

Issue No. 281

Hill & Valley

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF HURSTBOURNE PRIORS, LONGPARISH, ST MARY BOURNE & WOODCOTT

£1

September 2024



The Olympic and Paralympic Games

It has been incredible to watch so many talented and gifted athletes take part in the Olympic and Paralympic Games this year. It is so easy to forget how much hard work and relentless training is involved to be the best in the world. We can only imagine what it must feel like to win a gold medal after all that fierce competition and pressure.

I am reminded of the Olympic values of *excellence, respect* and *friendship* that underpin the Games and help to promote a better world. Along with the Paralympic values of *courage, determination, inspiration* and *equality*, they show us what can be achieved when we work together for the common good. Athletes from all over the world have gathered to represent their countries in peace and strive to create an atmosphere of challenge and acceptance. As they do this, they make some great achievements and break world records often in inspiring ways.

This year is special because it is 100 years since Eric Liddell won gold at the 1924 Summer Olympics in Paris in the 400 metre race. Eric went to Edinburgh University to read for a BSc in Pure Science but ended up playing a lot of rugby and athletics. He was capped for the Scotland international rugby team seven times and is one of a rare few who had his cap reissued and was inducted into the Scottish Rugby Hall of Fame in January 2022, on the centenary of his first international cap.

Eric also became known as the fastest runner in Scotland when he was at university and so he began training for the Olympics. He originally trained for the 100 metre sprint but ended up dropping out when he discovered the qualifying heats were on a Sunday. As a devout Christian he refused to work on a Sunday so trained for the 200 and 400 metre sprints instead. At the Games, he finished third in the 200 metre sprint and won a bronze medal, but surprised everyone and went on to win the 400 metre race winning gold. He won it in a time of 47.6 seconds which was an Olympic and World Record.

After this great achievement, which was later immortalised in the film '*Chariots of Fire*', Eric decided to become a missionary teacher and moved to China. In 1943 the Japanese invaded China and he was sent to an internment camp where he helped look after the children and continued to teach them there. He was affectionately known as Uncle Eric. He became unwell and sadly died there on 21st February 1945, five months before liberation having given his life to help others.

Eric Liddell took his inspiration from Jesus Christ and followed His example of sacrifice even to his death to show God's love to everyone, regardless of their nationality or status. Stories like this remind us of the importance of those Olympic and Paralympic values which are relevant not just to athletes, but to us all. In life we all need to show each other *respect* and *friendship*. We need to demonstrate *courage* and *determination* particularly when we are in difficult situations, in turn *inspiring* people to do good things to help others. I hope you enjoyed watching the Games.

Russ

The Revd Russell Smart



September 2024

All Zoom details are available from the Church wardens or Dodie Marsden.

Sunday 1st - Trinity 14

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	<i>Animal Pet Service</i>
Home Zoom Service at 10.30am		

Wednesday 4th

St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
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Sunday 8th - Trinity 15

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St James', Woodcott	No Service	
Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online		

Sunday 15th - Trinity 16

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30pm	<i>Animal Pet Service</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>Family Service</i>
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	<i>Matins</i>
Home Zoom Service at 10.30am		

Sunday 22nd - Trinity 17

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>Family Praise</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Benefice Evensong</i>
St James', Woodcott	No service	
Home Zoom Service at 10.30am		

Sunday 29th - Trinity 18

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	No Service	
St Nicholas', Longparish	No Service	
All Hallows, Whitchurch	10.30am	<i>Benefice Service</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	No Service	
St James', Woodcott	No Service	
Home Zoom Service at 10.30am		



For all enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals in any of the parish churches, please contact the Church Office Administrator: ☎ 01256 893573 brightwatersbenefice@gmail.com

Rev David Roche: ☎ 01256 892535 revd.davidroche@hotmail.com

Rev Canon Dodie Marsden: ☎ 01264 738211 dodie.marsden@gmail.com

• For details of **Roman Catholic Services** in Whitchurch or Andover: ☎ 01264 352829

• **Methodist Minister** for our parishes: The Revd Rachel Borgars, 11 Lapwing Rise, Whitchurch, RG28 7SU ☎ 01256 895878 or rachel.borgars@methodist.org.uk

From the Church Registers

Baptisms

"Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father."

Wolf Valentine Sorby Campbell

Hurstbourne Priors - 20/7/24

Wilfred Nicholas Braithwaite

Longparish - 11/8/24

Hattie and Clemmie Jewell

Longparish - 25/8/24

Cazimir Stephen Clere

St Mary Bourne - 31/8/24

Weddings

"Marriage is a gift of God in creation ..."

Olivia Woodhouse and Edward Lawrence

St Mary Bourne - 20/7/24

Lisa Struthers Hirst and Richard Norris

St Mary Bourne - 24/8/24

Jemma Dunford and Joe Readings

Longparish - 24/8/24

Nicole Fudge and Declan Jarvis

Hurstbourne Priors - 31/8/24

Funerals

"Into God's loving care we commit you ..."

Peter & Fiorenza Chandler

(Interment of ashes) - Longparish - 5/7/24

Richard Boulstridge

St Mary Bourne - 13/7/24

Camilla St.Quintin

St Mary Bourne - 22/8/24

Chris Franklin

(Interment of ashes) - St Mary Bourne - 31/8/24

Leonard Fuller

(Interment of ashes) - St Mary Bourne - 31/8/24

LET US PRAY - If you would like us to pray for you or someone else, please email stnbrightwaters@icloud.com giving the name (no surname required) and include a reason if you wish, or contact a member of the local ministry team.



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Continuing our late summer ride up the B3048 Highway to the North - Part 6

The nine 34ft span arches of Hurstbourne viaduct, completed in 1854, remain a most impressive monument to Victorian railway construction. Shrouded in trees on its left is where the 'Nile Valley' Hurstbourne to Fullerton railway once joined the main line. The lyrical water meadow to its south does not prepare the traveller for the large-scale horticultural enterprise on the other side. The dynamic Eliza James deserves a blue plaque for transforming the sleepy watercress beds she found in 1908 into the prime supplier of this most healthy food to London retail and restaurant trades. The key was Hurstbourne Station (closed 1964) up the hill to the right. Where Hirst's scrap metal plant traded for 50 years, is now St Mary's Hill housing estate.

In round terms, half the population of these parishes lives along the coming two and a half miles of the B3048, though it is hardly densely populated. The stretch running north of the viaduct takes in Lower and Upper Link, before reaching the village. Link to where? you might well ask. Not many of us are fluent enough in Old English (Anglo-Saxon) to know that *hlinc* meant 'shelf on the edge of rising arable land'—Dr Stevens, writer of the authoritative *Parochial History of St. Mary Bourne* (1888), did. At last, there is another open pub on the left, *The Railway Inn*, as it began life, now *The Bourne Valley*. The other celebrated local historian, Kathleen Innes, lived further up on the right, at Portway, the new house she and her husband George built in 1938 and their residence for the next 30 years. It's a good name for a house just north of Portway Roman Road (Silchester to Old Sarum, the RR4b), which crosses the B3048 just before the turn to Derrydown. To the left is the lane which leads to the only public health facility (discounting pubs and churches) along this road, the Derrydown Clinic (1953), now part of *Two Rivers Medical Partnership* with Whitchurch Surgery.

