

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org.uk

March 2007

EVERGREENS Anne Carlisle



On Tuesday 20th March there will be an outing to Salisbury – Market Day. The coach will leave from outside the West Ilsley Church at 10 am. Members £7, non-members £10. Names to J Collier 281283.

Easter Bingo

Fun For All the Family

Good Friday 6th April

7.30pm

West Ilsley Village Hall.

Lots of EASTER EGGS to win

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

PARI SH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Why not apply to join your parish council this year and do something positive for your community?

The elections will be on Thursday May 3rd. If you are 18, are on the electoral register (or live within 3 miles) you could be eligible.

Your council meets 6 times a year on a Monday evening in the village hall.

Simply watch out for more information in the local press or, (from mid-March onwards), contact the parish clerk on 281705, for a nomination form.

If you want information about the duties of a councillor, contact BALC on 01296 383154 or balc@buckscc.gov.uk

FOR SALE

A selection of boys toys for sale. All in lots of £1 or £2 pounds.

Lego Playmobil Megablocks etc

Please call 281665

What's on at

THE HARROW

Don't forget to book for

Mothers Day Sunday 18th March Quiz Night on Wednesday 21st March 8pm Menu - Fish Pie, Curry or Bobotie - £8.00

Car Crime - On Thursday 15th February between about 10pm and 11pm Peter Watling's Jeep was stolen from outside The Harrow. Please let this be a warning to everyone!!

DIARY

MARCH

12th Parish Meeting Council

8th Youth Club

22nd Youth Club

APRIL

6th Easter Bingo

MAY

12th Plant and Cake Stall

19th Barn Dance

JUNE

23- Village Camp Out

24th

30th Flower Festival

- 1st

JULY

8th Village Fet e

Deadline for the next publication is 5pm on Tuesday 27th March.

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

Liz Dray

The Malthouse

☎ 281688

Email: lizdray@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

Free Furniture

As the Sheppards are shortly moving house, the following items are available:

Yew Table and eight chairs

Yew Sideboard

Pine Wardrobe

Pine Double Bed

Pine Bedside Table

All items are free of charge but we would appreciate a donation (of your choice) to the West Ilsley Trust.

In addition, all items must be collected.

If you are interested in any of the above, please tel. 281 345 after 4th March.

WEST ILSLEY FETE

It is time to start planning this year's fete which will be held on 8th July, and your help is urgently needed. After many years of organising the event, Karen Miller has stood down from the committee. Karen has done a fantastic job and she will be missed. A new committee has been formed to organise this year's fete and most of us are novices so, if you think you can offer advice or a helping hand please get in touch. In addition to the committee members we rely on a large group of volunteers to help before, and on the day of the fete. Please offer a few hours of your time for this worthy fundraising event for our village.

Pre-Fete Dance

The fete Committee would like to invite applications to host this year's dance. This is an excellent opportunity to raise money for your local cause and it is always one of the best social events of the year in the village. Please contact Sue Simmons to apply or for further information. The closing date for applications is **Friday 23rd March 2007**.

Produce Show

It is time to start thinking about planting your seeds, tending your plants, making those handicrafts and practicing your baking skills. As a guide, the fruits and vegetables will include potatoes, onions or shallots, beans/peas of any variety, courgettes and soft fruits. Look out for a full list of classes in next month's WIN.

This is your village fete, so please do whatever you feel you can to help make it a success.

Thank you for your support.

Sue Simmons

281460/suesimmons@toucansurf.com

Domestic Electrical Installation

"Bright sparks" are all well and good on Bonfire night but when it comes all electrical work, installation/inspection/ testing/fault finding and certification. Insist on a local electrician who is, "Building regulation Part P Compliant". And P.A.T., full Portable Appliance Testing @ 110/240 VAC.

Contact Keith Pentecost

Tel: 01635-281389 (East Ilsley)

Mobile: 07985-797333

Road Safety in West Ilsley

The next Parish Council Meeting on the 12th March at 7pm will feature a presentation by Andrew Garratt, Principal Traffic & Road Safety Engineer for West Berks District Council.

As you know the Parish Council is making improvement in Road Safety in the village a particular priority this year. We are keen to seek the help of the West Berks Road Safety Team and so it is particularly important that we demonstrate to them how important an issue it is to the village by turning out in force to hear Mr Garratt speak.

Please mark the date on your calendar and in your diary and come along!

Philip Knight, Vice Chair

West Ilsley Parish Council

Parish Council Update

CHILDREN OF WEST ILSLEY WIN THE

LOTTERY! Parish Council gets £20,000 for play area.

