

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org.uk

August 2004

A thinner WIN this month, as there appears to be a bit of a lull after the frantic activity of the last few months - but never fear, there's the opportunity for a get-together over a cream tea on the 15th - we hope to see you there.

The Editors

PARISH COUNCIL

Extract from the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2004.

Matters arising

A) No reply as yet to the letter to Highways regarding road markings and the layout of the A34 junction. Clerk to write again suggesting that the 30 mile limit sign be moved further out, also to suggest traffic calming measures.

B) Speed Indicator Device (SID) Another training session to be held in the autumn when it is hoped West Ilsley will be included. Clerk to attempt to establish when SID will next be in West Ilsley.

C) Recreation Ground Fence. After a revue of future financial commitments, it was unanimously agreed that as the Parish Council are trustees to the Recreation Ground, the appeal for a donation of £200 towards repair of the fence should be met.

D) Dog Bins a verbal quote for £250 per bin plus a charge for cleaning and emptying had been received. Clerk to ask for a written confirmation.

E) A handsome new notice board is now in place outside the church. Thanks to Alec Cole for his work.

F) Cllr. Sean Ryan having signed the appropriate mandate will now be added as a signatory to the Parish Council bank account.

Parish Council Vacancies

There are still two vacancies to be filled on the Parish Council. Interest from a parishioner has been expressed and is currently being followed up. Anyone interested should contact the clerk, Linda Gibson on 200242.

ROAD SAFETY

An update to last month's article. Many thanks to Shelley Routledge, who tells us that the correct way for horses to be lead by pedestrians, is for the horse to walk with the traffic, and the pedestrian leading them to walk on the outside of the horse, between the horse and the vehicles. (Hope we got that right, Shelley.)

VILLAGE HALL PONTOON

Audrey Tizzard 281646

The football season will be starting again very shortly and we hope to run the Pontoon as in previous years. Subscriptions of £5 per team for the whole season (that is just 50 per pontoon) are now due. Could you please let myself or John Verney know if you wish to take part again and any new members will be very welcome. All profits go towards the maintenance of the Village Hall.

THANK YOU

Eileen Calder

I would like to say many thanks to the West Ilsley Cricket Club for the portrait of Ron hanging in the Pavillion. It's a great honour, and nice to know he will be remembered.

DIARY

AUGUST

15TH CREAM TEAS AT THE VILLAGE HALL
SEPTEMBER

6TH UNDER 55 AGM

13TH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

25TH 50-50 BABY EQUIPMENT SALE
OCTOBER

29TH CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

30TH ADULTS' HALLOWEEN PARTY

Deadline for the next publication is 5pm on Wednesday 25th August

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PRAM SERVICE AND AFTERSCHOOL SERVICE, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

In July we had an end of term combined service followed by a picnic tea at the cricket pitch. This was our last service with Antonia who will be sorely missed and we would like to take this opportunity to thank her so much for her enthusiasm and support along with Denise in organising the children's services. Many of the children have been attending the monthly services since they were babies and Antonia's sense of fun, creativity and ability to communicate at their level has meant they have had a very special and memorable time when coming to church. The children took the opportunity of presenting Antonia with a frame into which will go a photo of them all taken at this last service and Angela kindly supplied a delicious "vicar" cake for us all!

As mentioned previously, due to lower numbers attending the pram service and the planning for the interregnum, it has been decided to suspend this service for the time being. However, if numbers of babies rise again we will review this! In the meantime the Afterschool services are still well supported and we are delighted that Denise is happy to help us continue with these in the autumn. There will be no service in August and we will re-commence in September with the Afterschool Service on Thursday 16 September at 4pm with a Harvest theme.

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

CLEANER



Are you interested in sharing a cleaner on Tuesday and/or Wednesday each week (£8 per hour) – could start middle of August.

If so please contact Alexandra Axtell on 281 306

WEST ILSLEY TENNIS COURT



Is open for the 2004 season, £2 per hour per adult, £1 per hour for children under 16. To book please call 281344

A patch of wire on the left hand side of the court has recently been unravelled, which is regrettable since the wire was repaired last year. Please will everyone keep an eye out in order to avoid any future occurrences.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Fred Carter

West Berkshire Police are asking for your help in detecting crime in the Hungerford and Downlands Sector. It is thought that criminals may be knocking on doors to check whether the occupiers are in and if the

doors are answered may be coming up with a suspect story or be trying to sell items. We would appreciate knowing of such callers, who they are, what they are asking or selling and whether they have an ID card. Can you please phone the Watch Office on 01635



264718 so that we can pass information on to our Area Intelligence Team. However, if you get the vibes that a caller is not genuine, please contact the Police on 0845 8 505 505 immediately and then phone the Watch Office. We are keen to monitor suspicious

callers in the hope that we can obtain some leads to enable the criminals to be caught.

