

Longparish School News

St Nicholas Pageant

Over the past few months, Longparish Primary School had the opportunity to be involved in a very exciting project celebrating the life of St Nicholas, the saint after whom the school was originally named. This gave the children the experience of working with two composers: Rev Professor June Boyce-Tillman, who wrote, composed and directed the Pageant, and David Hughes.



The choir worked incredibly hard to learn 20 pieces, in addition to an instrumental piece, and enjoyed the thrill of singing in parts with the Longparish Village Choir. On the day of the performance, we were also joined by the Spotlight Singers, Andover Town Band and the Longparish Players for the only full (wet and windy) rehearsal.



The performance of the St Nicholas Pageant went incredibly well and was very well received. Being such a central part of a large scale production afforded an amazing experience for the children, which they all thoroughly enjoyed and will remember for many years to come.

We would like to thank Rev Professor June Boyce-Tillman for her dedication and for giving so generously of her time and talent. We would also like to thank David Hughes for his work with the children, as well as everyone involved in the Pageant. The success of this project depended on many who worked tirelessly behind the scenes and is testament to the talent present in Longparish.

We are very grateful to all who turned out on a cool June evening to watch and become part of the Pageant, and also for being so generous in donations. The fantastic amount of £1250 was raised, which will ensure that we can continue to offer the opportunity for every child aged 5 to 9 to learn a different musical instrument each term.

Alex Foggo

A visit to the Houses of Parliament

On Friday 17th May (after a long week of SATS) Chaffinch class was lucky enough to go on a trip to the

Houses of Parliament to learn about citizenship and how buildings are structured.

When we arrived at the Houses of Parliament, we lined up against the wall, with St Stephen's Tower looming over us like a giant in gold clothes. Lining up and waiting to be scanned took a while, but we were so busy looking at the overwhelming and intimidating surroundings, that we hardly noticed ourselves being scanned and given a pass.

The first thing we saw once we had walked through the double doors was incredible – it was Westminster Hall! A wonderful wooden ceiling paved the sky and a spectacular stained glass window stood in front of us.

After a few minutes our tour guide came to greet us; his name was Cliff. First he had to take us to the starting point of the tour; consequently, we had to walk straight through the Houses of Parliament without taking notice of anything – like that was ever going to happen! Intriguing images came before our eyes, and it was impossible to take everything in at once.

The first room we walked into was the Queen's dressing room. The massive room was paved in gold and a majestic chandelier hung in the centre. Cliff showed us a bejewelled seat where the Queen sits, but, like most of the important exhibits, it was sectioned off by a rope. He also explained to us about the wooden plaques surrounding the room. They were based on the life of King Arthur.

Next was the Royal Gallery. This is a beautiful, large hall which the Queen walks through to get to the House of Lords. On the walls are pictures of when Lord Nelson died. We felt almost royal when walking through such a wonderful place.

The third room we visited was the House of Lords; it was one of the most brilliant things I'd ever seen! Red seats surrounded the room, and two thrones stood by the entrance. Cliff explained the issues to do with the law – he even let us sit on the seats (even though you're not supposed to!)

We then weaved like a snake through the never-ending corridors, until we reached the House of Commons. A large, emerald green chair sat innocently at the far end of the considerably smaller chamber, which was, too, beautifully furnished. It was incredible to see a place for real that I see on television most days.

Finally, we made our way back to Westminster Hall for pictures and to thank Cliff for our tour. It was an incredible school trip; thank you to everyone that helped organise it.

Nina Smith

FOLS 100 Club winners

1st	Sarah Griffith	45
2 nd	Margaret Johnson	89
3 rd	Karen-Marie Dinesen	18

St Nicholas Pageant

A big "thank you" to Terry Hemming for his part in the St. Nicholas Pageant. It was Terry's vision to put on the Pageant, when he first mooted the idea about a year ago. It is due to his persistence and enthusiasm for the project, that it all came together on 15th June 2013. He is to be congratulated for pulling all the different groups together to produce, with the help and expertise of June Boyce-Tillman, Professor of Music at the University of Winchester, (shown in the picture with Terry in the background) and others, what everybody who attended and took part thought to be a worthwhile and uplifting experience, bringing together both church and village to raise funds for music at Longparish school - a really worthwhile cause. Well done, Terry, and "thank you".



