



### New Villagers Welcome

Longparish Community Association will be hosting our annual welcome for new villagers on the evening of **Monday 5th October** in the village hall, in association with the Parish Council and St Nicholas Church. Drinks and light refreshments will be available from 7.30pm and the event will formally begin at around 8pm.

If you have not received an invitation and would like to come, please let Fiona know on 720709.

This is a great opportunity to meet new residents and those who have been around a little longer. There will be information about the many different activities and organisations that operate in the village and the chance to chat to many of the people involved in them.

10 minutes of the evening will see the LCA AGM - where we briefly handle the formal business of the Association for the year, but primarily the evening will be around enjoying meeting with your neighbours over drinks and light refreshments. We also hope to have a visual review of the last 12 months in Longparish for you to enjoy

### LCA - Tuesday Talks

LCA Tuesday Talks are a series of illustrated evening talks, for and by villagers. The talks are on the second Tuesday of each month so please save the dates. Some will be travellers' tales and others on topics nearer to home. All will provide a chance for an entertaining and convivial evening with bar and opportunities for questions and discussion. A bit like a book group without having to read the book!

The fifth season of the series kicks off on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October** with Jeremy Barber on "The Fascinating Falklands". Jeremy and Maggie stayed for a month with Wendy Reynolds, one of the stars of the recent Island Parish TV series who plans to join us for the evening.

Future talk dates until Christmas are:

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

If you have suggestions for subjects or speakers please contact Christine Beresford. Future topics are planned to include Longparish Wildlife, Col Peter Hawker, owner of Longparish House in the early 1800s and author of "Advice to Young Sportsmen" and The Reverend Henry Burnaby Greene who was Rector for an astonishing 63 years.

The bar opens at 7pm and talks will start at around 7.30pm and last up to an hour.

No tickets needed – just come along. There's no charge but donations will be very welcome.



### LCA Monday Night at the Movies 19th October Village Hall - 7.45pm

#### To Kill a Mockingbird

Gregory Peck won an Oscar for his brilliant performance as the Southern lawyer who defends a black man accused of rape in this acclaimed film version of the Pulitzer prize-winning novel. The setting is a dusty Southern town during the depression. A white woman accuses a black man of rape. Though he is obviously innocent, the outcome of the trial is such a foregone conclusion that no lawyer will step forward to defend him – except Atticus Finch, the town's most distinguished citizen, whose compassionate defence costs him many friendships but earns him the respect and admiration of his two motherless children.

Entry is free to LCA members (donations gratefully received) – you can join or renew your membership on the night for £1.00. Cash bar available.

### THE FIRST LONGPARISH BEER FESTIVAL

Don't forget The Battered Trout invites you to enjoy a pint of best by the Test!



Hopefully you all have your tickets by now  
**Date: Saturday 10th October 7pm – 11pm**

**Venue:**  
Longparish Village Hall

**Beer:** A great selection of locally-brewed ales

**Costs:** Admission £10 – includes 6 x half-pints of beer and glass.

If you think your party will drink more than 6 half pints each, please also purchase additional half pint beer tokens for £1 each

**Food:** Bring your own food (but not alcohol, obviously!)

### 19<sup>th</sup> Longparish Pumpkin Contest

#### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Hopefully your pumpkins, squashes, gourds or marrows are growing well.

Bring them along to enter our various classes;

- the smallest/heaviest/best decorated pumpkin
- the heaviest gourd / marrow

The decorated pumpkins can be shop bought if you have not managed to grow your own.

The contest will be held in the Community Hall starting at 3pm. Judging at 3.45pm. Any raffle prizes you are able to bring will help towards increasing our proceeds in aid of Longparish Playgroup. Entry is free and light refreshments are available.

Contact Sylvia Crook 720792 or Laura Wearn 720066.



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

It was a cool, dull day for the September run and more than half of the 24 runners broke their handicaps with no fewer than six Personal Bests: Archie Waite, Lee Thomson, Magnus Stroier, Jeanette Stroier, Chris Dewey and Daniel Sanderson. Well done!

We welcomed new runners Luke Sanderson (junior), Vicki Blewitt and Colin Teasdale and

congratulated Jim Dundas and Andy Smith on their 50th runs.

Dave Henery has been doing some serious training as he has a half marathon coming up. He broke his handicap by over two minutes to be Most Improved Man. Most Improved Woman was Jacqui Healey and Archie Waite was our Rising Star.



