Longparish Community Association AGM

The AGM of the LCA was held on 3rd June 2009. Fiona Gould reported on activities in the past 12 months and David Wright reported on the Association's finances, which are healthy, thanks to continued support from the Parish Council and many donations.

Thanks were expressed to Nicky Derrick who has stood down from the Management Committee and also. posthumously, to Trevor Elkins whom we were extremely sorry to lose during the year. Fiona Gould, David Wright, Christine Beresford, Patrick Beresford, Andy Smith, Becky Bourne and Jeremy Barber agreed to stand again, and new volunteers Christian Dryden and Xandi Denny offered to join. All were elected, with David as Treasurer and Xandi as Secretary. Christian represents the Parish Council.

KidzZone has again had a successful year although numbers dropped off towards the end of the school year. The group has lots of great equipment and is run by Andrea and Martin Hulme. Karen Lewis and Georgina Knipe resigned from the organising committee and the LCA are grateful to them for their help, as we are for the continuing activities of Andrea and Martin. The next school year will see a likely increase in potential KidzZone members and we very much need offers of help in order to keep this valuable activity running.

The Recycled Teenagers have had a series of very successful trips and we are very grateful to Maggie Barber, Corinne Bowman, and Jean Chambers for their organisation and to Maggie and to Joe McHenry for driving the minibus.

Members are reminded that the LCA holds insurance for groups that are part of the LCA and for events held under our banner. This includes

- Public liability for events
- Equipment owned by local groups
- Employer's liability covers volunteers

We can also explore special cover for out of the ordinary events, which may be easier and cheaper to add to our existing insurance than to get as a 1-off for an event.

The new LCA Committee is now planning activities for the coming year. We have booked a number of Hog the Limelight events over the autumn/winter and we are exploring ways in which we can once again show films without the support of Moviola. KidzZone and the Recycled Teenagers will continue to organise activities both in and outside the village and, of course, old favourites such as coffee mornings and the L2SOTM, our second Sunday of the month handicap race, will continue. If you have any ideas for activities or - better still - would like to get involved in organising or supporting them, please get in touch with Fiona on 720709 or anyone on the Committee.

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

We had 17 competitors for the June race on a lovely sunny morning. First home by a long way was our new County Councillor, Andrew Gibson. The next seven were men followed by first lady, Fiona Gould.



Thanks very much to all the marshals and timekeepers, Maggie, Jack, Ben, Katie and Sim and their friend Clara, to Maggie and Emma for refreshment, David and Fiona for the signs and the Cricket Club for the lovely venue and for entertaining us with a match.

The next race is on Sunday 12 July starting at 10am at the Cricket Ground. Runners of all standards are welcome as are brisk walkers. It is a handicap race so the slowest have as much chance of winning the cups as the fastest. There will be refreshments afterwards and supporters of all ages are very welcome.

LCA Recycled Teenagers

The Recycled Teenagers is a club for the older people in our community. After a break during the winter we have begun another series of monthly outings and events. We all enjoyed the Living Rainforest and had a wonderful visit to Hilliers Garden. Our June outing was a trip to the Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth. Over the next few months we shall join the Get Hampshire Singing celebration at Winchester Discovery Centre, have a cream tea in a Forton garden and travel down the Kennett and Avon Canal in a horse drawn barge. Please contact Corinne Bowman on 720643 for further information.

LCA Morning Coffee

On Tuesday July 14th Ella Scott is hosting this month's coffee morning at her home, 95 North Acre. You are welcome to join with friends and neighbours between 10.30

and noon for coffee and chat. If you need a lift please contact Gloria on 720425.

WANTED **Cleaner for** Longparish Village Hall



7 hours - £42 a month Hours to suit Interested?

> For further details please contact Gloria Goodliffe 720425

Proposal for a Cremation Garden in Longparish Churchyard

The Church Council have been working with the encouragement of the Parish Council to offer a part of the churchyard for the burial of cremated remains in the parish.

Longparish Churchyard was closed to full burials over 120 years ago, and the present cemetery established beside the Village Hall. As the only place for full burials, its space needs to be preserved for that purpose. With an increasing national trend towards cremation rather than burial, and also for commemoration after burial of ashes, it is now time to provide for the future needs of local people by establishing a Cremation Garden as a tranquil and beautiful place for such interments.

