

Issue No. 257

Hill & Valley

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

50p

April 2022

Happy Easter

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Index to Advertisers
inside.

Dear Friends,

The month of April is an open door to spring. April can, of course, be very mixed with hail and even snow whilst at other times we may bask in warm sunshine, and often we can experience all four seasons in one day! Day by day the polyphony of morning birdsong increases and we cannot but notice the garden waking up with fresh buds and plants. April therefore speaks of new life and new beginnings.

This description of lovely, leafy Hampshire sounds rather twee in comparison to the horrifying images of the conflict in Ukraine that have filled our TV screens of late. Yet, images of desperate innocent people, families and children fleeing the war have galvanised the strong rejection of unwarranted violence in Europe, across the EU, the UK and more locally, our villages. I have heard stories of large amounts of clothing and goods sent to refugees, clear evidence that a common humanity does exist, and people practically demonstrate that they do care deeply about others they do not know from another country and culture caught up in the evils of war.

Life, new beginnings and hope, is central to the Easter story. Christian hope is not rooted in a distant or romantic past, remembering a one off event two thousand years ago. Easter faith is prophetically grounded in the here and now, in light overcoming darkness. The death and resurrection of Jesus spans across time and space and speaks to us today. There are many destructive forces at play in our world that speak fear and pain into our broken humanity. Into all these situations Christ's 'Passion' points to transformed and transfigured life, Easter life. Jesus was no stranger to suffering and humiliation, and if we look hard enough, we will see he is there walking with us in our own troubles. With the dawning of Easter day we are offered a new life with God and God calls us to share his peace with the world.

We continue to hold the people of Ukraine and indeed other places of conflict across our world in prayer as we strive for peace.

David

Message from Mityana

Dodie

As I write, the last of the house martins are whirling around here in Mityana before they leave for northern Europe. It is amazing to see them. People in the rural communities often remark that they don't know where they go, just that they come back at the end of each year.

The two years away have not marred our relationships at all but as you would expect, the children we know well have all grown taller and they tell me my hair is whiter! They have been so surprised that we have returned. They are so grateful.

What is noticeable is, the prices of everything from fruit and veg to cement have risen substantially. The schools too, are full to overflowing. Mityana Junior has over 700 students. P3 (our Year 2) has over 100 children squashed into a classroom built for a maximum of 45. How on earth do you teach that many students? Wilberforce, the head teacher, whom some of you may remember, has had to employ four more teachers, asking for parental contributions.

We went to the College where they are training the lay readers (we have sponsored ten of them this year) and the welcome was so moving. They learn practical skills alongside bible study and they grow all their own food.

The three water dams are each serving over 1,500 people and with the dry season coming to an end they still have so much water in them. This has been one of the most wonderful things to see. Plenty of water at the end of the dry season is quite amazing.



At St John's School, Mungungulu

The ladies pictured came to visit us at the most wonderfully inspiring school, where teachers have applied themselves in very difficult circumstances at a place called Mugungulu. The children are in very small wooden shed classrooms. The joy on their faces, the excitement of our visit.



The children in the school at Mungungulu

This has been a humbling trip as we have witnessed such generosity from those who have so little alongside a welcome second to none. As I finish this it comes with very best wishes for Easter.



The children getting porridge

April 2022

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

Sunday 3rd April - Lent 5

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	9.00am	<i>Morning Praise</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>Communion Praise</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>Holy Communion + baptism</i>
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
Zoom service live from All Hallows at 10.30am		

Wednesday 6th April

St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.30am	<i>Midweek Communion</i>
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Sunday 10th April - Palm Sunday

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

Holy Week

Thursday 14th April - Maundy Thursday

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	7.30pm	<i>Benefice Holy Communion</i>
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Good Friday

St Nicholas', Longparish	3.00pm	<i>Meditation Service</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>Meditation Service</i>
Home Zoom service at 10.30am		

Easter Saturday

St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	6.00pm	<i>Service of Light - For all the family/for everyone</i>
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Sunday 17th April - Easter Day

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	<i>Easter Communion</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	<i>Easter Communion</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>Easter Communion</i>
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	<i>Easter Communion</i>
Home Zoom service at 10.30am		

Sunday 24th April - Easter 2

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	4.00pm	<i>Family Worship</i>
St Nicholas', Longparish	9.00am	<i>Communion Praise</i>
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	<i>Communion Praise</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Evensong</i>
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 892535

parishadmin@ahwhitchurch.org.uk

Rev David Roche:

revd.davidroche@hotmail.com

Rev Helen O'Sullivan:

revhelenosullivan18@gmail.com

Rev Canon Dodie Marsden:

dodie.marsden@gmail.com

☎ 01264 738211

- 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

Funerals

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

Andover Crematorium:

18th February - With deepest sympathy we record the death of **Philip Newman**

We remember him and his family in our prayers





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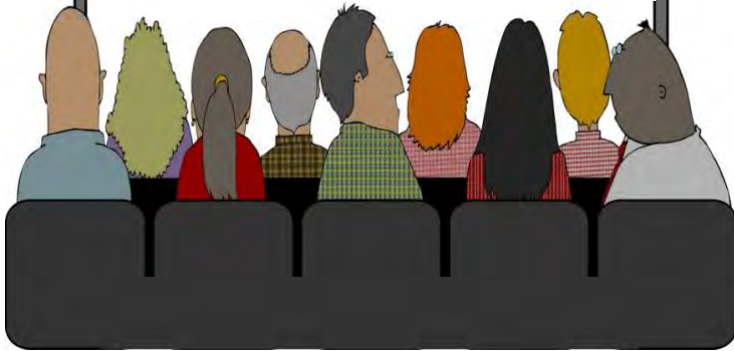
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LONGPARISH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Longparish Village Hall: Mon 11th April 7.00pm

- Meet the Parish Councillors and hear about their activities over the last year including planning, finances, open spaces and communications.
- Hear from local organisations including Longparish Community Association, Longparish School, Little School, Cricket Club and Village Hall Committee.
- Meet and hear from Borough and County Council representatives.
- A chance to say thank you to our volunteers and an opportunity to ask questions, have your say!

ALL WELCOME!



VILLAGE CLEAN UP

Keeping Longparish looking great - The Spring Tidy



Come along and help tidy up our village. Join the team of volunteers at the Playground from 10am Saturday 2nd April to 12.30pm with a sandwich lunch hosted at The Plough for 1pm. We will be spending our time on the spinal path, weeding, seed sowing, removing branches from the stream, cutting back and general cleaning etc. Please bring your own refreshments for a coffee break. Some equipment provided, but please bring your own tools and gloves if you have them.

Confirm by Monday 28th March if you plan to attend, so jobs can be allocated and we can confirm expected numbers for The Plough to : Joannelclare@gmail.com

Feel free to turn up on the day if you cannot commit by the 28th. **Everyone welcome!**

LONGPARISH PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Sally Lawman

clerk@longparish.org.uk or telephone 01264 738716

REPORT FROM PC MEETING ON 14 MARCH

Draft Minutes can be viewed on the Longparish website

Planning

The Parish Council had **NO OBJECTION** to:

- Oil tank and free-standing oil boiler at **The Curacy, Longparish** (with comments);
- Internal alterations at **Autumn Cottage, Longparish**;
- Removal of black paint from internal beams at **Garden Cottage, Longparish**

The Parish Council will submit an **OBJECTION** for:

- Driveway gate at **4 The Withies, Longparish**

TVBC 2040 Local Plan – public consultation

Residents are reminded that there is a public consultation until 8 April on the revisions to the TVBC Local Plan. More information can be found on the Longparish website here:

<http://www.longparish.org.uk/parish-council/notices/1829-tvbc-local-plan-2040-public-consultation.html>

Council Vacancy

A vacancy exists for anyone interested in becoming a Parish Councillor. For further information, please contact the Clerk or the Chairman.