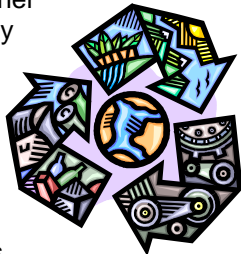
The next race is on **Sunday 11th October** starting at the usual time of 10am at the Cricket Ground. It is a handicap race so runners of all abilities have a chance to win. Everyone is welcome!

**LCA Recycled Teenagers**

We organise regular outings and other events using Test Valley Community Service's minibus for transport.

This month will be a Mystery Tour on **Tuesday 6th October** with lunch at Beech Arms. We will leave Longparish at 11.30am and the cost will be £2.

If you or someone you know is interested in booking or you would like further information please contact *Corinne* on 720643



**Christmas Tea Party on 1<sup>st</sup> December**

The Recycled Teenagers invite you to a Christmas tea party with entertainment but also plenty of time to chat. The party will be in the village hall starting at 1.45pm 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 also so please tell your friends. Please contact Maggie on 720459, Corinne on 720643 or Jan on 720654 to book your place.

**Village Clean Up Day Saturday 7th November.**

All volunteers welcome, a range of jobs including litter picking, path strimming, weeding streams, ditch clearing, cleaning signs etc. Lunch provided. If you think you may be available please let James Hillier know 01264 720016 or e-mail [jameshillier@hillier.co.uk](mailto:jameshillier@hillier.co.uk) to help plan the schedule of works.

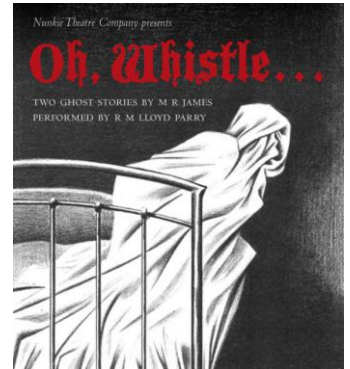
JH

**Bag Up after your Pup!**

There has been an increase in the number of complaints regarding dog mess on footpaths and open spaces in the village. Please can all dog walkers be vigilant - **Bag it and Bin it!** If you see a dog doing its business behind the owners back I'm sure they won't mind it being mentioned. Thank you!

**LCA Nunkie Theatre presents Two Chilling Ghost Stories - Village Hall**

'Oh Whistle and I'll come to You My Lad' and 'The Ash Tree', performed by R M Lloyd Parry on **Friday 13th November.**



Tickets in advance (Ages 13+), with goulish food, are £10. Tickets on the door are £8 not including food.

Commences 7.30 pm for food, last entry strictly 8.15 pm.

Tickets are available from the shop from October 1<sup>st</sup> or reserved on 07454 939838 or 01264 720707.

M R James is acknowledged as the master of the English Ghost Story. He first performed his supernatural tales to friends at Christmas in King's College, Cambridge. Now Nunkie Theatre Company has brought two of these unforgettable spine chillers back to life. Don't miss it!

**LCA Coffee Shop - Village Hall Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

**10am-noon**



The LCA coffee shop is open the second Friday of the month.

Drop in with your friends, children, parents. Everyone is welcome.

For £1 you can enjoy a cup of tea or delicious ground coffee and biscuits. You will be made very welcome.

**Harvest Festival Lunch Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October**

Following the Harvest Festival Service in St Nicholas Church, all Longparish residents, family and friends are welcome for lunch in the Village Hall.



Lunch tickets, costing £3.50 (children under 12 free) are available from the Village Shop, Jonathan and Alice Evans (720702) or Ruth & Terry Hemming (720215). Offers of any help towards the meal or on the day would be most appreciated. Please contact Alice ([haliceevans@googlemail.com](mailto:haliceevans@googlemail.com)) if you can assist

AE

## Longparish School News

### 2015 KS1 and KS2 Results

During 2014 – 15 we took part in Hampshire's moderation of Key Stage 1 assessments and I am pleased to report that 100% Year 2 pupils (7 year olds) gained Level 2B (age expected level) or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. In addition to this, 50% gained Level 3 (the standard normally expected of 9 year olds) in both Reading and Mathematics and 31% achieved Level 3 in Writing. We were also very pleased that, for the third year running, 100% Year 1 pupils passed the Phonics check.

In the Key Stage 2 tests for 11 year olds, 93% of pupils gained Level 4 or above (age expected level) in Reading, Writing and Mathematics combined, with just one pupil at Level 3. 64% of pupils gained Level 5 (expected level at the end of Year 7 or 8) in Reading and Writing; in Mathematics, 72% achieved Level 5 or above with 36% achieving Level 6 – the standard normally expected of 14 year olds. We would like to extend our congratulations to all the pupils for their individual achievements.

