

West Ilsley News

March 2002

It seems that Christmas and New Year were only last week, and yet Easter will be over before the next edition of the WIN is out! Quite a few activities planned for the year so far, including a further visit to the Watermill and our much-loved Annual Fete.

The Editors

ALL SAINTS

CHURCH

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church Services for March 2002:

3 rd	All Age	11.00 am
10th	Holy Communion	8.00 am
17th	Holy Communion	9.30 am
31 st	Easter Sunday Communion	11.00 am

MAUNDY THURSDAY

There will be a Holy Communion service held in the village hall for all who wish to celebrate and remember the Last Supper. The service will be at 7.30 pm.

GOOD FRIDAY

There will be a walk around the 4 parishes ending up at Peasemore for a service at 2.00 pm. The walk will leave Farnborough at 9.30 am and if you want to join at West Ilsley, be at the church around 10.15 am. The first walk was only two years ago and was great fun. Do as much or as little of the walk as you want. Bring a packed lunch for a picnic at the Rectory in Peasemore.

CAN YOU HELP by playing the organ (or any other accompanying instrument) on Easter Sunday? It is a "one-off" so don't worry about getting involved on a regular basis!

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

This will be held in church on Wednesday, 20th March at 8.00 pm. Please come and give your views, thoughts, wishes etc.

QUIZ NIGHT

£6.00 per person (including ploughman's) in teams of four

7.30 pm on Friday, 15th March
in the

Village Hall

Team Names to Ian Fewtrell-Smith 281625 asap

EVERGREENS

The Annual General Meeting to organise 2002 will be held on Monday 11th March at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall. Subscriptions collected. New members welcome.

EASTER LILIES

Anne Carlisle

I shall be pleased to accept donations from anyone wishing to contribute towards buying an Easter Lily as a token of remembrance.

BINGO

In the Village Hall

Good Friday, March 29th

7.30 pm

Bingo and Raffle prizes

Bring your own refreshments

Proceeds to the West Ilsley Village Hall

Any donations of prizes to:

Audrey at 5 Fir Tree Cottages

'ELLO ELLO ELLO' Sergeant Rob Athawes Community Policing Team, Hungerford

General Interest

For some time now, I have been writing regular articles in one or two of the Parish Magazines that exist on the Geographical Area that we police from Hungerford, known as the Hungerford and Downlands policing sector. I would like to think that, from the feedback that I have received, it has been a fairly popular venture, where I have tried to put across to you, reading public, what we, the police, have been getting up to on any given month. I have included in the articles such things as items that should be of a general interest to most of you, recent arrests and associated stories, and recent trends of crime on the area and things that we would like YOU to keep your eyes peeled for.

I have been asked, by the powers that be, to expand my audience via other Parish magazines and, in so doing, meeting some of our goals in the form of public consultation. It DOES appear to work judging by the additional information and contacts that we have built up over that same period of time. I always try to encourage people to speak to us if you feel you need our help. We will not always be able to give you that help direct, dependent upon what is asked of us, but we will certainly point you in the right direction if we can. SO HERE GOES!!

Community Policing Team

From Hungerford we run what we term as a Community Policing Team and we try hard to achieve exactly what you would image the title to mean, a team of police officers who try to meet community needs, for the sector in which we work. With the compliment of officers we have at our disposal, we cannot always meet those demands, so we have to heavily prioritise our workloads, but I can promise you, the Hungerford team will always do it's best.

The Team

Our current team consists of the following officers. We work in pairs or PARTNERS and this reflects how we try to work overall, in Partnership, both in terms of police circles and with the many outside agencies (e.g. social services, housing associations, Youth Offending Teams etc.....)

Introductions

Inspector Andrew Talbot is the BOSS!

Myself and Sergeant Pam Banfield are in charge of team supervision but Pam has overall responsibility for crime, operations and investigation and I have overall responsibility for most Community related issues, hence the reason why I'm writing this article. It will usually be me that you deal with direct.

PCs Andrew Casey and Mike Vaughan are responsible for the Parishes of Chieveley, Hermitage, East and West Ilsley, Beedon, Peasmore and Winterbourne.

PCs Steve Lynch and Gerry Wooldridge are responsible for Lambourn, East Garston, Great Shefford, Fawley, Brightwalton, Chaddleworth, Leckhampstead and Catmore

PCs Becky Brown and Roy Barrington are responsible for the Hungerford Parish and PC's Andrew Buckingham and Blowfield are responsible for the Parishes of Kintbury, Inkpen, Welford, Combe, West Woodhay, Enbourne, Hampstead Marshall, Wickham, Welford and Boxford.

The important thing to remember though is that we are a Team, so it could be any one of the above officers who attends to deal with YOUR reported incident.