Highways – road marking proposal

The Council agreed to proceed with the proposal for road markings near to the playground, as featured in last month's Hill & Valley magazine

Village Clean-Up Day

The date of the next Village Clean-Up Day is Saturday 2 April. Please see separate article opposite for more details.

Communications – Project to redesign village website

The Council gave approval for the Communications Working Party to engage Osc Studios to carry out the redesign of the village website following recommendations from the Working Party in their report presented at the meeting.

Parish Council Meetings

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at **8.00pm on Monday 11 April**, following the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm. 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.

Chairman: Mrs Christian Dryden - Tel 720398, or email christian.drydenpc@longparish.org.uk

Clerk: Miss Sally Lawman - Tel 738716, or email clerk@longparish.org.uk

Minutes of all previous meetings are available on the current or archived Longparish website

<http://www.longparish.org.uk/parish-council/pc-minutes.html>



The Greening Campaign gives advice and support to communities so that they can take meaningful action to reduce their environmental impact.

Phase 1 of the Greening Campaign is all about inspiring the community to be active in the fight against climate change. By now, we will have had the inaugural Greening Longparish Meeting. The meeting agenda included an introduction to the Greening Campaign; a presentation by Elysia Blocksidge, focusing on what Climate Change means to her and her generation; and a group exercise to decide on some simple pledges for Longparish to reduce our environmental impact.

The next step is to launch our Pledge Card in April/May. **Please look out for a card with the Greening Longparish logo dropping through your door.** Please choose five of the simple pledges you feel you can commit to, and then display the card in your front window. Later in May we will count the cards and send them off for a **calculation by the Energy Saving Trust.** This will show the CO₂ our community can save through our actions, as well as the money saved too.

Phase 2 of the Greening Campaign focuses on three pillars: nature, retrofit and health and wellbeing. This phase is supported by Hampshire County Council, meaning we will receive specialist advice on these areas. The Sustainability Centre will provide information about retrofitting homes to reduce energy use. Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust will help us to understand how we can best support local wildlife and biodiversity. There will also be specialist support to help us consider and plan for the likely health impacts of Climate Change. We hope to begin this phase in the summer.

If you want to be involved in the Campaign in any way, please do get in touch on: green@longparish.org.uk This includes any younger residents who may want to join or start their own group. Alongside the Greening Campaign, we are also interested other topics including: investing in nature and our green spaces; supporting the electric vehicle transition and how to reduce waste, reuse, and recycle – all ideas welcome! For more information on the Greening Campaign please see: <http://www.greening-campaign.org/>

CELEBRATING JOHN WOODCOCK'S LIFE

John Woodcock's old school, St. Edward's in Oxford is planning to celebrate his life with a memorial service and a cricket match. The school has issued an open invitation to his village friends to attend, and possibly



join the Woodcock X1 cricket match against an alumni President's X1. John was at the school in 1946 and took an active interest in it for the rest of his life. He was president of the old boys' (and later girls') cricket club, The Martyrs, for 43 years. At one time he was President of the St. Edward's School Society.

The event, on Saturday 4th June, is still at the planning stage but the service will be in the morning followed by lunch, a 35-over "relatively relaxed" match and then tea. If you are interested register at <https://forms.office.com/r/eCmpnzmjW> and the school will contact you later.



LONGPARISH CRICKET CLUB



England are currently playing in the West Indies, but it's time to start thinking about a summer of cricket in Longparish. We are already preparing the ground to meet our ongoing high standards and finalising the fixture list. The Club's aim is to interact and service the local community, providing an inclusive opportunity for sport and recreation, within a safe environment. This year the club is running the All-Stars cricket programme. This is an hour of fun for school years 1 to 3, held at the ground on Mondays at 5 p.m. starting May 9th. Further details, including the enrolment process, can be found via this link:

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars>

The Club also runs junior teams at U11, U13 and U15 age groups, who compete in the local junior cricket leagues. We organise weekly junior coaching sessions for Year 4 (age 9 or 10) upwards with fully qualified ECB coaches. Progression of juniors into the Senior Teams is actively encouraged and effectively managed. The club will continue to run three senior teams playing league cricket on Saturdays, as well as midweek 20:20 team and Sunday team. New senior members are also most welcome.

Please contact the **Junior Coordinator, Justin Jackman**, (jackmanjustin@aol.com) for further details of membership at junior and senior levels.

Mark Benzing
Chairman and Treasurer



Friday Lunch Club

22nd April (not last Friday)

12.00 - 2.00pm

Longparish Village Hall

The Lunch Club is open to everyone in the community.

We do ask you to book so that we have an idea of numbers.

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

After lunch there is a talk or quiz - ideas for speakers always welcome.

To book a place and transport **Andrea Harris 720 457** or **Christian Dryden 720 398**



Among the LCA plans to celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the throne this summer is a project to pull together some pictures of how villagers made merry on previous royal red-letter days.

Would you help me? I am searching out photographs of previous Longparish Royal celebrations. Most of them are likely to show street parties or village hall events celebrating jubilees, royal weddings etc.

I am also interested in any local newspaper cuttings featuring village royal events that help tell the story. A rummage through that shoebox of old pictures, forgotten at the back of a wardrobe, may even reveal pictures of what we got up to on Coronation Day itself.

Either email them to me at 1816henners@gmail.com or I would be happy to collect and scan them before returning them to you. Call me on 01264 720790.

Henry Yelf

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

We welcomed two new runners for the March race: Jen Fradgley and Ellen Hatto. Conditions were good but Nuns Walk was flooded by heavy overnight rain, so everyone got wet feet.

First home was Natalie Morgan who beat her handicap by over four minutes to become our Most Improved Woman. Freddie Brown, in third place, retained the title of Rising Star and Ian Beveridge was our Most Improved Man.

Wendy Beveridge kindly provided cakes to celebrate her 100th run. Wendy first ran in our first race back in October 2006.



Thanks very much to Maggie Barber, Andy Smith, Claire and Sarah Collier and David Gould for helping and to the Cricket Club for the lovely venue.

Covid permitting, our next event is on Sunday 10th April at 9am. New runners are always welcome. You don't have to be fast. Please do give me a call or drop me an email if you'd like to join us.

Jeremy Barber
01264 720459 mrjeremybarber@gmail.com

Longparish Village Choir presents



A Concert for Ukraine



**St Nicholas Church
Saturday 7 May 2022 at 7.30pm**

Tickets are free but please reserve your seat by emailing cathy.yelf@sky.com or by collecting tickets from the Village Shop (With thanks to Anne and Pat)

Donations requested for interval refreshments

All profits to the **Disasters Emergency Committee.**



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Longparish Church of England Primary School

March brought Science Week to Longparish School - children could come into school dressed as a scientist or in the theme 'growth'. It was truly delightful to see Marie Curie, Florence Nightingale, Jane Goodall, Albert Einstein, Galileo, David Attenborough, Charles Darwin and many more people from the world of science, technology, engineering and mathematics walk through the school gate. The children enthusiastically talked about individual costumes, who or what had inspired them with some really interesting factual information being shared.

