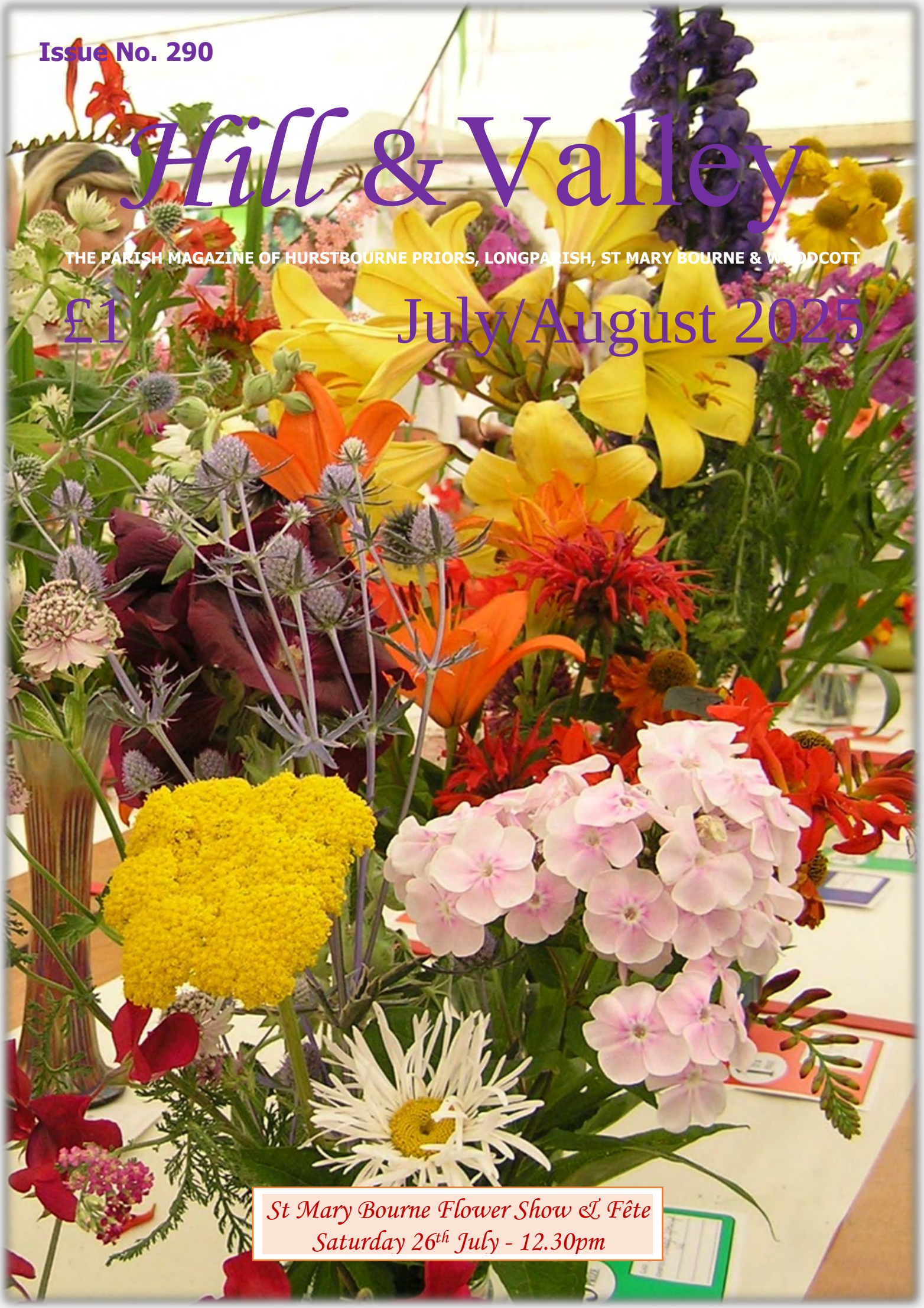
Issue No. 290

Hill & Valley

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

£1

July/August 2025



St Mary Bourne Flower Show & Fête
Saturday 26th July - 12.30pm

Dear Friends,

Do you, like me, sometimes get the feeling that it is almost impossible to know what to believe, who to trust?

We watch the news and listen to the opinions and wise words of an expert who says they have the right answer, only then to listen to it all contradicted by another expert who has an opposing view - and they too claim to have the right answer!

How can we find the truth?

There is some comfort in knowing that 'twas ever thus…

Almost three thousand years ago the author of the Book of Job in the Old Testament tells the story, a rather peculiar tale, of a man struggling to find the truth. It is the story that the phrase 'Job's comforter' comes from; a phrase that is used to describe someone who appears to provide consolation, but whose words and deeds actually make the sufferer feel worse.

It is a mythical story in which Satan makes a wager with God (as if!) which results in poor Job losing everything but his life. His 'comforters' come along and commiserate but actually make him more miserable.

Fortunately, the story has a happy ending, God restores Job's health and wealth because Job keeps faith with God, he trusts God despite the ordeal inflicted on him by Satan.

The author of the Book of Job examines the question whether we can maintain our trust in God when things are not going to plan. This strange tale also wrestles with the question of whether we can grasp the wisdom of God.

Because they think God thinks just like them, Job's 'comforters' believe that Job's suffering has been caused by his sins, but they are wrong.

Job, on the other hand realizes, that he cannot understand the wisdom of God, he admits: *'I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know'*.

This has to be true for all of us. We cannot know everything about God; we cannot understand the wisdom of God because His wisdom is vast - beyond our comprehension.

What we can believe and trust, is what Saint Paul tells us in the eighth chapter of his letter to the early church in Rome, *'if God is for us, who can be against us?'* Nothing, Paul says, can separate us from this love, no matter how many mistakes we make. God welcomes us just as we are.

Georgi *The Revd Georgi Leask*

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

St Andrew's Reels

In aid of St. Andrew's Church, Hurstbourne Priors

Saturday 27th September 2025

at the Barn, Chapmansford Farm House

Dinner & Dancing, Black Tie / Tartan / Smart

Tickets £45

to include a glass of fizz and wine with dinner

Everyone welcome including beginners!

