Issue No. 294

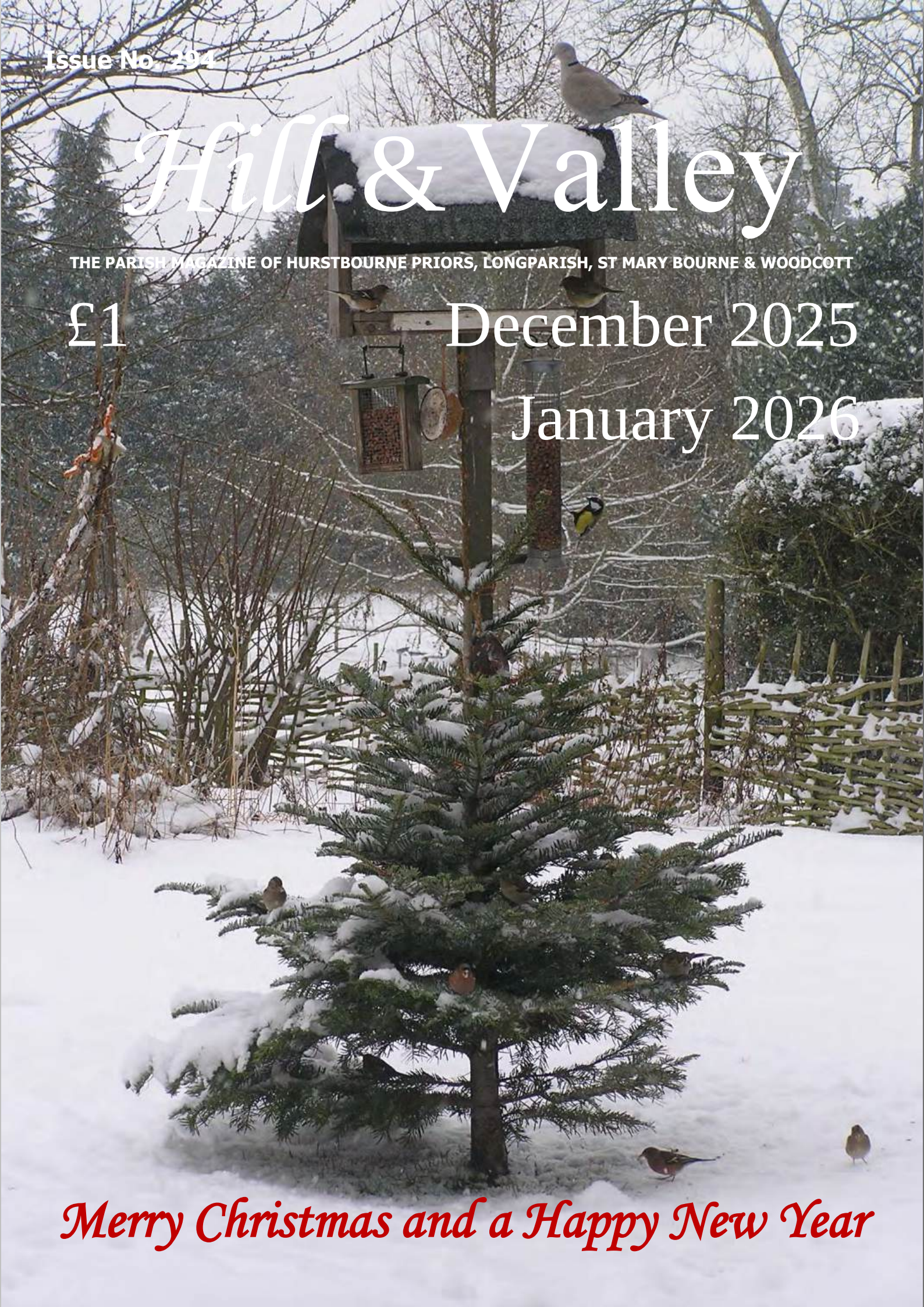
Hill & Valley

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

£1

December 2025

January 2026



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

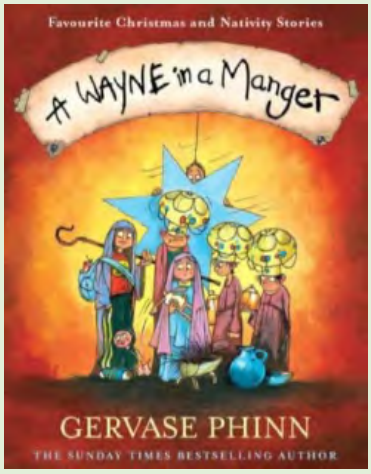
Christmas and New Year 2025

Here are some seasonal thoughts for mind, body and spirit.

Gervase Phinn, the wonderful Yorkshire Rural Schools' English inspector tells the story of a nativity play he was invited to in a small rural school. You may remember it. He writes:

Mary and Joseph made their way towards the inn and the little boy playing Joseph, took centre stage and without a trace of nerves beckoned Mary to hurry up. She arrived on stage looking worried as she pulled behind her a large cardboard-polystyrene donkey. *'Come on, hurry up'* urged Joseph as he banged on the door. With no answer he banged again. Joseph shouted *'Innkeeper, innkeeper, let us come in'*. Opening the door just enough to see his face the Innkeeper replied *'There's no room'*. 'Joseph undeterred said, *'We've been up hill and down dale and we're fit to drop'*. *'Can't help that'* replied the Innkeeper, *'there's no room'*.

'Look, I've got a wife out here on a donkey' Joseph gestured to Mary standing motionless and staring in fright at the audience. *'Well she'd better get a move on and you can't leave that donkey there, you'll have to move it' 'Then give us a room, she's having a baby'. 'Well I can't help that' it's nowt to do with me'*. And Joseph beginning to despair replied: *'I know, it's nowt to do with me neither'."* @ Gervase Phinn: *A Wayne in a Manger 2005*



I hope this brings a smile. There is something very special and heart-warming about the Nativity, isn't there? And also about carols, carol services, beautifully decorated churches, Christingles and so much more.

But I have a niggle and that is the ever-pervading question about the deeper meaning and mystery of Christmas. How do we tackle that? Well, the words of this carol sort of sums it up for me.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

This doesn't provide the answer as much as it directs my thinking into what Christmas is all about. The mystery, the beauty, the gift and God's love.

December and January are the seasons of Advent and Epiphany. They are filled with preparation and hope – anticipation and trust. This is a time when we can know afresh generosity of spirit and kindness. And in the middle, we have Christmas, with nativities, carol services and more, and then there is New Year.

So onto 2026: What can we do to improve mind, body and spirit? The TV presenter Dr Michael Moseley gave us some brilliant ideas when he suggested we do **JUST ONE THING -**

Here are some suggestions for 2026:

Exercise and physical activity - Stand on one leg: Improves balance.
Learn a new skill: It can improve brain function and mental agility.
Walk, but leave your devices at home: You can take in all around you without distraction.
Diet and nutrition - Eat slowly: Improves digestion and lowers blood sugar.
Cook from scratch: Provides more benefits.
Enjoy oily fish: It's good for your brain and heart
Mindfulness and mental wellbeing - Read a poem: A simple way to boost your brain.
Learn to control your breath: Lowers anxiety & enhances decision-making.
Put your phone down: Boosts brain power and well-being.

And finally, ideas for other lifestyle changes:

Volunteer: It changes your perspective on life.
Read: It's enlightening & powers the brain**.**
Sing: They say those who sing live longer!

What more is there to say but to hope, that along with family, friends and neighbours, near or far, whether we are alone or together, every person in our benefice will have a Happy Christmas.

Dodie and all the clergy team

Services in the Parish Churches

December 2025 - January 2026

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

Wednesday 3rd December

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

Sunday 7th December - Advent 2

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30pm	*Holy Communion*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
	4.00pm	*Christingle Service*
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	*Holy Communion*
Home Zoom Service at 10.30am		

Sunday 14th December - Advent 3

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*
	4.00pm	*Christingle Service*
St James', Woodcott	*No service*	
Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online		

Sunday 21st December - Advent 4

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	11.00am	*Carol Service*
St Nicholas', Longparish	6.00pm	*Carol Service*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	6.00pm	*Carol Service*
St James', Woodcott	4.00pm	*Crib Service*
Home Zoom Service at 10.30am		

Tuesday 23rd December

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	4.00pm	*Crib Service*

Wednesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	*No service*	
St Nicholas', Longparish	4.00pm	*Crib Christingle*
	11.00pm	*Midnight Mass*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	11.30pm	*Midnight Mass*
St James', Woodcott	*No service*	
Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online		

Thursday 25th December - Christmas Day

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	*Holy Communion*
Home Zoom Service at 10.30am		

Sunday 28th December - Christmas 1

All Hallows, Whitchurch	10.30am	*Benefice Holy Communion*
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*	
Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online		

Sunday 4th January - Epiphany Sunday

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30pm	*Holy Communion*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Family Service*
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	*Holy Communion*
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

Revd Russell Smart: ☏ 01962 760508
revrussellsmart@gmail.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."

Ted Aldis Lenny Hills
Longparish - 1/11/25

Ione Eloise Cartwright
St Mary Bourne - 30/11/25

Funerals

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

Oliver Michael Palmer Madge
Charlton Park Crematorium - 6/11/25

Rosan Porter
St Mary Bourne - 12/11/25

Dinah Mahoney
Woodcott - 21/11/25

Wednesday 7th January

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

Sunday 11th January - Baptism of the Lord

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		

Sunday 18th January - Epiphany 2

St Andrew's, Hurstbourne Priors	10.30pm	*Holy Communion*
St Nicholas', Longparish	10.30am	*Family Service*
St Peter's, St Mary Bourne	10.30am	*Holy Communion*
St James', Woodcott	9.00am	*Matins*
Winchester Cathedral Zoom Service Online		

Sunday 25th January - Epiphany 3

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

SEASONED FIREWOOD

READY TO BURN

SHOTGUN CARTRIDGES

20 FT CONTAINER STORAGE TO RENT

Woodcott Farms - Tel: 07775 515068
Email: sales@woodcottfarms.com

AGILE PLUMBING

FRIENDLY, PROFESSIONAL PLUMBING SERVICES

- For all your plumbing needs
- Excellent quality assured
- Bathroom & Wet Room specialists

07866 475274
aljameson@agileplumbing.com
www.agileplumbing.com

Stoke | Natural Health Clinic

Re-align your body and revitalise your health

90-minute appointments

- Joint and muscular pain
- Sports Injuries/Performance
- IBS and Digestive Disorders
- Stress and Anxiety
- Headaches, TMJD and more..

FASCIA RELEASE THERAPIES

www.carolinekremer.com 07958 076349

GODWINS
SOLICITORS LLP

Trust in Godwins to deliver

Based in the heart of historic Winchester,
we've been advising our private and business
Clients with trusted legal expertise for 200 years.

Discover more at www.godwins-law.co.uk

For you
Wills / Probate / Trusts / Property

For your business
Landlord & Tenant / Farms & Estates / Property

Godwins Solicitors LLP
12 St Thomas Street, Winchester,
Hampshire SO23 9HF

Tel: 01962 841484
Email: info@godwins-law.co.uk

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

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 9th December** and **13th January at 10.30am** £2.50 for coffee and biscuits - For more information contact Win Coventry - ☎ 01264 738 **199**.

The Lunch

Our next village lunch is on **Wednesday 10th December** at St Mary Bourne Village Centre, starting to serve at 12.30pm as usual. This will be our traditional Christmas Lunch which includes carols from the village school choir and a fabulous raffle. Returning to the third Wednesday of the month, our first lunch of the New Year will be on **Wednesday 21st January 2025**. If a lift is needed, please phone Chris on ☎ 01264 738110 by Noon on the Tuesday.

Advent Clean - St Peter's Church

Advent clean is on **Saturday 6th at 10am** as previously advertised. Refreshments available. If you could spend a little time with us, it would be greatly appreciated.