All children were in their house teams taking part in four different science investigations Stretchy Slime Experiment, Wonderful Working Worms, Tree Trouble and Outdoor Gym, with each class teacher. It was a fantastic opportunity to be collaborative, do some outside learning and to just be curious!



We were lucky enough to have parent visitors in school: Dr. Doughty-Jones, who is a geologist working for an oil and gas company, and Mr Doughty-Jones an engineer working for a nuclear waste company organised and ran an activity for each class. The children were able to handle some rock samples as they learnt about different types of rocks and the formation/growth of different rock types by making their own chocolate rocks which they were then able to taste, much to their delight! The older children were challenged to design and create a strong structure which could be used for offshore energy production (oil rigs) and generation (wind turbines), using only straws and marshmallows. This provoked some very interesting debate and strong opinions about how the structure should be!



Longparish Little School

During the half term holiday we did a sponsored read and the children looked at 152 books with their families. Well done to everyone who took part. We then had lots of children come dressed as their favourite story book characters for World Book Day.



In Forest School we have been seeing some signs that spring is here with snowdrops and daffodils in flower and the catkins on the willow tree. We had some frogspawn that has already turned into tadpoles - the children have liked watching it change and can't wait until we get little froglets.

We have a brand new birdbox with a camera that we have just installed. We are hoping that we will have some birds nest in it and we can see how the eggs hatch and the chicks grow. Hopefully we will have some updates on that for you all in the next edition.

We were very excited when we had a visit from the fire fighters from Andover fire station. The children got to sit in the fire engine and use the hose.

We would like to thank Mrs Dinesen of Lower Mill for donating a log to Little School. It has been a great addition to our nature area. The children love to balance along it and it has already been a pirate ship and a train. If you would like to see some more photos of all the exciting this we do at Little School you go to our website www.longparishlittleschool.org.uk or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/longparishplaygroup>



Friends of Longparish School

May Fayre: The countdown is on! Join us on Saturday 21 May from 12-4pm. You can look forward to: BBQ and cake stall, beer tent run by The Cricketers Inn, giant inflatable and bouncy castle, traditional games including a coconut shy and welly wanging, and lots more!

We also have some fantastic raffle prizes on offer, including the Grand Prize of a Fortnum & Mason hamper, kindly donated by Phillips Solicitors.

Can you help by donating items for our Bottle Tombola or Chocolate Tombola? Donations can be left at school reception or please contact us to arrange a collection.

Jubilee Street Party: Celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with us on Sunday 5 June. We are holding a street party and picnic in the school grounds from 1-3pm. Entry is free and all Longparish residents are welcome. More details next month. Part of Longparish Community Association's weekend of celebrations.

Can you help by baking cakes to sell at the party? Please let us know.

100+ Club: The winners of our March draw are: 1st J&R West, 2nd P Billingham, 3rd M Rose.

To keep up to date with FOLS news, follow us on Facebook at fb.me/FriendsofLongparishSchool

Jo Allam, Chair (contact chairfols@gmail.com or 07982 073674)



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It's Springtime at The Plough and our wonderful Magnolia looks like it's trying to flower.

Work continues in the garden, ready for lighter evenings and sunnier days: Rosé anyone?

But when it's still a bit

gloomy out there, come and sit by one of our roaring fires and enjoy an award-winning pie. Every week our chef Dean crafts a range of his own really delicious pies (Mr Peskett's Famous Pies) – and they've had really great reviews: "*Pies certainly worth celebrating*" was one diner's comment. So put it in your diary: Wednesday - Pie Night at The Plough. (And if you don't fancy pie, there's a full menu available on Wednesdays now too.)



We can exclusively reveal that Steve is planning a couple of his legendary quiz nights for the spring, so look out for details on The Plough website (www.ploughinn.org) and on the blackboards in the pub.

While Steve and Lucy are busy running the pub and offering a really warm welcome to everyone who comes in, the committee is behind the scenes organising a Second Share Offer. Apart from the fact that we need to match funding pledged from various grants for the ongoing refurbishment, we've also had people ask how they can become part of our wonderful community pub.

So, we're launching another share offer. The details are being finalised but please do let us know if you'd like to take part. We would be delighted if our 230 existing shareholders would like to buy more shares too (they make great gifts). If you'd like to become a shareholder, please send us your name and email address to: treasurer@lcpl.org.uk or text 'PLOUGH' plus your email address to 07711 310650. As soon as our Second Share Offer is launched, we'll be in touch.

The Plough/LCPL Committee



GARDENING



LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB

Tuesday, 26th April 2022 at 7pm
Longparish Village Hall, SP11 6PB

PATRICIA ELKINGTON on
"Silver and White in the Garden"

Any enquiries please to:

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



The Cricketers Inn

-Longparish-

Matt and the team would like to thank you all for your fantastic continued support!

April 8th is LCA coffee morning

Saturday, 9th April will be our Big Breakfast 9.30am – 11am.

Wednesday 20th April is Quiz Night -This is always popular, teams of up to 6, cash prizes. Our winners last month kindly donated their £50 winnings to the Red Cross Ukraine fund. Thank you.

Open;

11.30am – 3pm and 6pm – 11pm Monday – Thursday
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LONGPARISH WILDLIFE

By Chris Bowman

THE MEDITERRANEAN GULL

I have a new find for the village: a Mediterranean gull. Very similar to our Black-headed gull, which has a brown head, the Med gulls have a deep black head and in the breeding season, thin white line around the eyes, red beak and legs.



They first bred in England in 1968 and since 1979 they have bred every year. They breed alongside the Black-headed gulls on an island, in lakes or on flood plains and grasslands always close to water.

Nesting starts in mid-May on the ground in the open or low vegetation. A shallow depression is made lined with grass and feathers. 2-3 eggs are laid: pale cream, yellow, or buff, speckled, spotted and scrawled with black or dark brown, incubated for 23-25 days and fledge in 35-40 days. Their food is fish, worms, scraps and insects, often found with other gulls on rubbish tips.

Spring is nearly here the birds are starting to sing, I saw my first Blackbird carrying nesting material on the 15th of March. Keep your eyes open for Swallows, which usually start arriving the second week of April.



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Reginald Josiah Wedgwood Temple

18th October 1930 - 14 December 2021



Not many people have two well attended, moving funeral services, Reg did. There was a Celebration of Life Service in Rockingham, Western Australia for his family and Australian friends on 29th December 2021. However, it was Reg's wish that he be buried in Longparish Cemetery, so he was flown to England for a Burial Service in St Nicholas Church on 4th February 2022. His internment in the

Cemetery was to the beautiful sound of the Longparish Church bells ringing a quarter peal in his honour, as an old Longparish bell ringer of many years ago.