Contact: St.AndrewsReels@gmail.com

Dashing White Sergeant, Strip the Willow, Eightsome, Duke of Perth, Reel of the 51st

Services in the Parish Churches

July & August 2025

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

Sunday 6th July - Trinity 3

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Family Communion*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	*Holy Communion*
All Hallows, Whitchurch	5.00pm	*Contemplative Prayer*

Home Zoom Service at 10.30am

Wednesday 9th July

St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.30am	*Holy Communion*

Sunday 13th July - Trinity 4

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	6.00pm	*Benefice Evensong*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Animal & Pet Service*
St James', Woodcott	*No service*	

Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online

Sunday 20th July - Trinity 5

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Animal & Pet Service*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Eco Service*
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	*Matins*

Home Zoom Service at 10.30am

Wednesday 23rd July

All Hallows, Whitchurch	9.30am	*Holy Communion*

Sunday 27th July - Trinity 6

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	9.00am	*Holy Communion*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St James', Woodcott	*No service*	

Home Zoom Service at 10.30am

Sunday 3rd August - Trinity 7

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	*No service*	
St Nicholas', Longparish	*No service*	
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	*No service*	
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	*Holy Communion*
All Hallows, Whitchurch	10.30am	*Benefice Service*
	5.00pm	*Contemplative Prayer*

Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online

Sunday 10th August - Trinity 8

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	6.00pm	*Benefice Evensong*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St James', Woodcott	*No service*	

Home Zoom Service at 10.30am

Wednesday 13th August

St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	9.30am	*Holy Communion*

Sunday 17th August - Trinity 9

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	*No service*	
St Nicholas', Longparish	*No service*	
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Benefice Service*
		Holy Communion
	10.00am	*Tea and Toast*
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	*Matins*

Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online

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

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

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

- For details of **Roman Catholic Services** in Whitchurch or Andover: ☏ 01264 352829
- **Methodist Minister** for our parishes: The Revd Rachel Borgars, 11 Lapwing Rise, Whitchurch, RG28 7SU ☏ 01256 895878 or **rachel.borgars@methodist.org.uk**

From the *Church Registers*

- **Baptisms**

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

Dominic Holtum Longparish - 8/6/2025

Molly Stratton
Hurstbourne Priors - 15/6/2025

- **Weddings**

"Marriage is a gift of God in creation …"

Catherine Lewis and **James St Clare Inwood**
St Mary Bourne - 10/6/2025

- **Funerals**

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

Jo Griffith St Mary Bourne - 6/6/2025

Lois Pugh Jones (interment of ashes)
Hurstbourne Priors - 8/6/2025

Robert Charlton Longparish - 11/6/2025

Sylvia Joan Thorne (interment of ashes)
St Mary Bourne - 13/6/2025

Sunday 24th August - Trinity 10

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	*Family Praise*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St James', Woodcott	*No service*	

Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online

Sunday 31st August - Trinity 11

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	*No service*	
St Nicholas', Longparish	*No service*	
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	6.00pm	*Benefice Evensong*
St James', Woodcott	*No service*	
All Hallows, Whitchurch	10.30am	*Benefice Service*
		Holy Communion

Home Zoom Service at 10.30am

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LONGPARISH PARISH COUNCIL REPORT
www.longparish.org.uk/parish-council
Council Chair: Emma Palmer (emma.palmerpc@longparish.org.uk or 07881 923150)
Parish Clerk: Hayley Thomas (clerk@longparish.org.uk or 01256 396868)

RECENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 25/01173/TREEN Owls Lodge – Tree works.
- 25/01209/FULLN Watercress Beds – Redevelopment to create a biodiversity-rich lake.

Full details of planning applications can be viewed on the Test Valley Borough Council website view-applications.testvalley.gov.uk/online-applications/

COULD YOU BE OUR NEXT PARISH COUNCILLOR?
Longparish Parish Council is looking for three community minded individuals to join the Parish Council. As a Councillor, you will have your say on issues that affect the village and help us keep Longparish as the place we all know and love.
Longparish Parish Council are a friendly bunch with a passion for your parish and wanting to get things done. The Parish Council acts as a link between the village and the other bodies responsible for services to the community including Test Valley Borough Council and Hampshire County Council, as well as works on multiple projects for the betterment of the village. Current projects the Longparish Parish Council are working on include:

- Reviewing and commenting on planning applications in and around the parish
- Maintenance works throughout the village including to trees, the football pitch, play park, noticeboards and bus shelters.
- Installing new Football goals
- Reporting Highways issues to Hampshire Highways and Southern Water
- Establishing a resilience plan to support the village in times of emergency.

To find out more about the Parish Council and the role of a Councillor, or to put your name forward, please contact clerk@longparish.org.uk

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Monday 14th July 2025 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall. A public presentation will be given by Fortis IBA regarding the proposal to replace and extend the existing IBA Processing Plant at the Raymond Brown A303 Enviropark. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