### Admissions

It has been lovely to welcome our new Year R children, who were all full-time by the end of the second week. They settled in extremely well and have already taken an active part in the school community, including voting in the School Council elections.

If you have a child who will be 4 before 1st September 2016 and are starting to think about selecting your preferred school for your child's education, we are holding Open Days on the morning of Wednesday 11th November and the afternoon of Monday 16th November. These days provide parents with the opportunity to see the school in action and to meet pupils and staff. Application for school places opens on 1st November and the closing date is Friday 15th January 2016. If you would like any further information regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact the Admin Office on 01264 720317.

*Alex Foggo*

## Friends of Longparish School (FoLS) News

There's a couple of events coming soon that we hope you will join us for:-

### AGM – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October – 8pm

Come join us in the School Hall for some wine, nibbles, good company and find out all about FoLS and what we have been doing over the last year. We'll also be electing our new Committee. We need some new members, including a Treasurer, so please let us know if you would like to join us. If you would like further information, please talk to an existing committee member.

### Quiz Night – Saturday 14th November – 7.30pm

All welcome. Come as a team of 8 or we can team you up on the night. £10 per person including soup and a pudding.

### Film Afternoon – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Don't forget also to get your numbers for our 100+ Club draw – see separate information and joining form within Hill and Valley or contact FoLS at chairfols@gmail.com for more details.

### 100+ Club - Congratulations to:

**JULY** 1st prize - No. 82 - Olivia Tufnell

2nd prize - No. 81 - Mr & Mrs Mottley

3rd prize - No. 80 - Mr & Mrs Mottley

**AUGUST** 1st prize - No. 13 - Nicky Smallwood

2nd prize - No. 7 - Richard & Jan West

3rd prize - No. 145 - Mrs Philippa Sawyer

**SEPTEMBER** 1st prize - No. 61 - Jeanette Strøier

2nd prize - No. 76 - Natasha Rouse

3rd prize - No. 32 - Victoria Elwell

## News from Testbourne School



The new academic year has begun well and is now in full swing. We celebrated another year of good examination results and wish our former year 11s well as they embark on their college courses or

apprenticeships.

We have welcomed several new staff to the team and they all seem to be settling in well alongside our new Year 7s. This year we have welcomed 163 students into Year 7 coming from a range of primary schools.

Having just completed our welcome evenings we are looking forward to working with all our families, particularly those new to Testbourne. We have just launched our school production of Oliver in December – watch out for further information.

Finally a reminder to all prospective families, Open mornings are running from Monday 28th September to Friday 10th October. Please ring 01256 892061 to book a tour.

*Ruth Beasley Headteacher*

## Longparish Playgroup

We waved farewell to our big girls and boys at the end of last year and made room for some new faces at Playgroup. Some of our leavers have already been kind enough to drop by in their new uniform to let us know how they have been enjoying school in Year R.

The weather was kind to us for the start of the term, which gave us all the opportunity to get outside and enjoy the sunshine and the newly designed small world area. When the rain comes down we are still making the most of outside in our covered construction area and fantastic mud kitchen.

We have two new starters called Jessica and Jake. They are puppets! They have already introduced themselves to the children and told them about their lives. The children have responded by telling them who they live with in their house - their family and pets. We have made a display of this information with faces of the children they made themselves.

The Playgroup held its AGM in September. Parents and villagers came along to meet chair Ian Morris, Playgroup staff and committee members. We are looking for new committee members - all community members welcome, not just parents.

Also if there is anyone in the village that would like to volunteer to come in and play, read stories, do some gardening or craft etc then please do contact us. playgroup@longparish.org.uk / 01264 720455

## BIRDS OF LONGPARISH THE BARN OWL

I had a phone call from Maggie Barber to say they had a barn owl roosting in one of their fruit



trees. The photo is one of the ones I took - not very obligingly it sat with its back to us! The barn owl has a wingspan of 85-90cms - 10% smaller than the tawny owl. It has big black eyes set in a white heart-shaped face with mottled light grey, buff upper parts and white under parts. It flies mostly at night, but can be seen a few hours before sunset when it has young or a food shortage. The flight is silent - it catches its prey, mainly voles and mice, by sound.