Reg was born in Portsmouth, the fifth of six children. He was evacuated to Longparish in May 1940, where he lived with George and Winifred Howell. George Howell was the water keeper on the Middleton Estate. Reg loved Longparish, its river and countryside, the village, Church and Longparish school, where he was a pupil. He had a magic childhood on the riverbanks and fields which gave him a lifelong love of nature, sport, gardening and DIY. As a boy he blew the Church organ, then became a bell ringer, even ringing for his own wedding! He played soccer for Longparish and Wherwell and was Captain of the B team of Longparish Cricket Club in the sixties. At the age of 18, Reg trained as an electrician in the Royal Navy, serving in the Far East in the Malayan Emergency and the Korean War.

On 2nd April 1956 he married Mary Josephine Richardson, also of Longparish, in St Nicholas Church. Their first home was in Bransbury in the only cottage that almost survived the recent fire. In the 1960's they built a bungalow in Longparish called 'Concord', now known as 'Beechlands'. He worked as an electrician at Barton Stacey Camp and then at Portals. But the countryside was always calling, and Reg became a gamekeeper, first in Northington, then back in Longparish living at Elm Cottage and next in Somerset.

In 1974 they emigrated to Perth, Western Australia on RHMS Ellinis, probably among the last of the ten pound Poms. Once settled, Reg worked for the West Australian State Government first as an electrician and latterly as a fleet manager. He coached junior soccer teams, was cricket umpire for a senior league, played soccer on the same team as his sons and in the latter years, lawn bowls where he entered the Australian Championships.

Retirement saw them travelling the world; the family called it their eternal summer, often to England and Longparish. Above all Reg was a family man; family were first and foremost. Reg passed away aged 91 and is survived by his wife, Mary, his four children, Graham, Rosemary, George and Allison, two daughters in law, Lyn and Jean, eight grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. All in Australia.



St NICHOLAS CHURCH - EASTER LILIES

If you would like to contribute towards the Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one, please contact:



Clare Francis: 720361 or 07801 414906

AND RELAX...

Life is fast paced and slowing down is beneficial for both mind and body. If you immerse yourself in the stillness of yoga, the mindfulness of meditation and the beautiful sounds of gongs, the experience will force you to become still, find peace, overcome mental challenges and emotions and build resilience to stresses.

The principle of all exercise is to stress tissue so the body will respond by strengthening and stretching it. *Yin Yoga* is different and works by moderately stressing the joints rather than the muscles. Connective tissue and fascia are different from muscle and needs to be exercised differently. Using props such as bolsters, pillows, blankets and blocks together the idea works on mat-based poses to hold and let gravity work the magic to still your mind and body.



Gong baths are a type of inactive meditation, where you "bathe" in the healing vibrations of gongs, a form of healing that dates back to ancient cultures. During a gong bath you are 'bathed' in the vibration of sound - despite the name there is no water, so no need for swimsuits! The only

thing to do is lie down in a dimly lit room on a mat, wrap yourself in a blanket, lay your head on a pillow, close your eyes and relax.

If you would like to find out more about the benefits of yin yoga, and experience a sound bath, live evenings are held once a month at the Longparish Village Hall, for more info see : www.pilatesandyogawithbunny.co.uk

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WEATHER - FEBRUARY 2022

Total rainfall for month	81mm	3.18in
It rained on	10 days	
Rainfall same month last year	84mm	3.3in
Total for 2022	110mm	4.33in
Total for 2021	210mm	8.26in
Max temp (on 22 nd)	15C	59F
Min temp (on 25 th)	-3C	26F

There is nothing unusual to report this month!

John Smail

WORD OF THE MONTH



My word for April is very appropriate for the month: "APRICATE" meaning to expose sunlight. My search started at the beginning of the alphabet as April starts with an A. Hopefully with the longer days, there will be ample opportunity to APRICATE in April as we observe the FRONDESENCE (repetition from April 2019!!) emerging around us.

Barbara Carrodus

LADIES COFFEE MORNING

This month's coffee morning will be hosted by Clare Read on Thursday, 7th April from 10.15 am at Hurstbourne Priors House (896672) All ages welcome!



Susie Sorby

EASTER LILIES



If you would like to make a donation towards the Easter lilies in church in memory of a loved one, please could you send it to Clare Read by Monday 11th April.

COLIN MURRAY - THANKSGIVING AND CELEBRATION

Colin Murray's family very much hope that anyone who would like to will join us for a Thanksgiving and Celebration of his life at 12 noon on Friday, 20th May 2022, exactly 2 years after his burial in St. Andrew's Churchyard.

The Service will take place in a Tent near the South side of the Churchyard and will be followed by Drinks and Light Lunch.

As it is important to know numbers please advise how many are attending to the following email address: colin.may2022@gmail.com before Sunday, 1st May and I will send further details.

Precelly Murray and Family

PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION - SAVE THE DATE

The Queen acceded to the throne on 6 February 1952 and her Coronation took place, some 15 months later, on 2 June 1953.

On Thursday, 2 June 2022, we shall be holding a family cricket match and tea on the Recreation Ground as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee long weekend to celebrate her 70 year reign. The Pavilion Bar will be open and there will be a bouncy castle for the children. We are hoping to start at 2pm with as many Hurstbourners as possible of all ages taking part - experience a bonus but not vital!

More to follow soon!

Clare Read

THANK YOU TO MARTIN AND MANDY



At the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting on 20 March, Martin Briant-Evans retired after 5 years as Churchwarden. The PCC and members of the congregation expressed their grateful thanks to Martin for everything he has done for St Andrews: preparing for church services, arranging for repairs and maintenance of the church building and churchyard, including liaising with contractors and the architect and much else besides.

Behind a Churchwarden, there is often a 'Prince Consort' working steadfastly in the background and we extend our gratitude to Mandy for her unstinting support of Martin - they make a wonderful team!

Behind a Churchwarden, there is often a 'Prince Consort' working steadfastly in the background and we extend our gratitude to Mandy for her unstinting support of Martin - they make a wonderful team!

*Fenella Williams
on behalf of Hurstbourne Priors PCC*

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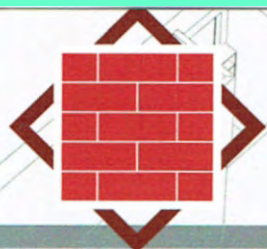
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WHITCHURCH SILK MILL

**Public Recognition for Christine Beresford**

We're proud and excited to report that our retiring Chair of Whitchurch Silk Mill Trust was presented with an MBE by HRH The Prince of Wales at a recent investiture at Windsor Castle. Christine was awarded this honour for services to cultural heritage in Hampshire. In the last 20 years she has worked tirelessly with the county's museums to help them raise standards of conservation, presentation, management and governance. We're extremely lucky to have had her as a Trustee of the Mill since 2013 and to have benefited from her skills in very many ways, but particularly in launching our major refurbishment project and bringing it to a successful conclusion, making the Mill a vibrant attraction preserving the craft of silk weaving.

New in the Mill Shop - New into our shop are beautiful striped scarves made from spun silk on our looms: the definition of 'made in Whitchurch'! These scarves are based on an archive pattern, brought to life again by our weavers in contemporary tonal blues with hints of pink, and are available in both twill and hopsack, a rare weave for us.

Pins & Needles - This year our popular Pins & Needles adult crafting sessions are on the first **Thursday** of each month. Tickets £10, including tuition, all materials and a hot drink. Participants enjoy the company of like-minded people learning new skills or honing existing ones. Past sessions have included silk painting, embroidery and silk bead-wrapping. Booking is essential as numbers are limited.