John Young and Jonathan Evans Churchwardens

Electric Blanket Testing

TVBC are supporting 2 free electric blanket testing sessions where people can take along their electric blankets to be checked for safety and fire risk. This is a joint initiative between Housing and Environmental Health and Community and Leisure Services and external partners Hampshire County Council and Hants Fire and Rescue Service as part of our work relating to vulnerable people's wellbeing and prevention of fuel poverty. In 2012, of the 120 blankets tested, almost 50% failed and were taken out of use ensuring the owners safety.

Andover Fire Station - Monday 30th September
Romsey Fire Station - Wednesday 9th October

Blankets must be booked in advance by calling 01962 833358 (HCC Trading Standards Office). Bookings are now being taken.

Lads v Dads Midsummer football match



Sons took on their fathers in a high scoring, hard fought thriller of a match on the morning of Saturday June 22 with the Lads coming out as 9-8 winners.

Andy Smith

BIRDS OF LONGPARISH THE PHEASANT



It is not known when pheasants were first introduced into England. The earliest record is 1059 in King Harold's reign, when they were imported from Asia. They have been shot for game since then, and have always been very popular table birds. In 1465 the archbishop of York held a banquet with 200 pheasants, also 12 porpoises and seals, 104 peacocks, 400 swans, 500 stags, 2000 geese, 4000 mallard and teal and six boar. Wow, what a feast! Pheasant shooting is a multi-million pound business. Most pheasants are reared by game keepers just for shooting.

Pheasants come in varied colours, the most common being chestnut brown with black markings on the body and tail, the tail being long. A white collar, green neck and a red wattle face, white beak and grey legs with spurs which they use for fighting in the breeding season. They come in many other colours ranging from deep purple to white. The female is a light brown with black markings and a shorter tail. They also come in different colours from nearly black to white.

The nesting season starts in March with the males fighting each other for females. One male can have 1-10 females, but spends a lot of his time chasing off other single males who will try and mate with his. In April a nest is made by a shallow scrape in the ground lined with grass, leaves and feathers. It can be anywhere from under bracken or bramble to the middle of a field. 6-10 oval eggs are laid, smooth olive brown or green, which are incubated for 23-28 days. The young leave the nest soon after hatching. Loss of chicks can be high as they are predated by rooks and crows and they are very susceptible to wet weather. Their food consists of grain, seeds, berries and green shoots.

In the pony paddock I have seen six lapwing chicks; their parents nested in the rape field behind it. Obviously they came into the paddock when the rape became too thick. Six chicks from three pairs is not good but better than none. chris bowman

LCC break in

STOP PRESS - Please tell the police and Cricket Club if you have any information about a break-in at the cricket ground on the night of Thursday 20 June, and keep a watchful eye if you are passing.



LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB

TUESDAY 16 JULY at 6.30 pm

**EVENING VISIT TO THE DOWN HOUSE,
ITCHEN ABBAS, Nr. Winchester. SO21 1AX
(by kind permission of Mark and Jackie Porter)**

3-acre garden developed by Mark and Jackie Porter since 2001. The garden is laid out in rooms overlooking Itchen Valley, adjoining the Pilgrim's Way, with walks through a large meadow to the river Itchen. Borders of coloured stems in Winter. Roped rose garden, hot borders, wildlife pond and shady places in summer. Pleached hornbeams, yew-lined avenues, woodland nut and orchard walk. Working vineyard and potager. The garden has been featured in several magazines.

Members of the Longparish Gardening Club free (non-members £7.00)

Any queries to Rosie Lowry 01264720325
rosie@yewcottagelongparish.com

PLEASE NOTE There will be no meeting of the gardening club in August.



National Garden Scheme

Lower Mill and Longmead House gardens.

Our two gardens were 'Open' for the NGS at the end of May. Because of an article about our gardens in the Telegraph Saturday gardening section and also because of good weather, we had twice the number of visitors we usually expect on a Bank Holiday weekend. There were 585 visitors over the two afternoons and we were able to send £4920 for the charities supported by the NGS, which include Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Cancer Care and Help the Hospices. We are very grateful to all our helpers, from manning the entrances, selling plants, making cakes and serving teas. We almost ran out of cakes after Sunday so several friends spent Monday morning making yet more cakes.