All of which brings us to the village of St Mary Bourne, the narrow winding Church Street, with its many thatched cottages. Constricted by its narrow bends and parked cars, traffic along this stretch is calmed, sometimes to the point of stand-off. To the right looms the church where nothing lines up. It ought to be St Mary's, but is dedicated to St Peter: its north aisle pillars do not align with those of the south aisle; the chancel is at an angle to the nave; it has a font (and what a font!—the nearest similar being in Winchester cathedral!) when chapels-of-ease (as it was until 1928: only then was St Mary Bourne designated as a parish) had neither baptismal nor burial rights. So, why is there a centuries-old churchyard around it, with its ancient yew? Very puzzling.

MC

☀️ Join Us at the Longparish Village Fete! ☀️

📅 Date: 7th September

🕒 Time: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

📍 Location: Longparish Cricket Field

We are thrilled to update you on our annual Longparish Village Fete! This year, we have a fantastic lineup of village-run stalls and activities that promise fun for all ages. Here is a sneak peek at what you can look forward to:

🎟️ ****Grand Draw & 50/50 Draw**** With over 50 prizes to be won! 1st prize - helicopter ride generously donated by Jonathan and Emma Palmer. 2nd Prize - Le Creuset Casserole dish (RRP £315)

🗣️ ****Silent Auction****

🧸 ****Toy Stall**** 🧱 ****Bric-a-Brac****

🍰 ****Cake Stall**** 🍰 ****Teas, Coffee, and Cakes****

🍔 ****BBQ**** 🍹 ****Bar and Pimms Tent**** 📀 ****Book, DVD, and CD Stall**** 🌹 ****Second Hand Rose****

🍷 ****Bottle Tombola**** 💧 ****Water and Wine****

🐕 ****Dog Show**** 🍾 ****Champagne Draw****

🍅 ****Vegetable Competition & Watermelon Stall**** -

🚗 **** Classic car show **** - Bring along your vintage or classic car, motorbike, van or tractor and marvel at an array of beautifully restored vintage cars.

Don't miss out on this fun-filled day that brings our community together. Bring your family, friends, and neighbours to enjoy all the festivities!

See you there! 🎉

St Nicholas Church 100 Club Results of the June and July Draws 2024

June Draw

The draw was made on the 4th July 2024.

First prize:	No. 49	£77.00
Second prize:	No. 16	£46.00
Third Prize:	No. 51	£16.00

July Draw

The draw was made on 4th August 2024

First prize:	No. 26	£77.00
Second prize:	No. 19	£46.00
Third Prize:	No. 08	£16.00

Membership is set at £5.00 per number per month. There is no limit to the numbers you can purchase. If you would like to join, please contact: -

John Young, Churchwarden & PCC Stewardship Officer, St. Nicholas Church

Tel: 01264 720233 Mob: 07860 630489 or

Email: jayoung1322@gmail.com

LONGPARISH PARISH COUNCIL

REPORT FROM PC MEETING ON 8 JULY

PLANNING

The Parish Council had raised an OBJECTION against: Erection of a conservatory at 103 North Acre, Longparish

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Two councillor vacancies remain, and anyone interested in becoming a councillor should contact the clerk for more information.

HIGHWAYS

A Sugar Lane resident updated the council on matters relating to the condition of Sugar Lane (see previous PC Minutes for details). Potholes have been repaired, and more defects have been reported to HCC including road subsidence, and a damaged drain cover. The road sweeper has attended twice, removing debris, and SSE are scheduled to undertake tree work. A quote to remove the root-bound soil is being sought by the resident, and a question was raised about whether or not the PC could contribute to the cost. Residents have also committed to assisting in keeping the road clear going forwards. The Parish Council continues to support the improvement works, with the Tree Warden offering to meet SSE contractors onsite. The resident was invited to submit the soil removal quote to the PC to consider a contribution towards the work.

REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING ON 22 JULY

The Parish Council had NO OBJECTION to:
Installation of air source heat pump, screening fence, and associated internal works at Meadow Lawn House, Longparish
Two-storey extension at Spring Lodge, Longparish Road, Wherwell
The Parish Council agreed that NO PRIOR APPROVAL was necessary for:
Agricultural building to replace barn at Middleton Farm
Parish Council Meetings
The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 9 September.
Parish Council Meetings are public, and parishioners are also welcome to speak on specific agenda items by prior arrangement with the Chairman, or on any matter as part of the Period for Public Speaking.

Clerk: Piers Llewellyn Jones - email clerk@longparish.org.uk

Minutes of all previous meetings are available on the Longparish website
www.longparish.org.uk/parish-council

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

We welcomed five new runners to The Plough for the August race on a warm and humid morning. The new route is going down well. The runners enjoyed the challenge of the hills, the bliss of the shade over Tracy's Dell and the joy of the long gentle downhill stretch on the Middleway in the last kilometre.

New runners often underestimate their speed and so it was for Rhomeo and Gareth who finished in the top two places. Mr Handicap will sort that out next month. First home off a genuine handicap was Rebekah Searle who became our Most Improved Woman. Next was Ian Beveridge who was Most Improved Man. Alfie Brunwin (accompanied by his Mum, Jo) was our Rising Star and was awarded a gold cup. Special mention also goes to Mark Curtis who set a new course record Well done all!



Afterwards we enjoyed a convivial chat over coffee and bacon butties.

Thank you very much to Maggie Barber, Roger Bradley and Mike Dukes, Jen Mudle and Raymond Searle for marshalling, Andy Smith for doing the signs, Ian Beveridge and Mandy Goldsmith for pruning back overhanging nettles and brambles and to David Gould for processing the results. The race wouldn't work without such a great team of helpers. And another special mention, this time to visiting marshal Guy Lawrenson who helped us set up the first race way back in October 2006.

The next race is on **Sunday, 8 September**, the morning after the fete, starting at 9am at The Plough. New runners are always welcome, and you don't have to be fast. It's a handicap race so everyone, whatever their pace, has a chance of winning.

Please do give me a call or drop me an email if you'd like to join us. For more information, please see <http://l2sotm.longparish.org.uk/index.php>

Jeremy Barber
01264 720459 mrjeremybarber@gmail.com

LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB



**Tuesday, 24th September at
Longparish Village Hall, SP11 6PB
7 pm**

Arthur Cole speaking on "The Newt in Somerset – A Journey Spanning Three Centuries"

LGC Members Free - Visitors Welcome £5.00.

Any queries please to

Rosie Lowry 01264720325

rosie@yewcottage-longparish.com

Or **Marion Bell 01264720205**



Friends of Longparish School

The Longparish Run The run takes place on **Sunday 15 September**. Visit our website to book your place. Or join us on the football field for refreshments.

Cheerleaders needed! Cheer on the children taking part in the 3km route. They leave the football field at 10.30am and will run along the spinal path and back. We'd love to see the local community encouraging them!

AGM All are welcome to join us at our AGM on **Wednesday 2 October**. It will start at **7.30pm** in the school/community hall. Find out what we have been up to this year, our plans for the coming year, and vote on the new committee members.