Christmas Decorations

We will be decorating our church for Christmas on **Saturday 20th December from 9.30am** onwards.

If you would like to help, even for an hour or so, it will be gratefully appreciated! Do come and join us and enjoy meeting up with old friends and new, over a hot cup of coffee and mince pies.

The **Christingle** service is on **14th December** at **4 pm** in **St Peter' Church.** It's about half an hour and very suitable for very young children.

The **Epiphany Family Service** is on **January 4th** at **10.30** am in **St Peter's**. Camels, crowns and creative crafts!

Remembrance 2025

As usual, there was a high turnout for the Remembrance Sunday service. The Reverend Canon Dodie Marsden officiated at both the War Memorial and afterwards at St Peter's Church. A wreath was laid on behalf of the village at the War Memorial by Colonel Charlie Blount (Retd), the senior officer on parade. He also recited *"The Exhortation".* Lieutenant James Croser RN (Retd) read the Roll of Honour and the *"Kohima Epitaph".* Major Michael Malyon (Retd) read *"In Flanders Fields".* The bugler was William de Penning (aged 12), who played *"The Last Post"* and *"Reveille".* Captain Jeremy Barkes (Retd) read the lesson.

The Royal British Legion contingent numbered twelve and was marched from the forming up point at The George to the War Memorial, and back to St Peter's Church, by Petty Officer Dan Anderson (Retd), who was again replete with pace stick.

The following day some 170 people gathered for a lecture at the Village Centre arranged by the serving and veteran community of St Mary Bourne, to raise funds for the **Poppy Appeal** and **St Peter's Church**. >>>

The speaker was **General Sir Richard Shirreff** KCB CBE, former Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR), 2011-14. His subject was *"The Strategic Impact of Russia's War with Ukraine and whither NATO".* His message was sobering and derived from first-hand experience of dealing with the Russians as DSACEUR when Russia first sent its "green men" to Crimea. He warned that Russia only understands strength and that NATO members must rebuild their military capabilities in order deter Russian expansionism.

The event generated a surplus of **£2,013.58**, of which **£1,313.58** was donated to the **Poppy Appeal** and **£700** was donated to **St Peter's Church**, St Mary Bourne.

In addition, Colonel Tom Vallings (Retd), Poppy Appeal coordinator for the parish, arranged for collection boxes to be placed across St Mary Bourne, Binley and Egbury, which raised a further **£1,175.42**. They were kindly hosted by The Village Shop, The George Inn, The Surgery, Vitacress, Pick Your Own, St Mary Bourne Primary School, The Bourne Valley Inn, Apsley Farms and St Peter's Church. The collection at St Peter's Church on Remembrance Sunday raised **£328.10**.

On behalf of the Royal British Legion, the serving and veteran community of St Mary Bourne would like to thank all who contributed so generously to this year's Poppy Appeal. The parish raised a total of **£2,806.80** for the **Poppy Appeal** plus a further **£700** for St Peter's Church, a grand total of **£3,506.80** – a fantastic effort.

Hampshire County Council

Connect Transport on Demand

Local, flexible bus journeys in areas with no public transport

Connect Transport on Demand is a pre-bookable, limited-stopping local minibus service that operates in areas of Northern Test Valley including **St Mary Bourne** without other bus connections.

Minibuses stop at three town centre destinations in Andover: **the train station** and **bus station**, where you can transfer to other transport services; and **Andover War Memorial Hospital**. To use the service, you will need to register (see HCC website).

Minibuses run 7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday. Journeys can be requested up to three days in advance using the app (see HCC website) or by calling

0333 015 1271

Single tickets from any bus stop in **St Mary Bourne to Andover** cost **£4.50**.

Bus stops Stoke: Stoke Gate, Chapel Lane
Bus stops SMB: Mulberry House, Queens Cottages, School, War Memorial, The George Inn, 18 St Mary's Hill, Middle Wyke

For further information see flyer dropped locally to all households or go to https://www.cfirst.org.uk/community-transport/connect-transport/connecttod/

BOURNE Again Feet

Hilary Steeden MGFHP MAFHP

Foot Health Practitioner

Tel: 01264 738 554

Mob. 07787 703 900

. Problem Nails .Verrucas

.Corns .Cracked Heels

.Hard Skin .Fungal Infections

BELVEDERE TRAVEL

Catered gulet holidays in Turkey

www.belvederetravel.com

email info@janeblount.co.uk

01264 738533 and 07884003082

DRAIN TECH TANKERS•COM 01264 710543

- Septic Tank and Cesspit Emptying
- Sewage Treatment Plant Emptying
- High Pressure Jetting on board vehicles
- Grease Trap and Oil Interceptor Emptying
- 24 Hours 7 Days a Week Service
- Drainage System Installation and Maintenance
- Multi Tank Discount Loyalty packages available

Email: booking@draintechtankers.com Web: www.draintechtankers.com

Coppice Bundles

These bundles are a mixture of Hazel Silver Birch 3-5" diameter 8-9ft long. You can cut, split and season yourself **BIG saving on buying firewood**

minimum of 3 bundles

£90 for 3 Bundles
£170 for 6 Bundles
Available Feb - June

below three bundles

PDM FORESTRY

01980 862323 - 07872 930767
pdmacpherson@hotmail.co.uk

Firewood

Mixed Hardwood naturally seasoned and locally sourced. Stock up before price increase in July
1m³ £145 - 2m³ £265
3m³ £370 - 4m³ £480

Split Firewood Bundles

1m split lengths of partly seasoned hardwood allowing you to cut and season yourself giving you a **BIG** saving on buying ready cut logs Just cut to the size you want
Available between February & May
£95 bundle
£190 for two

WEST JOINERY

- Bespoke doors
- Windows
- Kitchens
- Wardrobes
- Bookcases

For all your joinery needs

07717 570748

Julian@uswests.co.uk

Carer/Support Worker

Friends Support Services

Patricia Morris

Insured, experienced (26 yrs) to NVQ2 in health and social care, and an up-to-date DBS

- Do you need help to stay independent in your home?
- I can help with personal care if needed and with tasks in the home.
- I am a sole worker, not agency.

If you would like more information please contact me:

01264 335857 (answerphone)

07974 470045

BREACH FARM
WOODLAND BURIAL GROUND
ST MARY BOURNE, SP11 6DQ

A beautiful woodland burial ground overlooking the Bourne Valley

Single, Double and Ashes plots available.
Area for pets.

For further information/request a brochure:-
Mobile: 07789 888399
Email: lisa@breachfarmwoodlandburialground.co.uk
Www.breachfarmwoodlandburialground.co.uk

Whitchurch Wills

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

"FRIENDLY, ACCESSIBLE AND QUALITY SERVICE"

YOUR LOCAL WILL WRITER FROM WHITCHURCH

- Will Writing
- Review of existing Wills
- Lasting Power of Attorney
- Estate Planning
- Trusts
- Probate Services

Safe to do business with Code Compliant

Clare Datta, BA(Hons) MSWW
T: 01256 896336 M: 07810 455581
E: claredatta@whitchurchwills.co.uk W: www.whitchurchwills.co.uk

To advertise in Hill & Valley, please email: hillandvalley@longparish.com

So, as I promised in my last ramblings, Vicky has had her moment, and what a fantastic moment it was - a Thursday night with Emily and myself as her little elves and Vicky at the helm producing Christmas goodies from a hundred boxes (well it certainly felt like that!), resulting in a fantastic display of **Christmas gifts and goodies** - come in and have a Browse and a Shop, you know we always love to see you!

Our opening hours for Christmas and New Year:

Christmas Eve	***9am-4pm***
Christmas Day	***Closed***
Boxing Day	***Closed***
27th December	***9am-4pm***
28th December	***9am-3pm***
29th December	***8am-6pm***
30th December	***8am-6pm***
New Year's Eve	***9am-4pm***
New Year's Day	***Closed***
Friday 2nd January Shop Only	***9am-10am for stock take***

We also have order forms available for **Turkey, Lamb** and **Beef** from ***Oaktrak***. **Gammon, Chipolatas** and **Sausage meat** from ***Greenfields***. **Christmas puddings, Fruit cakes, Mince pies** and **Cup Cakes** from ***Lavender Blue***. These need to be completed **by 3rd December** along with a **£10 deposit**, and orders must be **collected** by **5pm** on the **23rd of December.**

Last postal dates:

Wednesday 17th December	***2nd class and 2nd class signed for***
Friday 19th December	***Parcel Force Express 49 & Royal Mail Tracked 48***
Saturday 20th December	***1st class & 1st class paid for***
Monday 22nd December	***Tracked 24-hour Royal Mail***
Tuesday 23rd December	***Guaranteed Special Delivery***

I think that's enough for now, and all that remains is to wish all of you a very **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy and Healthy 2026** and say a big thank you to each and every one of you from *Vicky*, *myself* and all the *Boundary team* for your support this year. Vicky Sandra and all the Boundary team

PS: Maybe, a New Year resolution could be to volunteer behind the till in the Boundary - we have a small strong band of volunteers who we are so grateful for, but we always have room for more!

The Boundary Shop & Café - 1☺☺ Club

November 2025 draw:

£50 - Patricia Antelme **£20** - Lesley Sarson
£20 - Peter St Quintin **£10** - Pauline Chance

The last **2025** 1☺☺ Club draw: Saturday 13th December
The first **2026** 1☺☺ Club draw: Saturday 10th January

You can now apply in the Shop to join the 1☺☺ Club for 2026.

Pay at the till by cash or debit card.
£25 gives you 48 chances to win a monthly cash prize + an extra £50 draw at Christmas.

'Family Theatre' at St Mary Bourne Village Centre

60 minutes - for children 4 to 104 years
Bumblefly, ForestForge and Mischievous Theatre
return to St Mary Bourne with another thrilling festive show. Pinocchio has a nose that grows with each little fib, is naive, stubborn, thoughtless and very easily led; so watch as he falls in with the rascally fox and cat, gasp as he flies on the back of a pigeon, marvel as he is swallowed by a giant shark, doubt as he waits for gold coins to grow on a vine and wonder as he is turned into a donkey… if he will ever become a real boy!
We promise you live action, music, surprises, a puppet or two, a lot of laughs and a thoroughly enjoyable and unforgettable adventure!

Friday 12th December - 6.30pm
Doors open 6pm
Tickets **£7.50** - children under 6 **£4.00**
Please reserve all tickets in advance by email:
villagecentre@stmarybourne.org
Children must be accompanied by an adult
Refreshments and Licensed Bar

Village Centre news

Our Autumn season of community evenings has proved a success and shown that there is an appetite for monthly social gatherings with different interests and activities. Thanks to our talented local session leaders we have enjoyed a bingo evening, a quiz and watercolour painting. Thank you very much to Vicky Pettit, Paul Gaffney and Rebecca Anning for the work you put into making these evenings so enjoyable.

We are taking a break over the festive period so our next session will be in February. Details will appear in Hill & Valley and on the local Facebook pages and our website (see Village Centre section, the Community Hub www.stmarybourne.org). We welcome your suggestions for future sessions. So, if you have a skill, hobby or interest that you would like to share, or an idea for a community class or entertainment that you would like to try out, let us know by emailing
villagecentre@stmarybourne.org

Thank you to all users of the Village Centre for their support this year and to everyone who makes it possible for us to run events and services at your community facility. We wish you all a very **Merry Christmas** and look forward to welcoming you in 2026. *KC*

Doug Hopkins
~ Joinery ~

Purpose made joinery and cabinet making to your specifications

07857 692 445

doughopkins@hotmail.com

Matt Townsend

Over 20 years' Experience Fully Qualified and Insured

Landscaping and Fencing

Call 07825710750

Transforming your outdoor spaces

Comprehensive Landscaping - Fencing Solutions
Patio Design & Construction - Custom Decking Installations
Durable Concrete Bases

matttownsend1@hotmail.co.uk

www.matttownsendlandscapingandfencing.com

BARSU GrassWorks

Garden Maintenance

Grass Cutting
Lawn Treatment
Small Hedge Cutting

For Competitive Rates call

Barry

☎ 01264 393803

Mobile: 07876 178865

or email:

barsu79@ntlworld.com

FREEDOM

BESPOKE

TRANSFORM YOUR HOME WITH BESPOKE WINDOWS, DOORS & ROOF LIGHTS.

