

West Ilsley News

May 2001

We have added a slightly educational item to the WIN this month. We own up to not knowing all the ins and outs of what, when and why about the Parish Council and have compiled a series of questions about it. Many thanks to Peter Bartaby who has researched the answers to our questions, the first few of which appear in this edition. If anyone has any other questions about the PC, please let one of us know and if it's not already on the list for future publication, we try to find the answers (or chat up Peter to do so!).

The Editors

EVERGREENS

Anne Carlisle

On Thursday May 22nd, there will be an outing to Southampton. The coach will leave from outside West Ilsley Church at 9.30 am.

Members £4, Non-member £6.

Names to J Collier, S Gore or A Carlisle.

WEST ILSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Linda Gibson
Clerk to WIPC

The Annual Meeting of West Ilsley Parish Council will be held on Monday 14th May, 2001 at 7.00p.m. in The Village Hall. This will be followed by the Annual Parish Assembly starting at approximately 8.00p.m.

All residents of West Ilsley are welcome to attend these meetings.

CHILDRENS SERVICES, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Pram Service, All Saints Church

The next service will be on **Monday 21 May at 11.00am** when the theme will be Growing. The services are for 0-5 year olds plus parent, grandparent, carer etc and last for approximately half an hour followed by refreshments for the children. We usually have a story or game with lots of singing and musical instruments for the children to play.

The following service will be on **18 June** again at 11.00am.

New service for young people

The first afterschool service was held on 5 April and was well attended. The Easter story was told and we had singing and lots of participation from the older children. The next service will be on **Thursday 17 May at 4pm**. The service is for children in their early years at school (3-7 years old) and their younger brothers and sisters (plus adult companions as well!).

The following service will be on **14 June** at 4pm. If you would like more information or would be interested in being involved with the organisation of

these services, please contact Denise Brown on 01635 281825 or Antonia Cretney on 01635 248925.



ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church Services for May 2001

6 th	All Age Service	11.00 am
13 th	Holy Communion	8.00 am
20 th	Holy Communion	9.30 am

Quiz Night

Congratulations to "The Home and Away Team" on their victory – a good evening was had by all and much needed funds raised for the church. Will "The Three Profits" be able to stand by and let the crown be worn by others for any longer than is absolutely necessary? If you think another quiz later in the year would be a good idea, then let me know (I might just organise one anyway!).

Church Opening

Just about everyone I speak to appreciates the church being open. I was delighted to see an entry towards the beginning of April by "a weary cyclist en-route from Morocco to Manchester"!!

Coffee Morning – Saturday 19th May

Please don't forget the coffee morning in the church yard (or in the church if wet) at 10.30 am, with plant stall, cake stall and white elephant to raise money for church funds. We need donations of plants, cakes, etc., so please contact Anne Carlisle, Shirley Gore or Ian Fewtrell-Smith with as much as you are able to help with. Please support in any way you can, but especially with your presence!

Church Yard

If you are able to spare a little time helping with the church yard maintenance (cutting grass etc), please contact Tony Scriven (281405)

OUR PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Peter Bartaby answers questions posed by the WIN Editors.

- 1. To whom does the PC answer?** Various, depending upon the matter under consideration:-
1. To the Electors; 2. To the next level of Local Government i.e. in our case, West Berkshire Council and, of course, 3. Indirectly to the Government as all Local Authorities have to act in accord with the laid down Acts of Parliament of which the most recent is the Local Government Act 2000
- 2. Do we have to have a PC?** No. If the Electors, at a Specially convened Parish Assembly decided by a majority vote of the Electorate of the Parish present that they no longer wanted a Parish Council it could be 'put down' but there would then be the necessity to have an Annual Parish Assembly in the Village to deal with, amongst other things, the Precept for the Parish for the year. Farnborough is an example of a Village without a Parish Council.
- 3. What (if any) is the link between West Ilsley PC and West Berks Council?** West Berkshire Council being a Unitary Authority are responsible for the provision of a range of environmental, social, educational, highway and other services and, in theory, should work with the P.C. to establish needs and fulfill their statutory responsibilities towards the Residents of the Village. Spending of Public Money by the P.C. is restricted in various areas but, ironically, there is no limit placed upon the amount of money which they can precept for to W.B.C. (as distinct from the 'capping' of W.B.C's expenditure) but the 'buck' comes back to the village as the Village precept is collected from Village Council Tax Payers on top of W.B.C. and other Statutory Bodies' monetary requirements.
- 4. What is the maximum and minimum number of Councillors, and who decides this?** My understanding is that guidelines are laid down as to an appropriate number of Elected Parish

