

## A HIDDEN HISTORY OF LONGPARISH

Clues to a fascinating connection between Longparish's past and Irish politics hide behind two house nameplates which many villagers pass every day.

Villagers will know Gladstone Terrace in Sugar Lane and also Park View Cottages and Mayfield Villas alongside The Plough.

Richard Stanbrook was born in Longparish in 1831 and became a thatcher like his father. Ambitious and a hard working he later acquired several watercress beds and rented more from the Earl of Portsmouth. In the 1871 census he describes himself as a dealer but ten years later reverts to the occupation of thatcher.

Nowadays only Gladstone Terrace provides a clue to the shared passion of Prime Minister William Gladstone and a local Victorian man Richard Stanbrook. Both strongly believed that Ireland should be returned to the Irish.

Richard Stanbrook was a self-made man whose wealth grew gathering watercress for the market and thatching cottages. By the late 19<sup>th</sup> he was a prosperous man.

According to reports in the Andover Advertiser at the time he became the largest property owner in the village, erecting a "great number" of workmen's cottages

When he built what are now Park View Cottages and Mayfield Villas, he gave them the controversial and distinctly political names of Home Rule Cottages 1890 and Self Rule Villas. Look closely and you will see that Park View Cottages and Mayfield Villas have been renamed with metal nameplates covering the original carved stone blocks.

Mr. Stanbrook married but was widowed early and had no children

His home was the original Longparish Wesleyan meeting house parts of which were 300 years old at the time of his death.

As he prospered, he entered local politics and served on the District Council, resigning as his health began to fail. He was a founding member of Longparish Parish Council.

He also joined the long list of benefactors who have renovated the grindstone.

According to the Advertiser his main source of pride was rescuing the Widmore Charity which had been set up a century earlier to provide the poor of the village with blankets at Christmas. The fund was no longer earning sufficient interest so Mr. Stanbrook made up the deficiency and it became the Widmore Stanbrook Charity.

However, his charity work eventually led to his demise. While delivering blankets one icy day in December 1913 he caught a chill and took to his bed. He died a few days later, on December 27<sup>th</sup> 1913 aged 82.

St. Nicholas' Church was still decorated with honesty plants for the Christmas celebrations on the day of the funeral. Blinds were drawn as the "mournful" procession passed by.

The funeral was conducted by the rector, Parry Woodcock, and attended by the local great and good.

There were no flowers because Mr Stanbrook "had led a very simple life and did not wish ostentation of any sort"

Of course, it is not known how he would have viewed being buried in a handsome polished oak coffin with brass fittings.

I have so far not been able to discover who changed the names of Home Rule Cottages and Self Rule Villas or when it happened.

Henry Yelf



Park View Cottages and Mayfield Villas

Gladstone Terrace



## The 10<sup>th</sup> season of Tuesday Talks starts in October!

- **8 October: "Tramping in New Zealand"** Some of us followed Andy and Jenny Jolliffe's adventure on Facebook, but this is the opportunity to hear all about it and see more stunning photographs of their epic journey

Save the following dates for more excellent talks by villagers for villagers:

- 12 November: James Hillier and "**Hillier Nurseries – A potted History: Olympic Trees and Chelsea Golds**"
- 10 December: Jonathan Palmer and aspects of motor racing
- 14 January, 11 February and 10 March: work in progress

Tuesday Talks start at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and finish about 8.45pm. Doors open at 7pm. Admission is free but donations are welcome to support the work of the LCA and the cost of hiring the Hall. There is a cash bar.

Christine Beresford  
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## St. Nicholas Parish Church, Longparish Church Finances Explained - Income

This is the second in a series of articles exploring the finances of St. Nicholas Parish Church, Longparish. The first article in the June 2019 edition of Hill and Valley provided an overview of the income and expenditure of the church. The article included pie charts that gave a break down of our annual expenditure of £54,045 and our annual income of £52,594. This article provides more detail about how the church is financed.