LONGPARISH WILDLIFE
An Early Summer Walk

Laid in bed and watched the weather forecast, sunny and hot, my kind of day. Looked out of the window, cloudy that seems about right. So the dog and I set off. Spotted some **House Sparrows** on Sue's new feeders as I turn down the back path. The usual **Jackdaw** on the chimney and nothing at Arthur's. At the shop, turn right and we noticed a lone **Collared Dove** sat on the pub roof. We carry on and observe a couple of **House Martins** flying around catching insects. I will have a look in the pony paddock on the way back. Quite a few **Swifts** flying over the croft, nice to see them. Turn left into Mill Lane. A **Blackbird** flies across from one hedge to the other on to the bridge; the usual **Heron** sat on the bridge down river. Turn left towards the ford and stop to look at the trout farm, there are two fishermen so not so many here today. We have **Canada**, **Greylag**, and **Egyptian Geese, Mallard, Tufted Duck**, **Coot** and **Swallows** having a drink. On to the ford and the usual **Garden Warbler** is singing in the tree in front of me. I have to wait until he flies out as there are too many leaves on the tree — and out, he flies; I see him most days. Turn left into Nuns Walk and a couple of **Carrion Crows** making a lot of noise. In front, a male **Bullfinch** flies into the hedge. I don't see many of them now. In the tree in front is a family of **Mistle Thrushes** and on my left a family of **Great Tits** and a **Chiffchaff**. With kind permission I go into Johnny Walker's Lake and there is a **Magpie**, **Little Egret** and a **Little Grebe.** They have been sitting on eggs, but they have now hatched. I can only see one chick perhaps there are more in the reeds. Nothing else so on we go back towards the ford. A **Song Thrush** flies out of the hedge and down the road. I can see a **Blue Tit** in the hedge and a **Robin** on a post. Stop at the gate it's a good place to see **Skylarks,** but not today, only the usual **Buzzard**. Turn right on to the bridge, the **Swans** are here with their five young (they have lost two) and a **Moorhen** with two little black chicks. Turn right back into Mill Lane and there are a few **Goldfinches** in an ash tree and a pair of **Dunnock**s in the hedge. Carrying on and a pair of **Greenfinches** are sat in the fir tree. Back to the bridge and a **Red Kite** overhead oh and a **Herring Gull** and a **Grey Wagtail** darting around catching insects. Back to the pony paddock there are **Woodpigeon**, **Rook**, **Starlings** and a **Pied Wagtail**. On we go, a **Great Spotted Woodpecker** flies from over the bungalows on my right probably from Graham's or Ian's feeders and it lands on the side of the telegraph pole and climbs up it before flying off. Well I think that is enough for one day and I hope you enjoyed our walk we saw 38 different birds.

Chris Bowman

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FORTIS
Preserving our Natural Resources

Fortis IBA will be presenting at both the Longparish and Barton Stacey Parish Meetings in July 2025:

7.45pm on 14th July – Longparish Village Hall
7.30pm on 15th July – Barton Stacey Village Hall

The presentation will be an overview on the proposal to replace and extend the existing IBA Processing Plant at the Raymond Brown A303 Enviropark. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback at both events.

If you have any queries, please contact planning@fortisiba.com

Barton Stacey WI

Our May meeting was the only 'official' meeting of the WI year, the Annual Meeting, where we share what we have been up to, our financial situation, and what we have planned for the year ahead. It is also the meeting where the new committee is selected. This year, there have been a few changes, with the retirement of Sue as President. Sue has been an integral part of the Barton Stacey WI since its inauguration almost ten years ago and has been an unwavering support for everything we do. Whilst we will miss Sue's incredible WI knowledge on the committee, she remains a valued member of the WI.
The new committee for the 2025/26 year are: Donna Oliver – President, Wendy Harris – Treasurer, Marian Witcomb – Secretary and Penny Horobin, Jean Chapman and Pauline Maunder as committee members.
As we embrace the summer months, we are excited about upcoming events. At our July meeting we will be hearing about the important role of Mercy Ships, a faith-based international organisation that deploys hospital ships to some of the poorest countries of the World. August is our Summer Social, and this year we are planning an evening on The Green learning some square-dancing routines. Hopefully the weather will be on our side, and we can enjoy a refreshing glass of Pimm's to help the dancing along!

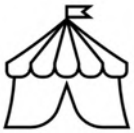
We are a small group of ladies who meet on the last Thursday of each month in the Village Hall, from 7.30pm. We offer a warm welcome and encourage guests to our meetings to see what becoming a member of the WI can offer. For more information, please contact Donna Oliver (email: bartonstaceypres@hampshirewi.org.uk) or Marian Witcomb (bartonstaceysec@hampshirewi.org.uk).

LONGPARISH VILLAGE FETE
SEPTEMBER 6th
12 pm – 4 pm

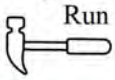
A Day of Fun for All Ages!
Join us for a traditional village fete packed with entertainment and community spirit.

What's On:

- Classic Games and Stalls
- Dog Show – all pooches welcome!
- Raffle and Tombola – over 30 prizes to win
- Handmade Teas and Cakes
- BBQ, Ice Cream & Refreshments
- Entertainment for the whole family



Can you lend a hand?
We are also looking for volunteers to:
Help set up in the days before the fete
Run a stall during the fete
Clear up afterwards.



We are looking for donations from any bakers who would kindly contribute to our cake stall, **Cake** donations can be brought to the fete on the day.

One of the best book stalls in Hampshire returns to the fete! If you have any **Books, CD's, or DVDs** to donate to the fete please ring Jenny Joliffe on 07471 942496 or 01264 720207 to arrange for collection.

We are also accepting donations of quality items for the Bric-a-Brac and Toy stalls.

Any items or time that you can donate makes a massive difference and helps us to be able to continue to run the fete each year – Thank you!

All proceeds go to support Longparish Church, groups, and projects within the village. For donations or more info contact: **Harriet Major (harrietlily@hotmail.co.uk) or 07884436328**

Longparish Gardening Club

Tuesday 22nd of July
Early Evening visit to Four Gardens,
in Wildhern SP11 0JE
5:30

There will be no meeting of LGC in August.

Any queries please to Rosie Lowry 01264 720325 or Marion Bell 01264 720205

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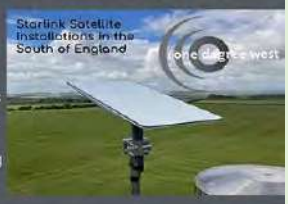

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Cedar Tree at Woodbury House felled at short notice due to safety issues