The proposal is that an area of the churchyard, south of the church, is set aside for the interment of cremate remains. Commemoration will be by laying a flat stone over the plot which may be engraved with the name and



dates of the deceased. The area proposed is between existing gravestones and known graves and will focus on a stone cross at the centre of a grass avenue in front of the southern hedge. Plots will be two feet (60cm) square and may be used for single or double burials. The grid will extend in two sections, both three plots across, on both sides of the avenue from the central stone cross. The scheme will be established by legal faculty which will set clear rules for how it is used. The application will need to be approved by the Diocesan authorities after time is given for local scrutiny.

The project involves minimal work and therefore minimal cost. What needs to be done is:-

- improvement of the churchyard hedge behind the area, by removal of elder and holly growth. - re-siting of the cross from its present position in the hedge near the western lych-gate.

The purpose of this article is to bring the scheme to local attention. Further details and pictures are available on the Longparish Village Website. If anyone has any questions or would like to make suggestions about the project, please contact me or any member of the Longparish PCC.

Martin Coppen, Rector of Longparish, 01264 738308 revd.coppen@dsl.pipex.com

Longparish Mothers and Toddlers' Group

Maria Drewett has now handed over running the toddlers' group to Becky 01264 351104.

Longparish Village Choir is a relatively new, mixed voice choir which practises weekly in the village and performs several times a year at village events and major church festivals. We are beginning rehearsals for our next performance - a special community Harvest lunch in early October.

We would very much welcome new members. You do not need to be an experienced singer and we do not hold auditions! The only requirements are enthusiasm and a commitment to attend a reasonable number of rehearsals. These are very informal and are held on Thursday evenings at 7.45pm, mostly at my house. We usually enjoy a glass of wine and a bit of a chat as well as the singing. Our repertoire is proving to be very varied and widening all the time!

We are also keen to hear from instrumentalists who might be willing to accompany us or take part in our events. If you think you may be interested do call me on 720790. Cathy Yelf.

LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB EVENING VISIT TO THE BUILDINGS, **BROUGHTON, STOCKBRIDGE**

(By kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Pugh)

July 28th at 6.30 p.m.

This garden has been featured in Amateur Gardening and some of the comments after their first year of opening for the NGS were as follows "original and dramatic", "very special planting", "amazing colour sense" and "such textures and movement". I think we will have a very interesting visit.

Members (£3.00) (Non-Members welcome £5.00)

Please let me know if you are able to come as I will have to let the Pughs know how many of us to expect. Rosie Lowry 01264720325

or rosie@yewcottagelongarish.com

FUTURE DATES:

August - No Gardening Club Meeting September - Evening Visit to The Coach House, South Warnborough.

July Haiku

"Haiku is an ancient Japanese verse form known for its brevity, composed of three lines of five, seven and five syllables in length, respectively. Poets writing in English have been known to bend the rules on syllable counts, but, generally speaking, Haiku is written in the present tense, with nature and the seasons featuring strongly in its content. I have been writing Haiku about Longparish for the past four years.'

> Fresh cut river weed snagged by the Long Bridge is eyed by broody coots.

Refurbishment of Village Hall

Would anyone have a scaffold tower which they are willing to lend for the work on the refurbishment of the Village Hall?

Please contact John Scott 720018 or Gina 720128.

News from Longparish School SPORTS DAY AT LONGPARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

On Monday 15th of June, Longparish Primary School had a sports tournament for their three houses: St Nicholas. St Andrews and St Francis.

In the morning, each house was split into four groups, so there were twelve groups altogether that were named after different animals: the Horses, the Deer, the Otters, the Moles, the Badgers, the Rabbits, the Toads, the Rats, the Foxes, the Mice, the Ferrets and the Frogs. There were a number of different activities that required a great deal of teamwork, such as the 'walk across the river.' The objective in this one was to cross the playground in the guickest time possible using just three hoops. You had to start again if any of your team-mates touched the ground outside the hoops.

After having an enjoyable picnic outside on the School field, the races started. The first race was the year 5 and 6 sprint, followed by the year 3 and 4 sprint and so on. The bat and ball races then kicked off, with the skipping races after that. The penultimate race was the obstacle course, with the climax being the relays. The houses on the podium were St Andrews 3rd, having persevered all the way through, St Francis 2nd, ending their run of twelve consecutive victories, which meant St Nicholas were first. Their form was too impressive to match! In conclusion, we think that sports day was great fun and should be continued for evermore.