They begin nesting in April and, as their name implies, they like to nest in barns but will readily take to nest boxes. Maggie and Jeremy put up a nest box last year and had a barn owl use it. However, this year the jackdaws moved in but the barn owls may have nested after they had left. No nesting material is used maybe a few pellets (pellets are what the owl regurgitates made up of mice and vole fur and bones). 4-6 eggs are laid, smooth, white and incubated for 30-31 days. The owl starts to incubate the first egg straight away then lays the rest every other day, so that they hatch at different times. In a year when food is in short supply or bad weather the eldest or biggest will eat the smallest to survive, that's why the eggs are laid in that way.

The barn owl is often known as the screech owl because of the noise it makes, it's the tawny owl which makes the 'twit-twoo' Last month I stated the swifts had gone by 3rd August, however, whilst down in Forton looking at the owl I noticed two swifts flying around catching insects then flying up under the eaves of a house so they still had young in the nest. Graham Darrah was lucky enough to see a merlin at his house (a merlin is a small hawk). I have not seen one in the village for a long time. CB



### LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Village Hall 7pm**

GRAHAM COLE

(Gardener at Britwell Priors, Longparish)

Graham will talk on "Kitchen Garden Delights – for Food, Colour and Wildlife". Graham has been a professional gardener for 38 years, employed on private country estates and in private gardens. With knowledge in many areas of gardening and experience, particularly in the Kitchen Garden, using Organic methods and principles. He is particularly keen to garden with respect for nature, soil and ecosystems and our health.

Members Free (Non-Members Welcome £5.00)  
RAFFLE – Usual Raffle, preferably relating to gardening.  
Any queries please to Rosie Lowry 720325  
rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com or Marion Bell 720205



**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

**Village Hall**

**7.30pm to 11pm**

Ladies and Gentlemen: A Burns Night celebration with a traditional three-course meal, entertainment, piper and a live Ceilidh Band.

Bring your own 'Bar'/glasses and your dancing shoes!

Dress Code - Smart/Tartan.

**Tickets £30 per person**

Please see the order form in November Hill and Valley.

**\*\*Tables of 8 can be reserved\*\***

## The Choir at Christmas

Longparish Village Choir will be singing this Christmas - our favourite time of the year - and we'd love to see you there!



Save the date for an evening of fun festive favourites on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.30pm in the village hall. Bring-your-own-supper.

And don't forget the magical candle-lit Carol Service at 6pm on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December** in St Nicholas Church.

If you'd like to find out more about the choir and how to join please call Cathy Yelf on 720790.

## Longparish Cricket Club



The Longparish CC Presentation evening passed off without real incident, bar the death of a pig and a pool of dripping on the westbound carriageway of the highway to the sun!

Harry Martin picked up the 1st XI bowling cup for his 28 wickets in 2015, and William de Cani was the 1st team batsman of the year after hitting 792 runs at an average of 66. U14 William Samways claimed the 2nd XI batting trophy with 301 runs at an average of 33.44 and Chris Clarke took the 2nd XI bowling honours with 18 wickets.

Martin Bearpark was the outstanding performer with the bat for the 3rd XI scoring 457 runs at an average of 57.13 and U16 Nathan Smith was the leading wicket taker in any league for Longparish, and thoroughly deserved the 3rd XI bowling award for his 30 wickets. Michael Taplin was the midweek 20/20 player of the year for his superb performances with the bat and U14 Callum Giles claimed the Fielding award.

U16 Dan Bearpark was named LCC Young Player of The Year, Matt Jackman the outstanding indoor cricketer, and William Samways the young indoor cricketer of the winter season just past.

*Chris De Cani*

U15 Scott Sturt was awarded the BSI cup as the stand out Colt, and Alan Longden was a popular winner of The

Sprague Trophy for services to Longparish Cricket/Ten thousand miles pushing a yellow mower award.

Matt Jackman received bubbles for some sharp thinking and running at Bishops Waltham and William de Cani picked up the Players' Player Trophy. George Kousseff correctly guessed the length of Mr Chair's speech earning himself forty pounds plus in the sweepstake that served as some recompense for the clubs decision not to award a trophy for the player to run the greatest distance from third man to third man during 2015 for which he was a leading contender.

Thank you to everyone who helped out on the night, thanks to The Cricketers Inn for providing the venue and thank you to everyone who has supported the club throughout an enjoyable summer season.

The ground is now being put to bed and a man in a green tractor has been furnished with many pound notes to drive at the square with all manner of whizzes and bangs following on behind. I am told the technical term is scarifying, dressing, choring and spiking, but as one season ends, preparations are underway to ready the square for next year - Kenny would be pleased.

