

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org.uk

February 2006

MISSING A CAT?

Kim Darnes

Does anyone own a male black and white cat (more white than black), with yellow/green eyes, black tail and a fairly recently ripped left ear that may need veterinary attention? He looks quite young and is apparently well fed, but is not wearing a collar.



He appeared at our house about a week ago in Fir Tree Paddock, and lets himself in through the catflap every day to feed, to the distress of our other three cats. He is very friendly, and we will willingly give him a home if he is a stray, but don't want to feed him if he is someone's pet, otherwise he'll never leave!

If anyone has any information on the owner of this cat, please phone Katie and Dewi who have now taken him in temporarily, so any enquiries, please phone them on 281425

WHIST DRIVE

Thursday 23 February

7.30pm sharp

Venue. Cricket Pavilion

In aid of the Evergreens, but everyone welcome

ALL SAINTS WEST ILSLEY

William and Alexandra Axtell

Church Services for February:

| | | |
|---------------|------------|------------------|
| 5th February | 11.00am | All Age Service |
| 12th February | 8.00am | Holy Communion |
| 18th February | 9.30am | Family Communion |
| 26th February | No service | No service |

EXTRA WORK WANTED

Polish Au-pair (Monica) in Village

Cleaning, Ironing, Babysitting
£5 per hour

Contact Tracy on 281650 to arrange

DIARY

FEBRUARY

7th Fete meeting
23rd Whist Drive

APRIL

14th Easter Bingo

Deadline for the next publication is 5pm on Monday 27th February

Contributions to the WIN can be made by conversation, phone, email, handwritten or typed copy and "word" file (via email or disk), but most importantly, please do contribute. Contact details:

Andrea Cook
Clock Cottage
☎ 281224

Email: westilsleynews@msn.com

Lynne Smith
Ridgeways
☎ 281163

Email: paulsmith.palgo@btinternet.com

Please direct your feedback to either of the editors.

To join the email distribution list or for new/changed email addresses, please email
westilsleynews@msn.com

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH,
ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

Afterschool Service

The next service will be on **Thursday 23 February** at 4pm in the church.

The Afterschool 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. The services cover a variety of themes we hope of interest to the children and are aimed at primary school age children and younger ones.

Mums and Tots (for the very young and their carers)

We will be meeting at the Peasemore Rectory on **Thursday 2nd February** from 10am-11.30am. This is a more casual get together where the children can play and sing and the Mums get to have a chat and a coffee.

If you would like more information on either of these services please contact Denise Brown on 01635 281825 or Liz Dray on 01488 638749.

WEST ILSLEY FETE 2006

It is time to start organising this year's fete, and we **urgently** need your help. Five members of the committee have decided to stand down after several years' commitment to the fete, and we need replacements as soon as possible. Without at least four new committee members we will struggle to run the show this year! Please contact Karen Miller or Kath Carter if you would like to join the committee. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 7th Feb, 8pm at Tanglewood. In addition to the committee members we rely on a large band of volunteers to help out before, and on the day of the fete. If you can offer a few hours of your time please let us know.

Pre-Fete dance

The Fete Committee would like to invite applications to run the pre-fete dance. This is an excellent opportunity to raise money for a local worthy cause and it has always been one of the best social events of the year in the village. Please contact Karen Miller or Kath Carter by phone or email if you would like to apply, or if you would like some more information on what is involved in running the dance. The closing date for applications is 11th February 2006.

Produce Show

The produce show was distinctly lacking in produce last year!! Many of you have said how much you enjoy having the produce show as part of your village fete and how you would hate to see it go, so let's see if we can make it bigger and better this year. This is a great time to start sowing your seeds and preparing your plants. The category list for the produce show will be published in next month's WIN, so please make an extra-special effort to take part this year.

Karen Miller Tel 281876

Email karen.miller@btinternet.com

Kath Carter Tel 281621

Email kath_carter@silkartwork.fsnet.co.uk

ILSLEY UNDER FIVES Amanda Knight

Ilsey Under Fives Toddler Group meets on Wednesday mornings: 10:00 am – 11:30 am in West Ilsey Village Hall (term time only). We have heaps of toys, ride-ons and a baby area for the little ones and tea/coffee and a limitless supply of chat for the parents/carers .