By Matthieu Rident and Ben Evans Yr. 5 Chaffinch class

Stubbington fun for years 5 and 6

From the 1st to the 5th of June, Chaffinch class (year 5 and 6), went on a residential trip to Stubbington Study Centre. It took us three quarters of an hour to get there; we travelled there on a coach. When we got there we were split up into three groups and each group went into a dormitory. In total there were four dorms, Dray, Warren, Earth and Sett.

There were many fun activities such as Orienteering, Map reading, Going out to the hide at night, 'Earthquake", Sea shore study, Clay modelling, Small mammal study, Pond dipping, 'Stubby Vision' song contest. Skittles or golf. Our favourite activity was orienteering as we almost won! However we also enjoyed it because it involved teamwork, running and solving puzzles using a compass.

All the staff at Stubbington were very pleasant, caring and really funny, especially Mr Nash. We would like to say thank you to Miss Taylor and Mrs Foggo for accompanying us on the trip. We would definitely recommend it for any other school.

By Yentl Love and Becca Scarfe

Fundraising for Bukanaga School

Longparish School has been listening to God, by helping a school in Mityana, named Bukanaga. We are linked to this school through Revd Dodie Marsden. One of the things that we did to support Bukanaga was a business project. We wrote business plans to persuade two of the governors to give each group an investment of £10 to start up our businesses. With this investment, we bought materials from the range to create our products. These included:

- Painted glass cups
- Clay models
- Cards (birthday and other)
- Bracelets and other jewellery
- Pipe Cleaner pencils

Having made our products on Wednesday, we eventually sold them on Thursday. Friday was the award ceremony. In total we raised £100 for Bukanaga (including paying back the £10 investment), and I think that everyone enioved it!

As a result of this, Bukanaga school was able to buy a large cooking pot so that they can provide lunch for more pupils. By Emma Evans (Chaffinch, year 6).

NEWS FROM TESTBOURNE

By the time you read this Our Year 11 students will have completed all their examinations and celebrated at the Leavers' Ball, held this year at Norton Park Hotel. Pupils and staff have put in many extra hours to prepare for the exams and we hope their efforts will be well rewarded when results are published on 27th August. We are looking forward to welcoming our new Year Seven pupils for an induction day early in July to help them get to know their new school and feel confident and comfortable about making the move to Testbourne. Year Fives will be also be joining us for an Arts Day this term based on the theme of Brazil. It should be a lively day.

Open Morning for Year Five Parents

This year we are holding an Open Morning on Friday 10th July to help accommodate parents of Year Five pupils who are thinking about their choice of secondary school and from whom we have already received a number of enquiries. If you would be interested in joining one of the tours on that morning please contact our school reception to book a time. As usual we will be holding our annual Open Evening on Thursday 1st October and Open Mornings during the following week.

Students Display Artistic Talents for Good Causes

Our Year 10 and 11 Dancers put on a great show one Saturday in June at the Marlands Centre in Southampton. They were supporting the charity Kids, who work for children with disabilities and were running a special fund-raising event in the town. The link came about after the School Council selected Kids as their chosen charity earlier in the year.

Art of a different kind was on display during our Gifted and Talented Artists' Day in June. A group of our talented artists spent the day creating an entry for a competition on the theme of endangered species, organised by the Muscular Dystrophy Society. There were some excellent pieces of work which will be on display at an Art Exhibition during our Arts Festival in July. See www.testbourne.sch.hants.uk for details.

Vacancies and Appointments

We are planning staffing for September and may be in need of a Learning Support Assistant. Please contact Mary Payne (previously Soper) at school if you may be interested - 01256 892061 or

mary.soper@testbourne.hants.sch.uk.

We have recently appointed a Family Support Worker for a few hours each week. This is a joint appointment with our feeder primary schools as part of the Extended Schools Programme. Nicky Ayres will be taking up the post this term to help build school and family links.