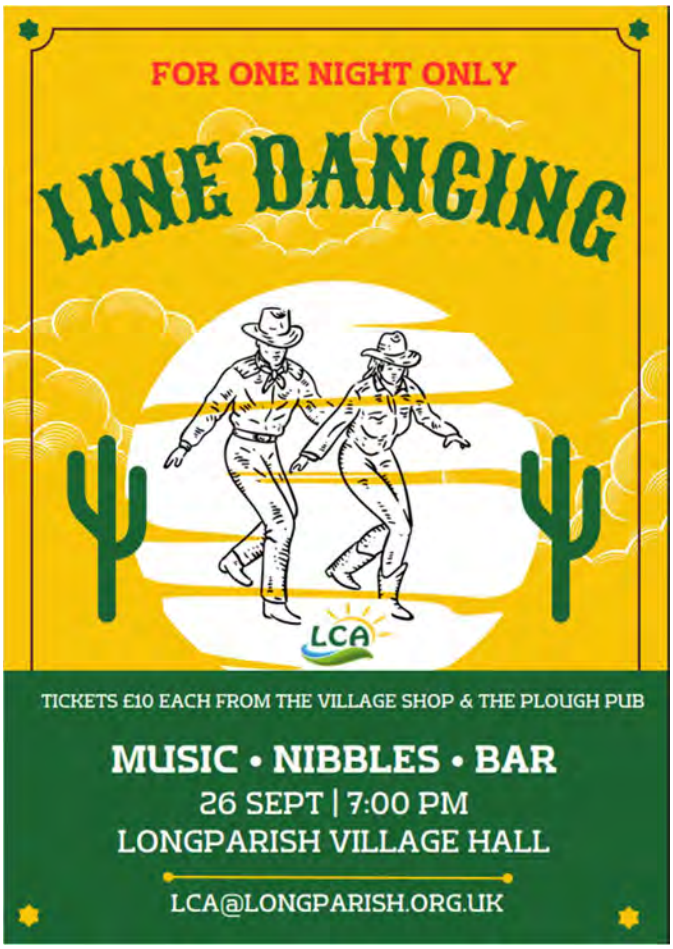
We had wanted to notify you in advance, that unfortunately we have to fell the Cedar tree which sits adjacent to the school/church car park.

Whilst we have tried to preserve this tree since moving into Woodbury House, by careful maintenance and strapping of limbs, the time has sadly come where for safety reasons it has to be felled. The Council made the decision it was to be felled asap, so by the time you read this it will have been removed.

As with **all** work to **every** tree in our garden, the tree surgeon made correct and proper applications and consultations with the local authorities. We just felt we should notify people in the village, as many of you will notice and miss this important tree, including ourselves.

We will be planting another Cedar in its place, as near to the same location as possible.

Ros and Roy Franklin
Woodbury House



LITTER FREE LONGPARISH for 2025!!

Next Group Litter picks is on **Friday 11th July** and **8th August.**

Meet behind the **Village Hall at 9.15 am,** the Parish Council will provide litter picking sticks, hoops and bags. Coffee at the Plough afterwards. For more information Tel **Christian Dryden 720 398**

LONGPARISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Please join us for the **Summer Friday Lunch Club**
12-2pm
25th July, 29th August
£3 for hot soup and freshly baked cake.

A chance for conversation and meet up with Longparish folk. Open to anyone of any age but please book for catering purposes**.**

To book lunch and/ or transport ring Andrea 720 457

Longparish Cricket Club

With only 3 matches so far this season abandoned due to rain, it has been a busy start to the summer at Longparish CC. All junior teams from U9s to U15s have been enjoying playing matches alongside their regular training sessions. The Allstars have displayed endless enthusiasm in participating in their first cricket experience and having lots of fun. On Monday evenings we regularly have over 50 children attending training which is wonderful to see.

The 1st team currently lie 5th in their League, as do the 2nds and the 3rds are 8th. It has been fantastic to see some of the U15s playing for the 3rd team and getting their first experience of senior cricket. LCC is very keen to encourage this progression from junior teams into the adult teams and in fact, most of the current 1st team have followed this pathway. By the time of reading, the annual Village Day will have been held, featuring the Woodcock Cup cricket match, and we hope that all who attended the event enjoyed the day. We very much appreciate your support.

Our next event will be the Junior Presentation and Fun Day on 20 July 2025. This will involve junior cricket matches and end of season presentations, a BBQ, refreshments and other children's games. Look out for posters locally for more details.

Alison Allen

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St Nicholas Church 100 Club

Results of the May 2025 Draw

The membership currently stands at 61, and the prizes below are therefore based on that number. We would like to get up to a minimum of 100 numbers/members, and we would be extremely grateful if you would consider becoming a member of the club and supporting your parish church in this way.

Prizes are allocated on a percentage basis. First prize is 25% of the total income for the month, second prize 15% and third prize 5%.

May Results

First prize:	No. 61	£76.00
Second prize:	No. 18	£46.00
Third Prize:	No. 45	£15.00

You can join at any time during the year, and it works like this - Membership is set at £5.00 per number per month. There is no limit to the numbers you can purchase. If you would like to join, please let me know, and I will let you have the relevant forms. Or, if you have any other queries about church finances or how the church is administered, for example, please contact me:-

John Young, Churchwarden & PCC Stewardship Officer,
St. Nicholas 100 Club
Tel: 01264 720233
Mob: 07860 630489 or
Email: jayoung1322@gmail.com

N.B. Again, just a reminder that the church is open each day from 9.30am to 5pm. It is beautiful, and don't forget, it belongs to you! I strongly believe we have an obligation to look after it for future generations.

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

It was a beautiful morning for the June race.
Matthew Benneyworth beat his handicap by over two minutes to become our Rising Star. Next home was Most Improved Man, Jonathan Woods. Alice Evans was Most Improved Woman. Well done all!
By a strange quirk of the handicap system Alfie Brunwin in eighth place set new junior course record. It was already his record, and it was only by one second but hey! a course record is a course record. I am reminded of Mondo Duplantis and the pole vault.

Afterwards many of the runners enjoyed coffee and bacon rolls and/or cake at The Plough.

Thank you very much to Maggie Barber, Megan Brunwin and Ailsa Wiggans for marshalling, Andy Smith for doing the signs, the adults who accompanied juniors and to David Gould for processing the results.

The next race is on **Sunday 13 July, starting at 9am** at The Plough. New runners are always welcome and you don't have to be fast. It's a handicap race so everyone, whatever their pace, has a chance of winning.

Please do give us a call or send an email if you'd like to join us. For more information please see
http://l2sotm.longparish.org.uk/index.php
Jeremy Barber
01264 720459 mrjeremybarber@gmail.com

Greening Longparish Conservation events

We are holding a couple of events in Longparish to help rekindle interest in using the countryside and in particular to help with identifying the rich variety of plants and animals in the village. Parents and children are invited to come along. Refreshments, drinks and fruit, will be provided and please bring appropriate clothing, hats and suncream.

