

West Ilsley News

August 2002

It was quite a surprise to see the combines starting the harvest a couple of weeks ago - the weather had been so poor that it didn't seem to be that time of year yet, however, Summer has now arrived along with thunder-bugs (thunder flies, or whatever you call those microscopic insects!) and as we write, the threat of thunder storms! West Ilsley made the NWN with a photo of the rather flat car after one of the straw-trailer accidents - don't forget the WIN if you have interesting snaps, the copier can't always make a brilliant job of them, but where we can reproduce them we will.

The Editors

PRE-FETE PARTY

After the disappointment of last year's cancellation, the evening went ahead with great enthusiasm and a good time was had by all.

We have received many favourable comments from those of you who attended the "do" and we are so glad that everyone had a great time, whilst raising in excess of £800 for the new Maths scheme for the Junior children.

We would like to say a huge "thank you" to everyone who supported this event - not just on the night but also those who helped to prepare the marquee - particularly the Electrical Technicians - John Verney and Alan Bloor and also not forgetting the Furniture Removers - Richard Gore and Peter Carlisle - we'd have been sitting on the floor in the dark without your help! Many thanks also to Dewi and Paula Oliphant who turned up at 7a.m. "the morning after" to do the clear-up operation!

The puddings donated were delicious - many thanks to those of you who slaved away in the kitchen - especially those of you who were unable to join us on the night but were kind enough to create a pudding for us.

The raffle went down extremely well and thank you again for your generosity in donating such brilliant prizes.

Many thanks again for everyone's help in making it a truly successful evening.

Sandra, Toni and The Friends of the Ilsleys Primary School

PRAM SERVICE AND AFTERSCHOOL SERVICE, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

There will be no services in August but the dates for the Autumn term will be as follows:

Afterschool Service		Pram Service
4pm Thursdays		11am Mondays
19 September	Sharing Life	23 September
17 October	Jesus' supper	21 October
14 November	Communion	

The Pram Service is aimed at 0-5 year olds and the Afterschool Service for the slightly older ones as well as the babies. The services are well supported but we would love to see new faces or friends from outside the village. Each service lasts approximately half an hour followed by drinks for the children. If you would like more information please contact Denise Brown on 01635 281825, Antonia Cretney on 01635 248925 or Liz Dray on 01488 638749.

ILSLEY UNDER FIVES

Liz Dray

Baby and Toddler Group

We have had a busy second half of term of which one of the highlights was the "nature trail" walk with Angela. The weather for June was wonderfully kind to us, the littlies had a lovely time roaming through the bluebell woods and collecting various bits and pieces, and they were amazed to come upon a whole family of teddies having their picnic which made it very magical for them! The Under Fives also had a super trip to Fantasy World, a few had to be rescued from dizzy heights now and again, but in general they were very excited and completely wore themselves out!

During the summer holidays we continue to meet (weather permitting) via a "garden rota" of willing hosts! The timing is as usual, 10am - 11.30am on a Wednesday and a copy of the rota is available from Jo Gore on 281618. We will meet back in the village hall on Wednesday 11 September. Any Mums to be finding themselves at home for perhaps the first time may like to come along for a coffee and a chat.

Playgroup

The term finished on a high note with an afternoon organised by Emma at The Active Toy Company. The children had a fabulous time trying out all the different equipment and the trampolines and wendy houses were especially popular. Playgroup re-starts on Wednesday 11 September.

The playgroup is held in the Main Hall at the Ilsleys Primary School on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon from 1.25pm to 3.30pm during the school terms. The numbers at the playgroup have risen suddenly and we are currently only accepting 3 year olds if a place is available. If you are interested in your child attending the playgroup please call Tracy on 281650 for an application form to register your child or if you would like to arrange a visit.

Fundraising

It has been a busy few months on the fundraising front with the barn dance in May swiftly followed by the bookstall at the Sheep Fair in June and afternoon teas at the village fete in July. A huge "Thank You" to all who worked so hard to organise the superb barn dance. Thank you also to those who supported us by

helping, donating or indeed attending/purchasing at the Sheep Fair and the village fete.

Ilsley Under Fives AGM

Wednesday 21 August
in

West Ilsley village hall at 8pm.

The AGMs traditionally are not all that well attended so please join us if you can.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church services for August:

4 th August	All Age Service	11.00 am
11 th August	Holy Communion	8.00 am
18 th August	Family Communion	9.30 am

C.R.O.W.