UNIT 2 NORTHWOOD FARM, ANDOVER, HAMPSHIRE , SP11 6LJ

FREEDOMBESPOKE.CO.UK SALES@FREEDOMBESPOKE.CO.UK 01264 301302

Hayward

Brick and Flint

Restoration, Alterations, New build

Adrian Hayward

Bricklaying And Flintwork Contractor

Groundworks, Fencing,
Patios,Chimmney Rebuild
Landscaping,Drives
Dranage,Damp proofing,

10Hirst Copse
St Mary Bourne
Andover
sp116st

tel 07833691542

jinxzoolander@hotmail.co.uk

RIBA Chartered Practice

MATHEWSON WATERS ARCHITECTS

WHITCHURCH 07540 726562 www.mw-architects.co.uk

The **Parish Council** held its monthly meeting on Tuesday 11th November.

Work on the **new playground area** is now complete, and it will shortly be open for use, but replacing the fence along the edge of the Rec, resurfacing the MUGA and the additional car parking area, and lastly marking out parking bays will follow over the next few weeks. This will involve a short-term closure of most of the car park, but it will be publicised in advance.

Councillor Tanya Mew is now co-ordinator for **Neighbourhood Watch** and is contacting past team members, and plans to expand the community's involvement as far as possible.

The Highways group are looking at options to improve **road safety** in St Mary Bourne at the crossing of the Test Way path over the road at the bottom of Bourne Hill (or Roman Road) before meeting Hampshire County Council to discuss implementation.

A committee has been formed to prepare for the replacement of the **Sports Pavilion** and is currently composed of members of the Cricket Club the Parish Council and members of the community.

As proposed plans get more detailed there will be an opportunity for the community to look at them and bring ideas to the committee.

Planning applications

25/02351/FUL	Egbury Farm Barns	Barn to Residential
T/00513/25/TCA	Butlers Farm	Trees
25/02418/FUL	1 Egbury Road SMB	Change of use – Dog grooming shed
T/00537/25/TCA	2 Pound cottages	Trees
T/00548/25/TCA	Peach House	Trees
25/02548/GPDAG	Barn at Swampton Farm	Agricultural Permitted development enquiry
25/02538/HSE	Swampton Bungalow	Extension and car barn replacement
25/00664/HSE	Gangbridge House	Amendments to original application

Date of next Parish Council meetings:
Tuesday 9th December and 13th January at 7.30 pm

Christmas bin collection dates

Normal collection date	*Festive collection date*
Rubbish/Food - Friday 26 Dec	**Tuesday 30th December**
Rubbish/Food - Friday 2 Jan	**Tuesday 6th January**
Recycling/Glass - Friday 26th Dec	**Tuesday 30th December**
Recycling/Glass - Friday 9th Jan	**Monday 12th January**
Garden waste - Tuesday 6th Jan	**Tuesday 20th January**

For the first collection after Christmas ONLY, extra rubbish sacks left by the grey bin will be collected. Not just at Christmas, extra recycling of tins, cans, paper, cardboard and plastic bottles put in a clear liner left by the green bin will always be collected.
If you're thinking of getting a real tree this Christmas, you will be able to recycle it at one of the drop off points across the borough after the festive period. Details can be found here:
https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/christmas-tree-2025
Remember, if you are a garden waste subscriber your Christmas tree can be placed out for collection on your normal collection day.

St Mary Bourne & District FLOWER SHOW & Fête

SMB Flower Show	2025
Andover Young Carers	500
Church Youth and Mityana Fund	300
Derrydown Clinic	250
Enham Trust	200
Kids on Track	400
Kingfisher Trust	200
SMB Community Lunch	200
Naomi House/Jacks Place	200
SMB Bowling Club	150
Juniors	500
Toddlers Group	100
SMB Primary School	1400
SMB Community	1500
St Peter's Church	250
Welcome to the community	200
Women's Fellowship	100
Woodcott Church	100
Sustainable Bourne Valley	250
Total	**6,800**

The Committee of the St Mary Bourne and District Horticultural Society held a meeting to agree distribution of funds which was followed by a reception for the many people who helped make the **2025 Flower Show** a great success. The reception was attended by around a hundred people, who were thanked by the Chair of the Committee.

As in prior years, the Committee has concentrated the distribution of funds to local charities and causes, with 17 grants and a further donation to the school, which added to the proceeds from the sales of teas and cakes.

The total distributed is £6,800 as shown in the table.

For your diary, next year's Flower Show will be on Saturday 25th July.

New Community Playground now Open and Car Park Underway

We're delighted to share that the new playground has passed its inspection and is now officially open for families to enjoy. We also filled the planters with hearty flowers and grasses, thanks to a grant from the Vitacress Foundation. We look forward to enjoying those, come spring!

While we continue to progress the other works, a kind reminder to parents and carers to keep children safe while works are still underway on the MUGA area.

Starting next week, we will begin laying the surface for the tennis and netball court and tarmacking the parking area. During tarmacking, the car park will be closed for 2–3 days. We'll confirm dates and put up notices on social media to help everyone plan ahead.

We will also be planning a grand opening celebration in the spring, when the warmer weather returns.

Thank you again for your support as we complete the final stages of this project — we're nearly there, and we really appreciate all the support!

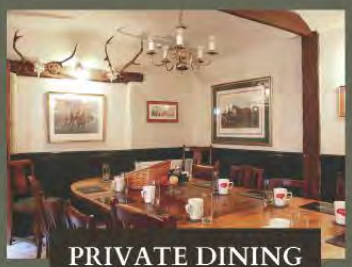
The Project Team (Volunteers: Laura Davis, Amelda de Segundo, Parish Council Members: Dave Burlison, Ed Makgill and Maxine Owen)

THE GEORGE INN
ST MARY BOURNE

★★★★★

WE CATER FOR

- Weddings
- Christenings
- Wakes
- Birthday partys
- Corporate meetings
- And much more



PRIVATE DINING

EVENTS

CONTACT US

01264 318000

info@georgeinnstmarybourne.co.uk

The Square St Mary Bourne
Hampshire SP11 6BG

Slow down,
take a breath
and begin to feel
restored

Appointments
Monday to Saturday

REBALANCE MASSAGE THERAPY

Deep relaxation..
Holistic Swedish Massage

www.rebalancemassage.org

Contact Rachel
07443 226813
rachel@rebalancemassage.org
Book online

Apple Tree Cottage, Forton, Andover SP11 6NU

FOR ALL YOUR SWIMMING POOL REQUIREMENTS

- Design and Build New Liner and Concrete Pools
- Renovation and Repair
- Service and Maintenance
- Auto Covers and Cleaners
- Chemicals and Accessories

HARLEQUIN
SWIMMING POOLS

Harlequin Swimming Pools Ltd
Innersdown Farm • A33 Winchester Road
Micheldever • Winchester • Hampshire SO21 3BW
01962 774004
sales@harlequinpools.co.uk
www.harlequinpools.co.uk

Reliable, personal service since 1973

We can help you meet all your pet and equine healthcare needs, with professional and caring staff who can treat your animal at a time that suits you. Our vets offer an emergency service giving you 24 hour reassurance.

...we're here to listen

OUR SURGERIES:

Burlyns Surgery, Burlyns,
East Woodhay, Newbury,
Berkshire, RG20 0NU.

Foxhold House Surgery,
Crookham Common, Thatcham,
Berkshire, RG19 8EL.

THE COACH HOUSE
VETERINARY SURGEONS

www.coachhousevets.com

24 hour phoneline: 01635 254544

KH KITCHENS

We offer an end to end service from design & supply to installation; with seamless project management

Visit our showroom at
Unit 7, Glenmore Business Park, Colebrook Way, Andover, SP10 3GQ

Mon-Fri 9:00-16:00
Just drop in!

Need a Place to Stay?

St Mary Bourne
Self-catering, single-storey, self-contained.
Provides comfortable, spacious accommodation for up to two adults. All the amenities one would expect. Wifi.
Delightful garden setting.
Secure off-road parking.
Guests will receive a warm welcome.

Contact **07514459714** for more details

MOSAÏQUE
EASTFIELD HOUSE

BOOK ONLINE
www.mosaiquebeauty.com

Relax in beautiful Longparish!

Facials
organic & specialist advanced vegan skincare.

Waxing
Mooeys Masters & Lycon premium waxes qualified salon

Lashes & Eyebrows
Tinting, Tidying up, Defining

Massage & Hot Stones

The Dorn Method
gentle back & joint pain relief.

Colour & Style Analysis

Eastfield House,
Forton, Longparish SPII 6NN

T: 01264 720 797
M: 07785 268 186
E: bp@mosaiquebeauty.com
W: www.mosaiquebeauty.com

Postcard from Binley

I'd been enjoying November with its mushy, slushy damp and its smoky, misty mornings and evenings. But now winter has arrived with an icy wind ripping across the Binley Downs causing sheep to huddle up in field corners and against hedgerows, now bare of leaf, the last fruits hanging and rotting. This morning's frost was iron hard, and I walked my dog this afternoon with wet sleet slapping my face as I came down from the old cattle drove. As dusk closes in, the rookery takes to the wing for a final noisy hurrah before settling in the beech accompanied by a gentle soporific cackle. At that point the Kites ghost in, ones and twos at first before whole squadrons arrive. I so love the seasons in this country; I will never tire of them. I can embrace winter just as much as I can summer. And the countryside gives you so many options to get out there and do something! We are truly spoiled.

Driving home from Marlborough the other day I cut across by Marsh Benham and followed my nose home. I do this a lot, and you get to see places you didn't know existed. You also get hopelessly lost but there is always the sat nav to save your bacon. But I mention this because I spotted a white pheasant in a field and I haven't seen one in ages. Back in the 90's every shoot, however small, had a white pheasant on the ground each season. As the first sloe gin was necked keepers would take great delight in telling you that there was a £100 fine for anyone who shot the white pheasant. But of course, it's not just pheasants. I've seen a white Starling of all things, but it was stuffed and mounted and sat on Micky Wedge's telly. I think he also had a white stoat, but I can't be sure. His sitting room was full of stuffed creatures.

The White Hart in Stoke is not named after some mythological creature but a true white deer. Probably Fallow as they are far more numerous than Red deer. I have seen a Red White Hart up in Sutherland where it was pointed out to me by a ghillie, but I must confess it was more of a disappointingly dingey pale grey. I used to drink in a pub called The Bald-Faced Stag. I thought this was a reference to colour but educating myself about old English, I think it refers more to a bold, brazen animal as we all know Stags can be during autumn. It's a nice name either way.

Forty years ago, we had a white hare here in Binley which hung around the fields down by the S bend. Drinkers in the Hurdlers Arms would get Press Ganged by Joe Hirst to go hare catching to supply hares for the Waterloo Cup up at Great Altcar, Lancs. We had a lot of hares here back then; Dunley, Corbett's, Maclay's certainly never shot any as a favour to Joe. I had the honour of touching the creature as it was spared the nets and ran through my legs on one occasion! A magic moment. Of course, if you drank in The George, you could be press ganged by the late Paul Howard to crew his yacht, the Gay Fox. Stories of these sailings are legendary and Pat Cryan tells the best one. I was first introduced to Paul in the Hurdlers Arms one Sunday lunchtime a lifetime ago. Dressed immaculately in a navy blazer and MCC tie he was a picture of decorum. However, to take the edge off it somewhat, he was sitting in the sink in the gents with his trousers round his ankles. It didn't seem to phase him, and he chatted and conversed with visitors to the urinals as if it were a vicarage tea party. Interesting character was Paul. *NA*

History of the Hill & Valley area in Ten Objects

10 - St Mary Bourne, Water Meadow

This series ends with a whimper…

An undated (1970s), aerial photograph looks roughly west over the then new lake, and the meadow opposite Derrydown surgery. In that meadow, the river runs too geometrically to be natural. Compared with its course on the 1848 Tithe Map (inset), it has indeed been redirected, with two sluice gates, just visible on the photo, at and near the bend. There are lines of other channels too on the grass.