Councillors relative to a Village's Electoral Roll. A Parish Council can, however agree a lesser/larger number with the Unitary Authority's Electoral Registration Officer. There is also an option for a Parish Council to co-opt additional Members – often though this would be to utilise a Resident's special talents for a specific project.

- 5. What is the defined role of the PC?** Basically, a Parish Council is there to make (and pay for) whatever special amenities – outside the responsibility of it's 'parent' Unitary Authority - it requires in it's area and to represent it's residents interests to ensure that they receive fair treatment in matters controlled by the latter.

TENNIS

John Clemenger

Chairman, Tennis Management Committee

The Tennis Management Committee are pleased to say that the tennis court will be open from 1st May onwards. A lot of hard work has been accomplished to get the court surface ready for play. Thanks are due especially to Denis Gilmore and John Verney for their endeavours in this respect.

The court fees will be kept at previous years rates for the present. That is £1.50 per hour per adult and 75p for children under 16 respectively. Bookings are taken, preferably in advance, at the Veterinary Surgery 01635 281344. Booking hours 10 am to 10 pm. It would be appreciated if weekend bookings were in place by Friday night. Every effort will be made to be "at home" should you require the court at short notice, but it should be remembered that we need time off as well and some degree of compromise or flexibility may be necessary this year.

The fragile court service is, as always, our prime concern and I would ask everyone to observe the "tennis shoes/plimsolls only" rules on the court

We are looking for new (and younger) members to join us on the Committee this year, and anyone interested please give us a ring. You will be gladly welcomed. Have a good time on the court.

WEST ILSLEY CRICKET CLUB

David Gore
281618

Amazingly summer is here or at least the cricket season has already started. Those of you who are extremely observant may have heard the sound of leather on willow as early as Sunday 22nd, until it poured with rain.

The club effectively runs three sides. On Saturdays we have two teams playing in the Berkshire League and on Sundays we play a number of 'friendly' matches against local village sides. The Sunday games are usually fairly relaxed and often a good place for

potential new playing members to make their debuts. If anyone is interested in playing please contact Dick Beech on 281633.

The experiment of opening the pavilion on Friday nights during the winter has proved to be a great success and the club is usually well attended. Now the season has started the club will also be open on most Saturdays and Sundays. The full list of home fixtures for May is listed below: -

Sat 5 th	2nds v Bradfield
Sun 6 th	Woodlands St Mary
Sat 12 th	1sts v Goring
Sun 13 th	Village Knock-out
Sat 19 th	2nds v Yattendon
Sat 26 th	1sts v Mapledurham

Subscriptions are now due for all members. As usual we are keen to welcome any new members whether playing, social or family.

FOOT AND

MOUTH UPDATE

Richard Gore

It has been a long two months since the first case of foot and mouth was reported, but there is now hope that the epidemic is on the decline. The infected area in West Berkshire has been lifted, but livestock movement controls are still in place. We have been warned not to relax our vigilance and to keep precautions in place to avoid a 'sting-in-the-tail'.

We are aware that the closure of the footpaths has caused considerable inconvenience to many. The conditions imposed by the West Berks Council to allow footpaths to be reopened are quite hard to meet, but we have identified two paths where allowing access will have a minimal risk, and we are keen to encourage villagers to use them until the rest of the paths are again open.

The paths in question are:

1. From the west end of the village by the Harrow up towards the Ridgeway, keeping to the right of the gallops, not on the official path (since this passes a field of cattle).
2. Path 19 which runs from the junction of the West-East Ilsley road and the private road (where the racehorses cross), up the left hand side of the gallops towards the Ridgeway.

In both cases, please turn back well short of the Ridgeway until the decision is taken to re-open it. Please also keep your dogs under control, and observe the other rules on the red notices.