West Berkshire Police have also asked me to inform you about the most common tools and point of entries burglars use. Criminals gain entry mainly through unlocked front- and backdoors. They use ladders and tools that are kept in the garden as well as tools stored in sheds. They open front doors through letterboxes with an instrument and sometimes are able to obtain the house- and car keys also through the letterbox. Please don't leave any keys near the front or back door. Also try to keep your handbag and/or briefcase well out of reach. Most crimes happen through an arisen opportunity - especially in the summer when doors and windows are left unattended! We are currently seeing an increase in thefts from vehicles and vehicle interference in the Hungerford and Thatcham areas. Please ensure that no laptops or expensive items are left in vehicles. Please be extra vigilant and watch your security. If you see anybody acting suspiciously or have any information, please contact the Police on 0845 8 505 505 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. To ensure that quick action is taken on any information, can you please also contact the Watch Office on 01635 264718.

ALL SAINTS WEST ILSLEY

William and Alexandra Axtell

Church Services for August:

1 st August	All Age Service	11.00am
8 th August	Holy Communion	8.00 am
15 th August	Family Communion	9.30 am
22 nd August	No service	
29 th August	United Benefice	10.00am
	Leaving Service for Antonia at Peasemore	

Revd. Antonia Cretney

We do hope as many as possible will come to Antonia's last service in the benefice on 29 August at 10.00am at Peasemore to show our appreciation for all her dedication and hard work. She has definitely made the church a richer place having, in particular, encouraged and built up our children's church. She will be much missed but we look forward to the future with optimism. All Saints wishes her the very best for a happy and relaxing retirement!

Raising the Roof

Ian, Anna, Sarah and Barbara masterminded another fantastic **village pre-show dance**. The marquee looked glorious bedecked in red roses and once again amazing prizes were to be won in the raffle. The DJ had us all partying to the small hours. A big thank you to the dedicated team who managed to raise over £1,500 for the roof appeal!

The **Feeding the 5000 Fiver** campaign is continuing to capture the village's imagination. Our stall at the fete had a wonderful array of handmade products from talented members of the village including hanky umbrellas, jolly bags, plants and painted pin boards. Thank you to all who contributed.

A **cream tea** is taking place on **15 August** in the village hall – please come and give your support.

ANTONIA CRETNEY

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

I have to hold my hand up and admit to a slight error in the flyer regarding Antonia's last service. She will be taking the second and third Sunday services in August but the All Age service on 1st August will be the one at which the village will make a presentation to her. There will be a card in church for anyone wanting to sign it and this will be given to her at the United Benefice service in Peasemore on 29th August.

CROW

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

This will be held on Saturday, 11th September 2004. For those who are not sure, CROW is an acronym for Cycle, Run or Walk and it is carried out over a great deal of the country. The idea is to get sponsorship per church visited, getting round as many as possible during the day. It's a great way to see this amazing part of our heritage and to help support its upkeep.

Please let me know if you would like details, sponsor forms etc.

FETE UPDATE

Despite the unseasonable weather which did impact the number of visitors, the day was still a great success, making a profit of approximately £1500.

The fun of the fete day and the funds raised would not of course happen without the dedication of so many volunteers including those running stalls/events, and those who work on the set up and dismantling.

Thanks to all those groups and organisations who ran stalls and handed in all their takings to the overall fete effort – a few highlights to mention, where we saw an increase in revenue were the BBQ £536, the teas £204, the bottle stall £191 and the dog show £112.

Due to the massive challenge which the Church faces with the roof renovations, their "Feeding the 5000 fiver campaign" stall raised approx £120 all of which will go straight to the fund.

Particular thanks once again to John Verney and Fred Carter who, amongst other activities, were responsible for the electrics in the marquee serving both the pre-fete dance and the fete day.

Charities and organisations are invited to apply for funds by writing to the chairman of the fete committee, Ron Cook at April Cottage, 6 Fir Tree Paddock, with

details of the amount requested, and purpose of the funds. Please ensure your application reaches the chairman by Monday, 23rd August.

In aid of the All Saints West Ilsley
'Raise the Roof' campaign

CREAM TEAS



Will be served at the
Village Hall, West Ilsley

On

Sunday 15th August

Between 3.00 and 6.00 pm

Home made scones with jam and Devonshire
clotted cream

Home made cakes

Ice creams and children's cakes

PANG & KENNET VALLEY COUNTRYSIDE PROJECTS

The Friends of the Pang and Kennet Valley Countryside Project has been set up to represent all of the people who care about the countryside in the two valleys. The events below are co-ordinated by The Friends and give you the opportunity to come out on practical tasks, learn new skills, meet new people and, above all, enjoy yourself. The tasks usually begin around 10am and finish by 4pm but you are very welcome to come for as much time as you wish to give during these hours. Please wear suitable footwear and clothing, and bring a packed lunch if you are coming for the full day. Hot drinks are usually provided, as are the necessary tools.