The Longparish Lookout After a busy year of fundraising, we are delighted to say we are very close to our target for the Longparish Lookout! All being well, we hope construction will start in September.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the project – with the children undertaking sponsored challenges, parents facilitating grants from their employers, and the local community making individual donations, it's been a fantastic group effort.

If you know any local businesses or groups that can help us with the final fundraising push, please put us in touch.

More information:

Website: www.pta-events.co.uk/longparish

Facebook: fb.me/FriendsofLongparishSchool

Instagram: @friendsof-longparish-school

Jo Allam, Chair (chairfolsgmail.com)



Walk and litter pick – best way to keep fit!

The monthly litter picks are starting again on the second

Friday of the month. Thank you to lots of people who pick up litter when they see it!

Next one **Friday 13th September 9.15am**, meet at the **Village Hall** with coffee at the **LCA coffee morning at the Plough from 10.00am**.

Tel Christian Dryden 720398 or email christian.drydenpc@longparish.org.uk



Friday Lunch Club Autumn Dates 2024 Longparish Village Hall 12.00 - 2.00pm

The Lunch Club is open to everyone in the community. We do ask you to book so that we have an idea of numbers for catering.

We serve a light lunch, all homemade, of soup and roll followed by cake, tea and coffee for just **£3**.

After lunch there is often a talk or quiz – ideas for speakers always welcome but equally take a break from your desk and come just for lunch at 12.00.

Friday 27th September
Friday 25th October
Friday 29th November
Friday 20th December (TBC)

To book a place Tel **Andrea 720 457** or **Christian 720398** Transport can be arranged.

LONGPARISH
AUTUMN TIDY UP
SATURDAY 9.30AM - 12.30PM
19th OCTOBER 2024

Come along and join the team, litter picking, cutting back, leaf gathering and much more.

MEET AT THE PLAYGROUND 10AM
Some equipment provided, including hi vis jackets, wheel barrows required, bring gloves and wear boots or wellies.

Everyone Welcome - More details to follow

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Barton Stacey WI

We are a small group who meet on the last Thursday of each month in the **Barton Stacey Village Hall, from 7.30pm**. We enjoy a variety of interesting presentations from external speakers, as well as fun, hands-on creative activities.

Our July meeting came just in time for the start of the school holidays! Sarah Blocksidge came to share with us her Ten-Minute Mindfulness method, showing us how just a few minutes of mindfulness can help to restore inner calm, and enable us to face some of the challenges of everyday life. It was useful to learn some simple breathing techniques that can be done anywhere, and which help to calm our minds and refocus.

At our meeting on **Thursday 26th September**, we will be welcoming Stuart from the Boaz Project. Situated within our Parish, Boaz is an inclusive, farm-based charity that provides a brighter future for people with learning disabilities. Members get involved in a variety of activities, including horticulture, wood-working, cookery and craft. We are really looking forward to Stuart's presentation and also seeing examples of some of the items the members grow and make which are then offered for sale in order to raise funds for the project.

We are a welcoming group of ladies and encourage guests to our meetings to see what becoming a member of the WI can offer.

For more information, please contact Sue Atrill bartonstaceypres@hampshirewi.org.uk or Donna Oliver bartonstaceysec@hampshirewi.org.uk.



The No-Nonsense Ninth LCA Longparish Beer Festival 2024

Saturday 5th October 7pm – 11.30pm

Oo-la-la, Save the date! The battered trout invites you to the ninth Longparish Beer Festival, hosted by the Longparish Community Association in our most wonderful Village Hall.

As in previous years, we will bring you a fine selection of no-nonsense ales from our local area and also further beyond (but not France) – there will be beers for all tastes and a couple of ciders to boot.

For further details, contact Sylvia Crook sylvia.crook@gmx.co.uk (07776 303428) or Andy Smith (078794 10073).



ASHBURN REST STREAM VERGE TO MOW OR NOT TO MOW.....

A point of view by Christian Dryden

Last week I walked along the stream verge admiring the variety of flower and plant species, red, yellow, pink, purple, and white flowers dotted along it with plenty of bees, ladybirds, larvae and insects buzzing around. This week, this beautiful mixed ecosystem has been damaged having been cut too early. I thought it would be helpful to explain why the verge had been left to grow.



Three years ago, the Parish Council took on the management of the Ashburn Rest verge as a conservation project developing the verge to make a nature corridor and to benefit insects, and butterflies. This

contributed to the Making Space for Nature phase of Greening Longparish.

A fee was paid to Hampshire County Council for a licence and funds spent on wetland seed mix as well as the management of the verge, which involved selective strimming and weeding by our own resident ecologist and many volunteers, including younger residents enthusiastic about the environment.

The vegetation along the verge is not always seen as conservation, but as a hindrance and a contractor has yet again cut it before the optimal time for the seeds to ripen, drop and germinate. Mowing now, before any seed has had a chance to set, is the worst possible timing and has negated the selective strimming conducted in the Spring.

Purple Loosestrife



Angelica



Hemp Agrimony



Here are a few photographs taken just before the recent cut showing how it has developed over the last year and one comparing a road verge which has been mown and one that has been allowed to flourish.



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A LATE SUMMER WALK by Chris Bowman

Starting from home as usual down the back path only a few **House Sparrows** on Arthur's well stocked feeders. Noticeably quiet down here now the overgrown garden has been cleared. Turn right at the shop and a couple of **Collared Doves** are sat on the wires so on we go. Lots of House Sparrows in the hedge at Preston Cottage. There is another flock in the hedge by Elm Cottage. It is a job to see into the pony paddock now the hedges have grown. Turning left into Mill Lane, two **Blackbirds** on the side of the road and a bit further up I can see a **Dunnock**. I can hear the unmistakable honk of the **Raven** as it flies over. On to the bridge, quiet here it has been all year, I do not know why. Turning left towards the ford, I can see there are a lot of birds at the Trout Farm. **Greater, Lesser-Backed Gulls, Herring Gull, Black-Headed Gull, 3 Herons, 4 Little Egrets, Swan, Canada and Greylag Geese, Mallard, Tufted Duck, Gadwall, Coot, Moorhen, Mistle Thrush, Pied and Grey Wagtails**. I am about to go when a small flock of **House Martins** and **Swallows** stop off for a drink before their long journey. They are leaving earlier this year. On we go, a lot of feral cats about today. On to the Ford nothing we have not already seen so turn right into Nuns Walk. There is a flock of **Long-Tailed Tits**, I love finding a flock of them as you do not know what else is with them. **Great and Blue Tits, Chiffchaff, Blackcap, and a Tree Creeper** climbing up the side of a tree. Carrying on, a **Robin** on the fence beside me. Turning right onto the bridge 2 **Little Grebes** are upriver and then a **Kingfisher** taking a detour around me. Turn right back into Mill Lane and a **Red Kite** is circling high above me and then another joins it and then there is a **Buzzard** going around on a thermal. On we go, a couple of **Goldfinches**, I do not see many of them about. Just before the bridge a little **Wren** flies across the road. I can see a **Pheasant** in with the sheep, nothing else so on we go at Tudor Cottage, cross the road to see into the pony paddock, just a few **Rooks** and **Jackdaws**. Moving on, a flock of 15 Starlings fly over and with that back home. I hope you have enjoyed our walk and we saw **forty-one** different birds.



