

Longparish School News

As always, this has been a very busy but enjoyable month for the school. A Year 5/6 team took part in a netball tournament at the beginning of the month, they played very well and came joint third. Congratulations need to be given to all the players for their excellent sporting behaviour and enthusiasm in representing the school, especially as we had a reduced squad due to illnesses.

On Thursday 6th December, the whole school attended the St Nicholas service in St Nicholas Church, when Molly Harris was installed as Child Bishop of Longparish for the day. Thank you to all who joined us for the service, which helped make it a memorable day.

On Wednesday 11th December we were joined by senior citizens and guests from the school community for our Christmas lunch. Our thanks go to Mrs Stef Deacon and Mrs Lyn Deacon for all of their hard work throughout the year and for providing a splendid Christmas lunch for 130 people!

On Wednesday 12th December, the whole school gave two performances of 'Holy Joe!' which celebrates the part Joseph played in the Christmas story. The children were very dedicated in their acting, singing and instrumental rehearsals and rose to the occasion with great enthusiasm. Thank you to all who came to watch the production and for giving so generously to

our retiring collection.



Enjoying Christmas dinner

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to Christmas parties on Friday 14th December, which have been organised by FoLS for the whole school and our Christmas Carol Service in St Nicholas Church on Tuesday 18th December, which will provide a wonderful climax for this term.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and wish you a peaceful New Year.

Alex Foggo
Head teacher



The cast of Holy Joe - the whole school

Longparish School 100 Club recent draw results**October**

1st prize	no 40	Sandra Jones
2nd prize	no 3	C.Reeve
3rd prize	no 124	Ailson Cooper

November

1st prize	68	Carol Dunford
2nd	30	J Montague Dennis
3rd	124	Rachel Parkin

Christmas Draw

First prize	£100	Wendy Roberts	no 9
Second	£50	Vicky Redden	no 112
Third	£25	Elsa Osullivan	no 6
Fourth	£15	Julia Sherwood	no 77
Fifth	£10	Mrs Chattee	no 69

Congratulations to you all. Please hand back your renewal forms as soon as possible for next year, 2008. If you would like to join but don't have a form please contact Maria Drewett on 01264 354465

Friends of Longparish School**Quiz Night**

**Saturday 2nd February 7.30 for 8pm
Community Hall, Longparish**

Tickets £5 per person
(to include soup and dessert)

(Teams of up to 8)

For tickets please call Lindsay Howie
on 01256 895373

**LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB**

The January meeting of the Longparish Gardening Club is a talk with slides by Patricia Elkington, of Little Court, Crawley, Winchester on

"The Spring Garden"

on **Tuesday, 22nd January, 2008**

at 7 pm in Longparish Village Hall.

All welcome (£3.00 to non-members)

Raffle prizes welcomed for prizes towards the cost of future speakers.

Please let us know if you would like to come along
Rosie Lowry 01264 720325
Julian Curl 01264 720548

**NEWS FROM TESTBOURNE****EXCITING START TO THE NEW YEAR**

We will be starting the new year on January 3rd with what we hope will be a stimulating and thought-provoking staff conference on changes to the school curriculum. There are a lot of changes in the air nationally as educators seek to provide a curriculum, which will meet the needs of young people and society in a rapidly changing world. Secondary schools have been given an additional training day this year to consider and prepare for these challenges and we will be using this day to consider what is right for Testbourne.

HAPPY END TO THE OLD YEAR

We ended the old year with a happy celebration and two performances of "Holy Boy", our first Christmas oratorio, sung with great heart by a choir of 50 pupils from all year groups and accompanied by excellent live music from our musicians.

STAFFING CHANGES

We were however sad to say farewell to two members of staff. Mrs. Hughes-White is moving on to a full-time geography post at the newly opened Everest Community College. Mrs. Evans, Head of RE and, most recently, Coordinator of our Mityana Twin-School Partnership, will be spending the next four years in Australia where her husband has been posted.

We are pleased that Miss Sarah Horton, an experienced teacher, will be joining us as Head of RE in January. Mr. Glenn Wincott began work as our second Site Assistant at the end of November and many of you will meet him when he is on duty during community opening hours

CRACKING CRAFT FAIR!

The Testbourne P.T.F.A. would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped in various ways to make the 2007 Craft & Gift Fair such a success. They made just over £1800, which will go towards the refurbishment of the school library.

SWIMMING POOL UNDER THREAT

On a less positive front the council will be withdrawing all financial support for our swimming pool under new plans drawn up to rationalise swimming pool provision across the county. We have fought for a long time to protect the pool and sought ways, sadly without success, to provide a roof so that there could be all year round use. If you feel, as we do, that our pool should continue to be supported so that school and community can benefit then you might like to make your views known to your county councillors. Your support would be very welcome.