Total income during 2018, the last year for which we have complete accounts was £52,594. This came from a variety of sources:

Source of Income	Value
Direct Giving	£22,677.00
Fete & Other Fundraising	£16,496.00
Gift Aid Recovered	£5,563.00
Dividends, Interest and Fees	£4,763.00
Donations & Appeals	£3,095.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£52,594.00</b>

The majority of the church's income is come from direct giving, which includes planned giving, where people establish a standing order to make a regular donation to the church. As with most organisations, this planned income is invaluable as it enables us to much more easily make plans for the future. A number of people regularly give in this way to the church (some monthly, others quarterly, bi-annually or annually). Direct giving also includes Sunday morning collections, including special services such as that on Remembrance Day and the Christingle Service just before Christmas. Last year £546.57 was collected on Remembrance Day and this was donated (as it is every year) directly to the Royal British Legion. £362.04 was collected at the Christingle Service in December 2018 and this was donated directly to the Children's Society, as it is each year.

The hard work and generosity of many people in the village has made the fete a great success for many years and this is the major fundraising occasion for the church. The surplus from the fete has been donated to the church and in recent years has been shared with the Village Hall. The PCC is extremely grateful to all those who have, and continue to, support the fete. The PCC is conscious that this is a great community effort and that the money raised should continue to be invested in the community. The surplus (deducting expenses from total income) from the 2018 fete was £10,759.81. The figure in the table above accounts for all of the income, before expenses are taken into account. This figure also includes the income generated by the annual St. Nicholas Christmas Fayre, the proceeds of which were shared between Longparish School Library (approx. £1000) and Mityana (£200). In a future article we will explain how the PCC plans to support some local organisations this year.

In common with other charities, the PCC is able to claim back income tax on all eligible donations. This is a real boost to our income, and means that the church receives £1.25 for every pound donated. Please consider "Gift Aiding" any donation you make, to any charity, as for the simple effort of completing a declaration, the charity can receive so much more.

The church holds approximately £100,000 in reserves, which has been built up over a period of time to help the church with unexpected expenditure (did you know that the roof of the north aisle urgently needed attention this year?) . These reserves will be used to support our phase 2 re-ordering project which is on-going – this is a project to enable St. Nicholas Church to offer additional facilities for making better use of this lovely building, not only for increased flexibility of worship, but also to meet the changing needs and expectations of all members of the community.

The PCC does not wish to build up money just for the sake of having the money; it is there to be used and the re-ordering will deplete reserves very significantly. Indeed, the project is expected to cost well in excess of the amount we hold in reserves; however the PCC is hopeful that some of the cost will be met by grant funding.

Reserves are invested with charity fund managers CCLA in a way that is complimentary to the church's ethos. Whenever there is a wedding or sadly, on the occasions of funerals, we are required to charge CofE standard fees (which are modest). The total income from fees in 2018 amounted to £1300.

Donations and Appeals raised £3,095 in 2018. This represents legacies, donations in memory of particular individuals and unexpected or unplanned giving which does not fall into any other category.

75% of our income comes from direct giving and specific fundraising activities in the parish. The church does not receive any financial support from the "central" church. The PCC is extremely grateful for the support, both financial and practical, that St. Nicholas receives from those in the parish. If you would like to know more about worship or any aspect of life at St Nicholas please do contact either of the churchwardens. Georgi Thompson-Leask – Tel: 720829 (georgi\_leask@icloud.com), or John Young – Tel: 720233 (j.young233@btinternet.com)

### St Nicholas Harvest Festival Sunday 13 October 2019 11.00am Harvest Festival Service

We will be collecting non-perishable goods for the Andover Food Bank

Please join us after the service for

**Lunch** at 12.15pm in the **Community Hall**

All villagers are welcome

Lunch tickets (Adults £4.00 and children under 12 free) are available from Acre Stores, or John and Jane Young (01264 720233) or Georgi Leask (01264 720829)

### FOLS DRAW NUMBERS

September

145 Mrs P Sawyer £ 20

4 Robyn Dawson £10

66 Mr and Mrs Wrey £ 5

**Please renew your annual FOLS membership this month using the separate insert in the magazine**

**Longparish Fete** Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019 dawned cloudy but dry, perfect for the fete. The skies cleared and just after noon the Sioux helicopter flew in, carrying Jeremy Barber, the lucky winner of the incoming flight from Middle Wallop airfield. The return winner was Gayle Hunt. Many thanks to Stephen Murray-Twinn of the Historic Army Aircraft Flight (HAAF) who fly and manage the aircraft.

