivered and shelves installed. Plans are being worked up to improve the tarmac apron in front of the hall. Whitwams have recently visited to make adjustments to the AV system and improve the clarity of the sound for films, and we are looking into the possibility of installing Wi-Fi. We welcome suggestions for improvements - if there is anything we can do to improve the facilities, please let me know.

We have also recruited a "handyman", Martin Crook, who will undertake small repairs and maintenance as required. Thank you Martin!

The hall is in use almost every day and we are adding to our list of users all the time – this month a new Pilates Class has started on Wednesday mornings. We would be delighted to show anyone considering running an event round the hall.

Can I also say a big thank you to Jeremy, Maggie, Jacqui, Georgina and the other committee members for all their hard work, in particular since the previous chairman, John Scott, left the village.

Please make a note of the date for the next committee meeting, **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015**. I would encourage all user groups, current and prospective, to send someone along - only by discussion and new ideas, will we be able to provide the facilities everyone requires.

Finally, a gentle reminder that **KidzZone** urgently needs new leaders. Normally it runs every second Wednesday, but this could be moved to another night.

On behalf of all of us on the VH committee may I wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

Brian Sanders, Chairman, tel 720222



## Christmas and New Year 2014/15 Waste and Recycling Collections

You can check online when your **Christmas and New Year 2014/15 waste and recycling collection** will take place for household waste, recycling and garden. Use the 'When are my bins collected' facility on the home page at <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk> and simply enter your postcode and house name/number.



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

It was a chilly, misty morning with a 9 o'clock start because of Remembrance Day so it really felt like autumn for the November race. Despite that, there was an excellent turnout of 23 runners.

We welcomed new runners Mikey Sykes (accompanied by Dad, Wayne) and Toni Jewell.



First home and over two minutes inside his handicap was Wilf Hillier who won the rising star trophy. Most improved man was Jeremy Barber and Alice Evans was most

improved woman for the second time running. No fewer than five runners recorded personal best times: Wilf and Evie Hillier; Daniel Sanderson and Steve and Marija Davis.

Thank you very much to everyone who helped, both with marshalling and admin and by accompanying other runners and, of course, to the Longparish Cricket Club for the lovely venue.

The next race is on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December** starting at the usual time of 10am at the Cricket Ground. It is a handicap race so runners of all abilities have a chance to win!

## LCA Boxing Day Entertainment

Whether you prefer to take part or to watch, here are two good excuses to get some fresh air on Boxing Day.



### The Great Longparish

**Santa Dash** starts at 11am at the shop. Santas of all ages, shapes, species and sizes will be dashing (at varying speeds!) to The Plough. There will be prizes for the best-

dressed and most glamorous Santas (or elves, or puddings...) including the best-dressed pet!

Following this, at 11.30am, **Longparish Mummers** will continue the tradition of performing on Boxing Day, which was revived last year after an 80-year break. They will perform this 20-minute traditional folk play in The Plough Inn car park. There are wonderful costumes and lots of action with a great battle between King George and the Yorkish Knight.



Please come on foot if possible. The Plough will be open from 11am. Please book directly if you would like a table for their Boxing Day brunch.

## LCA Tuesday Talks Village Hall - 7pm for a 7.30pm start

Dates for your diaries for more of our entertaining talks:



**9<sup>th</sup> December:** From Longparish to Bombay the Vintage Way – John Woodcock's account of his epic 46 day journey in a Rolls Royce in the company of his good friend Henry "Blowers" Blofeld.

**13<sup>th</sup> January:** A Geordie Footballer's Fun and Travels – more football tales from Ian Branfoot.

Admission is free, donations welcome  
Cash Bar

## Monday Night at the Movies

### Village Hall

Monday 15<sup>th</sup>

December

### High Society

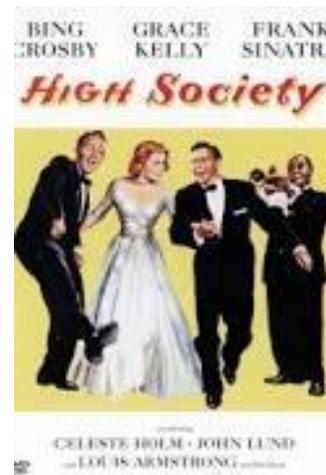
Musical Comedy featuring the wonderful music and lyrics of Cole Porter including 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire', 'True Love', 'Now You Has Jazz' and more.

Come along; treat yourself to a night of pleasure. You may have seen it before but now see this brilliant fun movie on a big screen with the lights down and transport yourself to the Golden Age.