We look forward to bringing you more news in the year ahead and wish you a Happy New Year from all of us at Testbourne.

Hilary Jackson Headteacher

John Driver's 90th birthday

On the last day of October, John Driver celebrated his 90th birthday. He was born in 1917 at Keighley in the Yorkshire Dales, and joined the army in 1935 as a regular soldier. He was evacuated from Dunkirk in 1940 and first came to Longparish when he was at Barton Stacey Camp training recruits as a P.E Instructor. It was here that he met Joan Tonge, who was born in Forton and married her in 1941 in St Nicholas Church.

They did not have long together as he was promoted to sergeant in a bomb disposal unit for the last two years of the war. He says that helping the officer in charge to defuse bombs was not as frightening as clearing beach mines which had been corroded by salt water from the south coast.



John and Joan Driver

When he returned to Longparish, he and Joan had to live with her family until they were lucky enough to be allocated one of the new council houses built at the top of North Acre in 1946. Later they moved to their present home which was one of the first council houses built in 1936. John joined the Parish Council in 1947 and served for 36 years which must be a village record. He never missed a meeting unless it was unavoidable due to illness or holidays. He was chairman for 13 years from 1970 to 1983, a much more demanding position. He and Joan between them know a tremendous amount about the village.

John had what he describes as the best job in the world working for Hampshire County Council' Education Authority as one of three supervisors in charge of school playing fields. He had a staff of 58 men looking after 140 schools, and so he travelled extensively through the county. It fitted in well with his great interest in gardening, and he still, with Joan, maintains his own garden and chops the wood for his fire.

When he retired he started working part-time for Robert Bowden and carried on for 35 years, only retiring finally this year. He has to put up with deafness, but is otherwise very fit and he and Joan can be seen most afternoons walking in the village they know so well.

Mary Jo Darrah

Longparish Cricket Club

Sponsored by Barker Son & Isherwood Solicitors

At the annual general meeting of the Club some important committee changes were made. Martyn Clarke stepped down as Chairman and John Young was elected as the new Chairman. Martin Bearpark replaced John Young as Vice-Chairman. Kate Hibberd as resigned as Secretary after many devoted years of service and Tina Tognarelli has taken over from her.



100+ Club Draw results for November

1 st	£35	no.22	Cynthia Thompson
2 nd	£15	no.109	George Kousseff
3 rd	£15	no.98	Fiona Smith

Christmas Draw results

1 st	£50	no.92	Pete Newman
2 nd	£25	no.241	Kate Hibberd
3 rd	£25	no.89	Ann Sands
4 th	£15	no.4	Martyn Clarke
5 th	£15	no.87	James Young
6 th	£15	no. 24	Tony Pearce
7 th	£10	no.81	Maggie Barber
8 th	£10	no.204	Ray Smith
9 th	£10	no.8	S.Parsons
10 th	£10	no.50	Steve Benco

The Club warmly thanks all those who have supported it through the 100+Club in 2007 and hopes that you will continue your support in 2008. New members will be very welcome. Membership costs £12 a year. Please contact James Young tel. 07904 120237 if you would like a form or further details.

ANDOVER NEIGHBOUR CARE

Mr and Mrs Driver told me about the wonderful work done by Andover Neighbourcare which offers help to the elderly and infirm in all sorts of ways:

- Transport to doctors and hospitals
- Shopping, cleaning and gardening
- Relieving carers
- Visiting the housebound
- Fetching prescriptions
- Filling forms
- Meals on Wheels referral

It also runs a Monday Lunch Club
A Monday Afternoon Social Club
Minibus trips

It is based at 14, Union Street, with its own Community Shop next door. The telephone numbers are 01264 339899 or 404142. They welcome new members. Pam Delderfield is the manager. If you cannot get to the office and need a home visit to discuss your needs, you can ring Pam on 01264 351579.

They also welcome volunteer drivers and help of all kinds.
Mary Jo Darrah

Longparish Community Association

Membership renewals

Thanks very much if you have already renewed your membership and to people who have made an extra donation as well. If you haven't already renewed your membership please fill in the form on the back of the December events diary and return it to Christine Beresford. If you can't find the form there's a link to one you can print out on the front page of the village website, www.longparish.org.uk. At only £1 per year the subscription is very good value. Please re-join.