Exhibition: Works in Silk, 2 April–3 July

This is silk ribbon weaver Robert Ely's first solo gallery exhibition outside his home county of Devon and brings together weaving from all areas of his work, including stunning one-off and limited-edition wall panels and silk costume ribbons used for film and television including the BBC's 'Poldark' series.

**Easter Holiday Activities**

- **Wild and Wonderful Family Day, 21 April from 10.30am.** There is free entry to this event on the Mill's lawn. The Mill Team will be joined by local nature and animal charities, including small animal rescue Furlock Holmes and some furry friends.
- Other Easter holiday activities include an **Egg Hunt** around the Mill and gardens, and kids will be able to hide and play in the newly planted **willow den**. Check our website for details and dates.
- Budding young photographers are invited to join **Wildlife Photography Workshops**. Please book in advance at: whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk/events/

Contact: info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk – 01256 892065 – www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk

MOLLY ADAMS

2 December 1926 - 10 February 2022

Molly was born, Molly Evelyn Challis at Hurstbourne Priors on 2nd December 1926, the elder sister of Dennis. She lived in Hurstbourne all her life and went to the village school until she was 15 years old.

Molly married Bertram Adams at St Andrews Church in Hurstbourne Priors. Although Molly and Bert, as he was known, moved house several times during their married life, it was always in the village. Their last home was the Village Hall cottages where they spent many happy years overlooking the cricket ground.

She loved Hurstbourne and was a fount of knowledge of past events that happened in the village. Molly hated people to quote things that they really knew nothing about and would get very upset if she read comments that came from lips of strangers.

Molly liked nice clothes and loved to be dressed in things that matched, and she enjoyed having her hair done and nails painted.

Although Molly was not a regular church goer she did love to go to communion and regularly received communion from the chaplain when she had to move into Wessex Lodge Nursing Home in Whitchurch. She moved into the home some years after her beloved Bert died and was there for 6 years. Although her health slowly deteriorated in the last few weeks before she died she remained very alert and kept us all in our place including the staff at Wessex Lodge. She liked to laugh and keep up with all the news in the papers and always did her crosswords every day.

Molly sadly died on 10th February in North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke with some of her family by her side. She is survived by her brother Dennis and we offer our sympathy to him and the family.

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NEWS FROM TESTBOURNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

After a very wet and windy February, we are thankful to be entering March with a spring in our step. We have had a very fun and enthusiastic World Book Day 2022 that had our staff dress up as iconic characters from their favourite books! Throughout the day, we celebrated reading by engaging in WBD activities; read extracts from some cherished, childhood books; held a 'toilet-roll character' competition; and distributed book tokens. Reading is very important for cognitive ability and information processing, so we encourage everyone to pick up a book and go on a journey! Photos of our staff can be found on our social media websites: Facebook and Instagram.

We also took part in the Shakespeare School Festival 2022! The students involved all auditioned for their parts and were committed to rehearse during their break times and after school. We at Testbourne, and especially our drama teachers, are proud of the dedication our students demonstrated throughout their rehearsals. On March 8th, those students took to the stage at The Lights Theatre in Andover to perform live in front of an audience (which, for many of our students, was the first time they performed to a large crowd). They put on an enthusiastic and professional performance! We congratulate them for their hard work, diligence, and integrity. Photos of the performance can be found on our social media websites: Facebook and Instagram.



Finally, at the time of writing, we expect that our New Intake Welcome Packages will have arrived with some excited Year 6 students who applied for a place at Testbourne for September 2022. We look forward to welcoming these eager and enthusiastic individuals to join our school, as well as playing our part in their educational journey.

Aaron Baker, IT & Marketing Officer,
Testbourne Community School
www.testbourne.school admin@testbourne.school

BIG BREAKFAST AND PANCAKE RACE

With the sun shining and the smell of bacon and egg wafting from the Cricket Pavilion, it finally felt like Spring was on its way! Racers and spectators alike gathered together for the annual village pancake race held, for the first time, outside on the Recreation ground. Following morning rolls courtesy of Fenella Williams and the May Fair committee, six races were held with various categories: three children's races, men, ladies and also a dog walkers' race! Congratulations to the following winners: William Ryan (ages 5 -12), Henry Ross (ages 3-5), Harriet McCullough (2 and under), Matt Johnson (Men), Hannah Ross (Ladies) and a tie between Ed Beasley with Scampy and Kim French with Poppy (Dog Walkers).

It was a fantastic event; everyone was able to show off their athletic skills as well as finally meet together in person once again. We all heard about the long awaited Hurstbourne Priors May Fair on Monday 2nd May and many offers of help were welcomed, whether that was offering to pitch marquees, serve teas or coffees or flyer nearby houses to publicise the event. We look forward to welcoming everyone to the village in early May! If you are interested in either taking a stand or helping, please contact the committee:

hurstbournepriorsmayfair@gmail.com



On your marks! Get set...

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MAY FAIR - 2nd MAY 2022

All Hurstbourne Priors villagers are invited to the Stallholders and Helpers' meeting Thursday, 7 April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

It is a chance for you to....

- Find out more about the 2022 fair – the layout, programme of events and attractions
- Tell us what you need to run your stall (e.g. tables, tents, floats and help)
- Offer your time, storage space or donations (it's never too late)

....and when all the work is done:

- Meet your neighbours for a chat over a glass of wine

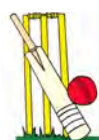
RSVP if possible so we can cater accordingly. Hope to see you all there!

We will be setting up the Recreation Ground for the fair on Sunday 1st May from 10.30am, when we will be putting up tents, gazebos and bunting. Hot bacon rolls and refreshments will be provided to keep your strength up!

If you'd like more information on how to get involved please contact anyone from the organising team or email hurstbournepriorsmayfair@gmail.com. We really cannot run a fair without you!

The May Fair organising team: Ed Beasley, Kim French, John Perry, Clare Read, Hannah Ross, Fenella Williams
hurstbournepriorsmayfair@gmail.com

RECREATION GROUND AND PAVILION HIRE



If you would like to book the cricket pitch or the pavilion, please contact fenella.williams@bopenworld.com (01256 892081)

THE WONDERING FIDDLERS CONCERT

On 5th March, we were treated to a wonderful evening of music by Bach and Boccherini given by the Wondering Fiddlers in St Andrew's Church. In between the pieces, the musicians chatted to the audience, answering questions about their instruments and the music they played. Thank you to Simon and Julia Mattison, Mandy and Martin Briant-Evans and Barbara Carrodus for organising a lovely evening which raised over £700 to be shared between Hurstbourne Priors PCC and the charity Early Music as Education (EMEA) based in Merseyside.

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS MAY FAIR
BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY MAY 2nd

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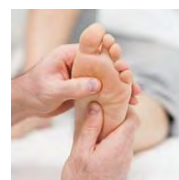
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The Lunch

Our Next Village Lunch will be on **Wednesday 20th April** at St Mary Bourne Village Centre as usual, serving at **12.30pm**. All are welcome to come along and enjoy our monthly light social lunch. If a lift is needed, please phone Chris on ☎ 01264 738110 by Noon on the Tuesday before.