Prior notice of attendance would be helpful:

Sunday 6th July - 10am to 12 Noon
Meet at Southside Common 'Pocket Nature Reserve'
At the end of No Through Road off Southside Road
Grid Ref SU 432 439 w3w grapevine.skills.plants

Work Party cutting back vegetation to encourage wetland plants and reseeding and planting plugs. Tools will be provided but bring loppers, secateurs and trowel if you can.

For further information please phone:
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Longparish Little School

We are extremely fortunate to be part of this delightful village, where our children can learn so much about the natural world, farming, and the beautiful changes that nature brings with each season. Recently, we organised a sponsored walk, allowing our families to enjoy a lovely stroll through the village while searching for colourful items in their surroundings. We have been captivated by the views over the fields, watching the lambs frolic, and we felt particularly fortunate to witness the sheep being sheared. The children found it amusing to see the sheep getting a 'haircut' and learned how their fleece can be transformed into clothing.

During our Forest School sessions, we have discovered numerous little creatures during our bug hunts and enjoyed researching them in books to learn more. Additionally, we had a lovely picnic and playtime in the park, which provided the children with a great opportunity to have fun while enhancing their physical skills.

If you would like to arrange a visit, please call us on 01264 720455 or visit our website to learn more: https://www.longparishlittleschool.org.uk/

Whitchurch Children's Festival 2025

Taking place on **Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th July 2025**, this small, safe, and friendly family arts festival is specially designed for families with pre-school and primary-school-aged children. Set in a wildflower water meadow beside the crystal-clear River Test, it's a chance to immerse your little adventurers in hands-on arts, theatre, poetry, dance, and live music—all inspired by the beauty of Whitchurch and its surrounding landscape.

This years theme is The River Test.

- 🎭 **Live Theatre**
- 🎨 **Arts & Crafts drop-in workshops**
- 🎶 **Music**
- 📖 **Storytelling**
- 💃 **Dance**
- ✨ **Creative Walkabouts**
- 🎡 **Just for Fun!** – Hop on a donkey ride, get your face painted, or bounce away on bouncy castles.

Thanks to generous funding from Arts Council England, ticket prices are fantastic value:

- 🎟️ Family Day Ticket (2 adults & 2 children) – £20 (£5 per person)
- 🎟️ Individual Adult or Child Ticket – £5 per person
- 👶 Children aged 2 and over require a ticket (under-2s go free).

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Wednesday Nights, Burger Night: one of our delicious burgers with a pint of beer, or a small glass of house wine or a soft drink of your choice for £19.95

Friday Evening, Early Bird Special from 5pm-6.30pm: Fish & Chips, buy one get one half price, eat in or takeaway....

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Sunday 13th July & Sunday 10th August
Get your teams ready and join us for a fun-packed evening from 6pm, teams of up to 6, £1 pp entry

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Monday 25th August
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SCAN HERE SCAN HERE

James Pond is a sheep, quite small and sweet,
He was born while we slumbered, in silence deep.
And then one day and quite without warning,
tumbled into a pond rather early in the morning

A fisherman found him, soaked to the bone,
Shivering softly, scared and alone.
He brought James to shore, with kindness and care,
But James smelled like fish, with weeds in his hair.

Back at the field, his kin gave a stare
"Who's that strange lamb with pondweed in hair?"
They bleated and bustled, went on with their day,
Leaving poor James feeling lost and dismayed.

He sat by the bank, confused and quite sore,
His tummy was rumbling, his heart a bit more.
But luck soon arrived on two legs, not four,
Some bipeds found him and opened their door.

They cuddled him close, gave him warm milk to drink,
He slurped and he sighed and began to think:
“This life isn’t bad — there’s grass, hay, and fun,
And all of the flowers I can eat in the sun!”

He munched every stem, every petal and tree,
Their garden was ruined, but James felt so free!
He grew big and fluffy, his fleece pure and round,
A happier sheep could scarcely be found.

One day he’ll return to his family flock,
To tell tales that will cause their wool to unlock:
Of barking sheep that wag and leap,
Of meowing ones that purr in their sleep.

Of bipeds who hug and feed you with joy,
Who treat every lamb like a treasured toy.
James Pond, the sheep, once lost and wet,
Will be the most storied sheep ever yet.

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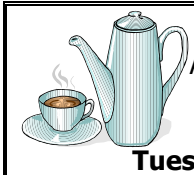

Coffee at *The George Inn*

All ages are welcome, from all the villages, to a social coffee morning at ***The George Inn*** St Mary Bourne on **Tuesday 8th July** & **12th August** at **10.30am**
£2.50 for coffee and biscuits - For more information contact Win Coventry - ☎ 01264 738 **199**.

The Boundary Shop & Café - 1☺☺ Club

June 2025 draw:

£50 - Lesley Taft **£20** - Dom Liversedge
£20 - B & M Cradduck **£10** - Simon Lawrence

The next 1☺☺ Club Draw: **Saturday 12th July** & **9th August**

The Lunch

Our next Village Lunches will be held on **Wednesday 16th July** and **Wednesday 20th August** at St Mary Bourne Village Centre, as usual starting to serve at 12.30pm. Once again, we will be holding our Summer Raffle at the July lunch. If a lift is needed, please phone Chris Smith on 01264-738110 by Noon on the Tuesday.

Animal Service

Sunday 13th July at 10.30am

There will be all kinds of things to do, animals to be blessed, songs to be sung and a happy gathering out in the church yard.

ECO SERVICE

On 20th July, at 10.30 am, we are holding an Eco Service. This is to remind ourselves of how important a part we have in preserving, protecting and conserving for future generations.

In the church yard we are now involved in being as green as we can -bird boxes, owl boxes, bat boxes, wildflowers and on it goes. We are now looking at becoming greener inside the church. Do come along on 20th to celebrate all that we have and think about the future.

The Andover Food bank

Needs the following:
Tinned Soup, Custard Tinned Fruit
Tins of Rice Pudding, Sweetcorn and Potatoes
As well as Chocolate Bars
Toilet Rolls, Toothpaste, Shower Gel

St Mary Bourne Primary School

The Summer term is always busy in school. Oak Class have been on their class trip to the woods for a fantastic forest school session. They walked back to school listening to the thunder and finished the afternoon with an ice lolly.