LCA Midsummer event 2008

Following our extremely successful Midsummer Fun Day in 2006, we would like to run another event in the summer of 2008. If you have any ideas of things we could do or are prepared to volunteer to help with the organisation of any part of the day please contact Andy Smith on 720034

L2SOTM - The Longparish Second Sunday of The Month Handicap Race

It was a miserable morning but 12 hardy runners took part in the December race. No-one apart from Martin beat the scratch time, a reflection of the poor conditions. The handicaps worked well with 10 people finishing within one minute and one second. The stars were Martin Lampard, who attributed his improved fitness and reduced weight to gastric flu and Sandra Jones who recommends the two-month taper approach. But rumours suggest that both have been secretly practising.

Thanks very much to Jack who gave Christmas gifts to the winners, to Maggie and Jack for marshalling, to the Goulds for putting out the signs and the Longparish Cricket Club for the venue.



LCA coffee morning

The next coffee morning will be held at Gina Snowden's house, Orchards, Southside Road on Tuesday 22nd January 2008 between 10.30 – 12 noon. Everyone is welcome.

If you need a lift please give Gloria a ring on 720425

Leaner and Fitter for 2008?

Is your New Year Resolution to be more fit and less fat? There are three regular village exercise opportunities that will help – keep fit, running and dancing.

Smooth Movers -

Keep fit classes for an hour at 9am on Thursday mornings.

Classes comprise:

- a gentle warm up,
- cardiovascular exercise to get that heart rate increased (nothing major!),
- toning – concentrating on those problem areas (arms, bums, tums).

The entire class is worked at a low level so no previous experience is needed. This is not a high impact fast pace class so is ideal both for complete beginners or more senior ladies.

The cost is £4.50 but *for newcomers your first class is free whether on 3rd January when classes start again after Christmas or the following week 10th.*

Ring Carol Dunford on 07737115268 for further information

L2SOTM

Runners and walkers of all abilities are welcome to the Longparish Second Sunday of the Month handicap race. Over 40 people have taken part in the last year ranging in age from 18 to 80 and in speed from highly tuned athletes to walkers who take 45 minutes for the 3 mile course. It gives everyone a chance to run a light hearted race once a month and is an excellent way to monitor your fitness.

The race starts at 10am on the second Sunday of each month at the Cricket Ground. Thanks very much to the Cricket Club for allowing us to meet there. Please come on foot; after all you'll need a warm up.

Your start time depends on how fast you are. For your first race it will be based on your estimated time. After that your handicap will be based on your most recent result. Slower people start first with the fastest last so everyone finishes at about the same time.

There is no entry fee for LCA members. For others the fee is £1. After the race there are refreshments for which we welcome a donation towards the cost.

Want something different to do on winter evenings?

Why not brush up on your dancing?



Try the Longparish Ballroom/Latin Dancing group

which meets in the Community Hall on Thursday evenings during term-time, 8-9.30 pm.

Improvers welcome, just come along or give Gina Snowden a ring on 720128.

No comparison to

STRICTLY COME DANCING!

NO SEQUINS, NO SEE-THROUGH FABRICS, NO LIFTS, NO JUDGES

Just relaxed and enjoyable

in good company

Sunday 2 March at 3pm

Diary of a Nobody

The Victorian classic favourite by George and Weedon Grossmith adapted by Cabaret Direct and brought to you courtesy of the LCA and Hog the Limelight.

in Longparish Village Hall

Tickets are £5 for LCA members

£6 for non-members including afternoon tea with cucumber sandwiches with the crusts cut off.

Tickets from Fiona Gould on 720709 or at the shop.

Recent review:

"I fail to see - because I do not happen to be a 'Somebody' - why my diary should not be interesting." So said Charles Pooter as he began the unintentionally hilarious chronicle of his life. Clive Ward vividly conjures up Charles, with Kirsty Bennett as his hapless wife Carrie, and Wendy Norman adding witty musical interludes in this hilarious interpretation of George and Weedon Grossmith's classic novel of suburban life which strikes many chords with life today.



The final Kidz Zone of the year ended with a Christmas party with several new children attending and a grand total of 21 kids enjoying the activities on offer.

Next Club night

Make a note that Club resumes on Wednesday 16 January at 7:00-9.30p.m in the Village Hall. New members are welcome to join and you can bring your friends too.

Andrea Hulme

St Nicholas Fair

Despite a very wet and miserable day St Nicholas Fair was buzzing with happy shoppers and anticipation was high amongst the children who visited Santa's Grotto. Christmas tunes and mulled wine added to the atmosphere and lots of lovely gifts were purchased either from our village sewing bee or from local stallholders. There was the opportunity to buy freshly made wreaths and table decorations and children could decorate their own Christmas biscuits.