The annual Cycle, Run Or Walk in aid of The Historic Churches Trust will take place on 14th September. The objective is to visit as many churches in the area as possible, each visit being sponsored. The money raised will help maintain the fabric of our local churches, as well as one of your own choice. If you would like to take part, please let me know.

'ALLO ALLO Sgt Rob Athawes COMMUNITY POLICING TEAM, HUNGERFORD

GENERAL INTEREST

New Officers

This month I will start by mentioning a success for the sector. For some time now I have been campaigning to have new recruits based at Hungerford Police Station. Unfortunately it hasn't happened for the past few years with one of the arguments being that, due to the nature of the work encountered in this rural area, it is not suitable for the broad band of on-the-job training that is required. I have put up counter arguments to this theory and supported by the new Inspector, Derek Lake, I am pleased to announce this policy is about to change and our first new boy arrives in November. Treat him gently!!

CCTV

I suppose BRAZIL! might be a dirty word for some people but football aside, a recent delegation of interested parties from the South American Mecca of football, arrived in Reading to view and be trained on the highly successful CCTV system which operates in the town centre. I mention this because we use a very similar set up in both Hungerford and Newbury which over the years has helped resolve numerous crimes and the Reading system was almost the entire prosecution case recently, when a conviction for murder was gained by the evidence provided by the system. Sometimes it pays to have Big Brother watching over you!!

RESULTS

It is always satisfying to get a 'good result' and such a thing happened a couple of weeks ago when yours truly was the area supervisory cover for the late shift period when we had a nasty robbery occur on the tow path at Newbury. The aggrieved was 22 weeks pregnant and she was dragged to the ground and injured whilst 5 youths stole her handbag and its contents. Fortunately after a concerted effort by the uniformed officers on duty, the traffic department, a

police dog (and his handler) and CID officers all five offenders were tracked down by various means and arrested, some of which ended up being charged and remanded in the custody of Her Majesty!! The injured lady suffered cuts and bruises but fortunately was not as seriously injured as was first thought to be the case.

It was a busy night for me because as I was driving back to Hungerford to put my police car to bed for the night I was despatched to a burglary, actually in progress, in Charnham Park where four males described as of Asian Appearance were using sledge hammers to smash their way into a computer premises in an attempt to steal. Fortunately for the company in question, a brave member of the public interrupted the offenders' progress and they fled empty handed. Unfortunately they escaped without being apprehended but, hopefully, a forensic examination of the crime scene might give us some leads.

OTHER SUCCESS

I mentioned burglaries in my last report and 'creep in' type burglaries in the North of our patch have been a particular problem. I am pleased to announce that a team of Kosovan refugees was arrested after an extensive search involving police dogs, after the team was disturbed committing a house burglary in Hungerford. Property from another such burglary was found in their car and after house searches at their addresses in Oxford more stolen property was recovered from other burglaries in the Hungerford sector and other persons were arrested. An excellent job that involved a lot of man-hours in the follow up investigation.

I have also mentioned car crime in these columns and have referred to the problems we experience in the motorway service areas. We had one super result at Chieveley services last week where a well-known car thief from the Slough area was arrested IN a stolen car breaking into another car. We also mounted a mini plain-clothed operation at the same services where another male was arrested for drugs offences.

I've run out of time and publishing space this month so will continue with the individual Parish theme next month. Hopefully you have found the change of tack this month interesting.



Hungerford & District Adult Continuing Education

We have many Adult Education classes in and around Hungerford & District. The courses are during the daytime and evening and are held in Schools and Village Halls. Courses are for Beginners to the more experienced. Our Autumn Term programme includes:-

Dressmaking; Mixed Needlecraft; Oil Painting; Drawing; Watercolour; Figure/Life Drawing; Art Exploration; Basic Art; Mixed Media; Embroidery; Flower Arranging-(various seasonal courses); Gentle Yoga; Tai Chi; Reiki 1; Reiki 11; Languages- French,

Spanish, German; Salsa & Samba, Mambo & Merengue; Ballroom & Latin American Dancing; Computerised Book-Keeping; Singing For Terrified; Creative Writing; Short Computer courses on various subjects.

We are hoping to run a Beginners Ballroom & Latin American Dancing course on a Wednesday evening (7.30-9.30) at West Ilsley Village Hall from September. This course is planned to start on 11th September. Enrolments need to be received by 3rd September. If this is successful then other courses may be offered in the future.