Thank you all, and to Longparish visitors. Our gardens always have something new and we are happy to share them, particularly if we can raise money for charity in doing so.
Wendy & John Ellicock and Karen-Marie Dinesen

Longparish Fete - Books needed

If you have any books to donate to Longparish fete on 7 September please let me know and I will collect them from you

Jenny Jolliffe 01264 720207



LCA Coffee Shop Open Friday 12 July

The LCA Coffee Shop in the Village Hall meeting room is open from 9 am -12 noon every second Friday of the month. For £1 you can enjoy a cup of tea or delicious ground coffee and biscuits. Fairtrade orange juice is available for children. Drop in with your friends, children, parents. Everyone is welcome. Gloria Goodliffe

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

Despite a forecast of sunshine the weather was cool and overcast which was ideal for fast runs. No fewer than seven runners had their best ever times, the most personal bests on one day. Well done to Jim Dundas, James Masters, Magnus Stroier, Glynne & Sheila Evans, Sonia Whiteman and Rachel Waite.

Jim Dundas improved by nearly two minutes to become Most Improved Man and Sonia Whiteman improved by nearly a minute to become Most Improved Woman.



Magnus Stroier had a splendid run. He started six minutes later than his official handicap but still came in 3rd and knocked over seven minutes of his previous time to take the

Rising Star trophy.

First over the line was Anna Nelson about a quarter of an hour ahead of the field but since she was on a bicycle there was no trophy for her! Her sister Katie did two laps, also by bike. They are training for the Andover Triathlon as part of the team from Longparish School. We wish them all luck.

An unusual personal record goes to Jeremy Barber. He nipped out from a 24 hour team race after his 4th five mile lap to run the L2SOTM and then rushed back to do his 5th lap thus achieving his ambition to run a race within a race.

Thanks very much to Maggie and Pauline for marshalling, photography and the flapjack, to Jim for the lovely cake, to David for doing the results whilst still a zombie after Endure 24. Thanks also to the adults who accompanied juniors and thanks, of course, to the Cricket Club for the lovely venue.

The next race is on Sunday 14 July at the usual time of 10am. We hope you can come.

Wanted – Village Hall Cleaner

Would you like to work in the village and at the same time help your local community? A cleaner for Longparish Village Hall is needed. The job pays £42 a month in return for about six hours work. If you are interested and would like more details please contact Jacqui Healey on 720560.

Longparish Parish Council

Planning

The Council had no objection to:

- Tree work at Forton Farmhouse.
- A temporary permit to increase vehicle movements at Apsley Farm Landfill [Hurstbourne Priors] to assist with making good the site.
- The removal of a conservatory at Test Cottage, together with the erection of two storey extensions to the NE and SW elevations; a single storey kitchen extension; and the formation of a pedestrian access.

Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan

An Independent Inspector has now submitted his final report on the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan, which can be found on the Hampshire County Council website.

HCC has also prepared a list of Frequently Asked Questions [FAQ] on the report and adoption of the plan, which can be found on <http://www.hants.gov.uk/county-planning>.

Highways

Incident

On Wednesday 19 June at 8.50AM, a car came down Southside Hill at speed and cut across the junction into Mill Lane on the wrong side of the road, narrowly missing a mother and daughter cycling to school.

The incident was witnessed and both the make and number of the car, as well as a description of the driver, have been reported to the Police.

The Council supported the extended 30 MPH zone and saw it as an opportunity to encourage people to drive reasonably and to respect other road users.

This incident serves to remind us all that 30 MPH is the absolute maximum permitted speed within the zone and that a lower speed may well be more appropriate, depending on the conditions - for example, where there are pedestrians or cyclists in the road; or a parked car; in poor visibility; on a blind bend; or if pets and livestock are present that may be startled by a motor vehicle.

The speed limit is not therefore a target or a guarantee that it is safe to drive at that speed.

State of the Roads

The Council has again raised concerns about the state of the roads with our County Councillor, Andrew Gibson. A couple of deep potholes in Mill Lane have since been mended but there is a lot more to do. Please do keep reporting problems so the Highway people don't have the excuse that no-one has done so. You can report problems online: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/index/transport/roadproblems.htm>

Overgrown Hedges

Concern has been raised over hedges which are growing out into roads and footpaths

Hedges overhanging roads scratch cars and are dangerous because they leave nowhere for pedestrians to escape from traffic and force cyclists out into the middle of the road. If there is no verge between your hedge and the road, please cut it back and make it safe.

Similarly, overgrown hedges on footpaths scratch and sting walkers and force the paths away from their proper line. If you own one, please cut it back to help everyone enjoy the countryside.

Open Spaces

The Council held its annual village inspection on 3 June and the main focus this year was on the playground following receipt of the annual RoSPA report. Various maintenance improvements were approved and set in hand, including new seats for the swings and we hope that funds will also run to some re-painting.