We have recently introduced a short and simple craft activity on the first Wednesday of each month which the children very much enjoy. At other sessions we are trying to run either a music session (ear defenders advisable!) or story time. Occasionally, there is an event for the grown-ups (eg sale of jewellery, childrens' books, cards etc). The children sit down to juice and biscuits midway through the morning and we end each session with songs and nursery rhymes.

We would love to welcome some new faces to our group (which is not to suggest we are bored with the existing ones – thank you for your continued support!) so please, why not come along with your little one(s) on the day or call me (281609) or Katherine Young (281539) for further details.

**West Ilsey Cricket Club - new members
of the Oxford Cricket Association**

**for 2006 urgently seek new umpires to
stand in 1st and 2nd X1 fixtures on
Saturdays throughout the coming season.
Match fees of £30 Paid**

Contact: Graham Beal on 07771 775170

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Fred Carter



Drugs Act 2005

Drug dealers who target schools or get children to act as couriers will face stiffer jail sentences under a new law which has come into force.

Police have also been given powers to request x rays from suspects they believe may have swallowed cocaine or heroin to avoid detection. They could also spend more time in prison if it turns out that they did ingest drugs or tried to hide them in their body cavities. Under the drugs Act 2005, which came into effect on January 1st 2006 officers can hold suspected drug "mules" for 192 hours as opposed to 96 hours to allow extra time for drugs to pass through their systems.

The government says the tougher measures are part of a clampdown on those selling illegal drugs on the streets of Britain " The damage caused to individuals and families by drugs can be devastating" said Paul Goggins, the Home Office minister responsible for the drugs policy.

"Drug misuse can ruin lives and we are determined to tackle this by putting more drug dealers behind bars and getting more addicts into treatment. "The new

measures will make sure the courts are taking into account the vulnerability of young people when punishing those who target our schools to sell drugs to children and crack down on those who swallow or hide drugs to escape justice.”

The new legislation amends the 1971 Misuse of drugs Act to enable judges to view as aggravating factors the sale of drugs near schools during school hours or use of under 18s couriers. Police say that pushers often use young teenagers to carry drugs, and in some cases primary schoolchildren. In Gloucestershire, officers came across a case where a dealer sent his four year old daughter out of the house with a bag of heroin to drop for an addict. Detective Sergeant John Roberts, head of the Gloucestershire Policing Priority Unit tackling the drug problem, said the use of such a young child was rare but dealers routinely used 12 or 13 year olds, often their own children.

It was also becoming more common for dealers to carry small wraps of heroin between their buttocks, known as “plugging” or in their mouths, so they could swallow them if stopped by police. Police now have the authority to request that the suspect has an x-ray or ultrasound scan, and the courts will be able to draw their own conclusion if a defendant refuses.

ARE YOU.....

- **A parent or grandparent with skills to share?**
- **Returning to work following a career break?**
- **Looking for a way to improve your CV to get the job you really want?**
- **Newly retired but have time on your hands?**
- **Wanting to meet new people?**
- **Wanting to put something back into your community?**

Home-Start West-Berkshire needs experienced parents to offer friendship and support to other parents with young children, going through a difficult time in their lives, by visiting them at home on a weekly basis. We offer a free informal preparation course for potential volunteers, covering topics such as values and attitudes, child protection, family life, communication, commitment, boundaries and support. The next course will be held in Theale each Thursday for 10 weeks starting 20th April from 10.00 – 2.00 school term time only.

All expenses will be paid.

If you would like details of this course, or our Autumn course to be held in Newbury, please call **01635 500860** for an informal friendly chat.



FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

News from The Ilsleys Primary School

Felix Rayner

Headteacher - The Ilsleys Primary School

The end of the autumn term at The Ilsleys Primary School was as fun packed and as busy as usual. The school continues to go from strength to strength and there is a happy purposeful buzz around the school.

In early December we carried our first Assessment and Achievement week. The children carried out a range of assessment activities to see how much they have learned and achieved over the term. They chose their best pieces of work to keep in a portfolio as a running record of their hard work and progress. The children also looked at what they needed to improve at – it was a positive experience for all. The week was rounded off with a special assembly where the children celebrated their successes in front of family and friends. All in all it was a fun and reflective week.

Sport continued to be an important part of what the school is about. The netball team had a number of matches and achieved their first wins of the season. The football team took part in the second round of the small schools cup and have had extra training provision from Tom Hartley. The term ended with the schools first inter-house netball tournament which really got the competitive juices flowing.