Hayley Mills, whose son lives in the village, opened the fete. In response to questions from Andy Smith, our compere, she spoke with great charm and vitality winning us all over before declaring the fete open Thank you Hayley – you were great and we were privileged that you spared the time to come and join us for the afternoon.

The footfall was up this year with some extra 70 cars piling into the field. The net earnings figure of c.£11,250 was up on last year by about £500. 'Thank You' to everyone involved in any way and whatever contribution you made; we are very grateful. Special thanks go to Alison Allen of Longparish Cricket Club, who ran the BBQ in return for a contribution to their fundraising for pavilion repairs.

So everyone had a good time I think, and Longparish Church and Village Fete is fast gaining a reputation for being known as 'the best fete in Hampshire'. There is a good variety of stalls and entertainments, from all the stalls run by villagers to the more exotic falconry display by Karsten Bulner of K & H Falconry, Juggling Jake, story-telling in the tipi, the Andover Town Band, as well as a number of interesting outside stalls – so something for everyone we hope. The fete is a great event which draws our community together. This year seems to have been particularly enjoyable.

I am very grateful for all the support of my amazing committee - Jane Young, Andy Jolliffe, Clare Sykes, Graeme Johnson & Andrea Harris – and to everyone who helped running stalls, baking cakes etc and for the tent erection gangs. Thanks also to Richard Wills, Middleton Estate and the Longparish Cricket Club for use of the ground. **I am stepping down after 3 years of organising, and am looking for someone to take it over please. Please get in touch with me if you feel this could be for you.**

John Young

Organiser [j.young233@btinternet.com](mailto:j.young233@btinternet.com)

**Editors Note: Huge thanks to John and Jane Young for 3 years wonderful work organizing the fete**

### Longparish Cricket Club September 2019

The cooler days and darker evenings signify the close of the outdoor cricket season. Results for Longparish CC men's teams have been mixed but the 1st team finished an excellent 6th place in County Division 1, the 3rd team finished 13th in Regional Division 2 NE and unfortunately the 2nd team finished 16th in County Division 4 North which means that they are relegated and will be playing in one of the regional leagues next season. The Club held a well attended presentation evening at the Cricketers Pub in Longparish on 30th August which was enjoyed by all and was an opportunity to celebrate individual players' achievements and express thanks to those who have helped the club function over the season. For the first time Longparish CC ran the BBQ stand at the Longparish Village fete on 7th September and this proved to be a very busy and successful afternoon! Many thanks to all from the Club who volunteered and helped out. Over the winter Longparish CC will be entering junior and senior teams into the local indoor cricket leagues. If you are interested in playing cricket at Longparish CC please visit the website <https://longparishcc.secure-club.com/> or contact Justin Jackman at [jackmanjustin@aol.com](mailto:jackmanjustin@aol.com)

## Longparish Parish Council

### Report from Meeting Held on 9 September

Minutes of previous meetings are available on the current or archived Longparish web-site ([longparish.org.uk](http://longparish.org.uk)).

**Planning** The Council had no objection to:

- Tree work at **Woodbury House**
- Construction of ancillary building and change of use of paddock at **East Aston House**

The Council objected to:

- Single storey rear extension at **3 Forton Lane, Forton**

### **Open Spaces & Footpaths Working Party – Volunteers needed!**

The Open Spaces & Footpaths Working Party chaired by James Hillier, is among the busiest in the Parish Council, and the PC is seeking new volunteers to help with this important aspect of village life. Tasks ranging from small general repairs, vegetation clearance on paths, occasional bin emptying, inspections of the playground, reporting open spaces issues etc are all part of the remit of this Working Party. If you are interested in joining, please contact [clerk@longparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@longparish.org.uk) for further information on how you can help us. The date of the next Village Clean-Up Day is Saturday 9 November.

**Village Hall Car Park** The PC wishes to thank Jeremy Barber for repairing and replacing the bulbs in the light posts at the village hall car park. A solution to the winter flooding problem in the car park is being explored by the Council.

**Highways** The new speed indicator device (SID) is now in operation, and there has been positive feedback from residents. The device will move back to Barton Stacey in October.

**A Successful Fete** The Parish Council wishes to congratulate the organisers of the Fete on another successful and well-attended event which was enjoyed by all.