We also had the wonderful treat of an author visiting us in school.

Mr Simon Murray talked about his story writing and led a master class in drawing his Icky Doo Dah character.

KS1 and KS2 have had an assembly led by Network Rail. It focussed on train safety and the important messages such as making sure that they stand behind the line on the platform when waiting for a train. In the assembly the school was also awarded a special award in recognition of all our hard work in promoting rail safety.

June has marked a special milestone for our Wrap Around after school care. Red Kite Kids Club has now been running for a full year! To celebrate the children took part in classic party games like Simon Says, Pin the Tail on the Red Kite and of course, no celebration is complete without cake, which was enjoyed during snack time.

Following a successful 'Walk to School Week' and running alongside our Living Streets Walk to School Campaign - it is Clean Air Day in June, where we hope to reduce car emissions and improve air quality around school, by encouraging everyone to walk, scoot, cycle, car share and turn off car engines when parked or waiting at school. There are lots of other things coming up this summer, including our Residential trip to Braeside, Sports Day and the end of year performance of 'The Lemonade Kid'.

Visiting over the Summer

August is a great month for visiting - home, hospital, neighbours.

If there is someone you would like us (clergy) to visit, please do email or phone (my details are in the front of the mag).

It's a thing we love to do. Chris (at School Cottages) and I would be very happy to call and chat if you would like us too. *DM*

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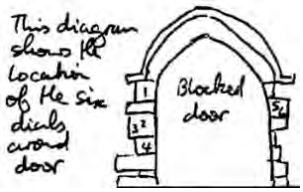
History of the Hill & Valley area in Ten Objects

6 - Hurstbourne Priors, St Andrew's church: **Mass Dial**

This is just one of the six recorded mass dials on the jambs of the blocked priest's door in the south chancel wall. Something of an obsession with time-keeping in the village? The hole is for the gnomon, a stick inserted into the wall, whose shadow would be used to determine the time of the main service, the Mass, in the medieval church. This was generally held around 9.00am. Many dials, like this one, have the *noon-line*, cut vertically downwards from the style hole, marking midday.



A sun-dial expert explains, *'A Mass-clock which told the time fairly accurately in the summer was very inaccurate (except as regards the noon-line) as a winter time-marker so that, when several dials are found on one church, probably each was fitted with a differently shaped style in order that the correct time could be ascertained all the year round, i.e., there was a dial for each season.'*

As Ecclesiastes 3 reminds us, *To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven…*

MC

On 19th July Mike's Marvellous Mates are taking on another 26-mile Mighty Hike in Mike Crofts' memory to raise funds for MacMillan Cancer Support. This time we will be closer to home walking through the Cotswolds. We are very grateful to everyone who came to our fundraising coffee morning and to all our sponsors, your support certainly helps to push us through those last few miles! There is still time to sponsor our efforts to raise funds to support people with cancer by scanning the QR code link to our JustGiving page or using the link below to that page. Thank you for your support.

Mike's Marvellous Mates x

https://www.justgiving.com/page/mikesmarvelousmates?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL

ST PETER'S DAY APPEAL

THE CHURCH CLOCK

As many of you may have realised the church clock has stopped. This happened after the printing of the **appeal letter enclosed in this copy of Hill & Valley.** This work is now to be included in this year's appeal.

The clock was installed in 1826 and the electric winding mechanism in 1956. It is this mechanism that has failed. The parts needed may no longer be available; therefore a new mechanism will probably be required at considerable cost.

If you would like further information please contact Eve Lind-Smith or Patrick Foote.

---

70 Years

On Wednesday 18th June, **Gordon and Vivienne Barton** celebrated their platinum wedding anniversary. Seventy years ago, on another glorious, sunny day, they were married in St. Peter's Church, St. Mary Bourne followed by a reception in the village centre. Gordon's uncle, **Harold Cummins** was best man, whilst Margaret, Viv's sister, and Hazel, Gor's sister, were their bridesmaids. They flew from Southampton airport to Jersey, where they spent their honeymoon at the Grand Atlantic hotel.

Gor and Viv have spent the entirety of their married life at Thorngate, St. Mary Bourne, where they have welcomed four children, six grandchildren and one great granddaughter, with a great grandson due shortly! On asking Gordon what the secret is to a successful marriage, he replied "I found the right woman!". As per each anniversary, they visited St. Peter's for a prayer of thanks and photo outside the same door they left the church as a newly wedded couple those seventy years ago (traditionally married couples would leave by the side door rather than main entrance as they do today). They received many beautiful cards, including one from the King! The rest of the day was spent in the garden with family, a little feast of picky bits and a few whiskies in the bright June sun.

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B3048, Highway to the North

Inspired by Tom Fort's 2012 popular paperback, 'A303, Highway to the Sun', our own prolific author and vicar of the benefice for many years, Martin Coppen, has combined the whole 11.1-mile jaunt serialised in Hill & Valley in 2024 and published **'B3048 Highway to the North'**. It was his idea to sell the booklet at £5.00 for the benefit of Longparish and St Mary Bourne Schools. Hill & Valley sponsored the purchase of 200 copies now for sale from Acre Stores, Longparish, and St Mary Bourne Village Shop.

At the Grand Opening of Longparish School River House and Adventure Trail on 22nd May, Head Teacher Mark Ward said: *"The Hill & Valley donation of £250 to the school is all about giving our early readers books to practice their reading on. We currently have a limited number of these books and were now able to order a large quantity of new books".*

Pictured: Michael Widén, Hill & Valley chair, Martin Coppen, author, and Mark Ward, Head teacher Longparsh CE Primary School with children showing off their new books

St Mary Bourne Primary School also received a donation of £250. The school will be putting the money towards revamping the school courtyard and buying new benches making the outside more usable for all in the school.

A further donation of £250 to each school will be made once all booklets have been sold.

Peggy Sandall-Ball's ashes were interred with those of her husband and the family were able to join us. It was a gloriously sunny day, and she was remembered as a wonderful and loving mother, sister, grandmother and great grandmother.

Confirmation 2025

On Sunday 8th June Bishop Philip came and confirmed seven young people and one adult.