Doors open for mince pies and mulled wine at 7.15pm, movie starts 7.45pm prompt.

**\*\*Cash bar available\*\***

Entry free to LCA members (join on the night for £1)  
Donations welcome and gratefully received



## LCA Coffee Shop - Village Hall

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 10am-noon



We continue to open on the second Friday of the month for you to meet and socialise over freshly brewed coffee and biscuits in our lovely village hall. Everyone is welcome, do come along we would love to see you. Gloria and Nigel Goodliffe 720425



## Longparish Parish Council Report from Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November Planning

The Council had no objection to:

- Tree work at West Brook Cottage, Middleton.

Consideration of tree work at Longparish House, East Aston was deferred pending a report from the Tree Warden.

### Other Planning Matters

Advice had been sought on the Village Design Statement, but further work would probably not be possible until after January, once TVBC's Local Plan had been reviewed. The Council noted the programme of hearings relating to the Local Plan and would keep a watching brief on these, although none of the issues likely to be raised appeared to affect Longparish directly.

### Finance

Following research by the Clerk and the recommendation of another Council, it was agreed that the Council's bank account should be moved from Lloyd's Bank to Unity Trust Bank, a fully accredited financial institution that specialised in supporting organisations such as parish councils.

### Longparish School

Two parents from the School briefed the Council on safety problems caused by inappropriate access by cars at drop-off and pick-up times. Whilst it was keen to see the potential danger to pupils reduced, the Council had reservations about the proposal to install bollards on both practical and aesthetic grounds, and asked for alternative solutions that had been discussed to be considered first.

### Open Spaces

A lot of useful work had been completed during the Clean-Up Day, and the Council expressed their gratitude to all those who had turned out to help. In addition, thanks were passed to Raymond Brown, Middleton Estate, Vitacress, Lower Mill and Lineside Conservation for their practical support. The Council also noted that there would be a tree-planting event at the pocket nature reserve on Southside Common later in the month.

### Highways

A useful meeting had been held with local representatives from HCC Highways, at which a number of longstanding concerns were raised. While there was no guarantee that the resources would be available to complete all the necessary work, it was felt that this had been helpful in facilitating future liaison and ensuring that problems in Longparish would be properly understood. The Parish Lengthsman contract was still proving to be a worthwhile asset.

### Communications

The agenda for the meeting had, for the first time, been shared on the web site rather than by email and this would now become the focus for the Council's electronic records, although some presentational adjustments would still be necessary.

### Village Hall

The Council was informed that the shelving in the cupboards was nearly complete and that new tables had been ordered. The possibility of installing WiFi in the Hall was also being discussed. A detailed proposal for improving the tarmac area at the entrance to the Hall had been created. The Village Hall Committee would now discuss this with HCC Highways, as the land involved

was all designated highway, with the support of the Council.

### Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December in the Village Hall. Parish Council meetings are public, and parishioners are also welcome to speak on specific agenda items by prior arrangement with the Chairman – Jonathan Frere (tel: 720574, or email: [clerk@longparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@longparish.org.uk)).

### Village Clean Up

Thank you to all the volunteers for the help we received on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November. About 30 hardy souls braved the elements and as a result a great deal was achieved.

Also many thanks to Raymond Brown (who gave the use of a skip and a bag of gravel), Vitacress, Lower Mill and the Middleton Estate and Lineside Conservation for the use of their hardware – namely tractors and various implements, skillfully driven by Longparishers working within those organisations.

Overall a great team effort where a great many jobs were undertaken leaving our village looking spick and span!

Thanks also to Maggie Barber and Donna Hillier for refreshments, the Cricketers for hosting lunch and the PC for funding it.

James Hillier



### Christmas Shopping Tips

With the festive season quickly moving towards us, here are some tips to help your online shopping stay fraud-free!

Using the Internet to purchase goods or services saves considerable time and effort, as

well as giving you a wider choice and allowing you to compare prices. However, it is important to take a few simple precautions to help ensure safe online shopping:

- ❖ Ensure that the site is secure by checking the web address uses "https://"
- ❖ Using a credit card affords you greater protection as you can often claim your money back in the case of fraud.
- ❖ Use a search engine to check reviews of the store you are purchasing from.
- ❖ If ever in doubt, or if something just doesn't feel right, do not enter any details and leave the online store immediately.
- ❖ Most importantly, remember, if an offer looks too good to be true, it probably is!



