

WEST ILSLEY NEWS

1 June 1999

(Editor - Alan Muir Tel - 281647 Fax - 281138)

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

West Ilsley will be judged between Jun 10th and 23rd 1999. Special items to be judged are:

1. Post Office
2. Telephone box and surroundings
3. Churchyard
4. The War Memorial
5. Village Hall
6. Cricket and Recreation field
7. Pavilion and surroundings
8. The Harrow public house

Could all residents make sure that their frontage adjoining the pavement is kept trimmed please. Last year we were 7th – with more effort this year, who knows, we could be 1st!

N E Carlisle

EVERGREENS

Tuesday 1st June 1999. The coach will leave by the Church in West Ilsley at 9.30 am to go Cheddar and Wells, possibly visiting Cheddar Gorge rural village. Members £4, non-members welcome £6. Tokens can be used. Names to S Gore 281552 or A Carlisle 281613.

Anne Carlisle

VILLAGE HALL PONTOON

The winner of the final Pontoon of the season was Scott of the Harrow who won £14 with the Arsenal. The booby prize was shared by eight people - 50p each!

This season the pontoon has raised approximately £250 for the village hall funds, which is a big help towards running costs. We had quite a few gaps on the sheet this year and would like to fill it up next time. So if you would like to take part just let me, or any committee member know - £5 will give you a team right through the season.

A Tizzard

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Church Services for June:-

6th June:-

All Age Service	11.00 am
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13th June:-

Holy Communion	8.00 am
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20th June:-

Family Communion	9.30 am
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27th June:-

Morning Prayer	11.00 am
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As many of you will know, the church brass was stolen last month. By now, it will have raised a few measly pounds in a car boot sale somewhere. However, it will not deter us from keeping the church unlocked during the day – that fact is

probably most noted in the visitors book.

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

PRAM SERVICE

During the May service the children had great fun looking for a lost sheep in different parts of the Church. We were delighted to have so many babies and toddlers and hope to see you all again at the next service on Tuesday 8th June at 11.00 am. The services are for 0-5 year olds plus grandparents, parents, carers etc and last for approximately half an hour, followed by refreshments for the children.

Liz Dray - 281704

VILLAGE AFFAIRS

Why Aren't Villagers Interested?

The Annual Parish Assembly - the calling of which is a Statutory requirement - was held on Monday 10th May.

The idea of the Parish Assembly is to give all residents of the Parish an opportunity to raise matters of concern and interest to them personally and/or highlight any of the actions of the Parish Council over the past year of which they approve or to which they object.

It also gives Officers of Clubs, Associations and other Groups regularly operating in the Parish an opportunity to report upon their activities over the past year and their forward proposals for the coming year. This is particularly important in regard to those organisations in receipt of financial support from the Parish Council to ensure that any money donated from public funds is spent prudently.

This year's Assembly was attended by all 6 Parish Councilors, District Councilor John Morgan, P.C. Dave Morris, a Speaker from West Berkshire Council, 9 Local Organisation Representatives and -

NOT A SINGLE OTHER VILLAGER

WHY??!!

? IS NO ONE ELSE INTERESTED IN WHAT GOES ON?

And it's not only the Parish Assembly. The Parish Council has met FIVE TIMES between the 1998 and 1999 Assemblies and the number of Villagers (other than myself) present at the Meetings has been 0 - 0 - 1 - 1 - 0.

We live in a very pleasant Village but it's not perfect. There are a number of things which might be improved or hanged for the better (Drains, Obstructed Pavements, Uncleaned Roads, Overhanging Tree, Branches, Uncleared Public Footpaths and the like). But the Parish Council can only do so much on their own and they have no monopoly of ideas. It is highly probable that much more could be done with encouragement, suggestions and the support of some more of the 250 or so residents.

We all pay quite a lot of money in Council Tax these days and it seems only sensible that more interest in how this money is spent at District and Local level would be to our own advantage and to the benefit of all

P J Bartaby

MENCAP – SPONSORED TREK

Thank you so much to all the people in the village who have sponsored my trek for Mencap. I have now gone beyond my target of £3,000, much as a result of your generosity. I shall feel there is a bit of West Ilsley going with me in August. Thanks again on behalf of Mencap.

Nicholas Fewtrell-Smith