When the field was grazed, you could spot other water meadow features, small bridges and culverts. This field was clearly being worked as a water meadow in the later 19th and early 20th century—not the only one in these parishes. This ingenious system meant that fresh water constantly flowed over the meadow, eliminating standing water. By floating the fields early in the year, between Christmas and March, the farmer could reduce the effects of frost and gain an early growth of grass, so the sheep needed over-wintering for a shorter period.

Selective floating could also grow a later hay crop by keeping the soil moist. It was skilful farming. And all it now leaves in the field is the delicate lines of the old drains, with a few half-buried stone and brick structures to trip over. A vanishing agricultural history. *MC*

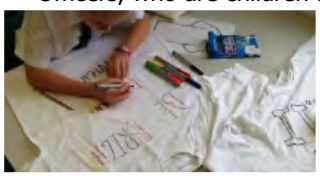
St Mary Bourne Primary School

It is a busy time of year at school; there are lots of events and festivities before the end of term.

We recently celebrated European Languages Day, with the children listening to different languages and finding out more about different countries. Across the school, the children found out about famous landmarks, artwork and cultural events.

We held our *Harvest Festival*, led by the school councillors and raised 100.49 kg in donations for Andover Foodbank. We marked *Anti-bullying Week* by challenging the children to do one kind thing every day, this year's theme was *'Power for Good'*. Children also wore something spotty or Pudsey themed accessories and raised over **£150** for this year's **Children in Need** appeal.

At St Mary Bourne School we have Junior Road Safety Officers, who are children appointed to promote road safety in their school community. Our JRSOs attended an interactive and informative training session led by the Hampshire Road Safety team and created *Be Bright, Be Seen* **tee-shirts**.



Furthermore, we had an interesting assembly from the CA Ecology team who did some research into the bats that live in our school building. We have three types in the school - serotine, brown long eared and common pipistrelle bats. One evening when the team came to the school to observe the bats they counted over 40 bats from nine different locations. The serotine roost is a maternity roost, with only a handful of other roosts documented in the County so the school is a very important site for bats.

Being a School Governor

I became a co-opted Governor at St Mary Bourne Primary School in 2022, having had my arm twisted by another local! Naturally, I was initially nervous about what might be expected of me - but I hoped that my business and general 'life' experiences might prove useful, along with my love of little ones! I am SO pleased I took the plunge; I believe that this journey has turned out to be a 'win-win' both for the school and for me!

Being a governor gives me the chance to chat with the children and teachers during school visits and see how the school operates from the inside to the outside. In return I try to lighten the load across a range of areas from compliance, to safeguarding, to ongoing training and development. Like other governors, I act as a sounding board for the teaching staff and parents, helping resolve issues and taking on board suggestions. The whole idea is that the professional staff are freed up to do the very best for the children.

The basic commitment is one monthly term-time meeting (at school or on-line), usually on a Monday evening between 6 and 8pm. Every governor is encouraged to take on an area or responsibility (I look after development and training, and I also serve on the pay panel). We do governor visits to the school to support pupils and staff, monitor progress and ensure our finances are used effectively. There is plenty of support and training available to us to help us maximise our effectiveness, along with many opportunities to improve our individual skills.

>>>

We have an impressive team of governors at the school – some with many years of experience and others with very little. Our monthly meetings are conducted with a lot of humour and fun while ensuring our governance is effective and compliant.

Do please consider joining us. St Mary Bourne is a very special village school with the most amazing, caring staff and delightful pupils. We have vacancies for two co-opted governors right now. We will "hold your hand" until you feel settled – then you can start making a difference too!

Kim Aziz (Derrydown Farm)
PLEASE EMAIL adminoffice@st-marybourne.hants.sch.uk
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

ANDOVER ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Meetings start at 7.30pm at Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre SP11 0AX

18th December 2025:

As usual there will be mince pies, mulled wine, and an assortment of festive refreshments at our Christmas meeting. Everyone is welcome. This informal meeting is a great opportunity to chat, to hear about the activities of other members and to ask questions. We're planning a Christmas quiz, a round-up of the best pictures of the year and some short talks on the night sky, exo-planets and recent discoveries.

15th January 2026 - Namibia:

Mark Radice will talk about his once-in-a-lifetime trip to Namibia. As an "astronomical guide" for a safari expedition Mark spent six weeks in the Namibian desert sharing the wonders of the Southern sky with his fellow adventurers. In the desert the sky is truly dark, and Mark's pictures are spectacular. His illustrated talk, with photographs and hand drawn sketches is not to be missed! Mark is an accomplished astro-photographer and an artist – a rare combination.

Everyone is welcome at our talks and there's no charge for your first meeting. After the talk, if the skies are clear, we will set up telescopes and look at the stars! For more information search online for "Andover Astronomical Society" or email **andoverastrosoc@gmail.com** .

Remembering…

Rosan Winfred Porter

31st October 1934 - 2nd October 2025

Compiled from tributes given at the Thanksgiving Service in St Peter's Church on Wednesday 12th November.

Rosan was born on 31st October 1934 on the Isle of Wight. She was the daughter of Richard Osbaldeston Spencer-Smith & Christian Louise (neé Passy) Spencer-Smith. She had two older brothers, Roland and Drummond.

Rosan came from a military background on both sides of her family and was extremely proud of its long connection with the county of Hampshire and the Hampshire Regiment. At the time of her birth, her father was Colonel of the Isle of Wight Rifles, having previously seen active service during the First World War on the Somme and before that at Gallipoli where he had captured a Turkish fort and was wounded during the battle of Krithia.

Rosan was a lifelong member of the Gallipoli Association, honouring the memory of those terrible landings. In 2015 she was one of only 15 relatives of Gallipoli veterans who were selected to attend the centenary commemorations to meet Princes Charles and Harry on HMS *Bulwark* moored off the Turkish coast.

Her childhood years were spent in the countryside outside Fareham. She was an intrepid and accomplished horsewoman who rode with the Hambledon Hunt for which she became Hunt Secretary when she was living in Dundridge. After some punishing falls and many broken bones, she reluctantly hung up her riding boots in the 1990s.

After her schooling, Rosan trained as a dietician; first in Bath and subsequently in London. Her professional career started in the Middlesex and Brompton hospitals. She then moved back to Hampshire to the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospitals and the newly opened Basingstoke Hospital. Whilst she was nursing her mother at home near Fareham, she met Geoffrey Porter who was the locum GP. They married in 1979 and bought Gaston Wood Farm, Upper Wyke, in 1980 when Geoffrey became a locum GP for St Mary Bourne. They were married for 32 years until sadly Geoffrey died following a stroke in 2011. Rosan retired from her work at Basingstoke Hospital in 1996 aged 62.

Throughout her life, Rosan was passionate about animals. Firstly horses, and then almost any animal, especially if it was black. During her years at Gaston Wood, Rosan developed a small herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle. She subsequently acquired an international reputation as a breeder and judge of the breed. She travelled extensively to visit herds in Scotland and England, the US and Argentina, and enriched the gene pool of the British stock by introducing genes from American pedigrees. Locally she enlisted the children of neighbours, as well as family, to help show her cattle at the Newbury Show and she even advised the King (when he was still Prince of Wales) on the breeding of Aberdeen Angus cattle. When Rosan could no longer deal with herd management at Gaston Wood, she generously donated her animals to "Jamie's Farm" – a charity which gives the opportunity to children with no previous experience of rural life to live and work for a week on a farm. The charity has now expanded to having seven "Jamie's Farms" in the UK.

Over the years, Gaston Wood saw a long line of her favourite black labradors. Rosan became actively involved with the Labrador Lifetime Trust which helped to rehome dogs when circumstances required it. Many local people are very grateful for her help in finding a much-loved family pet for them. >>>

Recently Rosan became increasingly frail. Some falls at her home precipitated a series of stays in Basingstoke hospital, where she died peacefully on October 2nd.

The service at St Peter's on 12th November was filled with people who came to pay tribute to someone who had made a significant contribution to their lives. Rosan was intelligent, accomplished and forthright. She was loved and respected in many different spheres: family and friendships, medicine, hunting and horsemanship; military history, and farming. She had wide-ranging cultural tastes. She recognised quality and always maintained a lively interest in other people and their lives.

Rosan Porter - a generous and independent spirit, whose exhortation to others to "live dangerously" will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her. R.I.P

Oliver Michael Palmer Madge

14th January 1970 – 14th October 2025

Oliver Madge sadly passed away on 14th October 2025 aged 55. Oliver, known to his friends as Oli, moved to St Mary Bourne in April 2016 with his wife, Lara. They both became active members of the community, with Oli being on the committees of the Flower Show and the Village Centre, as well as being a member of the Parish Council which he Chaired for a short while, taking over when it needed help and building up again.

Oli has been described as 'one of the good guys, always ready to help out when and where needed, a genuine animal lover, a strong supporter of community events with a true sense of justice and fair play.'

Another letter of condolence quoted *'When I think of Oli, I don't just think about the kindness and the all-round good bloke-iness of the man but also his loyalty and steeliness when faced with the rubbish that life sometimes serves up. His deftness in dealing with the everyday drama on the Parish Council, to being central in a plan just coming together, usually for the benefit of others was a privilege to watch.'*

Oli was committed to village life and was often shot down for trying to enhance village amenities like the lake, the use of the cricket pavilion and the Village Centre. Oli truly believed that it was better to get involved with village life than sit on the side lines and complain about it.

Outside village life, Oli carved a fantastic career within the Pest Control industry, becoming the youngest Chair of The British Pest Control Association (BPCA) at the age of 36. He became the 'go to' for the media whenever anything "pest related" was reported upon, and had a regular spot on BBC's Rogue Traders as well as starring in Big Brothers Little Brother, Sarah Beeny's Property Ladder, BBC News programmes and Jeremy Vine Show. He founded the consultancies Pestwise and IPM Central excelling at instruction, training and technical contribution as well as co-founding the Bed Bug Foundation and creating a code of practise for the industry.

He has been described as a leading force in the Pest Control industry and a key figure in advancing pest control standards across the UK by the BPCA.

In May last year, Oli and Lara moved to Cornwall with one eye on taking life a lot less seriously. Unfortunately, Oli was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer shortly after the move. Undeterred, Lara and Oli threw themselves into Cornish life becoming Gig Rowers with the local village team and making many new friends. In April, they bought a motorboat to discover the Cornish coast and to make the most of the time they had left. They were able to enjoy a glorious summer entertaining friends and settling into Cornish life.

TEST VALLEY PEST CONTROL LTD
20 10

ALL ASPECTS OF PEST CONTROL WORK UNDERTAKEN

One Off Treatments & Ongoing Pest Management Programmes Available

✓ Fully Insured ✓ All Staff DBS Checked
✓ Professional & Friendly BPCA Qualified Staff
✓ All staff use Non Sign Written Vehicles. Discreet Service

OUR SERVICES
Residential & Commercial Properties Serviced.

Rat and Mouse Treatments.
Wasp and Hornet Nest Treatments & Removal.
Traditional Mole Catching Specialists.
Cluster Fly Treatments.
Clothes Moth Fumigation & Management.
Bed Bug & Flea Treatments.
Pest Proofing Work.
Rodent, Insect & Bird Control.
Wildlife Management.