#### **Hundred Club Draw**

£35 Neil Bonathan

£15 William de Cani

£15 Rachel de Cani

## **Longparish Parish Council**

### **Report from Meeting Held on 14<sup>th</sup> September**

#### **Village Infrastructure**

The Council received a briefing from two technical representatives from Southern Electric about the supply arrangements for the village, which is located between three primary sub-stations, and plans for improving resilience and customer relations. Additional switches/fuses would be incorporated into the system to reduce the number of houses affected by individual incidents, but the clearance of overhanging branches from power lines was a continuing process. At present, Longparish was the responsibility of a central depot in Reading but this would be changing to a more regional structure based on Aldershot and Basingstoke. Separately, the Council had been informed that Southern Water had appointed a new Stakeholder Engagement Manager to continue liaison with the Council, and that, while the Infiltration Reduction Plan had still not been formally issued, only four major tasks were outstanding, and these should be completed by March.

#### **Planning**

The Council had no objection to:

- Tree work at Apple Tree Cottage, Forton.
- Demolition of existing garage and conservatory, and construction of side extension and carport at 127 North Acre, West Aston.
- Variation of conditions for restoration work at Apsley Farm Landfill, Hurstbourne Priors.

The Council strongly objected to:

- Erection of an agricultural building at Testwood Trout Farm, Southside Road.

#### **Other Planning Matters**

The Council noted that concern had been expressed about unacceptable noise disturbance from the Barton Stacey training area as a result of its use by a commercial firm providing car stunt experiences. If it recurred, and caused further disruption, the Council would have to consider writing to the MOD and its estate contractor to try to get the activity stopped, as happened when this occurred previously.

#### **Finance**

The external audit of the accounts had been completed, and no comments were raised by the auditors.

#### **Open Spaces**

The stocks outside the church had been raised, in an attempt to prevent further deterioration, and fences had been mended at the playground. Thanks were expressed to the volunteers who were helping to maintain footpaths and to the grass-cutting contractor, Clive Kent, for his excellent work. The Village Inspection had prompted thoughts about how greater use could be made of the registered common between the Long Bridge and the Cleaves. It was agreed that the next **Village Clean-Up Day** should take place on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November**. A complaint had been received about the problem of dog faeces on public footpaths, and, while the Council would be putting up more posters to discourage dog owners from allowing this to happen, it was felt that anybody observing this should also be encouraged to challenge owners directly.

#### **Highways and Transport**

There had been some improvement in the state of the roads, but key problems remained, such as the corner by the Village Hall. Tasks had been allocated to the Parish Lengthsman, but there might be delays in carrying them out. Informal feedback suggested that, although the provision of buses was still poor, the new CANGO system was working better than the dial-up system.

#### **Village Hall**

No further progress had been made on the joint project to renew the tarmac outside the Village hall and re-surface the road opposite, although this had been complicated by the bollards outside Church Farm Cottage. The Village Hall Committee would be seeking to regularise the situation regarding ownership of the land to the rear of the Hall.

#### **Other Matters**

All those who had been involved in preparing for the unveiling of the Lanoe Hawker plaque were thanked for their support, and congratulations were passed to the organisers of the Village Fête following a record-breaking day. Mention was also made of Hampshire's Southern Powerhouse initiative to secure more devolved powers, and a reminder was issued about the **New Villagers' Welcome** event on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October**.

#### **Next Parish Council Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7.30pm hours on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 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)).

## Longparish Fête 2015 – THANK YOU!

As representatives of the Church and the Village Hall, we would like to say a very big thank you to Donna Hillier and her team of helpers for all the hard work in making the village fête such a wonderful occasion.

The £11,000 funds raised will be split 50/50 between our two organisations. Both the Church and Village Hall belong to us all and it is important to continue to update and maintain these valuable assets for the use and enjoyment of everyone in the village.

In addition to the money we raise, the fête provides an opportunity for the whole community to come together to have fun. Long may it continue!

Donna Hillier and her team would also like to extend their thanks – 'Whether you volunteered, donated, compered, put up gazebos, cake-baked, BBQ'd, supported or just turned up on the day a huge thank you to every one of you for your kindness, support and generosity.'

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## September 13th 2015

### A very special day for Longparish.

After much planning, preparation and rehearsing, Sunday September 13th arrived with a flurry of activity as we celebrated at least 250 years of connection between the Woodcock family and St Nicholas' Church.