I'm delighted to announce that the Parish Council has won a grant of more than £20,000 to help us create a play area at the top of the Recreation Ground. The grant's been awarded by the Big Lottery Fund, which ploughs National Lottery money into community projects, and if all goes according to plan, the play area will be up and running by late summer. Good, safe equipment that blends in with its surroundings is amazingly expensive, so even a very large grant will only buy a very small playground. But all the indications are that it will be a popular addition to the village for children and parents alike. We'd now welcome their ideas about what to put in the play area before we make our choice in the next few weeks. The grant is the culmination of 18 months' work by the Parish Council, backed by the Lockinge estate and the Carlisle family, who helped to identify a site adjacent to the tennis court. We sent out a questionnaire to test the level of support for the

idea and received 23 responses on behalf of 45 children. All the responses except one were strongly in favour. Parents emphasised the lack of facilities for children in the village since the Harrow's swings were taken down and some said they were driving their kids to the park in Wantage to play. The Parish Council unanimously approved the proposal for a play area to the right of the tennis court as you look up the Recreation Ground from the Harrow. We then applied for the grant while mothers in the village set about fund-raising. One-third of the £520 raised by the nativity was earmarked for the play area. The winter warmer at the end of January raised a further £870 and more than 80 people showed their support on a magnificent evening. The Big Lottery Fund's £20,957 gives us a total budget of £22,000 so far and there may be more to come from a separate application to the Local Network Fund for £2,000 to buy toddler swings. A lot of people have helped us get this far and I'd particularly like to thank David Hogg, head of children's commissioning and quality at West Berkshire Council, who checked our grant application and included it in a batch that was submitted to the Big Lottery Fund from this area. At the risk of doing a Gwyneth Paltrow at the Oscars I'd also like to thank Dries for his guidance with the application, Alison Banks for clearing the way to all this with the Lockinge estate, Sandra for helping to choose the site, Angela for the nativity, the Amandas, Alison Ryan, Mandy and Donna for the winter warmer and everyone who's backed us along the way. It's a great result for a superb team effort. If you'd like to make a suggestion about what to include in the play area, please ring me on 281336 or email me at sean.ryan@sunday-times.co.uk - or contact Dries, Alison Banks or an Amanda.

Sean Ryan, Chairman



ALL SAINTS WEST ILSLEY

William and Alexandra Axtell

Church Services:

NB new format...

Sunday 4 th	Family Communion and Sunday Club	10.00am
Sunday 11 th	Songs of Praise	6.00pm
Sunday 18 th	Holy Communion	8.00am
Sunday 25 th	No services	

Trevor and Olive Maines – thank you!

We said a fond farewell to Trevor and Olive at their last service at West Ilsley on Sunday 18th February. They both have made a great impact in the time they have been with us and they will be

much missed. We wish them all the very best for their much deserved retirement. The hunt is now on for their successor, which is likely to be another house for duty priest (like Trevor) or a curate (a priest in training). We will keep you posted...

A Fresh Start - New Service Pattern:

As you can see from the above schedule there is a new service pattern in West Ilsley and in the West Ilsley, Peasemore, Beedon and Farnborough Benefice as a whole.

West Ilsley will continue to have 3 regular services a month but with a slightly revised format. There will be a modern communion service with a Sunday Club for children in place of the All Age Service. The new service starts at 10am when everyone comes to church. During the first hymn, children who wish to can go out with the Sunday club leaders and a parent, if the child wishes, to the Village Hall, for activities, returning in time to rejoin their family to receive communion or a blessing at the altar rail. There will also be a 6pm "Songs of Praise" non-communion service where the focus will be on popular, rousing hymns and prayer!

We do hope this format will be a success but it will be reviewed again in September to see how it is working.

Mothering Sunday: there is an All Age Communion service at Beedon at 10am at which families are encouraged to go and who will be warmly welcomed.

Dates for the Diary:

The **Plant and Cake Sale** will take place this year on 12 May.

The church will also be organising a **Flower Festival** over the weekend of 30 June/1 July. There will be some beautiful flower arrangements in the church over the weekend. The Sandham Singers will be giving a light-hearted concert in the early evening followed by a summer drinks party with nibbles. On Sunday the Bishop of Oxford will be taking the evening service. Please let Veronica Smith (281 704) or Alexandra Axtell (281 306) know if you would like to do a flower arrangement or help out in any way.

GRUMPY OLD MAN Grump of the month

A West Ilsley view of the News that may affect you!

Bird Flu.

DEFRA (Department for the Extermination of Farming and Rural Activities) have advised that the threat of bird flu to local residents is slight. However they suggest that we should stay clear of long legged rangy birds, coincidentally the same advice given to me by my grandfather during my teens! To date, the response from President Blair has been, to say the least, poultry.

Snow.

A few millimetres of snow earlier in the month managed to do what the road works at Chilton failed to do. Totally cut off the village from the rest of the known world. Schools were closed, presumably by order of the Health and Safety Executive, to avoid the risk to mummy's little darlings falling over or getting hit by a snowball in the playground. Undaunted they congregated in the recreation ground to enjoy the white stuff whilst keeping a weather eye open for any passing SS Officer from the feared Health and Safety Exec.

On the bright side, the traffic through the village was minimal and those risking the hills into or out of the village, to avoid the A34, showed little knowledge of how to drive in snow. Older residents will remember when we had several feet of snow and drifts only slightly lower than Mt Blanc. **And the schools stayed open!**



Round the Garden Lady Gardener

Spring is round the corner, are you starting to think about the garden and wondering where to start and what needs doing?

Thinking you don't have the inclination or the time at weekends?

For a free estimate contact below.