It was a very happy event. And he was delighted to be in St Mary Bourne. Congratulations go to Charlie, Lucy, Bailey, Emily, Vesper, Ottilie, Milo and Claire.

So, it seems all I write every month is about the changes we make in the Boundary – and this month there are two more! The first is the reduction of hours that the kitchen will be open. It was not an easy decision to make but I really feel it is the right thing to do. So, from the week commencing 9th June the kitchen is open:

Friday: 8am to **2pm - Saturday: 9am** to **2pm**
Sunday: 9am to **1.30pm**

However, many of you will have noticed our Bake n' Bite unit has moved, and this means that we can keep it nice and full 7 days a week. Light bites can be served with a green salad. This includes sausage rolls, pasties, savoury turnovers and the chiller will also be stocked with two salads, samosas and quiche.

The decision to change the kitchen opening hours was not easy but I know you will understand. We have also moved the coffee machine to the back wall – we have all had to retrain our 'muscle memory' but we are getting there! I think it makes our cake display so much better and has opened up that whole area.

In Hill & Valley last month I mentioned repainting some of the chairs in the café – I was thinking early evening 9th July so please let Vicky or myself know if you can make it – refreshments involved!

Vicky continues to source lovely summery gifts so please come and check it out. She is also always willing to try and find anything particular you may like – the latest was Cottage Cheese and that has been flying off the shelves.

We have launched our new ice cream sundae – come and give one a try! Our new parasols to complement our lovely furniture are on their way.

That is all for now, ***Sandra and Vicky***

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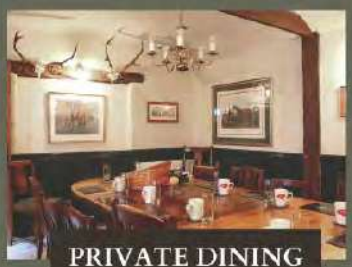

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Another of our long-term councillors, **Gwen Randall**, resigned from the council in May. She and her husband Ray have served the community for over fifty years, and we would like to thank them for their valued contribution.

There is now a **vacancy** and the opportunity for any interested parishioners to stand for possible co-option as a councillor for the remainder of the current term of office ending in April 2026: please apply to clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk for further information ASAP. We hope to seat a new councillor at the next parish council meeting on 8th July.

The community did signal that you would like us to organise some **defibrillator training** sessions, so initially two sessions will be arranged. These will be on a first-come first-served basis for people who live in the parish. As soon as the dates are agreed the sessions will be advertised on the SMB.PC Facebook page, and directly to anyone who has emailed clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk to lodge an interest. (So, if you're not on Facebook, please email the Clerk to get yourself on the list). Each session will be for a maximum of 25 people. We will try to accommodate everyone who is interested, so don't worry if you can't make the first two dates there are likely to be more arranged.

Southern Water News - the main closure at Applegate has now been lifted, and the good news is that it shouldn't need to be closed for the SSE work to complete there - an alternate supply has been found which does not involve digging a trench across the road. LG Woods are continuing their survey work through the valley from Ibthorpe to the pumping station at the viaduct. LG Woods are looking for infiltration of groundwater, and any fixes that are still required. These will then be costed and planned in by Southern Water during the low-water season. The Flood Emergency Group of the PC are still working closely with Southern Water to keep up the pressure to get our sewer working as it should. Southern Water are working to find a solution to the problems on the stretch by the Bourne Valley Inn, and we will update you when there is further news on this - at the moment there is over-pumping from one sewer to enable investigations to take place. Ad hoc jetting is also taking place some evenings to ensure the smooth running of the sewer.

By the time you are reading this there will be four **new benches** in the parish, we hope you enjoy being able to sit and look into the lake as well as enjoy activities on the Recreation Ground. We have also replaced the derelict bench under the tree by the bridge at the Stoke end of Gangbridge Lane.

Planning:

25/1260/OOBC	Lower Doily Farm	Boundary wall & Entrance gates
25/01194/HSE	Trestan House	Single story extension
25/01162/HSE	2 Hirst Copse	Log cabin
25/01315	2 Belle View Cotts.	Rear Extension

Next meeting: **Tuesday 8th July** at the earlier time at **7pm**. No meeting in August.

ST MARY BOURNE PARISH COMMUNITY FUND

can support anyone living in the parish of St Mary Bourne (including Stoke, Binley, Egbury, Wadwick, Little London & The Wykes) who is worried about essential living expenses, or unexpected extra costs due to illness, employment changes, family difficulties, medical conditions, or accidents.

For more information about the PCF for yourself or someone else, please contact: Ruth Widén - 01264 738 250 - ruth.widen@btinternet.com .

All enquiries are treated in complete confidence.

Community Play Space Prize Draw

We're pleased to share that the Community Play Space Prize Draw raised **£525** in donations. The prize draw was on at the Village Shop from March to May. Entrants were in with a chance to have their name (or a name of their choice) engraved on a commemorative plaque on one of the 5 pieces of new wooden play area equipment. Names were drawn out of a hat, courtesy of Dodie Marsden. The winners have been notified, and the commemorative plaques will be put in place once the equipment has been installed. All monies have been added to the Good Exchange.

Thank you to everyone who participated!

The Project Team *(Volunteers: Laura Davis, Amelda de Segundo, Parish Council Members: Dave Burlison, Ed Makgill and Maxine Owen)*

Many thanks! **Amelda**

A Baptism at Woodcott

Clemmie Parr (in the middle) was baptised at St James on Sunday 8th. Along with many bees (they have a hive somewhere in the rafters) and accompanied by Clemmie's grandfather on the piano, we sang 'Praise my Soul' and had a reading from The Velveteen Rabbit.

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Postcard from Binley

I've started taking my early morning coffee in the garden. At 6.00am the place is alive with birdsong all jousting for attention. With the cackling of rooks as accompaniment I hear *"Sweet pea!" "Pea wit!" "Wing it, wing it, wing it!"* as little feathery bodies duck and weave about me, whistling and busying themselves for the day ahead. And to think I used to come down and take my coffee to the warblings of Naga Munchetty, Susanna Reid and the simply awful Ed Balls. Well, quite. But now a blackbird is on the kitchen roof belting one out and all around me has hushed to listen. What a tunesmith this chap is and no summer garden is complete without him.