And A Big Thank You

We have been really touched by the response to our appeal for plants and/or help with our new allotment project. Several members of the community have arrived with an array of surplus plants - climbing beans, courgettes, carrots, beetroot, tomatoes and more. Our new Year 10s have been busy clearing and planting, with guidance from a volunteer mentor. Thank you so much. We look forward to bringing you a report on their progress - pupils and plants - next time.

Hilary Jackson, Headteacher

Thank you, Maggie

The Longparish May Fayre was an historic occasion this year - for the last time we saw Maggie Barber at the helm of the extremely popular and very successful plant stall. Maggie, with the help of Jeremy, has been running the stall for twenty years but has decided that it is time to let someone else have a go.

The plant stall was created when Maggie decided to sell a few plants at the first school fete. It was to be in aid of Friends of Longparish School, which in turn would support the school, the playgroup and the mothers' and toddlers' group. The first stall consisted of a small table, a few sticks of rhubarb and a bunch of cabbage plants wrapped in wet newspaper. The money for these was collected in an honesty box.

Over the last twenty years the May Fayre plant stall has matured, cultivated carefully by Maggie who, along with Wendy Ellicock, has created a feature of the May Fayre that annually brings in hundreds of pounds.

This year the plant stall was laid out along a good portion of the school fence, and the tables loaded with plants including vegetables, (not least Jeremy's pumpkin plants), perennials and annuals. Many of these have been donated by people in the village and while Wendy Ellicock supplies car loads of plants that she has nurtured, a good proportion has also been bought in as mini plants by Maggie and grown on.

Maggie says that her methods for stocking the stall have changed over the years:

"I used to grow everything from seed, but that was a lot of hassle. For the past five years I have bought in miniplants from Suttons: things like Busy Lizzies, lobelia, geraniums and fuchsias. I'll grow them on in time for the May Fayre."

The organisation for the May Fayre begins early on in the year. In March Maggie puts a notice into the Hill and Valley asking villagers who may be dividing plants or sowing seeds, to divide, or sow, a few extra for the stall. Apart from caring for her huge batches of plants she takes delivery of donations from around the village. As the Fayre approaches Maggie says that she starts to find plants that have been left on her doorstep.

Over the years Maggie has refined the logistics of the plant stall. The stall is set up next to the fence so plants can be easily passed over for sale; or purchased plants can be handed over to the new owners. Her team, including Wendy Ellicock, David and Fiona Gould and Tim and Catherine Sweet are there early in the morning of the Fayre, helping to bring in the plants and set them out on the tables. Meanwhile, Maggie has already been down to Tesco's to collect plenty of flat cardboard boxes so customers can carry their new plants home more easily.

This year the plant stall succeeded in raising over £600 and that was despite the dubious weather. In a really good year, when the sun shines, the plant stall has managed to bring in £800 or £900.

Maggie says modestly that much of the success of the plant stall is down to the generosity of villagers' donations, but there's no doubt that the stall in its present form just wouldn't exist without all her hard work. Over the years the children at school, playgroup and the mothers' and toddlers' group have benefited to the tune of an estimated £10,000 thanks to Maggie, her team and their plant stall.

FOLS would like to thank Maggie and Jeremy for all their hard work on the plant stall over the years and let them know that their efforts are very much appreciated by all the children and the gardeners of Longparish and its surrounds.

The Great Spotted Woodpecker



Great spotted woodpeckers are resident all year. The male usually excavates the hole in April. The female, who lacks the red patch on the back of her head, lays 4-6 eggs but the quantity can depend on food availability.

Our local Parish Council Chairman, Jeremy Barber, had a dead tree in his garden so he left it. He said that perhaps a woodpecker would nest in it, and it did. How lucky is that! He contacted me to see if I would like to take some photos of them. I managed to get some good shots of the female feeding the young. They have reared two young, now fledged. Jeremy and Maggie tell me the family still visits the bird table. Hopefully they will return next year.

If you would like to see the coloured photos go to www.chrisbowman.co.uk . All photos are copyright. Chris Bowman

Proposed extension of 30mph limit in Longparish

For some years the Longparish Parish Council has been pressing HCC to extend the 30mph speed limit with no success because the village layout did not fit the criteria. The Parish Plan has also highlighted the concerns of residents regarding the speed of cars travelling through the village. We now have the opportunity to extend the speed limit zone in Longparish through a government programme for rural villages and we need to act on it quickly. The type of scheme proposed has been completed at Leckford and at Cottonworth, on the far side of Wherwell.