The Community Library - Club Room
Saturday mornings between 10.30 and 12.30

Village Shop 100 Club

A Big Thank You to All who support the 100 Club!

February 2022 - 1☺☺ Club Draw:

£50 - John Scott £20 - Lara Madge

£20 - Mike & Rosie Case £10 - Pauline Chance



Coffee at The George Inn

All ages are welcome, from all the villages, to a social coffee morning at

The George Inn St Mary Bourne on

Tuesday 12th April at 10.30am

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

EASTER LILIES

The Easter Sunday flower arrangements each year traditionally contain many lilies donated by relatives and friends in memory of those in their thoughts at the Festival of the Resurrection. It is a gift symbolizing hope and beautifying the Easter services with sight and scent. We also make a **display of the names** of those who are being commemorated.



If you would like to make a donation in memory of a member of your family or a friend who has died, please deliver it to Eve Lind-Smith at *The Cottage*, High Street or to her personally by **Palm Sunday 10th April at the very latest**.

We ask for **£1** for each person remembered, in an envelope marked **Easter Lilies**, with the name(s) **printed** on the outside of the envelope or on a card inside. NOTE: only list the usual Christian name and surname rather than full names - eg: *Bill Jones* rather than *William Edward Jones*.



Join us for an Open Evening of The Boundary

Come and see the plans, meet the team and find out how to become part of this exciting community project!

Wednesday 6th April
St Mary Bourne Village Centre - 6 to 8pm

Drinks and nibbles will be served

VOLUNTEERS - WE NEED YOU!

Run4Rosie is totally dependent on volunteers to do everything from managing entries, marking the course, marshalling, car parking, first aid, serving the BBQ & bar and everything else that contributes to an enjoyable event for both competitors and spectators. With this event being solely for charity it is vital we have this help and we will need 50 people to ensure that the event runs smoothly, safely and successfully.

If you are not planning to run, but would like to help out, please email us at Run4Rosie@yahoo.com or scan the QR code below and fill in the online form.

The following roles are in high demand:

- Car Parking Attendants
- Marshalls
- Photographers
- First Aiders
- Face Painters
- Cake Stall & Cake Donations
- Race Pack Admin (prior to race day)
- Food & Beverage Serving
- Any extra stall ideas

THANK YOU!



Last month was a busy month of planning how we can spread the news of *The Boundary* as far and wide as possible so that everyone in the area knows exactly what *The Boundary* is and begins to feel part of *The Boundary* family as we continue to drive the project forward.

First up we've improved the website to include a lot more information where you can see how you can get involved and support the project, check out all the fundraising events, look through the FAQs & meet the team behind the scenes & even sign up for a monthly newsletter. Please head over to stmarybourne.org/village-shop/the-boundary/ and take a look around!

Secondly, we have launched our social media pages to build a picture of what *The Boundary* will be for the community and get people involved & excited about what's to come. Follow us @theboundarysmb on Facebook & Instagram for little reminders of how great *The Boundary* will be.

The next piece of the puzzle is for *The Boundary* Share Offer scheme to open so we can start building the vital funds needed to make *The Boundary* come to life. The plan is to launch the share offer scheme in April and for as little as **£25** you can purchase a share in *The Boundary*, you can invest as much or as little as you can and either keep them for yourself or gift them to your children or grandchildren to always have a part of the village & help the community.

In buying a share in *The Boundary* you will be:

- Helping to open an amazing new community asset into the village, a beautiful café;
- Improving the already loved existing village shop to be bigger & more modern;
- Becoming more sustainable in helping open the eco refillable zone; and
- Creating a hub for people to meet, drink, eat, celebrate, commiserate, do business, raise funds for good causes - and bring more activity, life and fun for all the family.

Once the share offer is open, we will announce the launch on all our channels & direct people to our website which will hold all the important documents & information for everyone to look at before making any decisions! The website will also be the home for the application form for those of you wanting to support the project in buying shares. This however isn't the only way you can donate, if you just want to give some money into a pot with no shares in return you can do this now by going to the website, clicking 'Support Us' and scroll down to our donation link on The Good Exchange.

Thanks to the wonderful support in the village and surrounding communities so far, *The Boundary* community is already growing, and we appreciate everyone who is spreading the word about the plans as this really helps get as many people interested as possible. So, please do continue to talk to your friends & family in the area about the project. If you want to point them in the direction of more details & information, send them to our social media pages or the website & keep your eyes peeled for *The Boundary* Share Offer scheme launching this month!

SMB ST MARY BOURNE VILLAGE SHOP & post office

I have to say, I write this piece from a little place called Bethlehem in Palestine... you may have heard of it. St Mary Bourne seems a long way away and very different to here. We really don't know how lucky we are to live somewhere so beautiful, abundant and safe.

The next thing to know is that it's April and that means it's officially SPRING!! Yeeeeehar!! We did it, people! We got through winter. Well done... it seems like it was a very long cold time, but we are definitely out the other side. April means Spring flowers, April showers and of course, Easter! We have a fab range of Easter Eggs and delicious chocolates to end Lent as well as sourcing great local lamb from Bere Mill and Oaktracks to celebrate the Easter Weekend. Hot Cross buns are in and nothing smells more delicious on a sunny Sunday morning than Hot Cross buns warming in the oven!

Life in the shop continues to steadily tick by. You might have noticed that Gordon hasn't been around much. He is taking a well-earned rest and we wish him back in the shop very soon. Our wonderful volunteers continue to amaze us with their support and smiles. We really are very lucky to have them - a wonderful band of men and women! Nadeen, Vicky and Julia continue to bring rays of sunshine into the shop and we are so grateful to them for their hard work and commitment. Our youngsters who work at the weekend are fab too, Oscar, Lucie, Teilo and Leonie.

So, as we head into Spring, do come and get some bits and pieces from us. National supply issues that dogged us a few months back have improved dramatically, and we continue to try and keep our prices down. So, as it starts to cost £163 to drive to Andover and back, it may be worth popping into us instead! Fantastic local produce such as Chalk Stream Trout, Greenfields and Bere Mill meat, Austwicks quiches, Becky's Beezzz honey all await you as well as the essential basics we all need and the treats that our bodies don't but our souls do!

We look forward to a fab Spring and hope we see you in the shop soon.



Happy Easter to you all.
Lara and the Team xx



Parish Council Elections

Your Parish needs you!

Parish Council elections are scheduled to take place on Thursday 5th May.

Another call to all St Mary Bourne parish residents. Would you like to stand in the forthcoming Parish Council elections? It won't take too much of your time but your participation would be important for the community. The Parish Council helps to make decisions that affect all of us, so now's the time to become part of this decision making body. Drainage, roads, flood prevention, tree and wildlife conservation, planning, playing fields, amenities and more, are all part of the Parish Council remit. Your dynamism, fresh thinking, expertise and local experience would be welcome. You'll find the Electoral Commission information and application form on the Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council website <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/become-a-parish-councillor>. You can also contact the Parish Clerk on clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk or talk to existing Parish Councillors.

Nominations may be submitted between 10am and 4pm on any weekday from **Friday 25th March until Tuesday 5th April 2022**, inclusive.

If the Returning Officer receives more nominations than the number of vacant seats, there will be an **election on Thursday 5th May**. If there are fewer nominations than the number of vacancies, all validly nominated candidates will be elected and the new parish council will then be able to co-opt to any remaining vacancies.