Picture of Grey Wagtail



LONGPARISH CRICKET CLUB

The annual Village Day including the Village vs Club cricket match for the John Woodcock Cup was held on a beautiful summer afternoon at the end of June.

The fixture was reduced to a twenty over game to allow for an early finish and watching of the England football match in the Euros. The Club retained the Cup following an exciting and fairly close match. A variety of refreshments were available to those attending and the raffle was also well supported. The Club would like to pass on its thanks to all who attended on the day and contributed towards its major fundraising event of the year.



Longparish CC will be holding its annual Golf Day at Leckford Golf Club in early September followed by its Presentation Evening at Longparish Primary school a week later. With 2 weeks left of this year's League season, the 1st team is currently 6th in Hampshire County Division 2. However, the 2nd & 3rd teams have both had difficult seasons and are towards the bottom of their respective leagues. Despite many weather-related challenges at the beginning of the season, the Club has enjoyed a busy summer with a total of 94 matches played across the junior and senior sections.

A message from Mary Snow



I would like to thank all those who sent cards and kind messages on the occasion of my 104th birthday in July. I wish I could write to thank you each

personally but want you to know that your good wishes were much appreciated, helping make the day a special one.

With my love, best wishes and fond memories.
Mary



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Summer update from the LCA:

If you missed it there is always next year....

In the Village Hall, slightly later than normal we hosted the annual New Villagers and AGM on Tuesday 9th July.

18 attendees including 3 newcomers to the village and several Club society reps alongside the Longparish Council and Parochial Church Council.

A social meet and greet upon arrival, over wine and nibbles, before the 15 mins AGM serious stuff began.

Matt and Andy hosted the event. Running through the financials and presented a reminder of what the LCA is all about.

Post AGM, Andrea Hulme and James McWalter very kindly stepped forward to support the team. We welcome our new recruits. We aim to meet every 3 months to plan ahead and aim to arrange a village event in 2025.

LCA Team:

Matt Doughy Jones

Treasurer.LCA@longparish.org.uk

Jo Barnard (was Jo Clare)

Joanne.LCA@longparish.org.uk

Georgi Leask, Andrea Hulme, James McWalter & Andy Jolliffe

We all contactable on: LCA@longparish.org.uk



T: 01264 720069 www.ploughinn.org
info@ploughinn.org



Would you like to help The Plough? We're looking for volunteers to help by joining the Management Committee (elections due on the 10th of October) or giving your time more informally through a working group?

Behind the scenes a team of wonderful volunteers supports the business, helping with everything from vision and strategy to grant applications, gardening and keeping the pub ship-shape.

Enjoy great benefits!

Joining the committee or volunteering to help The Plough in other ways can be rewarding and is a great way to meet people. You'll be helping to run a small business, you'll learn new skills, create new friendships and support others. You'll be giving back to the community and making a difference to the way the pub is run:

It takes a team to build a flourishing pub, please join us!

- **Facilities** - looking after the garden, painting, helping to maintain the building, grounds and equipment.
- **Community** – finding ways to support the community
- **Communications** – supporting the manager with promotions and comms as needed
- **Finance** - helping to oversee the financial management of the business
- **Compliance** - supporting the manager with HR, health & safety, etc.

And if you'd like to join the committee.....

Every shareholder can vote and stand for election to the management committee. Applications to stand for election close on 23rd September

How can I find out more?

Please email to volunteer@lcpl.org.uk or chat to anyone you know who is involved in The Plough. We'd love to hear from you even if you can spare just a couple of hours now and again!

We invite you to join us for a free drink and nibbles in The Plough where you'll be able to chat to current volunteers about the different activities.



Invitation

Please join us in the River Room on

**SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER
BETWEEN 5.30 AND 7 PM**

Come enjoy a free drink and nibbles
and find out how you could help the pub.

With best wishes from the whole team at The Plough

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On **Saturday 7th September**, please join us for an afternoon of Olympic-themed fun to raise funds for the Hurstbourne Priors Cricket Pavilion Roof.

- Cash Bar, Ice Creams, Cakes and Tea all day.
- Kids Tea **at 5pm**
- Raffle, Prize Giving and Closing Ceremony, Live Music, Hog Roast and bar **from 7pm**

Races begin **at 2pm** and include:

Mini Marathon
Hobby Horse Cross Country
Baguette Javelin
Garlic and Spoon Race
Fancy Dress Dash
Team Relay

Adults – £15

Children under 15 – £5

Minimum of 4 per team, maximum of 6. Adult-only teams are welcome but will be handicapped in a very silly and absolutely not serious way!

Email beasleylulu@gmail.com for more details on the races and to enter your team.

WEATHER: JULY 2024

Total rainfall for this month	80mm/3.15in
Total for 2024 (to date)	622mm/24.49in
Total for 2023	569mm/20.40in
Max temp	35.8°C/96.4f(31 st)
Min temp	8°C/46f(14 th)

Despite some very warm weather, we still had 80mm of rain in July (after only 8mm in June). The 20 year average for July is 59mm. The wettest July was in 2007 with 126mm!

John Smail

LADIES COFFEE MORNING

Our September Coffee Morning will be held by Susie Urquhart at Copper Beech, no. 45, on **Wednesday 4th September from 10.15am to 12 noon**. All ages welcome!

For more information or for offers to hold a coffee morning, please contact Susie Sorby (tel. 892665 or email: sbsorby@hotmail.com)



PARISH COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

In order to accommodate bookings at the Village Hall, the Parish Council have changed the day of their meetings. Parish Council meetings will now be held on the **final Thursday of every other month at 6.30pm**.

As always, any resident can attend meetings, there is no need to give any notice of your intention to come. However, if you think that Councillors would benefit from advance notice in order to research an issue please do let me know by email at richard.waterman150@btinternet.com or at the Parish Office on 01264 772460.

The dates for meetings for the rest of this year will now be as follows:

Thursday 26th September

Thursday 28th November

Richard Waterman, Parish Clerk

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PETS' SERVICE

Do join us for our annual Pets' Service, where we celebrate and give thanks for our pets at St Andrew's Church on **Sunday 15th September at 10.30am**. All fluffy, feathered, four-legged (or otherwise) friends welcome. There will be activities for all ages, and we will be outside, or in the church if it's raining.



HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

The St Andrew's Harvest Festival will be held on **Sunday, 13th October at 11.00am**.

As usual, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Andover Food Bank. Suitable items include cereal, tea, coffee, sugar, pasta, rice, tinned foods (meat, fish, fruit and vegetables), fruit juice and long-life milk. Please bring your donations to the service or leave them in the church beforehand.



The service is followed by the **Harvest Lunch at 12.30pm**. This will be held at Mistletoe Cottage, by kind invitation of Ian and Denise Bradley. Tickets are £7 for adults and £2.50 for children (under 5s free). Please book your tickets from Fenella Williams (01256 892081). All proceeds from the Lunch will be donated to the Mityana Projects Trust.

ST ANDREW'S DANCE

A date for your diaries: St Andrew's Church are holding an evening of Scottish Reels on **St Andrew's Day, Saturday 30th November** in the Village Hall, Hurstbourne Priors.