### **Next Parish Council Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 1930 hours on Monday 11 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 – Christian Dryden (Tel: 720398, or email: [clerk@longparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@longparish.org.uk)).

**DON'T FORGET THE BEER FESTIVAL**

**Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Oct 7.00pm tickets selling fast**

**CONTACTS:** [beer.festival@longparish.org.uk](mailto:beer.festival@longparish.org.uk)

Sylvia Crook – 01264 720792 / 07776 303421  
 Andy Smith – 01264 720034 / 07879 410073  
 Wayne Sykes – 07525 705877

## Bin the Incinerator update

We are just days away from the 'What a Wonderful World' concert - featuring the Longparish Village Choir and Friends on Friday 4th October at St Nicholas Church in Longparish.

The concert is in aid of the Bin the Incinerator campaign and the programme features classical and pop pieces as well as songs from stage and cinema. It promises to be a most entertaining evening for a very good cause.

The concert starts at 7pm. Tickets are £10 and they're available from the village shop or from Cathy Yelf ([cathy.yelf@sky.com](mailto:cathy.yelf@sky.com) or 07775 683452)

It's a busy time for the fund raising team - who are gathering funds to help pay for our special advisors. In terms of the actual planning process for the proposed incinerator, we are in a quiet period. But never fear, at Bin the Incinerator/Keep Test Valley Beautiful HQ the work goes on behind the scenes.

As yet we still have no specific details about the design of the incinerator, or any information about Wheelabrator's environmental impact statements. The public consultation is the next official step and this could take place as early as November. We will keep you posted.

In the mean time we are working hard to raise public awareness about this proposal. We want to make sure that everyone, up and down the Bourne Valley and throughout the Test Valley area are aware of not just what Wheelabrator is proposing, but the sheer scale of it, its likely environment impacts and potential health implications.

Bin the Incinerator/recycling stickers are starting to appear on bins around the villages. You can collect your stickers from Longparish village shop or Barton Stacey stores.

As we go to press, our team are preparing for the Big Bincinerator Bash and Charity Auction at the Cricketers in Longparish.

And please do come along to the concert on the 4th October. It's going to be a night to remember!

You can find out more about the Bin the Incinerator campaign at [www.bintheincinerator.co.uk](http://www.bintheincinerator.co.uk)

## PLOUGH AHEAD



Private house or community pub?

The planning appeal hearing that will decide the future for the Plough Inn was held in the Andover Guildhall on

Tuesday 10th September. The public seating area was packed to capacity with over 30 village residents, many of whom spoke out in support of the campaign to reopen the Plough Inn as a community owned pub. Also providing strong support was our Ward Councillor David Drew. A message of support from Caroline Nokes MP was also read out.

Headed up and guided by a Planning Inspector, the proceedings focussed on the key issues as she saw them, namely :-

1. Whether the proposal would be appropriate, having regard to local and national planning policies in respect to community facilities (public house) and
2. The effect of the proposal on the Plough Inn, a non-designated heritage asset, and the Longparish Conservation Area.

The pub owner's agents argued that the pub is neither economically feasible, and nor is it needed. Both of these points were strongly contested by the planning officers from Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC), who also pointed out TVBC's planning policies, that were specifically put in place to protect community assets, were not being met. This was backed up by supporting statements from Plough Ahead, highlighting the potential viability as a community owned pub, able to operate without the product ties, or high rents that have encumbered previous recent tenants of the Plough Inn. TVBC's planning officers also stated the harm to the conservation area, in planning terms, would be "substantial" if the building was allowed to be converted to a residential dwelling. The hearing concluded with a visit to the Plough Inn and a look around inside.

The Planning Inspector's decision should hopefully be communicated before the end of October. You can sign up on [ploughahead.co.uk](http://ploughahead.co.uk) to hear the result as soon as we do!