The Newbury Course Directory for 2002/2003 is available from West Ilsley Village Hall, this will give full details on courses and contains enrolment forms and procedure for enrolment.

For further details on any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jan Barlow, Acting Centre Head & Organising Tutor
Hungerford & District Adult Continuing Education
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Post Script Copies of the course directory are also available from me at Clock Cottage. Please will all those who originally registered an interest in ballroom dancing apply now – singles aren't a problem so if your dancing partner isn't keen, sign up anyway!
Andrea Cook

MISS TOFFELLEES

Janice and Colin Shepherd have cause to celebrate on account of the arrival of their granddaughter. They would like it to be known that Louise and Toby have a spanking new baby girl (very cleverly to make a pigeon pair with big brother Alistair!). Phoebe May was born on July 2nd, weighing in at 7lbs 8ozs. We congratulate the three of them (and Granny and Grandad as well).

I was very sad not to have made either the Fete or the Pre-Fete Bash, as both are major events in the village to miss. However, I understand the weather set fair, it was very successful AND we did enjoy a fabulous eight days holiday in Mallorca (not, I am led to believe, the same as Majorca, at least in spirit, anyway). The Fuhrer organised for us all to go scuba-diving. What an amazing experience that was! I was utterly pathetic at managing the controlled breathing through the mouthpiece, but with the skill of the instructors was soon to be seen (25% larger - what a thought!) loitering in deep water (18 metres). I nearly gave up after the first day, but the thought that my 11 year old son could manage it and I couldn't, spurred me into action. And I wasn't disappointed; it was fantastic! If anyone wants to pursue this activity recreationally I can thoroughly recommend the team who taught us. Do ring for a contact number I would be pleased to pass it on as the guys were inspirational leaders, with a real emphasis on safety and enjoyment. I do think that next time I will prepare myself a little more for lifting weight out of the water up a steep ladder by doing a few step-up exercises with a bale of hay. The transition from land to water is much preferable to the

other way round. It was a challenge to remove oneself from the water with elegance.

VILLAGE HALL PONTOON

The English League football season will be starting again soon and we hope to run the "football pontoon", based on News of the World rules, as in previous years. This brings in an annual income of about £250 which is a help towards the upkeep of your hall. The league consists of approx. 130 teams so we need that many players, if possible. Each pontoon, every player has a team picked "out of the hat" and the aim is for your team to be the first to score eleven goals. This will usually take 3 or 4 weeks and the winner(s) is paid according to the number of weeks (£7.00 per week). A booby prize of £2.00 per week is paid to the team with the lowest score. Everyone is then picked a new team for the next pontoon. There are normally 10 pontoons and it costs just 50p per pontoon i.e. £5.00 per person for the whole season. All teams and results are posted on a sheet on the Village Hall notice board. Please let me know if you wish to take part and I will collect the money sometime in the next few weeks. DO ring me on 281646 or e-mail to : audrey.tizzard@btopenworld.com. Every little helps to maintain the Village Hall for your use. Many thanks Audrey

POSTAL SERVICES

Peter Bartaby

Like myself I imagine that most W.I. Residents have received the advice from Consignia (Royal Mail's deceased name) that in future, unless you pay £750 per year you will only receive one postal delivery per day – which will be at any time up to Noon.

Quite apart from the annoyance/inconvenience which this will cause, my other thoughts were that, as our collections are currently done by the two daily Delivery 'Posties' (John and Bob) if only one of them is to be serving the Village the likelihood is that there will only be ONE collection per day, possibly around Midday when the delivery has finished – which will hardly be convenient or, much of a *service*.

Likewise, with only one delivery the Post Bus would look to be a thing of the past for there is hardly any point in someone going in to Newbury on the Morning vehicle (when the delivery is finished) if there is not going to be any Afternoon vehicle available to bring them back – **and regrettably, if things don't improve in regard to usage of Newbury Bus Route No. 6 it now seems that after September** the Post Bus will be our only Bus contact with Newbury (but it won't bring you home if things are as they seem in the original 'Delivery Charges' letter.

So I wrote to Consignia's 'Delivery Specification Director!!' not only to object to the revised delivery service(!) being IMPOSED upon us but also to ask whether they had considered the questions of Collections and Post Buses.