All levels and abilities very welcome. Guidance and interval refreshments provided. **Tickets are £25, and are available from Fenella Williams: fenella.williams@btopenworld.com/01256 892081** For any rusty reelers, or newcomers who would like to give reeling a whirl, an excellent place to start in the meantime is *The Swinging Sporrán* by Roddy Martine & Andrew Campbell, or London Reels have lots of good tutorials on YouTube.



NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

Present *Laughter* by Noel Coward from National Theatre Live at Whitchurch Parish Hall on **Wednesday, 2nd October at 7pm**. **Doors open at 6.30pm.**

Don't miss your chance to see the five-star comedy spectacle *Present Laughter*, directed by Matthew Warchus, with Andrew Scott (*Vanya*, *All of Us Strangers*, *Fleabag*) as Garry Essendine.

As he prepares to embark on an overseas tour, star actor Garry Essendine's colourful life is in danger of spiralling out of control. Engulfed by an escalating identity crisis as his many and various relationships compete for his attention, Garry's few remaining days at home are a chaotic whirlwind of love, sex, panic and soul-searching.

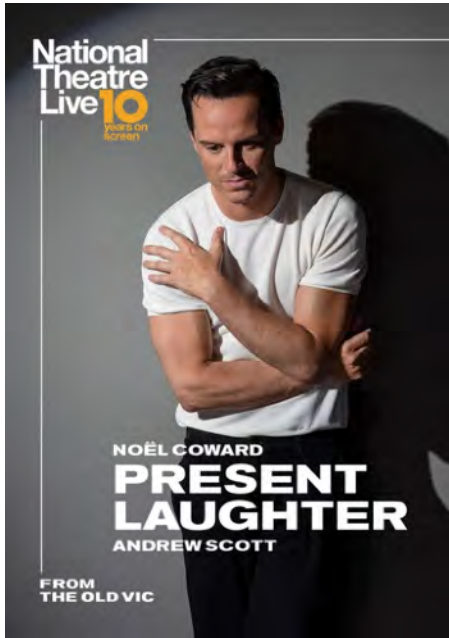
Filmed live at The Old Vic, this critically acclaimed production of Noël Coward's *Present Laughter* is a giddy and surprisingly modern reflection on fame, desire and loneliness.

Tickets are £10, and you can:

- Get yours on the National Theatre Live page of www.whitchurchparishhall.co.uk
- Reserve your tickets by calling 01256 896877 (if necessary, please leave a message including your name, number of tickets and your contact number). Please note, tickets will be chargeable even if you are unable to come.

- Tickets will also be available on the door
Doors open at **6.30pm**, film starts at **7pm** and there will be a bar available.

Date for your diary: Jodie Whittaker in Prima Facie on 6th November, at 7pm.



CHURCHYARD WILDFLOWERS

It has been a quieter month in our fledgling wildflower meadow. The mighty thistle still reigns supreme and has been flowering for weeks, but it has also been joined by a profusion of nettles, which are less welcome. Luckily, there are clumps of dock leaves growing nearby, should anyone need them. The wildlife has been enjoying the cow parsley in particular: in addition to the bees and butterflies, we have spotted red soldier beetles and black and yellow longhorn beetles crawling about on the flowers.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

At this time of year, as the weather mellows and turns autumnal, the hedgerows of HBP are laden with ripening blackberries. So our ingredient for this month's seasonal recipe really picks itself; I challenge anyone to go for a walk and not come back with tell-tale streaks of purple all over their fingers... But what to do with all these berries? There are the obvious things like crumbles, jams, pies and jellies, but you hardly need me to tell you about them. So instead, why not combine your glut of blackberries with that other seasonal stalwart and plentiful local delicacy: venison. Here is a blackberry sauce to accompany a pan-fried or roasted venison loin, like this:

Serves 6

*1kg venison loin
1tsp dried thyme
250g pancetta, thinly sliced
1tbsp vegetable oil
2tbsp sloe gin
200ml reduced beef stock
6 juniper berries, crushed
200g blackberries
25g butter
salt and freshly-ground black pepper*



- Trim the venison of any fat, rub with oil and season with salt, pepper and dried thyme.
- Lay the pancetta slices on a piece of clingfilm to make one sheet, place the loin at one end of the sheet of pancetta, and roll so the loin is wrapped in the pancetta.
- Heat the vegetable oil in an oven-proof frying pan, and sear the loin until golden-brown on all sides.
- Place the pan in the oven at 180C/350F for 6-8 minutes, or until the venison is cooked but still pink inside. Remove from the pan and keep warm.
- In the same pan, heat the sloe gin, beef stock and juniper berries and reduce for about 5 minutes.
- Strain the sauce, return to the pan and add the blackberries. Cook for about 4 minutes, until softened, and crush slightly with the back of a spoon.
- Stir in the butter and season. Carve the loin, and serve with the sauce.

SILK MILL NEWS AND EVENTS

Duck Food is Proving Popular

Between April and June we sold an astonishing 978 pots of duck food! Duck-feeding is perennially popular, and our special food is far better for the ducks than bread, which is to them the equivalent of junk food to us.

Food Festival, 7th September, 10.30am to 4pm

Junk food will very definitely not be on offer at our Food Festival. Local suppliers will sell speciality goodies from their stalls, including locally made honey, chutney, chocolates, cakes, spirits, and much more. The Mill's team of face painters and the Natural Cook Company will be there, and a tombola will raise funds to support our growing team of heritage silk weavers at the Mill. Entry is free but a donation of £1 per adult is suggested.

Our Next Exhibition

'Passionate Women – Exploring Female Strength through the Alchemy of Thread and Stitch' will be on show between **7th September and 24th November**. Over the centuries, strong rebellious women have successfully battled for equality against all the odds. In celebration of such strong women, Hampshire-based textile art group The Alchemist's Needle will bring their work to the Mill, featuring a

series of unique artworks inspired by women who have shaped our world. The group's eight artists use various textile techniques, and there will be opportunities to meet some of the artists during the exhibition.

Afternoon Tea and Tasting with Two Spoons, 12th September, 2–4pm

Giles (Big Spoon) and Mark (Little Spoon) from the company Two Spoons in Buckinghamshire have between them 55 years of experience in the tea trade. They will host an afternoon of tea tasting and drinking, regaling us with humorous anecdotes and information about the special teas available to taste. Afternoon tea will also be served. Two Spoons Ltd are kindly providing this fun event to raise funds for the Mill. Tickets, £30 per person, must be booked in advance. Please tell us about any special dietary requirements so we can accommodate you.

More 'Weave a Wall Hanging' Workshops

Previous 'Weave a Wall Hanging' workshops have proved very popular and so we're delighted to be offering two more, on **28th September and 10th October**. More information is available on our website. Tickets £60 per person.

Darning Workshop, 12th October, 2–4pm

In this beginners' workshop you'll learn how to rebuild a hole and be guided step-by-step to darn it. You'll also be given an overview of the different kinds of mending. All tools will be provided, including woven and knitted fabrics to practise on. Tickets £35 per person.