The Fair made a profit of over £1200 and we would like to thank everyone who helped towards making it such a success. In particular the ladies of the sewing bee who have spent the past year making lovely items for sale, everyone who donated jams and chutneys or baked a cake, and to those who helped on the day - especially on making Santa's grotto look so lovely. We hope everyone who came had an enjoyable afternoon, and are very grateful that so much was raised for St Nicholas Church.

Christian & Andrea

New Wheelchair Ramp

The Parochial Church Council has bought a portable wheelchair ramp so that wheelchair users will be able to get up the steps to the altar. The ramp is available for other community groups to borrow. It is 8ft long (and quite heavy, but two people can manage it) and will enable a wheelchair user to get up a flight of three or four steps.

If anyone would like to borrow the ramp, please contact one of the clergy or churchwardens.

The purchase of the ramp was made possible by the generosity of the Vitacress Community Fund, for which we are very grateful. Any enquiries about grants from the fund should be addressed to:

Brian Mehaffey (for Hurstbourne Priors)
or Alix Bremridge (Longparish).

Longparish Parish Council

This report covers the December meeting. Minutes of meetings and the current agenda are on the village website www.longparish.org.uk.

New Councillor

Mrs Christian Dryden from Forton was co-opted to join the Council. Christian brings a wealth of experience of activities in the village (most recently she was an organiser of the successful St Nicholas Fair) and the council was delighted that she is able to serve as a councillor.

Sand and Gravel extraction

The County Council is drawing up the county mineral plan for the next ten years. They are consulting about proposals in which they have identified 37 hectares (around 90 acres) of land at Cutty Brow as a preferred area for extraction of a million tonnes of sand and gravel over a 10-year period from 2009. The area is Northwest of the old railway line on both sides of The Middleway. The Parish Council has established that a similar proposal was rejected for inclusion in a previous plan, principally on landscape and ecological grounds. The Council strongly believes that the current proposal should be rejected for the same reasons. However, circumstances have changed since the previous round and we cannot be sure that the proposal will be rejected this time. So the Council also decided to consider how the impact on the village may be mitigated if the proposal is accepted. The Council has arranged a presentation to explain the proposal by Tarmac, the company behind the idea. It will be at 7.30 on Tuesday 22 January in the Community Hall. The meeting will be open to the public.

Planning

The council had no objection to

- A garage at Broadacre
- Minor variations to the proposal to replace the filling station and shop at The Buck which was approved in 2005
- Felling of a conifer at Nordale
- A garden room at Owl's Lodge, Forton
- Revised plans for agricultural buildings at Testwood Trout Farm (excluding dormer windows) provided the Borough is satisfied that the use will be agricultural

The council objected to a proposal to relax conditions relating to a wood chip building at Patchington because of concern that this might increase the scale of the activity with consequent adverse effect on neighbouring residential properties.

Exceptionally, the council decided to support proposals for alterations at The Thatch (the Common).

The public enquiry into Mr Jackson's application for a certificate of lawful use for a residential caravan at Testwood Trout farm took three days in November. The result is expected around the end of January.

Longparish Community Association

The council decided to make a grant to the Longparish Community Association to assist with KidzZone, the monthly events diaries in Hill & Valley and activities for older people.

Road safety

The council is considering joining with other parishes to buy a speed meter that will show motorists how fast they are going. It will be demonstrated in the village on Friday 11 January between 10 and 12. There's more information on the village website at www.longparish.org.uk/pccissues/ or you can contact Ricky Bourne on 720500.

Open Spaces

Following a successful action by Mr High, from Andover, the County Council has issued an order Definitive Map Modification Order designating Upper Millford to be a Byway Open to All Traffic. According to the Andover Advertiser, HCC have advised that "The order will be advertised locally, so there can be further public debate about the matter."

Footpaths

The Parish Clerk has just received the official documentation authorising the diversion of the footpath linking the Tufton Lane with the back road from Whitchurch to Longparish. The diverted footpath will run from the old railway bridge on the track leading from Britwell Priors to Firgo Farm and will run along the railway embankment to Tufton thus providing a footpath link from Longparish to Whitchurch. In conjunction with this, the Testbourne Estate is granting a permissive footpath from Hurstbourne Priors to Whitchurch. Further details will be given in next month's H&V.

The next parish council meeting is on Monday 14th January in the Ellicock Room at the Community Hall. Meetings are public and all parishioners are welcome to come and can speak by invitation. Jeremy Barber Chairman. Tel 720459 email jeremy.barber@longparish.org.uk