Lets hope we can soon get back to normal!

WATERMILL THEATRE

Steve Price

The Gondoliers

First – the good news – our planned theatre trip in July has attracted a total of 22 people from West Ilsley; we are confident that everyone will have a good evening

and it may well be the start of a “West Ilsley Theatre Group” or something similar!

Now – the bad news – unless you’ve booked independently you won’t be seeing “The Gondoliers” – the latest offering at the Watermill which runs until 12th May. Those of you familiar with Gilbert and Sullivan may well have seen or recognised the title in local advertising and thought it not worth the bother – but this is a modernised adaptation set in the era of gangsters, molls and Godfathers.

Many of the players we have seen before in such productions as “Irma la Duce” and “Cabaret” and yet again the whole cast provided the most fantastic evidence of their talent – all play several musical instruments, all sing, most dance; the volume of their voices and the skill of their rendition leaves one continually surprised that these people are not, in the main, household names, though many have appeared on TV in the past. The end of the play brought tumultuous applause and foot stomping – the latter a first in my experience – and I heard several people say that they fully intended to return for a repeat performance before the play closes.

If you can get tickets (box office number 46044) then **go** – I’m confident you’ll love it.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The Village Hall Committee has been given, as a result of ordering a new kitchen from MFI, a £100 holiday voucher, which can be redeemed against the stated brochure price of the brochures of the following Tour operators; Air Tours, First Choice and Thompson. All Terms and Conditions are printed on the reverse of the voucher. Valid for foreign package holidays booked and taken by 30th June 2002.

Available for £50 payable to The Village Hall and on a first come first served basis. Call Alison Banks 281705.

THE WEST ILSLEY VILLAGE FETE SUNDAY 15TH JULY 2001

CANCELLED

Treasurer

Ian Burton

ian@netdra.freemove.co.uk 281536

Secretary

Alison Banks Alison@Malthouse.org.uk 281705

Produce Show

Karen Miller Karen.Miller@btinternet.com 281876

Publicity

Tracy Gregory tmgregory@yahoo.co.uk 281650

Sponsorship

Tracey Allan-Jones

Christopher@allan-jones.freemove.co.uk 281306

Members

Laurie Skipper skipper@bioch.ox.ac.uk 281169

Simon Skipper 281169
Sally Shillinglaw Sally.Shillinglaw@bbsrc.ac.uk 281169
Paul Sugden 281291

It is with great regret, following consultation with a cross section of the village, that we have come to the combined decision to cancel this years Village Fete due to the Foot and Mouth Outbreak.

The Pre-Show Dance is also cancelled for the same reason. However, the organisers of the Pre-Show Dance may possibly be able to put on a fund raising event later in the year.

The Fete Committee will now be disbanding and the Fete funds will be invested until next year.

The Fete Committee would like to thank everyone who had already put in some hard work and also to those who had pledged their time for the day itself. We hope to call on you all next year!

ILSLEY UNDER FIVES

Toddler Group

Wednesday 25th April – Start of Summer Term

The Toddler Group is thriving even though quite a few children have now progressed to Nursery School. It is held in the West Ilsley Village Hall on a Wednesday morning from 10.00am to 11.30am where the children enjoy playing together and song time while the parents/carers enjoy a cup of coffee. New faces are still extremely welcome.

Play Group

Wednesday 25th April – Start of Summer Term

The playgroup is held in the Main Hall in the Ilsleys Primary School on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon from 1.25pm until 3.30pm during the school terms. The playgroup is mainly for children from 3 years old until they attend full-time education. When necessary we also run a lunch club for those children who are now attending the Ilsleys Primary School part time.

There are a limited number of places for 2½ year olds, at the playgroup leaders discretion, and parents are

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 Thursday 24th May 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.

Contact details:

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Manor Farm Barn
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asked to participate in a parent's rota to enable this to continue. The 2½ year olds will attend for one afternoon a week only (currently Wednesday).

If you are interested in your child attending the playgroup please call either Tracy Gregory on 281650 for an application form to register your interest and reserve a place for your child or Julia (Playgroup Leader) on 281357 if you would like to arrange a visit.