Two-day Weaving Course, 15th & 16th October, 10am–3.30pm

This new weaving course for beginners will introduce you to the entire weaving process, with training provided by our silk weavers. You'll learn how to design and create a warp, thread up a loom, and get weaving. Tickets £150 per person. If you're interested in this course but the dates don't suit you, please contact the Mill and we'll arrange alternative dates for you.

Tickets for our events are generally available from the Mill Shop or from our website via the 'What's on' page. Contact: info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk – www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk



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All ages are welcome, from all the villages,
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The George Inn St Mary Bourne on
Tuesday 10th September at 10.30am

£2.50 for coffee and biscuits - For more information
contact Win Coventry - ☎ 01264 738 199.

The Lunch

Our next Village Lunch
will be held on **Wednesday**
18th September at St Mary

Bourne Village Centre, starting to serve as usual at
12.30pm. All are welcome and the suggested donation is
still only £3. If a lift is needed, please phone Chris Smith
on ☎ 01264 738110 by Noon on the Tuesday.

Our next Family Service is on Sunday
15th September at 10.30 am in St Peter's



New hats and a new academic
year is the theme.

There will be decorating a visor to
wear, hat biscuits to decorate and
eat, eggshell heads of mustard
cress, and lots more including
painting a hat, coffee and tea.



Come to a Bat watching evening
St Peter's churchyard on Saturday October 5th.
Details to follow.

Stoke Coffee Morning

Wednesday 4th September
10am - 11.30am

Bridge Cottage, SP11 ONP

Everyone welcome

svfcommunitygroup@aol.com



Ride and Stride 14 September 2024

Why not take part! Many of you use **cycling or**
or walking to keep fit, so why not make a day of it.
Plan a route taking in as many churches as possible.

It is a country wide event raising money for historic
churches and chapels. Half the money you raise through
Sponsorship goes to the **Hampshire and the Islands**
Historic Churches Trust and half to your own church
funds.

Usually, 400 churches and chapels are open
throughout Hampshire, many of them offering
refreshments as well.

The idea is to be sponsored to visit as many churches
you can by walking or cycling to them **between 10am**
and 6pm.

It's a fun thing to do. Why not make up a party and go
for it. Sponsor forms and further information available
from **Eve Lind-Smith** ☎ **01264 738681.**

I shall, as I have for the past few years be walking
from Woodcott to Longparish via St Mary Bourne and
Hurstbourne Priors. You are welcome to join me for all or
any part of it.

Good luck and enjoy - whatever you do.

Eve

An Evening of Music

St Peter's Church, St Mary Bourne
Friday 6th September at 7pm

The Amberly Ensemble

An evening concert to include works by Mozart,
Arthur Benjamin, Roger Harvey and lots more.

All Tickets £10

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60 minutes of music to enjoy followed by
refreshments

Proceeds to St Peter's Church



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The **Church Christmas Bazaar** will
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Tuesday 17th September 2024 - 7.15pm

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Tickets **£5** in advance or **£7** at the door

Please reserve tickets in advance by email

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Next Film: 22nd October 2024 - The Critic



As you may have noticed, things in The Boundary keep changing. Now, for someone who likes to live on a fairly even keel it can be unnerving! I'm only messing because change is good; and for that reason Vicky & I thought we might put a **suggestion box** on the counter for your thoughts and ideas. Your opinions count and we would love to hear them.

After much thought we have decided to reduce certain products in the **eco section** because they are not selling. We are also going to investigate getting better packaging if you can't bring your own containers. Work in progress so watch this space!

Could we also please ask those customers who reserve their **newspapers** to **please collect them by mid-day**. If not, we will return them to the shelf to be sold - we don't get a refund on unsold papers if they are returned late. We hope you understand.

We have a new member of staff - **Sarah**, and she is being trained on both the Post Office and Café. Our lovely Ukrainian barista, **Anna**, is leaving us at the end of the school holidays. She has a new job as a teaching assistant at her children's school - we are all sad she is leaving but know it is a great opportunity for her. We will all miss her and Laryssa nattering away in Ukrainian!

Finally, we thought we would have a **summer draw**, and the proceeds will go towards equipment for the shop. **Tickets** are a **£1** a strip - please buy as many as you can! That's it for now!

Sandra & Vicky



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News and Views

Parish Council Activities

The St Mary Bourne Parish Council met on Tuesday July 9th but held no meeting in August.

During the summer the equipment in the play areas in St Mary Bourne and Stoke had been repaired, and the Council appointed two Footpath Officers, Wendy Uniacke from Stoke and Paul Stuart-Buddery from St Mary's Hill who will help to keep our footpaths fit for use.



The Council have received increased complaints of dog fouling on the Recreation Ground, footpaths and other public spaces within the parish. If you are a dog owner, please ensure that you carry bags at all times and clear up after your dog, using one of the many bins provided to dispose of the used bags.

Planning applications:

24/01749/HSE	2 Belle Vue, Baptist Hill SMB	Extension
24/01636/HSE	7 Spring Hill SMB	Garden room/shed
24/01570/HSE	6 Applegate SMB	Replacement porch
T/00351/24/TCA	3 Spring Leaze Stoke	Work on trees
24/01514/FUL	Valley Farm Stoke	Replacement dwelling
T/00345/24/TCA	Spring Hill House SMB	Work on trees

Next parish council meeting:

Tuesday September 10th at 19.30.

Village Centre Club Room - Public more than welcome.

Copies of minutes are available on the parish council website and notice boards. Please email any questions or agenda points to Maxine on clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk.

Please follow / like our page so more people are aware that it exists - and we can continue to update all more frequently - www.facebook.com/SMB.PCpage. PF



Andover Astronomical Society
Thursday 19th September - 7.30pm
 Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre
Galaxies - Dr. Or Graur



In September we welcome Dr. Or Graur back to speak to us about his research on galaxies which are some of the most interesting and varied objects in the Universe.

A galaxy contains billions of stars and usually has a super-massive black hole at its centre. They may be spherical, elliptical or spiral in shape - our own Milky Way is a spiral galaxy. We're on-track to collide with the Andromeda galaxy in about 4 billion years - exciting if anyone is around to see it!

Or Graur is an Associate Professor of Astrophysics at the University of Portsmouth's Institute of Cosmology and Gravitation and a Research Associate at the American Museum of Natural History.

Visitors free. We are a very friendly society and welcome all levels of interest. There will be equipment and guidance for observing as well as the speaker. Why not come along and "see", what we are all about?

Photograph of the Aurora at Combe - Phil Piper

Year Six Farewell to St Mary Bourne School



At the end of July, sixteen boys and girls left the school to begin secondary school. What had they learnt or enjoyed? What will they remember over their seven years? They replied: *Making new and good friends, having a buddy in Reception class, wonderful teachers, attending sporting*

tournaments, design and technology projects and improving maths and spelling.

They were also asked what they found they were good at, and they were genuinely surprised that they were better at maths than they expected. Some loved and were good at art, acting, history; they loved the playground even in winter, one person was a *very good cheer leader*.

Finally, they were asked what advice they would give Year Five as they became Year 6. And they offered these thoughts:

- *Don't be frightened.*
- *Be yourself, don't try and copy another person.*
- *Don't give up and work hard.*
- *Always dress properly and be on time.*
- *Try your best in all subjects.*



So, we say thank you to them and wish them every success at their secondary schools and we hope that Year Five will heed their advice about their final year at St Mary Bourne Primary School.