Summary report from the **March** meeting of St Mary Bourne Parish Council

www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk

Four councillors and the Clerk attended the meeting. Eight members of the public and Borough Cllr Sam Carr were present for part of the meeting.

Borough Councillor's Report - Cllr Carr reported on progress with B&DBC officers about issues with the Spring Hill development. The enforcement officer would follow these up with the developer. Tests had been carried out about access for large & small waste trucks and an engineer would measure the gradient. Other matters Cllr Carr reported on included B&DBC's new budget, update on the Local Plan & its possible impact on StMB, and forthcoming B&DBC meetings to develop policies for climate emergencies.

Recreation Ground and Lake

- The manhole cover by the Pavilion had been replaced
- The St Mary Bourne Play Park committee was currently investigating grants and funding
- A sign would be added about the removal of the B&DBC recycling facilities
- A pest controller contacted about moles within the lake surrounds required further information
- The clerk was waiting for future quotes from fence repair contractors for the lake/recreation area.
- The PC's match funding for Watercress & Winterbournes works on the river bank adjacent to the lake (agreed as £14,000 in 2019) shows £7,125 still outstanding. This is to be paid in 3 annual instalments. The total cost of the work was £29,000.

Annual Parish Assembly - The date was confirmed as **Wednesday 20th April**.

Parish Council Elections - Nominations forms would be available from B&DBC Electoral Services.

Next Full Parish Council Meeting:
Tuesday 12th April 2022, 19.30
Village Centre Club Room - Public welcome

All minutes and reports can be viewed at

www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk

Details of all Planning Applications for the Parish can be accessed on the B&DBC website:

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning

Newly registered Planning Applications Parish Council - Objection x / No objection x April 2022

Erection of cartshed with accommodation above - **Garston, Stoke Lane** - 22/00693/HSE - 4 March 2022

Erection of single storey side and rear extensions - **1 Belle Vue Cottages, Baptist Hill** - 22/00611/HSE - 23 February - x

Erection of a timber framed conservatory - **Binley House** - 22/00598/HSE - 22 February - x

Removal of existing lean-to and external alterations to existing outbuilding - **Kemback House, Stoke** - 22/00478/HSE - 16 February 2022 - x

St Mary Bourne Parish Council's Annual Parish Assembly

will be held on

**Wednesday 20th April 2022 at 7.30pm
in the Main Hall of the Village Centre**

The parish council looks forward to welcoming you to hear and be heard on everything that's been happening in our villages over the recent past.

St Mary Bourne Flower Show & Fête - AGM update



Following the successful AGM on 11th March, Jeremy Barks, Chairman, updated those congregated on the success of last year's event raising and donating over **£7,000** to local charities. Our largest donation to date. In addition to this, it was unanimously agreed following a suggestion by the Treasurer, Mike Strong, that a further **£3,000** from The Society Funds be immediately donated to the Red Cross via the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) to help those suffering in Ukraine.

We are much looking forward to seeing you all at the Fête to be held at the recreation ground on **Saturday 23rd July**.

This will be our **75th year** and we hope to be able to hold an evening event this year to raise money for the shop renovations.

Please visit the website www.stmarybourne.org for more information on this and classes that you can enter, now that the marquee is back following our break due to Covid.

Any enquires about the fete, sponsorship, taking a stall or helping out please email flowershow@stmarybourne.org

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'The Film' at St Mary Bourne Village Centre



PG-13 | 2 h 36 min

Manhattan, Upper West Side, 1957. Against the backdrop of the decaying tenements in the San Juan Hill neighbourhood and the constant threat of the wrecking ball, two warring gangs--tough Riff's Jets and swaggering Bernardo's Puerto Rican Sharks--fight for supremacy. Now, with a once-and-for-all, winner-takes-all rumble on the cards, an unexpected whirlwind romance at the high-school dance between former Jet brawler Tony and Bernardo's delicate little sister María sets the stage for an all-out turf war. But what's a gang without its territory? Above all, when the future is uncertain, what's hope without love?

Tuesday 26th April - 7.30pm

Hall and Licensed Bar open from 7pm

Tickets **£5** in advance or **£6** at the door

Please reserve tickets in advance by email

smbvillagecentre@btinternet.com

www.stmarybourne.co.uk

Next Film: Tuesday 17th May

equipment, benches and walkways in nature reserves etc.

What exactly are soft plastics? The most recent guidance is, if you can easily screw it up and it can regain its shape it's fine. So yes, to things such as bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, bread and frozen food bags, cereal liners, peelable food lids such as on yoghurt pots, shrink wrap, joiners from multipacks, cling film, all baby or pet food pouches, biscuit and sweet wrappers, crisp packets (metallic looking plastic is now okay), magazine wrappers, clean frozen food bags and crackly plastic such as flower or greeting card wrappers. But **NO** to biodegradable or compostable bags, any dirty bags, blister packs, foam or polystyrene. Sadly, rigid plastics such as food trays and pots are still not widely recycled, but there will be plenty of suggestions next month for these.



Of course, ideally don't buy plastic, especially not one-use plastic. The recycling system just cannot keep up and we will eventually run out of places for plastic benches etc. Every piece of plastic that has ever been manufactured and ended up in our environment is still on this planet and will remain there for ever in some form. This is because plastic degrades rather than decomposes.

How to avoid the stuff? Take your own containers to *Love and Joy* at Weyhill Fare to be refilled from her huge choice of store cupboard food and cleaning products. Soon our village shop will have our very own local version as well. Buy a few strong reusable light weight vegetable bags to manage your loose fruit and veg in supermarkets, or take your own bags to *Kenyons*, Andover market or our village shop.

Buy milk in returnable glass bottles from a dairy and get a soda syphon to make your own fizzy drinks with natural flavouring. Lastly, train yourself to carry a keep cup for hot drinks and a metal water bottle when out and about to replace the mountains of plastic bottles and plastic lined cups thrown away each year.

CH



Light Touch

The Sea of Soft Plastic

Soft plastics are not taken by the council,

but supermarkets are really getting up to speed with this. Whitchurch CO-OP, Andover Sainsburys and the large Tesco accept a large range of CLEAN plastics now. The others are still trialling their contribution to this effort. Recycling turns soft plastics in to coloured beads which are sent off to various manufacturers to make playground

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Discover our chalk streams with free events this month

Throughout their long history, our chalk streams have attracted people with their beauty and bounty. As settlements sprang up along their banks, many of them came under the care of private owners. Today, these winding waters connect thousands of gardens, estates, farms, and businesses.

As a result of this, some stretches of stream are closed to the public for safety or privacy reasons. Others are hidden in a different way: accessible, but not widely appreciated or understood. The Open Chalk Streams project aims to change that, by creating new ways to experience these places.

On special days each year, you can visit spaces that are normally off-limits and see familiar spots in a new light. You might get tips from a keen gardener, see restoration efforts, or wander in search of wildlife. We're pleased to offer a series of events this April, including two in the Bourne Valley:

St Mary Bourne Lake

Thursday 7th April, 10am-12 Noon / 1- 3pm

A guided walk along a normally private stretch of river by St Mary Bourne Lake. See the improvements we've made to the stream habitats and hear all about the resident wildlife. After your visit, you can also walk the outside perimeter and use a guide to admire the many ornamental trees, some of which are memorial trees.