After the two normal morning services our organist, David Blake, not only gave a recital on the organ but gave the 'world premiere' of his composition picking up the theme of the four seasons. His recital was followed by recitals from Gordon Leask on oboe and piano, Alison Cooper on classical guitar, Olivia Ward on flute and Nina and Emma Smith on violin and piano. During this time the audience were also spectators, as they looked at not only the wall displays but also the slide show of old photographs contrasted with the present situation prepared by Henry Yelf. Activity in the church came to a conclusion at four o'clock when a wonderful cream tea, with a plethora of cakes, scones galore, and four pounds of clotted cream was enjoyed by many! Many were involved in preparing the tea under the leadership of Jess Ward. Then at six o'clock the Church was packed for a choral evensong led by our Vicar, the Rev'd Craig Marshall. Robin Smallwood played the organ with the Village Choir, directed by Cathy Yelf, leading the service and singing the anthem, *The Bluebird*, to a setting by Charles Villiers Stanford and chosen by John Woodcock. The Rev'ds Derek Cotterill, Bill Robson and Martin Coppen, all former Rectors of the Parish joined the robed procession.

Before the Bishop of Basingstoke, the Rt. Rev'd David Williams, consecrated the new Woodcock window and the new statue of St John the Baptist, John Woodcock gave this explanation of the reason for the service:

*... You would like an 'explanation' and that doesn't surprise me. You might not think so seeing me here at the moment, and although I love Longparish with all my heart I am a great believer in the understated and consider my own part in today's proceedings as being mainly incidental. For all that I am of course hugely grateful to everyone who has made such a celebration of the day, and thank them with both pride and humility.*

*In 1765 my great, great, great grandfather, Edward Woodcock, became the Patron of Longparish, thereby*

*acquiring the 'gift of the living' and it has remained in my family ever since. This means that for 250 years we have had the right to appoint the rector – and once appointed it could be very difficult to get rid of them! Heresy and drunkenness in the pulpit could do it I believe but little else!*

*Although now little more than a nominal title, in those early hierarchical days Patrons tended to regard the church as their own, not only controlling the choice of incumbent but what went on inside it as well.*

*For the first 170 years or so – until my father retired, in fact – as often as not the incumbent was one of the family; Henry Woodcock from 1790 until 1795; Henry Burnaby Greene, through his marriage to Amelia Woodcock, from 1821 until 1884 and my father Parry John Woodcock from 1903 until 1933.*

*Now for the window... When the idea and the reason for it first came to me, I thought it altogether too pretentious, but Terry, ever the enhancer and our peerless house for duty priest gave the idea his enthusiastic support as, just as importantly, did Craig. So I asked Sarah de Watteville, my neighbour, to Google stained glass and with a great piece of luck she came up with John and Jude Tarrant and their son Alex, a family business from Southsea.*

*As a counterpoint to those grand biblical windows along the south wall, which also as it happens have a family connection, though on my mother's side, I asked Jude, the visionary, if she could create something based on the four seasons.*

*Our visitors book here in the church contains many an appreciative reference to our windows, all of them of their time, none more splendid than the one over the altar of the Nativity after Burne Jones, or more uniquely original than the memorial window to Lanoe Hawker, the village's flying ace and VC who was killed in the Great War. The Tarrants 'The Four Seasons' I hope you will agree more than holds its own.*

*As her inspiration, Jude chose the third verse of the first Psalm "and he shall be like a tree planted by the waterside: that will bring forth his fruit in due season" Happily, Jude and John are both with us this evening.*

*If any of you saw the film 'The Cockleshell Heroes' you may recall a sergeant major, in a moment of affected despair, barking at his squad, no don't worry it's quite clean! "You lot, you're enough to make a bishop kick a hole in a stained glass window!"*

*All being well, our very own bishop is about to give Peter's wonderful statue and the window, not a kick, but the distinction of an Episcopal dedication...*

It was a splendid day and as well as saying thank you to all who contributed to the day we should like to express our gratitude to John Woodcock for the donation of the new window and for the gifts of Roy and Ann Sands and Lady Tennant which enabled the purchase of the St John the Baptist sculpture. We are also grateful for the talents and work of the artists for the window, Jude and John Tarrant, and the sculptor, Peter Eugene Ball. If you have not been to visit to see these then please call in to the church. During the evening service the church launched its new re-ordering scheme and fund. If anyone should like to help then please contact Alice Evans.

Terry Hemming