CONTACT US HEAD OFFICE: (01256) 643481 LOCAL OPERATOR: 07718986858

BLACKWELL & MOODY
Est. 1896

- Cremation tablets
- Headstones
- Full memorials
- Refurbishments
- NAMM registered

A range of memorials is on display in our showroom

Magdalen Masonry Works
Alresford Road, Winchester
SO21 1HE
01962 852476

blackwellandmoody@gmail.com

Black Fox
Chimney Sweeping

Clean, professional service
Fully insured and DBS Checked
Sweeping certificates provided
All types of chimney and appliance
Nest removals
Stove repairs and maintenance

Call 073 873 88 999
Email info@blackfoxsweep.co.uk
Web: www.blackfoxsweep.co.uk

AWARD WINNING PUBLICANS
STEVE & LUCY
WELCOME YOU TO

The
KINGS ARMS

WHERE
QUALITY
&
COMMUNITY
MATTER

10 Church Street, Whitchurch, Hampshire RG28 7AB

LANDSCAPING SERVICE

- Patios / Terraces
- Decking
- Fencing
- Turfing

TIM WILLIAMS
Experienced Landscaper since 1996
Phone: 07565 591481
Email: trwilliams71@gmail.com

EST. HM 1987
HAVEN MEMORIALS
MONUMENTAL MASONS

A local family run business with over 30 years experience creating bespoke Headstones. We pride ourselves on our friendly service and impartial advice. Contact us today to discuss your requirements. Let our family help yours in this time of need.

www.havenmemorials.co.uk
admin@havenstone.co.uk
Fleet: 01252 811691
Basingstoke: 01256 811829

YorkAssociates
Architectural Design Services
Planning Consultants

• Full design services • Planning applications for new houses and extensions • Applications for Listed Building Consent • Building Regulations submissions

RICS

Andrew Steeden MRICS
Chartered Building Surveyor
Telephone: **07393 025574**
andy.yorkassociates@gmail.com
www.yorkassociates.org

one degree west
Aerial, Satellite, Audio Visual & Security Installation Specialists
cat plus

one degree west are Aerial, Satellite, Audio Visual & Security Installation Specialists providing a wide range of domestic and commercial services that include all the following:

- TV Aerials
- Satellite Systems
- Starlink Satellite Internet
- Home Cinema
- Multi-room Audio Systems
- TV Wall Mounting Service
- CCTV & Alarm Systems
- Home & Office Networking
- Smart Home Automation
- Commercial Installations

CALL US FOR YOUR FREE QUOTATION : 01264 934824
or visit www.onedegreewest.tv
EMAIL: info@onedegreewest.tv
TRUSTMARK

KM SERVICES Est. 1997
Dulux Select Decorators

Painting & Decorating Specialists
Replacement Guttering, Cast Iron & Plastic Gutter Cleaning & Maintenance

Tel: 01264 362 334 Mobile: 0777 562 4488
Find us at www.kmservices.info
All work is tailor made to your specifications and carries a workmanship warranty

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)

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: Monday 8th December 2025 and Monday 12th January 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

RECENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

25/02486/TREEN Southern Water Depot, Longparish Road
Proposal: Overgrown trees on track leading to site: (T1) Bamboo – cut back from the access track (T2) Leylandii – crown raise to 3m (T3) Leylandii - crown raise to 3m
Parish Council comments: No objection
25/02469/TREEN East Aston House
Proposal: T1 Sycamore – removal of the tree to ground level
Parish Council comments: No objection

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

SEASONS GREETINGS

Longparish Parish Council would like to wish all our residents a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

LONGPARISH GARDENING CLUB

There will be no meeting in December of the Longparish Gardening Club.

JANUARY 2026
Tuesday, 27th January
Longparish Village Hall,
7 pm

Ray Broughton formerly from Sparsholt College
Speaking on "Companion Planting"
It will also be re-enrolling and enrolling for the Longparish Gardening Club for 2026
New members welcome from Longparish, Hurstbourne Priors and St Mary Bourne.

Any queries please to Rosie Lowry 01264720325
or
Marion Bell 01264720205

BINGO!

Join us for a fun evening at the **Cricketers Pub on Thursday, December 4th.** Arrive anytime from 7 PM for a 7:30 start.

If you have anything suitable for a raffle prize, please bring it along. All profits go to Andover Food Bank.

For more info, please contact Laura on lpchristmasfayre@outlook.com

LITTER FREE LONGPARISH one last clear for 2025!!

Next Litter picks are on **Friday 5th December 2025**(not second Friday) but I am sure you can claim your coffee on 12th at the Cricketers and **9th January 2026**, followed by coffee at the Plough. Meet behind the **Village Hall at 9.15 am**, the Parish Council will provide litter picking sticks, hoops and bags.

For more information Tel **Christian Dryden 720 398**

LONGPARISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY LUNCH CLUB

Friday 19th December 12 – 2.30pm

We are holding the Christmas Lunch in the Village Hall, please let us know, (if you haven't already), if you would like to come, as numbers are limited. Priority to regular members. £5 pp for non-members

30th January 2026 - New Year Friday Lunch Club

To book for either date ring **Andrea 720 457**

PROPERTY REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

Woodwork, welding, gutters, power washing & general repairs

No job too small

07939 653218

jeremycranswick61@gmail.com

MARCH fuels

Oil

Gas

Coal

01635 253253

Andover Carpet Cleaning Co.

Carpets, Rugs, Suites, Sofas, Recliners etc.

Scotchguard & Deodorise Treatment

07850 677 761

MONKEY BUSINESS

TREE AND GARDEN SERVICES

Contact Drew

01256 893566 07720 842451

monkeybusiness77@hotmail.co.uk

NCHARB ~ Fully Insured

Free estimates and advice

GWYNNE DENTAL

QUALITY PRIVATE DENTISTRY

OFFICE@GWYNNEDENTAL.CO.UK

WWW.GWYNNEDENTAL.CO.UK

01256 321 945

All aspects of general dentistry

Facial aesthetics and invisalign

Same day emergency treatment

Advanced restorative treatment including implants

P C BUTLER BRICKWORK

General and Traditional Building

Roofing, Maintenance & Repairs,

Painting & Decorating

No job too small

01256 781830 or 07833 586250

paulbutler3@hotmail.co.uk

---

safe

OFTEC

HEATSOURCE BOILERS LTD

All makes of oil and gas boiler servicing, repair and replacement.

07952 671669

REFLECTIONS HYPNOTHERAPY

Treatments with Reflections Hypnotherapy can assist in so many ways, putting you back in control!

Overcome unwanted habits, fears and phobias, release trauma, gain confidence & self-esteem and become more positive generally

Call or email now to see how I can help you!

Book your FREE consultation now: 07391295766

www.reflections-hypnotherapy.co.uk

sophia.reflections54@gmail.com

---

ic HOLISTIC MASSAGE

BOURNE VALLEY, ANDOVER

CHAIR MASSAGE

60 minutes

£50

DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE

60 minutes

£50

*Mobile service available

20% off first booking

Iveta Cikankova

07713 834863

Accredited & Insured

Aardvark Cleaning Services ltd

Professional cleaning service specialising in carpets, stone flooring, cooking appliances and upholstery

07783810806

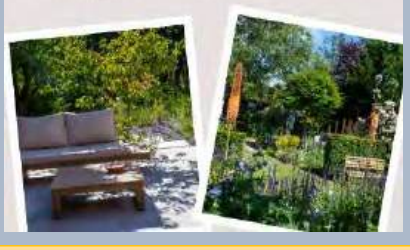
www.aardvarkcleaningservicesltd.com

---

katherine lee garden design

Unsure where to start with your garden? Whether you need guidance, fresh ideas, or a full transformation, I'm here to help you make the most of your space. Let's create something special together!

Please call on 07531 375759 or email hello@katherineleegardendesign.co.uk to arrange a consultation.



BVH

Bourne Valley Hair

St Mary Bourne

Vidal Sassoon trained Stylist & Wella Professionals colourist.

By appointment only.

07824 553723

To advertise in Hill & Valley, please email: hillandvalley@longparish.com

Longparish Little School

This autumn has been exceptionally busy for us. We had the pleasure of hosting a visit from the father of one of our children, who serves in the army. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring various army uniforms and equipment, as well as sampling some boiled ration food from a pack. To add to the excitement, they were delighted to receive special certificates and army badges.

We also visited the church for our Harvest celebration. A special thank you goes to Sarah and Rev Russ for organising such fantastic activities. The children had the chance to taste some fruit and cereals made from locally grown corn and wheat. We decorated pumpkin pictures, listened to stories, and contributed leaves to a tree that represented the things for which we are grateful.

Additionally, we welcomed two volunteers from the local food bank, who came to collect the generous donations brought in by the children and their families for our harvest celebration. We took a moment to discuss with the children the importance of food banks and how they assist families in need. The children were enthusiastic and proud to help, actively participating in loading the van with the donated items.

We returned to the church on Remembrance Day to express our gratitude to the servicemen and women of the Army, Navy, and Royal Air Force for their commitment to our safety. During a moment of reflection, we thought about those who protect us while observing the flickering light of a candle. Several children shared photographs of family members who have served or are currently serving in the military. We also discussed the importance of wearing poppies as a symbol of remembrance and appreciation. As a meaningful gesture, we laid our poppy wreath, crafted by the children, at the altar.

To support the Children in Need fundraiser, we learned how to aid children who are less fortunate than ourselves. We baked and decorated Pudsey biscuits, which we sold to our families, raising £90 to contribute to this charity.

If you have a child who would like to join Little School, we are currently accepting applications for September 2026. To arrange a viewing, please call 01264 720455.

- Longparish Little School Christmas Quiz
- Wednesday 10th December 7.30pm.
- Longparish Community/School Hall
- Teams of up to 6 people.
- £5 per person with all funds going to support the preschool children and their outdoor/ Forest school provision. Pay on the evening.
- Mince Pies, Mulled Wine, a raffle and lots of Christmas cheer.

T C SCOTT
ST MARY BOURNE GARAGE LTD

MOT Test Station

Repairs & Servicing of all makes of vehicle.

Diagnostics

Welding to MOT standard

Phone (01264) 738606

PERFECT PADDOCKS
Complete Maintenance Service incl Large Lawns

• Water Pipes and Cables installed • Land Drainage
Diggers and Dumpers 1-20 t
Fully Licensed Waste Carrier
Other services available
Just ask David & Suzanne
Egbury Road, St Mary Bourne
07759 607633
dspagricontracting@gmail.com

COLLARD
DEMOLISH | DISPOSE | RECYCLE
Having a house clearance or work done?

Skip the tip and hire a skip!
Book your skip hire online with friendly next day service!
www.rcollard.com
01264 720 257

ETHERINGTON CONTRACTING LTD

01256 893150 / 07901 771080
www.gecontracting.co.uk

LANDSCAPING • GROUNDWORK • PLANT HIRE

How to contact your Member of Parliament
Kit Malthouse

kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk
01264 401401
Or write to me at my constituency office:
2 Church Close, Andover, SP10 1DP

I hold regular surgeries for all constituents in North West Hampshire

CHARTERED FINANCIAL ADVICE
personal patient impartial

Sapienter Wealth Management
TO JUDGE & TO ORDER

Telephone: 0330 100 4926
Email: enquiries@sapienterwm.com
Website: http://sapienterwm.london

Peter A Sudlow Chartered FCSI
Chartered Fellow (Financial Planning)
Certified Financial Planner™

CISI CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR SECURITIES & INVESTMENT
CHARTERED FELLOW (FINANCIAL PLANNING) 2022 - 23

CFP™
LONDON & WHITCHURCH

The advertisements in Hill & Valley are placed in good faith and are not recommendations of the services or products

Longparish C of E Primary School

This month, we have thought through our actions, ensuring that we are acting with kindness, no matter their religion, race or culture. Anti Bullying week has highlighted the importance of telling an adult immediately if a child is unhappy and treating others how we want to be treated.

We had a beautiful and meaningful Armistice Service, where several members of the community came to either play The Last Post or to talk about their experience. Thank you very much to all and Reverend Russell, who led the service. The children also created some beautiful artwork to reflect on the important message of 'We Will Remember Them.'