Christmas time in a school is always special and this year was no different. The children were buzzing with excitement as they did all their usual fun things – parties, special dinners and pantos. The friends organised a wonderful bazaar which raised important funds for the school. The Christmas concert had an around the world theme with each year singing Christmas songs from different cultures and the foundation children dressed up for a nativity scene. You may also have seen the school choir perform in the Crib and Carol at St. Mary's church – I was very proud.

The new term has begun just as positively and the children have come back refreshed and ready to do their best. If you have any queries about the school please don't hesitate to contact me on 281225.

Easter Bingo

Good Friday 14th April

7.30pm

West Ilsley Village Hall.

Lots of EASTER EGGS to win

For all the family

Bring Your Own Drinks

Raffle prizes welcome to Audrey at 5 Fir

Tree Cottages

Admission 20p, children 10p

Bingo Books 30p

Proceeds to West Ilsley Village Hall funds

Parish Council Update

February 2006

Vacancies on the Council

Lynne and myself will be leaving West Ilsley in the next month or so and therefore there will be two vacancies on the Parish Council. I hope that some of the newer parishioners might be tempted to come forward. Please contact Alison Banks, Clerk to the council for more information.
Paul Smith - Chairman

Excerpts from Parish Council meeting

1. Apologies

P Knight, D. Hagen and R. Cook. Due to the number of apologies, the Chair decided to postpone 3 items of the agenda (items 7,8 and 10) until another meeting could be organised (next Monday)

2. Matters arising

It was noted that tree surgery has taken place along the pathway of West Ilsley House.

3. Correspondence received

Letter received back from Neil Stacey at WBC re our questions concerning the new 7.5 tonne weight restriction sign off the A34 by the turnoff to Beedon. The Parish Council had suggested that one close to the West Ilsley turn off might also prevent lorries short cutting through the village. However, WBC said that this would not be appropriate as there is no single parallel route. The Clerk to challenge this with another letter.

Letter received back from WBC re the loose Granite setts on Bury Lane. This has been addressed and work taken place.

Letter received back re traffic management from WBC. In an attempt to reduce speeding through the village, they have agreed to extend the 30mph sign back towards Farnborough, but not at the Eastern end. The Clerk to challenge this decision and also the reference to excessive speeds being observed in the village. If this is the case then we request some action via the police.

Letter received from The Rotary Club who informs us that our 2 local schools have agreed to sign up to the Life Education Centre

Programme. Funding support to be discussed at the next meeting.

4. Reports from the working parties

4.1 The Play Ground working group.

The group continues to cost out various levels of play equipment and start to consider its feasibility re funding/maintenance/position etc.

4.2 Traffic Management Group

The Clerk will follow up with WBCouncil- see point 5.

4.3 The Environmental group.

Info being gathered.

New Charity Deed between West Ilsley and Lockinge Estate

(To be discussed at the next meeting). The Solicitor has requested signatories so the new Charity can be registered. All Councillors will have a final look at the document and comment to The Chair. The Clerk to follow up the Memorandum of Understanding with The Village Hall and Cricket Club and circulate.

5. Accounts for payment/receipts received

Sponsorship cheques of £150 banked. The precept should be set before 31st January. This is to be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Planning Applications

Alexander – Main Street – No objection

7. Open Forum

WIN distribution by e mail is going well and therefore eliminating the need for large scale photocopying. This is likely to be the long term future for WIN distribution.

Concerns were expressed about the overhanging Horse Chestnut tree in the West Ilsley House Garden. The Clerk to e-mail the owners.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.45pm

Date of the next meeting
Monday 13th March, 2006

Your Councillors:

| | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| <i>Chairman</i> |  |  |
| Paul Smith | 281163 | palgo@bigfoot.com |
| <i>Vice-Chair</i> | | |
| Ronnie Cook | 281565 | ron1.june2@virgin.net |
| Lynne Smith | 281163 | palgo@bigfoot.com |
| Sean Ryan | 281336 | sean.ryan@sundaytimes.co.uk |
| Dries Hagan | 281855 | Drieshagen@btinternet.com |
| Philip Knight | 281609 | philipjknight@yahoo.co.uk |
| <i>Clerk</i> | | |
| Alison Banks | 281705 | alison@malthouse.org.uk |