**Sunday 1st August Pond Management
Stanford Dingley**

Help with our annual task to maintain Pangfield Pond and the surrounding habitat. This task includes grass cutting and clearing back vegetation to allow educational visits. Meet at Black Barn, Rushall Manor Farm at 10.00am or phone the Project office for details of meeting on site. Grid ref. SU 583 723.

**Tuesday 3rd August Meadow Management
Pangbourne**

We will be clearing ragwort from Sulham Meadows SSSI, so that this important site can be grazed. Meet at Black Barn, Rushall Manor Farm at 10.00am or phone the Project office for details of meeting on site. Grid ref. SU 583 723.

**Tuesday 10th August Tools Maintenance &
BBQEnglefield**

All the hard work we put in through the year puts a strain on our tools! We will be working at our tool store to repair those broken handles and sharpen those worn blades. We will also be having a BBQ (please bring your own food) so why not join us to find out more about what we do? Meet at the Old Estate Office, Englefield Road, Theale from 10.00am onwards.

Tuesday 24th August Footpath Work

Improve access in the parish by helping to clear encroaching vegetation on its 45 miles of off-road rights of way – but not all of them! Meet at the Black Barn, Rushall Manor Farm at 10.00 am. Grid ref. SU 583 723.

DO YOU LOOK AFTER SOMEONE FULL OR PART TIME?

I am very keen to contact anyone who might be described as a 'Carer'.

Many people do not see themselves as 'Carers' – and may not like the label. However, there are a large number of people in West Berkshire who look after a family member, friend or neighbour who is frail, ill or disabled. Carers enable many people to continue living at home.

My name is Jenny Hatch and I have just taken up the post of User/Carer Development Officer at West Berkshire Council. My main role is to make contact with Carers and those they care for across the county and to raise awareness of user/carer issues.

As a Carer, your life may be taken over by the situation in which you find yourself. All aspects of your life may be affected : health, employment, finances, accommodation, leisure and holidays. There are organisations and services available in the area which can support you in your caring role.

We are planning to involve individuals and their Carers in planning and evaluating such services to meet their needs. We hope that, by raising the profile of carers in West Berkshire, we will be able to contact those who care at home in order to offer them information, support and the opportunity for a break if this is what they want or need.

If you would like to know more, please ring me on 01635 519406...it would be good to hear from you.

DOWNLAND SPORTS CENTRE

.....just to let you know that we have been in possession of our new gym equipment since the 2nd August. A treadmill, cross trainer and cycle have replaced the old and well used equipment. We also have a rack of dumb bells. The multigym and rowers will remain.

We realise that the gym won't be visited that much during the summer (and hopefully warm!) months but it is worth thinking about renewing your membership or joining the gym for the autumn. We can't dispute the fact that the gym is small but it is on your doorstep, it's cheap and well worth a visit!

Another date for your diary..... the first of our autumn Indoor Boot Sales is planned for Sunday 17th October (12 – 2pm).

For more information about this, children's parties, children's holiday activities and our activity/sessions programme please contact us on 01635 578866.

SPONSORED BEATING OF THE BOUNDS of the Parishes of Brightwalton with Catmore August Bank Holiday, Monday 30th August 2004

All Saints Church, Brightwalton, was built in 1863 to the designs of George Street, one of the very best Victorian church architects, and it is listed Grade 2.

However, it now needs to have its roof replaced at a cost of about £70,000. Together with other repairs and refurbishments, the total cost will be nearer £100,000. This is a huge sum for a small parish to raise, but we are already well over half-way there.

One of the projects to raise this money is a Sponsored Beating of the Bounds of the Parishes of Brightwalton with Catmore on August Bank Holiday. This will be a walk of about 15 miles at your own pace over some of the most beautiful downland country in Berkshire. It will start and finish at Brightwalton Village Hall, starting at 10am, and those who go the whole way may expect to finish between 3pm and 5pm.

The boundaries of these two parishes border the parishes of Chaddleworth, Leckhampstead, Peasemore, Beedon, East Ilsley, West Ilsley, Farnborough and Fawley. In some places the boundaries run along public roads, in others along public rights of way, while in some places they run across private land. In those places where they are not on any public right of way, the permission of the relevant landowner has been obtained for us to walk that way.

Because part of the route is not on public rights of way, it will take many people to places where they have never been before. It will be a great way to see the countryside with your family and friends. Dogs will be welcome, but they must be kept on leads.

At key points where the route crosses or joins public roads, refreshments may be obtained, and transport back to Brightwalton will be available for those who do not wish to continue. Tea will be available at the Village Hall on return.

To take part, each individual or family must produce sponsorship or a donation of at least £10. A prize of £20 will be awarded to the person who has produced and paid the greatest amount of sponsorship.

Sponsorship or donation forms may be obtained from: David Gardiner, The Old Rectory, Lilley, Newbury, Berks RG20 7HH

Tel / Fax: 01488 638227

E-mail: DAWGardiner@aol.com

to whom any who do not wish to walk may send a donation if they wish.