The children have enjoyed using our prayer pebbles throughout the day where they can create- Please, Sorry and Thank you prayers. This model has enabled children to start a conversation with God and know there is someone there to guide you always.

Road Safety Awareness Week has highlighted the importance of Be Bright, Be Seen and children have learnt some important messages for Road Safety, particularly now the clocks have changed, meaning darker evenings.

Sarah Jordan – Acting Headteacher

St Nicholas Church 100 Club

Results of the October 2025 Draw

The membership currently stands at 61, and the prizes below are therefore based on that number.

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%.

October Results		
First prize:	**No. 08**	**£76.00**
Second prize:	**No. 05**	**£46.00**
Third Prize:	**No. 39**	**£15.00**

Renewal Month - December

The Heritage Fund (St Nicholas 100 Club) has now been going for two years, since it commenced on St Nicholas Day, 6th December 2023. I hope those of you already in the Club will continue with your Direct Debit (please!), or you will renew with cash or cheque for those on that system. Anyone wishing to join the Club, December is the month to do so, although you can join at any time during the year. We would like to get up to a minimum of 100 numbers/members (as the name of the Club suggests!), and we would be extremely grateful if you would consider becoming a member of the club and help support your Parish Church in this way. 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.

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 feel free to contact me:-

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

Brushes Up

Chimney Sweeps

HETAS Accredited

Tel: 01264 339331 Mob: 07833 368350

www.brushesup.co.uk

G&S Lark Tree Services

Andover (01264) 874 464

Mobile 07850 849 960

Tree Care ~ Hedge cutting

graemelark@outlook.com

www.larktreeservices.co.uk

TW GLAZING & WINDOW REPAIRS

01264 782 211/ 077 652 60922

www.twglazingandwindowrepairs.com

misted double-glazed units
cat-flaps into UPVC and glass
glass repairs into all existing frames
hinges, handles, locks and gaskets
greenhouse glass and faceputtying
FREE QUOTES AND ADVICE

TEST VALLEY GARDEN MACHINERY LTD

— Never knowingly undercut —

INTRODUCTORY OFFER:

FREE COLLECTION & RETURNS

LOCAL RESTRICTIONS AND TERMS APPLY

LOCAL ROBOT MOWER EXPERTS

FOR ALL YOUR REQUIREMENTS

HAMPSHIRE'S LEADING ROBOT MOWER SUPPLIER!

Tel: 0800 107 3263

www.tvgm.uk

REPAIRS • SALES • SERVICE

As winter tightens its grip, cricket moves indoors. LCC has two teams currently playing in the indoor leagues at Dummer Cricket Centre. To date, the Tuesday team are undefeated having won all 5 matches played. The Thursday evening team are having a more challenging time with just one victory so far. Planning for 2026 is already underway and we hope to run another Quiz Night in May 2026. We would like to thank everyone who has supported Longparish CC this year and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you in 2026!

Alison Allen

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

It was misty and chilly as we set off but the sun broke through and running conditions were pretty well ideal for the November run.

First home was James Ford who became our Most Improved Man. Alice Evans was Most Improved Woman in her 99th race and Megan Brunwin was our Rising Star.

Afterwards we quickly dispersed to enable the runners to change ready for Remembrance.
Thank you very much to Maggie Barber for marshalling, Andy Smith and Alice Evans for doing the signs and to David Gould for processing the results.

The next race is on **Sunday 14 December,** starting at **9am** at **The Plough**. This is our Christmas race and we'll have mince pies and mulled wine afterwards. Fancy dress is optional; Santa hats are encouraged.

Looking forward, if your New Year Resolution is to get out and run then please put **Sunday 11 January** in your diary for a great start to 2026.
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

LONGPARISH WILDLIFE
THE MINK

I thought I would tell you about mink as we have one in the village at the moment. The mink we have are not native, they are actually American mink brought in for fur farming. Mink farms have been established in the UK since 1920 and expansion of the industry resumed after WW11. At its peak in the 1950s there were 400 known farms in the UK. Mink were first confirmed to be breeding in the wild in 1956. By December 1967 wild mink was present in over half of the counties in the UK. The fur farming in the UK was subject to increasing statutory restrictions, from 1975 until it was finally banned completely in 2000. The few fur farms still operating at that time had been the focus of attacks by animal rights activists. There was a mink farm at Rooksbury Mill in Andover. In August 1969 intruders broke into the farm and released 1000 mink from their cages. Farm workers and pest officers managed to capture many, but a number escaped into the wild. The mink had a devastating effect on native wildlife, particularly the water vole. This deadly predator may look cute. It has a long-streamlined body very similar to the ferret and range from light to dark brown with distinctive white patches on their chin and throat. They are mostly nocturnal or active at dusk and have a life span of 10-12 years. Mink will eat Eels, Perch, Trout and young Salmon, as well as Coots, Moorhens and Ducks. They have also been known to hunt Rabbits, Rats, Mice, Voles and Frogs. Mink mate in February and give birth 40-60 days later. Young Mink are called Kits and each litter comprises of 3-7. They are weaned at 8 weeks and finally become independent by 14 weeks.

As there is no Hill & Valley next month, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Chris Bowman

LCA Coffee Mornings

Meet at The Cricketers
Friday 12 December
At The Plough
Friday 9 January
from 10am - 11:45am
Drop in for a chat, everyone welcome. Coffee or Tea and biscuits, all for £1.00

Sylvia Mary Marguerite Snow (Mary)

July 4, 1920 - November 10,2025

Mary was born at Church Farm, Longparish in 1920, the second child of Cobden and Sylvia Snow. The family moved to Southside Farm soon afterwards where Mary enjoyed an idyllic country childhood. When war threatened in 1939, Mary abandoned her intention of becoming a Norland Nurse, signing up for the Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service. After training, and time billeted in London, she was posted in1943 to Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire. There she was involved in the administration of the newly formed (highly secret) parachute regiment. When peace came, she was posted to Belgium where she and her colleagues had the harrowing job of sorting through documents to be returned to the families of the young men who did not make it home.

Despite the awfulness of war, Mary remembered those years with affection, meeting people of her own age and serving her country. She was good at sports, enjoying tennis and playing for an ATS hockey team.

After being de-mobbed, she did secretarial training and was PA to the Managing Director of Standard Telephones and Cables in Southampton for 23 years. She retired to her bungalow at Highfield, Longparish in 1980.

Mary enjoyed retirement to the full, pursuing hobbies including gardening, tapestry, drawing and painting. Immersed in village life, she served as secretary to the PCC for many years. Her sketches of Longparish featured on Parish Magazine covers and in the village handbook and she designed the Longparish panel of the Test Valley Tapestry. Mary loved all animals, and friends will remember her mischievous Cairn terrier, Hamish, her beloved companion for many years.

Mary moved to Millway House Residential Home in 2020, aged 99. Covid regulations curtailed 100th birthday celebrations, though messages from friends and congratulations from Queen Elizabeth and latterly King Charles, were much prized. She will be very much missed by her family and friends.

Memorial Service to take place at Longparish Church on December 16th at 1 pm.

Carol Singing

With Longparish Choir

The Plough: Monday 15 December 5.30pm

The Cricketers: Friday 19 December 6.30pm

Carols by Candlelight
St Nicholas Church
Sunday 21 December 6 pm
All welcome – carol sheets provided

The Choir is grateful for all your support again this year and we wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

MOZART REQUIEM

Were you fortunate enough to attend the concert given by The Longparish Choir and Friends on 14th and 15th November held at All Hallows Church, Whitchurch, you would have been enthralled.
This particularly challenging work, originally scored for choir and orchestra was presented instead, with organ accompaniment.

The performance was truly stunning: one would not expect a group of amateurs however talented, to produce such a powerful sound, particularly so, considering the rather dry acoustics. The balance between the sections was excellent as was the sympathetic organ accompaniment.

The interplay between soloists was thoroughly convincing. I was quite taken with the Bass soloist who gave us a rich, deep and utterly professional account.

The Requiem, which Mozart came to believe was to be performed upon his death, opened confidently with a full sound which was quite unexpected and hinted that we were in for a real treat.

In the Kyrie, again a dynamic opening by the men and responded to beautifully by the women. Here, Mozart wrote a double fugue with running semiquavers which is demanding on any choir as strict accuracy is required to achieve the clarity the composer called for.

The text in the Confutatis called for a vigorous attack _ *'when the accursed are confounded…'* and here the choir excelled bringing realism to the text.

In contrast, the Lacrimosa, of which only the first eight bars are attributed to Mozart, was performed with much pathos; the melodic line floating ever upward.

The Sanctus, entirely composed by Mozart's pupil, Sussmayr and written in the tonic major (D major), opened with a glorious burst of energy which led majestically to a wonderful rendering of the contrapuntal passages which followed.

The Agnus Dei with its chromatic melodies reminiscent of Mozart's Mass in C, gave the choir the opportunity to observe perfect intonation and dynamic contrast. Both these disciplines were achieved and so we were led to the final movement, Communio, which harked back to thematic material from the first two movements. This towering movement, demanding huge reserves of stamina and concentration, coming as it does at the conclusion of the Requiem, presents the ultimate challenge to every choir. I am delighted to report that the Longparish and Friends Choir were magnificent in its rendition to the very last note.

G. L.

Longparish The Plough owned by the community

Christmas at The Plough

Breakfast with Santa!
Shhh! Santa tells us that he's coming to breakfast on **Saturday 13th December from 9.00am – 11.30am.** Come and join us for a delicious Full English or Veggie Option and spend special time with Santa for £15 per child (to include a gift) and £15 per adult to include a hot drink. *Always popular! Booking essential*

Carols with the Choir
The fabulous Longparish Choir will be singing Christmas Carols on **Monday 15th December at 5.30pm.** Come and join us and enjoy a complimentary mince pie.
Mulled Wine will be available to buy from the bar

Santa's Booze Cruise
Santa's fantastic charity fundraising Booze Cruise will arrive at **7.30pm on Wednesday 17th December.**
Have fun and donate…. every penny raised will go to the **Countess of Brecknock Hospice, Andover**

Christmas Menu & Boxing Day Brunch
Join us with family, friends or colleagues for a fabulous festive meal through December.
Our mouth-watering Christmas menu is available for bookings until **24th December.**
Our delicious **new Winter Menu** is now launched, and we'll be providing a heart-warming **Boxing Day Full English Brunch!**

Gift Vouchers
Need a terrific gift for family and friends?
Look no further! We have **Plough Inn gift vouchers** available from the pub
call us on 01264 720069 or book via the website
www.ploughinn.org
Email: reservations@ploughinn.org

APSLEY FARMS

Soil improving mulch

Our sustainable mulch is packed with NPK and essential micronutrients, adding rich organic matter to improve your garden soil. A 100% sustainable by-product of green energy at Apsley Farms biogas plant.

- Retains moisture
- Suppresses weeds
- Acts as compost activator
- Repels slugs & snails
- Free from peat, synthetics & waste

Free delivery with our vans within 30 miles of SP11 6LZ

Delivered in 730L bags

Made from crops

One 730L bag = 18 wheelbarrows

100% peat-free

Order online at www.apsleyfarms.com • 01264 554433

Gold Standard Live-in Care

A trusted, family-run, local independent agency delivering bespoke, flexible, and discreet Live-in Care for over 30 years. Ideal for short-term convalescence or long-term support.

Arrange Your Free, No-Obligation Consultation Today

Meet us in the comfort of your home or at our welcoming office on Stockbridge High Street.