Parish Council Vacancy

It was with regret that the Council learned of Simon Troughton's decision to resign due to ill health and wishes him well for the future..

The Council does a lot of quiet work to help keep our village 'special'. If you can spare a few hours a month and would like to help, please contact the Chairman, Christopher Duxbury [720589] or Vice Chairman, Jonathan Frere [720574] or email clerk@longparish.org.uk

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Village Hall committee room on Monday 8 July 2013 at 7.30pm.

Meetings are public and parishioners are welcome to come and speak by arrangement with the Chairman - Christopher Duxbury Tel: 720580 or email: clerk@longparish.org.uk

The Mummers' Tale

It all started many years ago when I saw a photo of the Longparish Mummers and a copy of the script in a glass case in the Church. I transcribed the text



(as dictated to Ernest White) and put it in the Players area of the village website with a message saying that one day it might be revived.

Then four years ago I met Mike Dommert in a sweltering hot railway sleeper compartment in China and it turned out that he is a Crookham Mummer. That led to a Boxing Day visit to Crookham to see him and his team. It seemed like a good idea: beer, banter and a certain amount of gratuitous violence. Crookham regularly break 40 swords over three performances!

Then along came Terry Hemming with his pageant idea and could we revive the Mummers. Yes please! Internet research turned up a picture of the Mummers outside Tudor Cottage. A book of folk plays from 1930 had a chapter on Longparish and Overton Mummers and it became clear that Longparish were the best dressed troupe in Hampshire.

Mary Snow's eyes lit up when I visited her to mine her memory. As a child at Southside Farm in the 1930s she was told she could get up and watch the Mummers if she went to bed early. She peered through the banisters in her night dress to see the spectacle unfolding in the hallway below. Mary confirmed that the costumes were in colour though the photo was sepia. How could we re-create the wonderful costumes she remembered?

A very diffident call to Helen Ridge of the Craft Club produced an enthusiastic response. Martin Hulme produced six boiler suits and they were away. On successive Tuesdays the Village Hall was abuzz with the sound of sewing machines. More and more people volunteered to help and provided material to make the tatters and it turned out that Zoe Randall is married to an Overton Mummer and that Mike Dommert's Dad helped re-start them 40 years ago. It's a small world.

Then there were the hats. Georgina Knipe created what she termed "huge tasselled condoms" and we all made hats to put them over. They were painful and heavy to wear but you have to make sacrifices for art.

Meantime Martin Hulme already had a sword and shield (as you do) and being an engineer was able to make another. We rehearsed and adapted the play. The Turkish Knight became Yorkish, his sword became a cricket bat, the phrase "swivel eyed loon" was worked into the script, Emma Smith started practising on an accordion which I just happened to have lying around (as you do) and we decided to use the Wassail Song.

In true Mummung tradition we practised at the pub (actually not so; true Mummung tradition is not to practise) and the clanging sounds of battle reached Sugar Lane. The first dress rehearsal showed that inhaling when wearing a hat covered with a huge tasselled condom can lead to nasty choking and hair grips and scrunchies came to the rescue.

We'd never used microphones before but it all worked out well. Our singing was boosted when the three choirs learned the Wassail Song on the afternoon of the Pageant and it was all systems go.

We crowded into the disabled loo to change and waited apprehensively for our cue. On we went. We remembered most of the words. The battling was noisy, the children watched with rapt attention and it all seemed to go down well.



Next day we re-enacted the Tudor Cottage picture, much to the amusement of passers-by. Martin and Sylvia Crook kindly plied us with drinks which made us think about what to do at Christmas. In the words of Mr Schwarzenegger, "We'll be back!"

Jeremy Barber aka Tall and Smart.

**Paula Vize
Open Studio
17 - 26 August
11am - 5pm daily**



Due to a mistake Paula has been left out of the Hampshire Open Studios brochure.

Her studio at Walnut Tree House, East Aston, SP11, the 3rd house as you enter the village from the Hurstbourne Priors end, will be open to show some of this year's countryside, horse, hound and livestock paintings and portraiture in the usual varied media.