General Maintenance – Grass Cutting

Edging – Pruning

Tidying – Weeding

Planting

Telephone: Ali on 07974 653518 / 01635 281567

POLICE UPDATE

Operation Fascia targets anti-social behaviour in West Berkshire

Police in West Berkshire have been carrying out Operation Fascia, which is aimed at targeting anti-social behaviour in the area.

This follows on from the success of Operation Footprint that was carried out over the summer.

Using data from analysts, officers, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and Specials we have been targeting anti-social behaviour hotspots with the aim of preventing criminal damage.

Supt Chris Shead, West Berkshire LPA Commander, said: "Anti-social behaviour is a



significant concern to the communities that we serve and it is widely accepted that it often leads to criminal damage.

"Criminal damage has increased by over a third this year within West Berkshire and it is one of the key crime issues that we are targeting.

"The aim of the operation has been to have a highly visible presence in areas that have anti-social behaviour, to prevent acts of criminal damage being carried out.

"What may appear to be high jinks or 'fun' to those involved, often causes huge distress to victims. This is exacerbated when the same people are repeatedly targeted and we intend to deal with offenders robustly and quickly to ensure that we minimise the impact of their wrongdoing.

"Anyone found engaging in criminality or anti-social behaviour will be dealt with accordingly, either by arrest if appropriate or the issue of a fixed penalty notice. My officers will be relentless in their pursuit of those committing damage."

The other aspect of the operation is visiting victims that have been repeatedly targeted and giving them crime reduction advice.

Romy Freiburghaus, Crime Reduction Adviser for West Berkshire, gives the following tips:

- Make sure your home and the surroundings of your home are well lit and well maintained.
- Improve natural or other surveillance, cut hedges at front of the house down to one metre.
- If your property has been targeted, take a photo of the damage and try to repair the damage as soon as possible.
- If possible park your car in your garage
- If you do park on the street, don't leave any valuables in your car. Fold in wing mirrors. Retract aerials.
- Improve lighting if you park outside your home.
- Park your car in well lit areas, especially in town centres near pubs and night clubs

If you want to make a real impact on your neighbourhood you could form a neighbourhood watch group. For more information, contact the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator Angela Money via 0845 8 505 505.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Afterschool Service

In February we heard about why we have Lent and some things we might think of doing during this time. Sadly this was our last service with Olive and we will miss her very much. We have been very grateful for Olive's input not to mention her infinite patience and wonderful sense of humour!

We are very fortunate that Denise is willing to continue with the services but in fact we will not be back in church now until May.

By kind permission of David and Jane Carlisle we are once again able to make a visit to see the lambs on **Thursday 15 March**. We will meet at The Malthouse at 4pm and walk up through the fields. Off road buggies and wellies recommended; pregnant mums are not advised to come into the lambing pens. Please telephone Liz Dray on 281688 if you need more information.

In April our afterschool service will be replaced by an Easter activity morning for those aged three and above (younger siblings welcome). This will be held at the cricket pavilion on **Wednesday 4 April from 10am-12pm**. During the morning we follow the story of Easter with activities relating to different parts of the story. We end the morning with lunch (please supply). We do have limited places for this activity so please telephone me on the above number if your children would like to attend. We ask that Mums of children under 6 stay and for a small donation of £2 per child to cover materials.

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

Once again our thanks go to Trevor and Olive who kindly gave us a home for our coffee mornings during their time with us. This is a monthly get together from 10am – 11.30am. It is an informal gathering where the Mums and carers have a chance to have a coffee and a chat while the children play. We are initially trying a new idea of moving the coffee morning around to different homes and would welcome offers from anyone willing to have us! Forthcoming dates are:

Thursday 1 March – The Malthouse, West Ilsley – home of Liz Dray

Thursday 3 May – Whiteways Cottage, West Ilsley – home of Anna Sugden

There will not be a coffee morning in April due to the Easter holidays.

If you would like more information about either of these services please contact Denise Brown on 01635 281825 or Liz Dray on 01635 281688.

WELL READINGS



Well readings at The Malthouse:
1st January 2007 13.65 metres
from the top, 26th February 2007,
6.88 metres.

WEST ILSLEY
BARN DANCE
SATURDAY MAY 19TH - 7PM ONWARDS

Come and join the fun with the live band:
SENSIBLE SHOES
PLUS
HOG ROAST • BAR • RAFFLE
(INCLUDED)

Adults and over 12s	£12.50
Senior Citizens	£8.00
Children over 5 & under 12 welcome until 9pm	£6.00

For ticket sales
please contact:
Jo Scriven 281405 or
Cathy Paterson 281242

on behalf of 'The West Ilsley Trust'

MASSAGE THERAPIST IN COMPTON
MASSAGE THERAPY TO REDUCE
STRESS AND AID RELAXATION



MASSAGE TREATMENTS TARGETED
AT SPECIFIC PROBLEM AREAS ON THE
BODY, USING SPECIALLY BLENDED
MASSAGE OILS
FULL BODY - 1 HR
NECK, BACK AND SHOULDERS - 30 MINS
INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE - 30 MINS

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