I didn't receive a letter in reply but 'Ian' phoned on the Director's behalf yesterday and in a 25 minute conversation I became more and more convinced that I was talking to someone trained by Alistair Campbell

Teacher for he showed no appreciation whatsoever of the problems which their proposals might cause. He was only concerned that Consignia had lost money on it's Postal Service (largely – as most people would, I think, say through it's blatant inefficiency, over-manning and extravagance) and it was quite evident that 'Ian' believes the Public must pay up/suffer to keep Consignia in the style to which it has become accustomed.

I pressed the point about Collection frequency and Post Buses and was assured (!) by 'Ian' that these would be unaffected by the new routine – which assurance I was as hesitant to accept from him as his “ it will be better in the long run”.

So if you post letters or use the Post Bus. . . .KEEP HOPING

And finally: contributions to the WIN can be made by conversation, phone, email, handwritten or typed copy, "word" file (via email or disk) or fax, but most importantly, **please do contribute**. The **latest deadline** for the next publication is **5pm** on Tuesday 27th August but the editors would appreciate receiving your contributions as you get them ready during the month, to save a rush of work at the last minute.

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BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

Weather permitting; there will be a “friendly” village game of softball (like rounders) at the Cricket Pitch from 12 noon on the 26th August. Young or the not so young welcome to join in for a bit of fun either to play or watch– the more the merrier!!

The Pavilion will be open for refreshments and some will be taking along picnics.

Feel free to organise your own team (minimum of 10 players) before hand or teams can be selected on the day.

Please can you fill in the slip below so that we have some idea of numbers that wish to play and drop in to Toni at Bramble Cottage or to Sue at number 15 – next door to The Harrow.

Hope to see a lot of you there!!

Name: _____

There will be _____ of us that wish to play on the day.

Early indications of how we all did in the Fete are as below. If you want to see the full accounts the working spreadsheet is on www.ilsley.btinternet.co.uk – where the Notes numbers below are fully explained. The spreadsheet should be final in August.

	Note	Sales	Direct Costs	Profits
Activity:				
Fete Dinner	4	360.87	0.00	360.87
Gate	5	587.44	0.00	587.44
Sponsorship and Donations	6	250.00	0.00	250.00
Art Exhibition	7	91.00	17.00	74.00
Aunt Sally	8	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kids Fancy Dress	9	0.00	24.00	(24.00)
Plant Stall	10	50.20	0.00	50.20
Bar	11	1,180.00	786.03	393.97
BBQ	12	705.10	330.10	375.00
Biscuits & Sweets	13	32.20	0.00	32.20
Book Stall	14	63.74	0.00	63.74
Tombola/Bottle Stall	15	136.50	0.00	136.50
Bouncy Castle	16	36.70	70.00	(33.30)
Bric-a-Brac & Clothes	17	183.29	0.00	183.29
Teas & Cakes	18	175.04	0.00	175.04
Coconut Shy	19	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Show	20	90.50	0.00	90.50
Spinning Jenny	21	0.00	0.00	0.00
Face Painting	22	8.50	0.00	8.50
J Chipperfield - Candy Floss	23	25.00	0.00	25.00
5 a side Football	24	0.00	33.00	(33.00)
Golf	25	40.79	0.00	40.79
Ice Creams	26	68.95	0.00	68.95
Art Exhibition Cards	27	0.00	0.00	Inc in 7 Above
Penalty Shoot Out	28	75.30	0.00	75.30
Evergreens Cakes	29	165.45	0.00	165.45
Splat the Rat	30	28.20	0.00	28.20
Produce Show	31	0.00	278.69	(278.69)
Nursery Proms?	32	10.00	0.00	10.00
Raffle	33	383.30	0.00	383.30
Photo Stall	34	10.00	0.00	10.00
Skittles/Bowling	35	73.00	0.00	73.00
1st Compton Brownies	36	29.90	0.00	29.90
Craft Stall	37	12.00	0.00	12.00
Kids Toys, Prams, Sweets etc.	38	10.00	0.00	10.00
Homemade Cards	39	20.00	0.00	20.00
Kids Races	40	0.00	15.82	(15.82)
				3,338.33
Less: Indirect Costs:				
Toilets			(175.00)	
Children's entertainment			(95.00)	
Owls			(50.00)	
Promotions and advertising			(118.00)	
Marquee			(721.74)	
Insurance			(166.00)	
Skip			0.00	
Total indirect costs				(1,325.74)
Income over expenditure				2,022.59