Gangbridge Lane (St Mary Bourne)

Wednesday 13th April, 10am-12pm / 1.30-3.30pm

A guided walk around a lovely country garden. See a great example of an intermittent chalk stream (or 'winterbourne'), possibly in its natural dry phase, and find out what this dramatic transformation means for wildlife. Hear about winterbourne habitats, chalk stream plant life, and what species our wildlife surveys have uncovered.

There are also Open Chalk Streams events further afield:

- Source of the River Itchen, 6th April
- Overton, 12th April
- Whitchurch Silk Mill, 21st April
- Soke Bridge Garden (Alresford), 27th April
- Amport Fen, 28th April
- Alresford Watercress Beds, 30th April

To learn more and book your tickets, please visit www.hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes/open
For queries, please email winterbournes@hiwwt.org.uk



Go Star Gazing in April

1st April - New Moon. Moon will be located on same side of the Earth as Sun and will not be visible in night sky. Best time to observe faint objects - galaxies and star clusters as no moonlight to interfere.



14 April - Full Moon. Moon will be located on opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. This full moon known by early Native American Tribes as Pink Moon, as it marks appearance of wild ground Phlox. One of the first spring flowers.

22-23 April - Lyrids Meteor Shower. Lyrids average shower. Producing about 20 meteors per hour. Shower runs annually from April 16-25. Meteors sometimes produce bright dust trails that last several seconds. Waning gibbous Moon may block fainter meteors but still potential for good show. Best viewing dark locations after midnight. Meteors radiate from Constellation of Lyra but can appear anywhere in sky.

29 April - Mercury at Greatest Eastern Elongation. Best time to view **Mercury** as it will be at its highest point above the horizon in evening sky. Look for Planet low in western sky after sunset.

30 April - New Moon. Moon located on same side of Earth as Sun & will not be visible in night sky. Best time of month to view faint galaxies & star clusters as no moon to interfere.

30 April - Partial Solar Eclipse. A partial eclipse occurs when Moon covers only part of the Sun. Sometimes resembling a bite out of a cookie. A partial eclipse can only be safely viewed with special solar filters or looking at the Sun's reflection. Partial eclipse visible throughout most of south-eastern Pacific Ocean & southern South America. Best observing in Argentina.

Hopefully you enjoyed participating in the star count. CPRE results will be reported in next month's edition. It will be interesting to see how the dark night sky in our AONB is impacted by light pollution.

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Postcard from Binley

Nick Anderton is away

St Mary Bourne Bowling Club



Fancy a New Hobby – like to try Lawn bowls?

We invite both complete novices and experienced bowlers to consider joining St. Mary Bourne Bowling Club.

We are a friendly club based in the heart of the St. Mary Bourne village, overlooking beautiful countryside and with the benefit of adjacent parking facilities.

We have a purpose-built clubhouse, including a fully licenced bar and function room, a large well-equipped kitchen, and male and female changing rooms.

There are no particular requirements of physical ability and bowls is a game for all ages. You will enjoy fresh air, meeting new people and a little exercise.

For anyone who wishes to try the sport, we can make equipment available - all you need is some flat shoes and little time. We will also find someone to introduce you to the sport and to share their experience.

'Interested' – then come along to our Open Day on Sat. April 23rd, 2022 – 10:00am onwards and give it a try.

Anyone who is interested in further information, please contact Alastair Bunce Tel: 07765312178 or visit www.stmarybournebowlsclub.co.uk



Attend the **Annual General Meeting of Sustainable Bourne Valley** on **Tuesday 19 April** at **7pm** in the **George Inn**



SBV Top Tips

Save Energy and reduce your bills by:

- Turning down the heating dial, put on a jumper, close the doors to unused rooms, don't leave the heating on at night.
- Only use necessary lights and reduce outside lighting.
- Run full washing machines on low temperatures, hang out your washing in the fresh air.

Less food miles

- Start your own vegetable patch
- Buy local produce

SAVE THE DATE - Tuesday 28th June
St Mary Bourne Recreation Ground
THE WATERMILL on tour
THEATRE SUMMER 2022

The Village Centre presents: **Camp Albion**
 A new play with music, *Camp Albion* explores the heroism, humour and heated debate of the extraordinary moment in Newbury's history when the new bypass was proposed.



Longparish

- 2 10am - Village Clean Up - Longparish Playground
 8 10am - LCA Coffee Morning - The Cricketers Inn
 10 9am - L2SOTM Race - Longparish Cricket Ground
 11 7pm - Annual Parish Meeting - Longparish Village Hall
 11 8pm - Parish Council Meeting - Longparish Village Hall
 22 12 Noon - Friday Lunch Club - Longparish Village Hall
 26 7pm - Longparish Gardening Club - Longparish Village Hall
 7 May 7.30pm - A Concert for Ukraine - Longparish Choir
 St Nicholas' Church
 21 May 12 Noon to 4pm - May Fayre - Longparish School

Hurstbourne Priors

- 7 10.15am onwards - Ladies Coffee Morning
 Hurstbourne Priors House
 7 7.30pm - May Fair Meeting for Stallholders and Helpers - Village Hall

St Mary Bourne

- 2 10am - Repair Café - The George Inn
 6 6 to 8pm - Open Evening of The Boundary - Village Centre
 7 10am to 12 Noon / 1 to 3pm - Chalk Streams Guided Walk
 St Mary Bourne Lake
 12 10.30am - Coffee at The George Inn
 12 7.30pm - Parish Council Meeting - Village Centre Club Room
 13 10am to 12 Noon / 1.30 to 3.30pm - Chalk Streams Guided Walk
 Gangbridge Lane
 19 7pm - Sustainable Bourne Valley AGM - The George Inn
 20 12.30pm - The Lunch - Village Centre
 20 7.30pm - Annual Parish Assembly - Village Centre
 23 10am - Bowling Club Open Day
 26 7.30pm - The Film - *West Side Story* - Village Centre

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The Hill & Valley Business Group has secured finance from advertisers and parish councils' contributions to enable free delivery of the magazine to all households for another year.

A big *Thank You* goes to the many volunteers for their monthly efforts.

Andover Choral Society

Westminster Chamber Orchestra

ST PAUL by Mendelssohn

The lesser-known oratorio charting the life and ministry of the Biblical character, performed with professional soloists & orchestra

St Mary's Church, Andover

Saturday 7th May, 7.30pm

Tickets £20, available from choir members and from The Lights box office on 01264 368368

www.andoverchoralsociety.org.uk

Andover Artisan Market

Sunday 17th April 2022

10am to 2pm - High Street

Free Forest School taster session for children aged 2 to 4 years

Friday 22nd April - 9.30 to 11.30am

Magic Tower Montessori Pre-School

Weyhill, SP11 0QD

To book a space or for more information please call 01264 771155

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Longparish Village Hall: Mrs Jacqui Healey, ☎ 07748 322533, e: villagehall@longparish.org.uk

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

St Mary Bourne Village Centre: Miss Angela Cook, ☎ 01264 738158, e: smbvillagecentre@btinternet.com

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Your contributions - letters, pictures, comments or articles are always welcome. Contact your parish editor by the copy date.

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