And as Clara and her cousin, Dexter leave, we say goodbye to four generations of the North Family. Above is a picture of three generations, Pete, Ben and Clara. Along with Ben's sister, Polly, niece & nephew (Daisy and Dexter), they have all attended SMB Primary School with Pete's father, Francis North, making up the fourth. The dog, Mila however, went to Whitchurch doggie classes for training!



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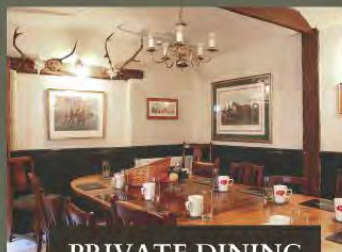
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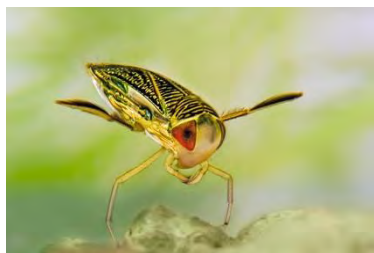
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The Boatman's Bubble



In the margins and meanders of our chalk streams where there is a slower flow, amazing insects swim across the surface. Lesser water boatmen may be small – up to 1.5cm long – but their unique

characteristics make them a memorable sighting. There are several species in their family (*Corixidae*), and while they are hard to tell apart with the naked eye, their common features can help you to spot them.

The first thing to look for is a brown, boat-shaped body, although a close look at most lesser water boatmen will reveal golden yellow stripes. Another clue is a pair of long legs; their oar shape and 'fringe' of hairs are handy for both swimming and floating on the surface. Then there are the large, reddish-brown eyes, which have a compound structure that combines many tiny lenses to create a wide view.

Despite living in ponds, lakes, and rivers, lesser water boatmen don't have gills. Instead, they employ a clever trick for taking longer dives: their undersides are covered in water-repelling hairs, which trap a bubble of air against their bodies. This bubble acts like the tank of a scuba diver, feeding the insects oxygen through small holes – or 'spiracles' – in their exoskeletons. This comes in handy when foraging for food, which for most species will be algae and dead organic material.

You may be wondering... are there greater water boatmen? Indeed, there are, although they are actually a different group of insects (*Notonecta*) and are usually referred to as 'backswimmers'. As the name suggests, these species swim upside down, so their air bubbles are more visible from above. This can make them appear silver in colour, but they are light brown with reddish eyes. Unlike most of their 'lesser' relatives, backswimmers eat small insects, fish, and crustaceans.

There is also the lesser or pygmy backswimmer (*Plea minutissima*) and several pygmy water boatmen (*Micronecta*). Despite being just 2-3mm long, one of the latter is famously noisy. The males of many water boatmen species 'sing' by stridulating, which means rubbing their legs along ridges on their bodies. *Micronecta scholtzi* has been recorded at 99.2 decibels – that's as loud as a car horn! Thankfully, water absorbs most of the sound, but you may still hear it if you listen carefully.

Insects like water boatmen are a key part of our chalk stream ecosystems. As food for fish, bats, birds, and amphibians, these small creatures are crucial to the health of many other animals. If you'd like to help protect their chalk stream homes, check out the Watercress and Winterbournes scheme at hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes. Our work is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.



We were delighted to see the sun shining for the 77th Flower Show and all the enthusiastic visitors who came to enjoy the day. Thank you to all who supported the Flower Show this year, either by visiting, helping, donating, buying or sponsoring - we absolutely couldn't do it without you.

We had record takings of **over £10K** and it was so encouraging to see entries continuing to increase in the marquee - a very healthy 21% improvement on last year's numbers. The **Fire Brigade** were welcomed back, and the **Therapy Goats** (see below) made their debut. The new Vintage Clothing stall was enthusiastically received as were the old favourites, the Pimms Stall, BBQ, Bar, Dodie's Tombola, Plate Smashing and the show stalwarts, Test Valley Brass, Vintage Cars and Model Railway.

Competition Highlights



There were 22 entries in the **Seed Potato Growing Competition**, and it was very interesting to see the huge variation in crops achieved! Champion potato grower was Debbie Uzzell who

won with a crop weighing in at 2.7 kgs. The **Visitors' Favourite Garden** in conjunction with the BourneFest Open Gardens was won by Kristen Henderson whose beautiful garden in Stoke wowed everyone. Jenny Garrard baked a stunning **Showstopper Cake** which gained her 1st prize and there were over 100 entries for the **Dog Show**. The **children's classes** were bolstered by the Arts and Crafts session run prior to the day and the beautiful Miniature Gardens.

Thank you again for your continued support for the Flower Show & Fête - it is very much appreciated. Without everyone's support, and their entries, the Flower Show wouldn't be the success it is. As always, we would really welcome your thoughts and feedback for next year's show, and we will be having **drinks in the Village Centre on Friday 11th October** at 7.30pm to thank you for supporting us – all are welcome. **AV**



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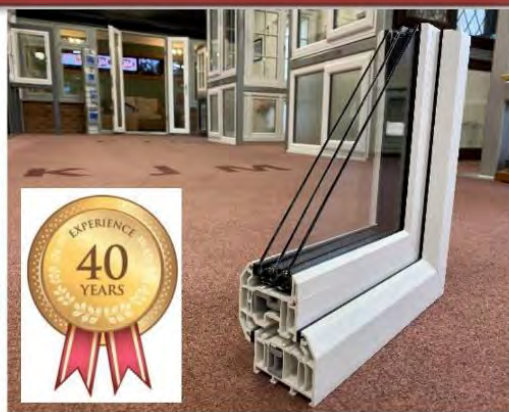
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Postcard from Binley

One of the things I have noticed from this rather unremarkable summer is the absence of old friends. I don't mean human ones though they too are dropping off their perches far too regularly. No, summer visitors to Binley. House martins for instance have built nests in the barn here for as long as I can remember. At the back of the barn an old split cane rod is suspended by two fallow antlers nailed to the beam. In previous years I would spend hours watching as the young house martins came out of the nest and worked their way on to the rod where they would line up as a troop awaiting the return of the parents with mouthfuls of flies. I haven't seen them now for three or four years and in the last decade alone I see visiting numbers to this country have nearly halved. As a fisherman I know only too well the shocking lack of fly life that now exists. Take a drive up this valley on a summer's evening thirty years ago and the windscreen would be smothered in dead fly life. Now? Nothing. It's tragic.

The art of matching a fly to an evening's hatch is virtually gone as there is no hatch and we fishermen faff around with imitation crane flies to our detriment. You could almost fish an entire season on the Test now with just four flies in your box. Further north things seem to be better; my trips to Sutherland and Speyside where far less pesticide is used show much healthier numbers of both fly and bird. To sit as I do on the banks of a Highland stream at 5am, as sand martins zoom in and out of their holes in the far bank and roe deer quietly swim across the pool below me. To see the ever so slightly comical Dippers throw themselves from a rock into the streamy water, only to bob up and surface a few yards downstream makes the act of casting a line secondary to the sublime privilege of seeing these things happen before your eyes.