Thank you (and fingers crossed)  
The Plough Ahead team

**LCA - L2SOTM - The Longparish Second Sunday of the Month handicap race** We had 29 runners in the September race, including 4 new faces, Anne Worswick, Chris Rattray, Kathryn Jones and Matt Doughty-Jones. Chris and Anne finished in the top two places. Next home was Jeremy Barber who became our Most Improved Man. Joanne Wyatt was Most Improved Woman and Pollyanna Reynolds retained the trophy as our Rising Star. Piers Blewitt, Rob Bryan, Matt Jeffery and Penny Rattray recorded best ever times; not easy for Rob as this was his 41st race. **Our next race is on Sunday 13th October, starting at the usual time of 10am at the Cricket Ground.**

## GARDENING CLUB - TUESDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER

Longparish Village Hall 7 pm

Roger Hirons - The Plant Doctor

Talking on "Plant and Garden Problems"

Roger Hirons has been speaking to Gardening Clubs for many years and is most entertaining.

Usual Raffle Gardening Club Members Free. (Guests welcome to this talk £5.00).

PLEASE let us know if you are hoping to come.

Any queries please to Rosie Lowry 01264720325

[rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com](mailto:rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com)

Or Marion Bell 01264 720205

## COFFEE SHOP

Coffee Shop will be open as usual on the second Friday of the month. In October we will be serving coffee and tea at the village hall between 10 and noon on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Do come along and join fellow villagers for a chat and cuppa, with biscuits of course. Everyone is welcome. Remember too that if you are a litter picker you can claim a complimentary drink and biscuits.

**LITTER PICKING** 9.00 am on Coffee Shop Fridays

Meet at the Village Hall, equipment provided.

Coffee afterwards courtesy of the coffee shop.

Next on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019

## FRIDAY LUNCH CLUB

11.45 – 2.00pm in the Village Hall. Booking is advisable so we can cater for the right numbers

### Diary dates

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November –**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas cracker**

For booking and/or transport call Andrea Harris 720 457

Christian Dryden 720 398

**PINTS OF VIEW** - No meeting this month

## FILM NIGHT

Longparish Village Hall **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October**

### Tolkien

Doors and bar open at 7:15pm

Film Starts 7:45pm sharp

Free entry to LCA members

Join on the night for just £1

Donations welcomed.



**VILLAGE CLEAN UP** Date for your diary:

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 10.00 – 13.00**

**Meet at the playpark. Refreshments afterwards at The Cricketers**

**Metta Yoga** every Tues 7.30pm Community Hall

**Crystal Meditation** second Monday of the month

7.30pm Village Hall ( 14th Oct 11th Nov 9th Dec) Contact

details for more info Sarah Blocksidge 07752 827098

## Help Make Longparish Greener Recycling and all that Stuff in LONGPARISH

**What goes in the bins?** There are posters on the village noticeboards which explain what can be put in the different bins and why.

Longparish Parish Council have a supply of the current Test Valley information leaflets and brown and black bin stickers if yours have faded.

**News** Test Valley Borough Council is working on new ways to communicate what can and can't be collected for recycling. They also explain why they don't collect all plastic.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/recycleforhampshire/whatweneed/recycleplastics>

At a recent Test Valley Borough Council meeting, the motion to declare a Climate Emergency was passed. Hopefully some new initiatives will come out of this across the borough and not just in the Council practices themselves. Longparish is planning to work closely with Barton Stacey sharing ideas, events etc.

### What is already available in the Longparish

Currently in Longparish, there are the following recycling collection points:

**Village Hall car park** - Textile bin and aluminium foil bin.

**Shop**- batteries and good shoes,

**The Cricketers** - glass bottles and glass jars, metal screw tops can be left on.

**Community Hall** – crisp packets – for every kilo collected, Teracycle give 100 points to the school, which they can exchange for a donation to the school.

**Little School** –printer ink cartridges

Let us know what other schemes there are already in Longparish.

**Eco bricks** – at the recent LCA coffee morning, there was a demonstration on how to make one of these by a resident who now has the technique perfected. She is looking for a project for the bricks. For more information [www.ecobricks.co.uk](http://www.ecobricks.co.uk)

Join the **Zero Waste Longparish Facebook** page if you have anything to give away that someone else might want.

Please contact the **Parish Council** or the **LCA** if interested in joining a **Zero Waste Longparish** working party or if you need TVBC stickers or leaflets for your bins or have a brilliant idea about what this community can do to reduce or recycle our waste.