## Longparish Cricket Club



The indoor cricket season is now in full swing and Longparish are once again fielding many colts and senior sides in two of Hampshire's indoor cricket leagues. Two senior sides and an U15 and U13 side will compete in the North Hampshire indoor

cricket leagues at the Dummer Cricket Centre, where the club have enjoyed considerable success in recent years. In the Winchester & District indoor league three senior sides and an U16 and U14 side will seek to emulate the club's long history of success at the Riverpark Leisure Centre. Supporters always welcome. Details of fixtures and results can be found at [www.longparishcc.com](http://www.longparishcc.com) and also in the club's monthly newsletter. If you would like to be added to (or removed from) the mailing lists for the Longparish CC newsletter please send an email to [longparishcc@googlemail.com](mailto:longparishcc@googlemail.com).

Cricket is an expensive game to put on and fund raising plays a big part in keeping the club in reasonably rude health. The Club will be holding its Christmas Draw on 10<sup>th</sup> December at the Cricketers Inn when an array of "in-date" and "almost fresh" products will be offered as prizes in return for the purchase of some inexpensive tickets! The Final Hundred Club draw of the year will also take place. Three days later on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December, cakes and other baked products will be forced on the good folk who tread Stockbridge high street. Kindly hosted by Robinsons butchers and organised by Julie Taplin, the cake sale has raised lots of lolly for the club in previous years and reviews of products sold have never been less than excellent. If you need cake on the 13<sup>th</sup> December then Stockbridge is the place to be.

### Hundred Club Winners

£35 Maggie Barber  
£15 Gary Taplin  
£15 John Young

Thank you to all who support Longparish Cricket Club through Hundred Club membership. If anyone would like to join the Hundred Club please email [racheldecani@googlemail.com](mailto:racheldecani@googlemail.com) Chris de Cani

## Longparish Playgroup News

This half term we have been reading the story "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" and supporting that by going on colour, shape and number hunts at playgroup. We have acted out the story by pretending to go through the swishy, swashy grass and stomp through the mud "squelch, squelch, squelch" and the swirling, whirling snowstorm!

Our letters and sounds focus has been instrumental sounds. Some of the children made their own music band and took turns being the conductor by asking the musicians to play fast, slow, loudly and quietly. We have also tapped out the beat in our names.

The children enjoyed celebrating bonfire night. We had a special outside snack and sat around a small fire to toast marshmallows and enjoy hot chocolate milk. We talked about the noises the fireworks make and how to be safe around the fire.

If you would be interested in working at the playgroup to cover staff absences please do contact Claire or Kristy on 01264 720455. You do not have to be qualified, but

will need to enjoy playing with pre-school children and will need to have a DBS check. Kirsty Stephenson

## Longparish School News

On 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Chaffinch class went to the Army Air Museum because we are learning about the World Wars; it was a really enjoyable day.

The first thing we did was meet our tour guide, Mr England, who talked to us about the history of soldiers and then we watched a short video about training to be a pilot.

We were split into three groups, the aeroplanes, gliders and helicopters. There were three main activities to do and our first session was experiencing a 1940s house - it was really exciting! We saw the garden with a bomb shelter and we learned how it was used.

Next, we went on a propaganda poster trail. We were in pairs and we had to walk around the museum looking at what the posters said and discussing what they meant.

The final activity was with Mr England, when we tried on old war clothes and gas masks. The gas mask was really smelly, but in those days it would have kept you alive.

Near the end of the day, we watched lots of helicopters take off and one of the pilots saw us and waved. Overall it was a fun day and a great learning opportunity. None of us wanted to go home!

By Helen and Chloe

## Friends of Longparish School (FoLS) News

This year got off to a competitive start with the quiz night at the end of October. It was a close battle with the winning team as you might expect, including some of our teachers and Reverend Hemming. This was closely followed in November by a successful film afternoon showing Rio 2, thank you to all those who attended or contributed to these events.

We have also been getting into the festive season early with the selling of Christmas trees and the children have been designing Christmas cards. Preparations for the children's Christmas party at school including a visit from Father Christmas are currently taking place.

Our next event is the Christmas meal at the Cricketers on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December, then on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2015, a school disco for the children.

We are pleased to welcome Cassie Beal to our committee. If you are interested in joining the committee or finding out more about any of the events, please contact one of the FoLS representatives.

FoLS 100+ Club - November draw - Congratulations to:

1st - No. 84 - Laura Harding  
2nd - No. 10 - Sid Bryant  
3rd - No. 22 - Isabella Scott

For your chance to win in 2015, please sign up to the 100 Club using the form enclosed separately in this magazine. Penny Billingham



## Christmas Tree Collection

Don't forget to collect your pre-ordered trees on **Saturday 6th December 2014**, 1-3pm at Longparish Primary School.