01264 319 399
access-care.co.uk

ACCESS CARE
Gold Standard Live-in Care Since 1994

CLEAN OVENS
DOMESTICS LTD

• AGAS • HOBS • OVENS • RANGES
• EXTRACTORS • BBQS • MICROWAVES

Eco-friendly materials used - Experienced staff
Covering Hampshire & Wiltshire

Call or email Dave
tel: 0800 707 6629 mob: 07563 693145
email: cleanovensdomestic@gmail.com

M.J.Sly Memorials Ltd

BRAMM

Family Business since 1992

Andover Showroom
6 Swan Court,
Andover, Hants SP10 1EZ

Marlborough Showroom
Pelham Court, London Road
Marlborough, Wilts SN8 2AG

OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

* New memorials
* Renovations - repairs & cleaning
* Additional Inscriptions

Telephone: 01672 516797
Call or text 07535 188069

www.mjsly.co.uk
Email: info@mjsly.co.uk

ON POINT
SHARPENING SERVICES

Mobile knife, scissor & tool sharpening services
Call Becky on 07393 600630 to book a visit
Email: Onpointsharpening@outlook.com
www.onpoint-sharpening.co.uk

To advertise in Hill & Valley, please email: hillandvalley@longparish.com

WINTER IS COMING…

Winter in coming… this year the **Winter Solstice** falls on Sunday 21st December when the lean of the northern half of Earth away from the Sun reaches its maximum point. This will be the shortest day of the year with only 9 hours and 17 minutes of daylight and will mark the beginning of our Astronomical Winter.

COCKER SPANIEL WANDERINGS…

Danebury Hillfort - Crunchy Leaves and Crisp Views. Out and About Dog Walks with Bob Lethaby.

People ask why do I walk so much? And do I ever actually work? Well, walking clears the head, lifts the mood, and keeps my working cocker spaniel from staging a one-dog mutiny. He'd happily march to John O'Groats and back, wagging his tail, as if to say, "Where next?"

One of my favourite local walks is Danebury Hillfort, between Middle Wallop and Stockbridge. Autumn and Winter are magic here. There are no pheasants, so my dog mostly behaves, and the quiet allows you to hear your own thoughts, or at least the wind singing through the trees. Midweek is an ideal time to visit, as weekends can attract the masses, which isn't really my thing. There are two car parks and the occasional coffee van for emergency caffeine.

I usually park at the bottom, tackle the lung-busting climb, loop past the trig point, and take both the lower and upper circular routes. On wet chalk, the upper path becomes a slapstick stage: I once gave a small audience an impromptu display of splits followed by a face plant. Who knew walking could be so dramatic?

Autumn brings a golden tunnel of trees on the lower path; winter delivers crisp views across Hampshire vineyards towards Longstock and Chilbolton. Birdwatchers can spot kestrels, kites, bullfinches, and flocks of redwings and fieldfares munching on winter berries. Highland cows and Shetland ponies wander the top, adding charm, making for great photography.

I highly recommend Danebury Hillfort: fenced, safe, mostly pheasant-free, and full of life. Whether it's crunching leaves in autumn or sparkling frost in winter, it's a perfect place to stretch your legs, take in the scenery, and laugh at yourself (and your dog) along the way.

THE HISTORY OF HURSTBOURNE PRIORS

The History of Hurstbourne Priors was a special event hosted by the Parish Council on 25th October. County Archaeologist David Hopkins presented the history of the archaeology in Hurstbourne Priors, and its surrounding area, and its development with a fascinating talk accompanied by plenty of maps and pictures so we could envisage what 'our' valley used to look like.

The valleys were routes of communication as far back as 12,000BC. Then, as time moved forward, we learned how new materials triumphed over each of their predecessors, as the Stone Age yielded to the Bronze Age and then, in turn, to the Iron Age.

EG TILING

Elliott Glasspool

Professional Wall & Floor Tiler
Porcelain, Ceramic, Natural Stone
25 years experience

07597 420648

elliottglasspool@hotmail.com

Kitchens, Bedrooms, Appliances

Ranges to suit all budgets

SAXON DESIGNS KITCHEN COMPANY

Visit our studio at Weyhill Farm - SP118DE

saxondesigns.co.uk - tel 01264 77 33 33

CLOCK BARN

Your timeless countryside wedding experience

Clock Barn, Tufton Warren, Witchurch, Hampshire RG28 7RB
01256 630199 clockbarn@wedding-venues.co.uk clockbarn

© DM Photography

Tried - Tested - Trusted

We only offer the best advice and no-pressure sales calls

BUY WITH CONFIDENCE
TRADING STANDARDS APPROVED
buywithconfidence.gov.uk

Which?
Trusted Trader

Aluminium, Hardwood, uPVC

Triple Glazing Specialist

Windows

Doors

Glazed extensions

9 Mylen Business Centre, Andover
sales@kjmgroup.co.uk
www.kjmgroup.co.uk
01264 359355

AWARD WINNING
We are proud of our reputation and proven track record

There is evidence that early man here had mammoths for company, and farming started here between 6,500 and 4,000 BC, as habits changed from hunting to cultivating the land as the tools to do so became available. Nearer the present day David showed old maps and pictures of the changing shape of Hurstbourne Park and the church as well as the Priory which gave us our name.

Thank you to everyone who attended the evening and enjoyed the refreshments and snacks laid on by the Parish Council. We are grateful to David Hopkins for his time and effort and to all those who assisted in the preparation and execution of the evening. The proceeds of the raffle will go towards the refurbishment of the Pavilion.

LADIES COFFEE MORNING

Our **January Coffee Morning** will be hosted by Denise Bradley at Mistletoe Cottage (No 38) on Thursday, 15th January from 10.15 am until 12 noon. All ages welcome and Happy New Year!

For more information or offers to host a coffee morning, please contact Susie Sorby Tel 01256 892665

2026 PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Parish Council meets every other month, on the last Thursday of the month, at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. The dates for Parish Council meetings in 2026 are as follows:

Thursday 29th January
Thursday 26th March
Thursday 28th May
Thursday 30th July
Thursday 24th September
Thursday 26th November

Any resident of the Parish can attend and there is no need to alert the Council if you are coming. However, if there is a matter which you might feel the members might want to look into before you attend, please do let me know: 01264 772460 or email: richard.waterman150@btinternet.com.

PAVILLION REFURBISHMENT

We are sorry to say that the Parish Council's application for Community Infrastructure Funding to refurbish our beloved pavilion was turned down by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council.

The Parish Council is exploring the possibility to reapply next year and will also be reaching out to other grant-giving organisations. In the meantime, if you have any other fundraising ideas or suggestions, we would be delighted to hear from you - any help is greatly appreciated!

If you would like to contribute to the Pavilion Refurbishment Fund, then donations and payment can be made by bank transfer to: Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council, sort code 30-90-21, account number 00262163. Please use Pavilion Fund as your reference.

CHRISTMAS BIN COLLECTIONS

Basingstoke and Deane's Christmas bin collections will have revised dates, with no collections on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, or New Year's Day. Please check the specific revised dates for your address on the council's website. Please dispose of all waste, including Christmas wrapping, decorations and trees responsibly.

CHRISTMAS IN HURSTBOURNE PRIORS

We warmly invite you to join our Christmas celebrations in Hurstbourne Priors in the week leading up to Christmas

Sunday, 21st December at 11.00am - a traditional Carol Service in St Andrews Church – with readings and carols. There will also be an activity for the children in the pews. It will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine at The School House by kind invitation of Andrew and Hannah Ross.

Tuesday, 23rd December at 4pm – outdoor Carols and Nativity. Come and join us to sing your favourite carols and hear the Christmas story told by the children, followed by refreshments. If it is raining, we will gather in the Church.

Christmas Day, 25th December at 10.30am – Christmas Communion in St Andrew's Church. We do hope you will join us – you will be most welcome!

Ann Orr and Fenella Williams
Churchwardens

G & R COUSINS
BUILDING SERVICES

EXTENSIONS - NEW BUILD
REFURBISHMENTS

01264 860115
07900 241907 - 07831 342599

www.gandrcousins.co.uk

Find us on Facebook

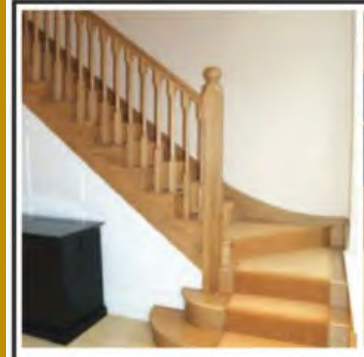
Bourne Rose Beauty
Sky Ralph

• Manicure & Pedicure • Fake Bake Spray Tan
• Lashes & Brows • Waxing

Professional beauty therapist based within the Bourne Valley

07786931639

Find me on Facebook & Instagram



TUCKER
Kitchens, Furniture & Joinery

Est: 1976
Unit 9 Towergate Industrial Park
Colebrook Way, Andover, Hants, SP10 3BB
t: 01264 365113 www.tuckerjoinery.co.uk

Ryan Dickinson
Contract Services Ltd

Leave your central heating in our hands. No more expensive repair bills with parts and labour included in our cover. Total peace of mind knowing that an engineer will be with you within 24 hours of a breakdown.

- ✓ Have a happy boiler with all round protection
- ✓ One off annual fee or easy monthly payments
- ✓ An engineer on site within 24 hours
- ✓ Parts and labour included
- ✓ No expensive repair bills
- ✓ Annual boiler service
- ✓ Total peace of mind

For further details on the different types of monthly gas and oil boiler service contracts visit our website:
www.ryandickinsonplumbing.co.uk

Or Telephone us on
01256 895216

Gas Safe Register

Leave your central heating in our hands. No more expensive repair bills with parts and labour included in our cover. Total peace of mind knowing that an engineer will be with you within 24 hours of a breakdown.

We have Gas Safe accreditation.
We are a family run company and pride ourselves on being able to offer you a range of services delivered by a highly skilled team of office administrators, installers and engineers.

LOCAL BUILDER SEMI-RETIRED
Small jobs around your Home

I have been in the building business (formerly Amport Construction Ltd) for over 40 years. Do you have jobs around your house that need doing?

Room Alterations • Garage Conversions • Plastering • Tiling
Brickwork • Rendering • Carpentry • Garden Walls and much more

No job too small. References available
Please contact me for a free quotation:

Ian Gaitskell
Tel: 01264 710942 Mobile: 07787 530991
Email: amportconstruction@gmail.com Web: amportconstuction.co.uk
Abotts Ann Based

SAFARI SUPPER

WHITCHURCH SILK MILL WINTER NEWS

As the year draws to a close, Whitchurch Silk Mill is busy with creativity and exciting opportunities to get involved. Whether you're passionate about textile art, heritage preservation, volunteering, or crafting, there's something for everyone this season.

Visible Threads: Jane Sanders Exhibition

We're thrilled to announce our winter exhibition, Visible Threads, running from 6 December to 22 February 2026.

This captivating showcase features the work of Jane Sanders, a textile artist from Newcastle upon Tyne, whose distinctive portraits of iconic musicians are stitched using a 1960s Singer sewing machine and an eclectic mix of materials. Her work has gained international recognition, and we're proud to host her at the Mill. Visit our website to learn more about Jane's techniques and inspirations.

Support Silk Weaving – Big Give Campaign

We're taking part in the Big Give's Christmas Challenge campaign to raise £5,000 to train the next generation of silk weavers. This vital initiative will help preserve endangered heritage skills and ensure our historic looms continue to operate.

Join the Flower Festival Knitting Challenge

Looking ahead to summer 2026, we're excited to launch our first-ever Flower Festival, taking place from 19–21 June. The Mill will be transformed into a blooming celebration of real and handmade floral art, and we're inviting knitters, crocheters, and young pom-pom makers to help us create a stunning garden of daffodils, tulips, roses, and more. Whether you're an experienced crafter or just starting out, your contribution will help make this community event truly special. Patterns and guidance are available from the Mill, so gather your yarn and join us in celebrating creativity and craft, one flower at a time.

HAMPSHIRE SEWING CIRCLE & TALK BY CLARE BRADLEY

Enjoy an afternoon of relaxed crafting on Saturday 13th December from 12-4pm at Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall.