But returning to Binley I am wondering where all our red kites have gone? I can only conclude they have gone the way of foxes and urbanised themselves. I certainly see more in Andover now quartering over suburban gardens than I do over the Downs, but perhaps they winter here during the shooting season and enjoy easy pickings before heading into town for the summer? Like all raptors they are intelligent and have an eye for an opportunity.

I cannot think of my thirty odd summers here in Binley without the Hummingbird Hawkmoth flitting from nectar rich bloom to bloom; but, despite a proliferation of flowers in the garden and record numbers here just two years ago I'm yet to see one. Perhaps I'm just unlucky. And low butterfly numbers are down to the cold and wet spring we had so that is to be expected.

For me, summer in the woods, spinneys and coppices around Binley has three distinct periods. The first; that magical and vigorous time when you are almost able to see and hear things springing into life, leaf and flower. This is followed by that second period when the sap has fully risen and nature takes a comparative rest for a few weeks as she asks us to stand back and take in all that she's done so admirably. And then, as I write now, we

are entering that third and my favourite period of summer, the real time of harvest and mellow fruitfulness and not the decay that Autumn brings. I'm talking about those dwindling August days that melt into early September ones when even the hottest days are endurable and yet one can stand in a wood enveloped in cool stillness, the gentle hum of insects, the hushed canopy of leaves above, sometimes broken by the sudden screech of a Jay as it breaks from tree to tree. How a bird that is so stunningly beautiful can make such a racket is beyond me? One of God's many custard pies maybe.

Sunsets produce the most wonderfully delicate violet, purple and citrus hues. Gentle evenings and a moon reflecting the dying embers of the fast-sinking sun before becoming silver bright means it's time for me to pour a large single malt, light up a cigar and watch my pipistrelle bats go out on the hunt. Cheers! **NA**

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Hai Karate fans!

The fledgling club at the Village Centre has now settled in with some regular young students. We now have a kernel of karate-ka ranging from 5 to 9 years old. They have proven to be full of energy, and Sensei has had his hands full directing that energy towards this ancient martial

art of empty hands. Without irony, some of the biggest effort has been getting the youngsters to either stand still, to kneel in 'seiza' position resting with hands on the knees, or to adopt a fighting stance. For those into group dynamics: We have been through forming, norming and storming (!).

The Dojo is still open to all new starters - especially as we approach the new school year: Every Wednesday 6.30 - 7.30pm. (See previous edition of Hill & Valley for the poster). We start with a 10 to 15-minute aerobic warm-up, including calisthenics (press-ups, sit-ups, star jumps, burpees) and then stretching - which is key for older limbs like mine! We then go through the basics such as upper-blocks (jodan), punches (chudan), lower-blocks (gedan) and how to kick in a straight line - more difficult than you think. Lots of co-ordination, balance and attention required. The lesson finishes with introductions to fighting techniques, pad work and a reaction-training game of "Traffic Lights" - which the kids love. They have now all attained licenses and club memberships and we are tracking through regular stamps in their attendance cards.

The best surprise for me has been how well the students have picked up the key words and commands in Japanese, yet the first task is to get them all into a vaguely co-ordinated troop that can respond fast, remain safe with each other and meet the basics set out in the syllabus. Yes, there is a syllabus, honed over the past 50 years, and our first Red Belt grading is scheduled for the end of September in front of the world chief instructor, Jon Wicks. Pictured above is myself with the late Wado-Ryu grand-master Tatsuo Suzuki, many years ago, whose teachings we are following.

Heijo-shin! Sensei Simon

A 90th Birthday Celebration

An important and nostalgic trip to St Peter's was made



by the Boys family to celebrate John's 90th birthday week in June and a return to the family home (on and off from 1934-1944). His grandfather was Sir Charles V. Boys FRS and lived here 1945-1954. There are members of the wider family buried in the churchyard.

Pictured are John with his daughters, Sarah, now based in NZ and Elizabeth on the left and Lucy and Ann on the right.

We found a Communion book donated by Mrs. Boys in 1926, who was John's great-aunt Susie whose husband was Rev Herbert Boys and they both reside in the church yard.

John was very grateful for the care and love for church and churchyard and with this in mind he says: '*St Peter's history will last much, much longer under the care of our community and our successors*'.



Sustainable Bourne Valley will be having an activity day on **Saturday 12th of October**. Details to follow.

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WELCOME DRINKS FOR NEW VILLAGERS on Tuesday 5th November 7.30pm St Mary Bourne Village Centre

All new residents are warmly invited to a drinks reception to welcome them 'officially' to the parish. Here newcomers will have an opportunity to meet others and to find out more about the villages and parish by chatting to representatives of different local organisations and clubs in the community.

Invitations will be sent out nearer the time. We look forward to seeing you!

For more information, email:

welcome@stmarybourne.org or see
<https://stmarybourne.org/new-residents/>

LONGPARISH

- 7 12 noon to 4pm - **Longparish Village Fête** - Cricket Field
 8 9am - L2SOTM Race - The Plough
 13 9.15am - Litter pick - Village Hall
 15 The **Longparish Run** - Football Field
 24 7pm - Longparish Gardening Club - Village Hall
 27 12 noon to 2pm - **Lunch Club** - Village Hall

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS

- 4 10.15am to 12 noon - Ladies Coffee Morning -
 45 Copper Beech
 7 from 2pm - **Hurstbourne Priors Olympics** -
 Recreation Ground
 15 10.30am - Pets' Service - St Andrew's Church

ST MARY BOURNE & WOODCOTT

- 4 10 to 11.30am - Stoke Coffee Morning - Bridge Cottage
 6 7pm - **The Amberly Ensemble** Evening of Music -
 St Peter's Church
 7 10am to 12 noon - Repair Café - The George Inn
 10 10.30am - Coffee at The George Inn
 10 7.30pm - Parish Council meeting - Village Centre Club Room
 14 10am to 6pm - **Ride + Stride cycling or walking**
 14 12 noon to 4pm - Enham Summer Fête
 17 7.15pm - 'The Film' - **SWEDE CAROLINE** - Village Centre Main Hall
 18 12.30pm - 'The Lunch' - Village Centre Main Hall
 19 7.30pm - Andover Astronomical Society - H'b Tarrant Community Centre
Saturday mornings - 10.30am to 12.30pm - **The Community Library** - Village Centre Club Room



Front cover photo: Michael Widén

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Longparish Village Hall: Mrs Maggie Barber, ☎ 01264 720459, e: villagehall@longparish.org.uk

Longparish Community Hall: During school open hours, Mrs Christine Leach ☎ 01264 720317

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Your contributions - letters, pictures, comments or articles are always welcome. Contact your parish editor by the copy date.
 Please provide copy in Word format and attached images as jpg files.

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Websites

* Hill & Valley pages on-line

Hurstbourne Priors:

Parish Council: www.hurstbournepriorsparishcouncil.org.uk *

Longparish:

Parish Council: www.longparish.org.uk *

St Mary Bourne:

Parish Council: www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk *

Village Centre: www.stmarybourne.co.uk

Community Hub: www.stmarybourne.org *

Village Scrap Book:

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