The proposal for Longparish, provided the police approve, would be to extend the 30mph zone to the Forton end of Longparish on the B3048 near the present village sign so that those coming off the A303 would know they were entering a village at that point. The recent collision between two cars at the Forton turning highlights the need for speed restriction on this part of the B3048. It would also slow traffic trying to avoid congestion on the A303 who tend to use the B3048 as a rat run.

The other extension to the zone would be from just up the hill from South Side Farm which would mean the speed limit would be enforceable right into the village and along Mill Lane. Derestricter /30mph signs would be placed in Nuns Walk near the junction.

Putting in these two "gateways" would entail a grey backed 30mph sign with village name, red anti skid tarmac on the road to indicate start of 30mph zone and then repeater 30mph signs, like the ones already in place in the current zone, at intervals of approximately 200m. These are placed as sympathetically as possible with regards to houses. In order to qualify for the restriction to be extended to the Forton end near the A303, the houses in Forton have to be taken into consideration and therefore repeater signs would also be placed in Forton but again they would be very discreet. In some key places road edge markings of a solid white line would be painted. These help reduce driver speed as well.

If you drive through the current 30mph zone you can see these signs and road edge markings and the new ones would just be an extension of these with the addition of red road marking at the entrance of the village. The road markings act as a constant reminder even when the signs have disappeared into the hedge! As part of the programme unnecessary signs would be removed.

The Parish Council needs to decide whether to back this proposal at the Parish Council Meeting on 13th July. We welcome any feedback, positive and negative so we can move forward or not with this proposal. For a reminder of what has been expressed by Longparish residents in the past, please look at page 27 of the Parish Plan on the Longparish website, www.longparish.org.uk. If you want to see the road signs and markings in place, please look at other villages, the closest being Leckford and Cottonworth/Wherwell. If you want further information regarding this proposed scheme please contact me, Christian Dryden 01264 720398.

Longparish Parish Council

This report covers the June meeting and a meeting of the Communications Committee. Minutes of meetings are on the village website www.longparish.org.uk.

Roads - 30mph zone

We had a very helpful meeting with consultants who are reviewing speed limits as part of a national initiative for rural villages. As a result we may be able to achieve the longstanding aim of extending the 30mph zone to include Forton and The Common. Please see separate article.

Planning

The Council had no objection to

- Erection of fishing hut and replacement of two existing fishing huts at Longparish House
- Erection of two-storey side and rear extension together with the erection of a double garage at Woodstock East Aston - amended scheme.
- Erection of a two storey rear extension at 61 North Acre - amended scheme.

Footpaths

The footpaths around the village are in a pretty good state thanks to a lot of work by landowners and volunteers. Please help by picking up litter and not leaving dog mess.

Open Spaces

The village inspection on 1 June was attended by our new Clerk, Tony Humphrey and seven councillors and committee members. By and large the village is in good order and again thanks go to all concerned who work to keep it that way.

We plan to have the playground equipment re-painted in time for the summer holidays and will get the bus shelters spruced up soon as well.

A particular cause for concern was the very high water levels in the river upstream of Upper Mill which were causing flooding on footpath 4 from The Cleeves to Britwell Priors and threatening the businesses at the cress beds. The recent weed cut has alleviated the situation but the river is much more overgrown than in the past which holds the water back. The Council has contacted the owners in the hope that subtle changes in the way the river is managed may stop the problems recurring as the weed grows back.

The next parish council meeting is on Monday 13 July. Meetings are public. Parishioners are welcome to come and can speak by invitation. Jeremy Barber Chairman. Tel 720459 email jeremy.barber@longparish.org.uk

How can you help our village?

The Parish Council does a lot of quiet work to help keep our village special. We have two vacancies so we need public-spirited volunteers to become councillors. We would particularly welcome someone interested in open spaces such as the playground and the football field. Do you or your children use them perhaps? If you can spare a few hours a month and would like to help, please contact the chairman, Jeremy Barber on 720459 or email clerk@longparish.org.uk.

Reporting road problems

Experience shows that representations from parishioners have some influence. Recent examples include some prompt attention to various pot holes and blocked drains. Certainly the Parish Council can be more effective if individuals take the trouble to raise the issues with the appropriate authorities.