JAMES BARNETT

PAINTING & DECORATING

ADVANCED CITY AND GUILDS

OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERTISE IN ALL ASPECTS OF DECORATING

07747 603710

Jamesbarnettdecorating@gmail.com

BURLISON Photography & Film

MPA Photographer of the Year 2023/2024

Image is Everything

For all your Commercial, Event, Wedding & Portrait requirements

Unique CAA Authorised & Insured Aerial Drone Image Restoration

Contact Dave on 07771 803025

MPA

www.burlisonphotography.com

info@burlisonphotography.com

Don't trust to luck; you only get one shot!

OVERTON

BATHROOM CENTRE LTD

Tel: 01256 770374

info@overtonbathrooms.co.uk

@overtonbathrooms

www:overtonbathrooms.co.uk

BATHROOMS PLUMBING SALES SHOWROOMS INSTALLATION

With over 30 years of experience Overton Bathroom Centre, can be relied upon to offer extensive product knowledge and installation expertise. We pride ourselves on our customer service and provide 'Supply Only' or 'Supply & Installation' to meet your requirements. Please get in touch to discuss your needs!

Overton Bathroom Centre Ltd - 4 High Street Overton Hants RG25 3HA

TCS ARBORISTS

Trustworthy Arboriculture Specialists, family run and based localy In Longparish

- Tree Care & Removal
- Hedge Care
- 24/7 emergency call out
- Stump Removal

CALL NOW FOR A FREE PROFESSIONAL QUOTE

07554 996945

www.tcstreecare.co.uk

1999

JACKETEER CLUB

Special offer on your next tailored jacket.

Join the Jacketeers Club today for £500 and receive your first bespoke jacket.

As a member, all future jacket purchases are half price for life. PLUS you will have the opportunity to attend exclusive events.

Dress2kill.com/jacketeers | 0207 928 9558

BARBARA CARRODUS

Extract from the Eulogy given by Barbara's husband Jim Vyse at her thanksgiving service on 13 September 2025

Many will know what I mean by 'Word of the Month Barbara'. For over three years Barbara submitted words and their definitions to Hill and Valley: a treasure trove created by a *logophile* - someone who loves words.

Barbara's first word (delivered to a group of us at a village Safari Supper) was *frondescence* - that time when a plant unfolds its leaves creating a green haze. We then had *pssithurism* - the rustling/whistling sound of wind moving through trees and leaves and this had to be followed by *abscisson* – the natural detachment of parts of a plant, typically dead leaves and ripe fruit which Barbara enjoyed collecting and preserving (there are still leaves under our carpets). Many photos show Barbara sitting in, admiring and hugging trees and, speaking from experience, could she hug!!

We were often asked how we met – Barbara was very proud that we were among the early adopters of internet dating, and we first met at Stourhead on March 26th 2005.

On that first date we did *obambulate* - to walk about or wander - aimlessly around the lake, while Barbara tried to explain to me her newfound interest in pilates. Later we sat talking, outside Stourhead Church, in the *apricity* – the warmth of the sunshine in winter (well just into early spring).

Barbara's dear mother Jean, observing 'You have had rather a lot of boyfriends, Barbara' was curious to know how we met. Summoning up some of Barbara's *vespertine* – of or occurring in the evening - activities - she drew on her history as an *aristologist* – person who studies/practices the art or science of dining - as well as, luckily, *eupepsia* – lack of indigestion - to explain that we had met at one of the supper clubs she attended (it was a bit difficult to explain why there was a supper club at Stourhead during the day!). One of those supper clubs was organised by her friend Anthea, with whom she went on to work in her picture framing business at Chilton Foliat before joining me at Fox farmyard where she set up her own workshop.

So we begin to build a picture of someone who was *logodaedalus* – one who uses language with cleverness and skill, who unfortunately sometimes displayed *velleity* – an inclination not strong enough to lead to action - who never displayed *triskaidekaphobia* or *friggatriskaidekaphobia* – phobia of the number 13 or of Friday 13th and, despite the restrictions of her illnesses had *confelicity* – delight in another person's happiness or good fortune. While procrastination never featured, she was often obliged to *scurryfunge* - to frantically tidy up before an unexpected visitor arrives.

A tidiness which unfortunately often tended to be *fugacious* – quick to disappear. Strangely there are no words associated with her love of dogs especially black labradors, which gave her so much pleasure.

After her own dogs Prince and Meg, she moved on to house and dog sitting. Barbara became a beloved Fairy Dogmother for her last few years. Nor are there any words relating to her skills of photography, which she studied at Basingstoke College. While never taking up photography professionally, she produced thousands of images of plants and gardens as well as land and skyscapes. The quirky, slightly bonkers in a lovely way (as at least one of her friends described her) aspect of her character led her to produce a series of rear views of photographic subjects especially of other photographers creating images or featuring people at events such as Ladies' Day at Ascot and weddings. There are many, many digital images to sort through as well as film and slides. Instead, Barbara had a very successful period of her life as an area manager for Betterware for most of Berkshire, Hampshire, Wiltshire and Surrey.

Barbara was evangelistic about her Carrodus musical heritage and amassed a wealth of history about their connections with various orchestras and institutions.

The zenith of her interest came when she found that The Carrodus violin once owned and played by her great, great grandfather John Tiplady Carrodus was bought from a private collection in America and loaned to Richard Tognetti, leader of the Australian Chamber Orchestra. Barbara ensured that he appreciated the family history and attended concerts when the instrument was in the UK.

Mellifluous – of a sound – pleasingly smooth and musical to hear. Recently, I attended a BBC Prom at the Albert Hall, where the Carrodus Violin was played by its new keeper, the South Korean violinist, Inmo Yang.

Barbara had an eclectic choice in music, influenced by her adolescence during the Paul McCartney era and her father's desire to listen to high quality reproduction of a wide range of music, shaped by his Carrodus heritage.

Barbara helped organise musical events at St Andrew's. She poured love and family heritage into a range of concerts both solo and by groups. She was especially proud of helping to organise and promote 'The Return of Sir Hubert Parry to Hurstbourne Priors'.

Hubert Parry specified the organ in this Church and the Centenary of its inauguration was commemorated in 2006. Hubert Parry was father-in-law of village resident and famous baritone Harry Plunket Greene. Barbara's great grandfather, Robert Carrodus, appeared on concert platforms with Harry Plunket Greene and the tenor Gervaise Elwes in whose memory the predecessor of the charity Help Musicians was founded. Barbara's ashes now lie in a grave next to Harry Plunket Greene in St Andrew's churchyard. Barbara did not have a passport in later years. With the onset of her low level lymphoma, she felt it was unwise to challenge her immune system. In not travelling she was not going to *periclitate* – expose or put herself in a perilous situation. This was not due to *ochlophobia* – extreme or irrational fear or dislike of crowds, although she always said she was a bit of a hermit, but rather to cultivate *grith* - peace, security or sanctuary.

So we find Barbara loving to make regular trips to rural locations and more especially to her beloved Lyme Regis where she could exercise *villaggiatura* – a prolonged leisurely holiday, often spent in a countryside or seaside setting, focused on rest and recreation and one should add her generosity in sharing these times with friends and family.

May our memories of Barbara have *rutilance* - glow or glitter with a golden light and may we all be joyful that Barbara was able to *laetificate* – to make joyful and enrich all our lives.

ST MARY BOURNE & WOODCOTT

3 Dec 10am - Stoke Christmas Coffee Morning - Half Way Up
6 10am to 12 Noon - Repair Café - The George Inn
6 10am **-** Advent Clean - St Peter's
8 7 for 7.30pm - *Grace Burlison presenting…* -Village Centre
9 10.30am - Coffee at The George Inn
9 7.30pm - Parish Council meeting - Village Centre
10 12.30pm - *'The Lunch'* - Village Centre
12 6 for 6.30pm - ***Pinocchio*** - Village Centre
14 4pm - **Christingle service** - St Peter's
18 7.30pm - Andover Astronomical Soc - HBT Community Centre
20 from 9.30am - Christmas Decorations - St Peter's

3 Jan 10am to 12 Noon - Repair Café - The George Inn
7 10 to 11.30 - Stoke Coffee Morning - Jasmin Cottage
13 10.30am - Coffee at The George Inn
13 7.30pm - Parish Council meeting - Village Centre
15 7.30pm - Andover Astronomical Soc - HBT Community Centre
21 12.30pm - *'The Lunch'* - Village Centre
Saturday mornings - 10.30am to 12.30pm -
The Community Library - Village Centre Club Room

LONGPARISH

4 Dec 7pm - Bingo - The Cricketers Pub
5 9.15am - Litter Pick - Village Hall
8 7.30pm - Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall
10 7.30pm - Little School Christmas Quiz - Community/School Hall
12 10 to 11.45am - LCA Coffee Morning - The Cricketers Pub
13 7pm - **Twelfth Night Concert** - St Nicholas' Church
14 9am - L2SOTM Race - The Plough
15 5.30pm - Carol Singing with Longparish Choir - The Plough
19 12 noon to 2.30pm - LCC Friday Lunch Club - Village Hall
19 6.30pm - Carol Singing with Longparish Choir - The Cricketers Pub
21 6pm - Carol by Candlelight - St Nicholas Church

9 Jan 10 to 11.45am - LCA Coffee Morning - The Plough
11 9am - L2SOTM Race - The Plough
12 7.30pm - Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall
27 7pm - Longparish Garden Club *"Companion Planting"* - Village Hall
30 12 noon to 2.30pm - LCC Friday Lunch Club - Village Hall

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS

13 Dec 12 noon to 4pm - Hampshire Sewing Circle and Talk - Village Hall
21 Winter Solstice - the start of our Astronomical Winter
21 11am - Traditional Carol Service - St Andrew's
23 4pm - Outdoor Carols and Nativity - St Andrew's
25 10.30am - Christmas Day Communion - St Andrew's
31 New Year's Eve - *"Auld Lang Syne"*

15 Jan 10.15am to 12 noon - Ladies Coffee Morning - Mistletoe Cottage (No 38)
29 6.30pm - Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall

B3048, Highway to the North

A few copies are still available as an attractively illustrated booklet, combining the whole 11.1 mile jaunt published in *Hill & Valley* in 2024; from ***Acre Stores*** *in* ***Longparish*** and ***The Boundary Community Shop*** in ***St Mary Bourne***. At **£5**, it is an inexpensive, local gift…***and all the sales proceeds go to Longparish and St Mary Bourne schools.***

Celebration of Christmas

in aid of the Hampshire Medical Fund
Winchester Cathedral
12th December - 7.30pm
A magical evening of readings, carols and beautiful music
raising money for medical equipment at our local NHS hospitals. Tickets from £20.
www.hampshiremedicalfund.org/events

Front cover photo: Michael Widén

Copy date for the February 2026 edition of Hill & Valley is Wednesday 14th January 2026.
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 and any images in JPEG format if possible.

Printed by **The Andover Printing Company Ltd** ☏ 01264 334220 **www.andoverprinting.co.uk** **© Hill & Valley Parish Magazine 2025**

Parish Editors

Hurstbourne Priors: Phil Luckett
☏ 07767 254702 - philip.luckett12@gmail.com

Longparish: Angie Curtis
☏ 07572 753512 - hillandvalley@longparish.org.uk

St Mary Bourne & Woodcott: Nigel Dickinson
☏ 07810 293371 - nigeld24@gmail.com

Editorial, Production & Distribution

Tom Bremridge, Longparish ☏ 01264 720 540
tbremridge@gmail.com

Michael Widén, St Mary Bourne ☏ 01264 738 250
hillandvalley@btinternet.com

Websites

*** Hill & Valley pages on-line**

Hurstbourne Priors:
Parish Council: **www.hurstbournepriorsparishcouncil.org.uk ***

Longparish:
Parish Council: **www.longparish.org.uk ***

St Mary Bourne:
Parish Council: **www.stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk ***
Community Hub: **www.stmarybourne.org** *
Village Scrap Book: Jeanette Davies, daviessmb@aol.com,
☏ 07553 044330

Advertising

Emma Palmer, Longparish
☏ 07881 923150 - hillandvalley@longparish.com