Tel. 01254 720320 Email pvize@btinternet.com

Longparish Village Fete and Fun Day

Saturday 7 September
12 noon – 4pm
Cricket Field

Courtesy of Richard Wills and the Longparish Cricket Club

From Winchester Hat Fair and Dance Up we present

Joli Vyann

a professional company with a new fusion of dance and circus which will pull you into an imaginative and captivating experience

Juggling Jake

Clowning and circus skills for you to try

Bouncy Pirate Ship	Win a Peppa Pig
Punch and Judy	Andover Town Band
Zumba Dancing	A real Fire Engine
Fun Pet Dog Show	Whitchurch Fast Draw
Face Painting	Children's Games
Bric a Brac	Books Games DVDs
Produce	Second Hand Rose
Bottle Stall	Grand Draw
Cakes	Champagne Draw
Coconut Shy	Trade Stands
BBQ	Beer Tent
	Teas

'The Best Fete in Hampshire'

We need volunteers!

Call Henry on 720790 or David on 720066



Longparish Cricket Club

Sponsored by Barker, Son & Isherwood, Solicitors

Longparish Cricket Club's outdoor season is well underway with the 1st XI sitting fourth in Hampshire Cricket League County Div 3 after three wins and a loss. The 2nd XI have won two lost two and tied one putting them slap bang in the middle of Regional Division 1. The club is also fielding U11, U13 and U15 sides in the Winchester & District junior leagues, with weekly training sessions for all the boys' teams on Mondays or Tuesdays. Several of the Colts represented the Winchester & District side at the District festivals that took place over half term.

The artificial wicket installed over the winter has proved to be a huge success. At this stage last season and the season before that 40% of Colts games had been lost to a wet wicket. This year despite the dodgy start to the summer weather every single Colts game scheduled to be played at the Longparish ground has been played. Thank you to all who supported the fund raising for the artificial wicket during 2012.

On Sunday 14th July the club is holding an outdoor quiz at the ground. Starting at 7.30pm teams of six adults (have as many juniors as you like) are invited to enter, £12 a team. Bring a picnic, chairs, umbrellas, there's plenty of room. All welcome to enter a fun event to raise much needed funds for the club. If you would like to enter a team please send a cheque for £12 payable to

Longparish Cricket Club along with your team name to Julie Sturt, 16 Meadow View, Blosswood lane, Whitchurch, RG28 7BL, or email JulieASturt@aol.com.

Longparish Cricket Club 100 Club Winners

£35 Peter Herbert

£15 Matt Jackman

£15 Clive Burnard

Chris de Cani

NEWS FROM TESTBOURNE

I can remember when there used to be quieter, perhaps less pressured, times of the school year, the second half of the summer term being one of them. Nowadays, however, the pace is constant with any variation being from busy to even busier!

The official exam season is over and we await the outcome of the efforts of students and staff with the usual trepidation. Nonetheless we enjoyed our now traditional Leavers' Assembly, with over 250 parents and guests gathering with us to give Y11 a celebratory and sometimes emotional send off, complete with Hopes and Dreams Balloon Launch and afternoon tea.

For students still in school there are plenty of opportunities to seize, as well as fitting in the usual lessons and learning: our latest D of E team are preparing for their expedition challenge in the New Forest; some Y8s are practising their German ready for their visit to the Rhineland; Year 9 historians are off to the Belgian Battlefields; a team of budding engineers is taking part in the Teen Tech challenge in Basingstoke; our junior cricket teams (boys and girls) are regularly seeing off local opposition; all of Year 10 are preparing to go out on two weeks work experience in the real world (and thank you to local companies and organisations for your valuable help in making this possible); our musicians and singers are rehearsing hard so they are ready to take Testbourne music on tour during the last week of term when they will be performing a number of fresco concerts around Lake Garda. Europe here we come! And before they go we are planning to enjoy a "Summer Celebration" with a lunch-time concert and picnic coupled with a mufti day and fair as part of the students' drive to "Bring Them Back" - "them" being a group of students from our partner school in Mityana, Uganda, with another fundraising ploy being a "push a teacher in the pool" raffle. How could we refuse for such a good cause?!

Students are not the only ones bidding farewell to Testbourne. Regular readers will know I shall be retiring at the end of August but may not be aware that there are two very loyal and long-serving members of staff, Mary Payne (aka Soper) and Paul Welch, who will also be joining the retired ex-Testbourne Lunch Club. Paul has been an absolute rock for 14 years as our Senior Finance Manager and Mary has been at the heart of the school for an amazing 31 years, starting work in the school office and moving up to be the best PA a Headteacher could ask for. We have all loved being part of the Testbourne family and are approaching the next few weeks with mixed feelings - looking forward to a little more time and new chapters but aware of what we shall miss.

Hilary Jackson, Headteacher