Tel **Longparish Parish Council** 720 398 Email [camillajanmohammedpc@longparish.org.uk](mailto:camillajanmohammedpc@longparish.org.uk) or **LCA** Andy Jolliffe Email [lca@longparish.org.uk](mailto:lca@longparish.org.uk)

**WMC concert in Winchester Cathedral on 14th November**

at 7.30pm. Duruflé: Requiem, Bernstein: Chichester Psalms Finzi: Lo, the Full, Final Sacrifice

Full details on [winchestermusicclub.org.uk/](http://winchestermusicclub.org.uk/)





## Saturday 26 October

Following the enormous success of Bouncers, **BlackBox** return to **Longparish Village Hall** with a stunning new adaptation of John Buchan's classic ripping yarn, **The 39 Steps A Live Radio Drama** is an irreverent and affectionate take on one of our best loved stories. Full of thrills and spills, it'll keep you on the edge of your seats and crying with laughter.

Accused of a murder he didn't commit, Richard Hannay is on the run. He must uncover the secrets of the 39 Steps, prove his innocence and save Britain from the forces of evil!

However it's November 1962 and with just ten minutes to go before the show is broadcast live to the nation, half the cast haven't turned up, there's no one to do the sound effects and they've just run out of Bourbon biscuits!! What could possibly go wrong?

Doors and the bar open at 7pm and the show starts at 7.30. Tickets are £12.50 (£10 concs/disabled, £38 family). They are on sale in the village shop or from the Box Office on 0333 666 3366 or online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/39steps](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/39steps)

## Longparish LCA

### Apple Days

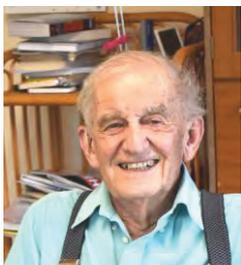


#### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October and Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October

It's been a good year for apples so we are doing it again! This year the press will be available at the Barbers', Queen Anne Cottage, 2 Forton between 12 noon and 5pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October and from 10.30am to 4.00pm on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October.

You bring the apples and plastic bottles to put the juice in. In round figures, five pounds of apples will make about one litre of juice. We provide a place to wash the apples and cut them up, a scrapper to mash up the apples and the press. You provide manpower!

Please contact Christian on 720398 or Jeremy on 720459 in advance if you are interested. If you don't have apples we may be able to help (but you'll have to pick them) or scrounge some from a neighbour with a surplus!



#### Geoff Dunford 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1926 - 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Geoff was born at Herriard, Hampshire into a farming family. He was the middle child of 5 siblings. At 13 he left school and started full time work for his father. Too young to fight when war broke out, Geoff was part of the local homeguard, and his stories make "Dad's Army" look very tame!

In 1950 he took on his own farm, and married June in 1953. In April 1959 Geoff took on the tenancy of Vale Farm, Longparish and moved in with his young family.

Geoff had not lived anywhere with a river before he came to Longparish, and he loved it. He did some river keeping for the estate, and then decided to record it photographically. His slide shows, with his own commentary, were very popular – one followed "A Year on the Test" and the other "A Grain of Wheat". He made a cine film about the Test.

The Whitchurch Growmore Society enabled Geoff to learn more about farming practice, and he said that good neighbours helped with advice and assistance when needed. Geoff took on another farm at Goodworth Clatford, and would drive between the two farms on a daily basis. He also established a herd of pedigree Hereford cattle. For the last 40 years he had farmed with his son, Nick.

Geoff's view was that we only come this way once, so he tried as many hobbies as possible. He was a great carpenter, but also a wood turner, wood carver and walking stick maker. He was an excellent shot, and enjoyed fishing, and he loved the countryside. He loved history and was a life member of the National Trust. He brewed country wines. He was a bee keeper, having been taught by his grandfather. He taught himself to knap flints and built walls. For some years they had Border Terriers, and Geoff showed them and won prizes.

Geoff was very sociable, and always had stories to tell. In early years he was a Young Farmer and Rugby Club member, in his middle years he was involved with farming and photographic clubs, and in later years he kept in contact with long phone calls to family and friends. He also embraced new technology to see what his family were up to!

Geoff had a leg amputated in 2002, but stoically kept going, continuing to garden and farm. After June died last year, he lived on his own and was proud of his independence. After a lifetime in farming in Hampshire, Geoff died suddenly and unexpectedly, but we are sure he would be accepting of what happened. We miss him very much, but are so thankful to have had him in our family.