Most roads in the county are dealt with by the County Council Highways Department. They have an office at the TVBC HQ in Andover.

You can report problems using an online form at http://www3.hants.gov.uk/roads/onlinefacilities/all-forms.htm

Or you can also

- telephone the Highways people at Test Valley on 01264 368679,
- email hampshirehighways.west@hants.gov.uk,
- write to HCC, Hampshire Highways West, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AY.

When you do that please advise the Parish Lengthsman, Christian Dryden (tel 720398) so the Council can back up your representations.

Longparish Cricket Club



Sponsored by Barker, Son & Isherwood, Solicitors
Fine weather for much of the month and for
Longparish CC; cricket has broken out big
style!

An ever- expanding group of U11 cricketers have performed admirably on Sunday mornings. Congratulations to our talented U11 Captain, Billy Mead, who has been selected for the U10 County squad.



Many have made vital contributions with bat and ball to a side who are predominantly U10s and face sides a year older. Scott Sturt has shone with bat and ball, as have George O' Rorke, Dan Bearpark, Jamie Blackmore and a couple of Carters – Tom and Ben - have performed superbly alongside Harry Samways and Tommy Boxall. Matthew Hewitt has shone behind the stumps while Bertie Hancock and Ivan and Marcus Mcgrigor have proved valuable additions to the squad.

The U15s remain unbeaten after success against Eastleigh & Otterbourne and Andover, several of the squad currently holding their own in the Longparish II and midweek senior sides. The tie with Eastleigh, the form

side of last season, proved one-sided, Longparish winning by 3 wickets with 3 overs to spare. The match with Andover was a nerve jangling triumph by 2 runs. Four league fixtures have been cancelled and with the Colts season so short, the Longparish U15 side are desperate for games.

Senior sides have also fared well. Lying mid-table in County Division 3 the Longparish 1st team lost to a strong Sarisbury side, despite good knocks from Ross Stewart 51 and Paul Blackmore 45. A second narrow defeat followed at home against Idlers, Paul Blackmore again shining with the bat. Victory two weeks later against Fareham & Crofton was secured after a superb 134 by 17 year old Stuart Tognarelli. Adam Seidman, Chris Clarke and Barry Blackmore were the pick of the bowling attack throughout the month with wickets in most matches.

The seconds remain unbeaten in six matches and top the NW Division 3. A precocious side under the wise tutelage of Captain Justin Jackman, they have performed magnificently. Old hands have been energised by a bunch of boys who refuse to admit defeat. On several occasions, a game nearly lost has been retrieved by youthful exuberance. Matt Jackman took five wickets against some talented Broughton batting and William de Cani struck 69 against a reputable Littleton bowling attack alongside Captain Jackman who biffed 72. Warren Bonathan, a batsman rejuvenated, has hit a brace of 50s, and starred in a league record batting partnership of 244; Bonathan unbeaten on 90 with 17 year old Stuart Tognarelli, a product of the Longparish Colts, who finished on 154 not out. Talented all rounder, 14 year old Brad Aldridge secured victory against Steeple Langford II with an unbeaten 54 alongside some fine bowling by Matt Paice and James Young.

Midweek results in the 20/20 Wilde Sports leagues have been mixed, with defeat against St Cross and victories in the League against Easton & Martyr Worthy, and in the Cup against Mott McDonald, A sparkling 54 by Les Martinez the highlight of both matches.

Sunday games have been fun. A few adults and a bunch of teenagers shone against Hedge End, Wood Green, Whitchurch and Merlin CC. The annual Pedagogues six a side match was a great day enjoyed by all and won by a Longparish side for the first time in recent memory.

The club would like to thank its sponsors, Barker Son & Isherwood. Our Chairman, John Young, said "We are delighted that Barker Son & Isherwood are to continue their long established connection with the club and on behalf of all at the club I would like to thank them for their continued sponsorship"

Kenny is still troubled by rabbits if anybody needs one dead or alive. With the weather forecast set fair, and the ground continuing to sparkle in the summer sun, Longparish cricket continues to flourish.

The Annual Quiz is on 12th July. Details are available, along with match reports and photos, at www.longparishcc.co.uk

Chris de Cani