I was rummaging around in a drawer the other day looking for something and stumbled across my Grandmother's mustard spoon. It's not a metal mustard spoon as you would know it, but is actually formed naturally from the fibula bone of a pig. This lived permanently on her little parlour table by a stone mustard jar and an elm pig bench sat outside the back door of her little house in Stepney right up until she died; because you see, my Grandmother always kept a pig. Initially in her garden until things got frosty with the neighbours and then later in an allotment in Bethnal Green. She had migrated with her family as economic refugees from Cornwall to London toward the end of the 19th century and her name was Rose Penghelly, and while this conjures up Poldark visions of a red headed Celtic beauty running barefoot across moorland, in reality she was 5 foot tall and about the same wide and was more akin to Les Dawson in looks.

But I digress. With the pig's ability to live off very little, many of the small dwellings here in Binley would have kept a pig and a few chickens as it was likely to be their only source of meat. In my past time here John Foster always kept a couple of pigs for the table. Fed on household scraps such as potato peelings or food gathered from hedgerows they would fatten the animal ready for killing.

Being without a pig at that time would have been an indication of real poverty but often these wretched individuals would be allowed to donate food in return for some meat at killing time. Nowadays pigs are killed at about 200-250 pounds in weight but back then they could have been anything up to 400 pounds and were often part of the intimate family circle. As such there was often a large amount of guilt floating about as the animal's demise approached, usually during the first cold snap of the year and to aid the purpose of chilling. If the owner wasn't able to slaughter the beast himself a man would be brought in and the pig ceremoniously led up the garden path (now you know where that comes from) to the cottage door where the dreadful deed would take place. The pig would then be laid out on a bed of straw, covered with more straw and set alight to remove the bristles, whereupon the skin would be scraped, often with household items like the metal bottoms of candlesticks. At this point the pig bench would be utilised to butcher the carcass and split it in two, one half to go for curing, the other for meat.

And of course nothing was wasted, and I recommend an excellent book by Fergus Henderson called *"Nose to tail eating"* if you like your pig as much as I do! One of the nicest evenings I spent in the last few years was in the White Hart in Stoke drinking good beer in good company and eating chitlings served warm from a bowl on the bar courtesy of one of Stuart Haigue's home reared pigs. But the mustard spoon and the pig bench are still in my possession, and with an Irish grandfather and a Cornish grandmother, now both gone, they are the only connection to my Celtic roots and I treasure them immensely. ***NA***

St Mary Bourne Cricket Club

Fixtures for July and August

July	1st XI	
Sat 5	Oakley CC, Hants - 2nd XI	H
Sat 12	Hurstbourne Priors CC - 1st XI	A
Sat 19	Holybourne CC - 1st XI	H
Sat 26	East Anton CC - 1st XI	A

August	1st XI	
Sat 2	Bentworth CC - 1ST XI	A
Sat 9	Herriard CC - 2nd XI	H
Sat 16	Overton CC, Wilts - 2nd XI	A
Sat 23	Thruxton CC, 1st XI	H
Sat 30	Andover CC - 3rd XI	A

July	2nd XI	
Sat 5	Steeple Langford CC - 2nd XI	A
Sat 12	Longparish CC 3rd XI	H
Sat 19	East Anton CC - 2nd XI	A
Sat 26	Hungerford CC - 2nd XI	H

August	2nd XI	
Sat 2	Collingbourne CC - 2nd XI	H
Sat 9	Amport CC, Hants - 2nd XI	A
Sat 16	Winterbourne CC, Wilts - 2nd XI	H
Sat 23	Whiteparish CC, 2nd XI	A
Sat 30	Andover CC - 4th XI	H

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Thanks to all who came to Bourne Fest and supported this local event.

Not only did we have a great time, but proceeds will be donated to the St Mary Bourne School, village lunch, playground project and the baby & toddler play group. If you have any funding requests please contact Bournefest@mail.com. Look out for the official figures in the next Hill & Valley.

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS

Hurstbourne Priors parish pages editor vacancy

The position of editor for the four Hurstbourne Priors parish pages is still vacant. If you would be able to take this on, or like to know more about what it entails, please contact Michael Widén on ☎ **07880 808111** or write to **hillandvalley@btinternet.com** .

If no one will come forward to volunteer for this position by 20th August (copy date for the September edition), we will be unable to publish the Hurstbourne Priors parish pages for September.

ST MARY BOURNE & WOODCOTT

July

5 10am to 12 Noon - Repair Café - The George Inn
13 10.30am - **Animal Service** - St Peter's
2 10 to 11.30am - Stoke Coffee Morning - Whitefield Cottage
8 **7.00pm** - Parish Council meeting - Village Centre
8 10.30am - Coffee at The George Inn
16 12.30pm - *'The Lunch'* - Village Centre Main Hall
20 10.30am - *ECO Service* - St Peter's
26 12.30pm - **Flower Show & Fête** - Recreation Ground

Saturday mornings - 10.30am to 12.30pm - *The Community Library* - Village Centre Club Room

August

2 10am to 12 Noon - Repair Café - The George Inn
12 10.30am - Coffee at The George Inn
20 12.30pm - *'The Lunch'* - Village Centre Main Hall

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LONGPARISH

July

6 10am to Noon - Greening Conservation Event - Southside Common
11 9.15am - Litter Free Longparish
11 10 to 11.45am - LCA Coffee Morning Friday
13 9am - L2SOTM - The Plough
14 7..45pm - Parish Council - Village Hall
20 LCC Junior Presentation and Fun Day - Cricket Field
25 12noon to 2pm - LCA Friday Lunch Club - Village Hall

August

8 9.15am - Litter Free Longparish - Village Hall
8 10 to 11.45am - LCA Coffee Morning
29 12noon to 2pm - LCA Friday Lunch Club - Village Hall

Front cover photograph: Michael Widén

Copy date for the September 2025 edition of Hill & Valley is Wednesday 20th August 2025.
Your contributions - letters, pictures, comments or articles are always welcome. Contact your parish editor by the copy date. Please provide editorial copy electronically as a text in Word (doc.) with any accompanying images in JPEG format.

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