At present we usually cover between the hours of 8am until midnight Sunday to Friday and from 8am until 2am on Friday and Saturday nights. Outside of these hours police response comes from Newbury police station via the police control room.

To contact the team

In an EMERGENCY (ONLY) DIAL 999.

During office hours if you need to contact the team phone 01488 685915 where, dependent on the time of day, you will either be able to talk to Carol, our Civilian Duty Officer, one of the officers direct, or leave a message on the answerphone. Alternatively the phones will occasionally be transferred to Newbury where you will also be able to leave a message.

If the matter needs police attendance but it's NOT an emergency contact the police control room on 01635 31000.

I will expand into other matters as time moves on. In particular I feel it is important that you are aware of what we are involved in, what type of crime is occurring in your areas and any matters that we feel that you should be aware of .e.g. a spate of shed burglaries in your village. TALKING OF WHICH. We have just started to have a few 'breaks' of this type throughout the whole sector which always tends to happen at this time of year so my 'tip for the month' would be to increase your garden shed/store security, if at all possible, security mark all precious items, particularly mowers, chain saws and hedge trimmers and make sure you separately record serial numbers!! To give us a chance if you were to have them stolen.

THANK YOU

Laura Smith

Thank you to everyone who sent me information regarding the woodland to the back of the Maltings especially to the 'anonymous' person that gave Mrs Noble (the owner of the wood) my contact details. I have had the project marked and got an A grade to go towards my A Level in Environmental Science. Thank you again, all the information was very useful.

WEST ILSLEY

CRICKET CLUB

Alan Bloor

The club bar will be open every Friday evening in March (8pm onwards)

A club golf day has been arranged for Friday 22 March at Deanwood Park Golf Club. If anyone in the village is interested in playing or would like further details please contact Kevin Holloway on 281556

A Car Treasure Hunt is organised for Sunday 7 April, approximate start time 10.30 am from the cricket club. Entry is £5 per car. If anyone would like further details please contact John Evans on 281786

The club has arranged for some indoor cricket nets at the Kennet Leisure Centre, Kennet School, Thatcham on the following dates: Sunday 17 March at 4.45pm, Sunday 24 March at 5.15pm, and Sunday 31 March also at 5.15pm. If there are any budding cricketers in the village or anyone interested in reviving old skills please contact Alan Bloor on 281341 or Kevin or John (telephone numbers above)

The club has a full fixture list running two sides on a Saturday, a Sunday side and a Wednesday evening team. Players will be welcomed for all teams.

PARISH COUNCIL

Linda Gibson (Clerk)

Tel. 200242

The next Meeting of West Ilsley Parish Council will be held on Monday 11th March 2002 at 7.00p.m. in The Village Hall.

All residents of West Ilsley are welcome to attend this meeting and may raise any relevant matters in the open forum.

WEST ILSLEY FETE Sunday 14 July 2002

After the disappointment of last year when so many activities had to be cancelled or curtailed because of the Foot and Mouth epidemic we are delighted to be able to start planning for this year's fete.

This year's fete promises to be even bigger and better than ever, with all of the traditional favourites as well as some new activities and displays that will appeal to all ages.

One of the most popular attractions is always the Flower and Produce Show and now is the time to start planting seeds and bringing the plants to the peak of perfection for the big day. To help those of us who are novice gardeners, we have enlisted the help of "Mr Greenfingers" who will be writing a monthly advice column covering some of the most popular plants. We hope that the advice will encourage everyone to enter the competition and, with apologies to the judges, will make the judging even harder.

So why not start now and plant a few extra seeds for the Plant Stall, to allow those whose fingers could never turn green to share in your success!!

Finally, house plants! We all have sad, neglected specimens that we have ignored all winter. Now is the time to repot and feed them, place them in good light, remembering to water them, at least occasionally, and who knows, your Mother in Law's Tongue may even win you a prize.

Finally, as is traditional, everyone who is not ex-directory can expect a phone call asking for help. Those who are ex-directory can expect to be accosted in the street!

Let's all do whatever we can to ensure the Fete is the best ever.

The Committee would be delighted to receive your offers or suggestions, please contact any of the below;

Alison Banks	281705	alison@malthouse.org.uk
Gordon Bewick	281876	gordonb1@ntlworld.com
Ian Burton	281536	ian@netdra.freemove.co.uk
June Cook	281565	ron1.june2@virgin.net
Karen Miller	281876	karen.miller@btinternet.com
Sally Shillinglaw	281169	sally.shillinglaw@bbsrc.ac.uk

Regular updates will be published in West Ilsley News and on the West Ilsley Web site: www.ilsley.btinternet.co.uk

ILSLEY UNDER FIVES

End of term - Toddlers – Wednesday 20 March
End of term – Playgroup – Thursday 21 March

Baby and Toddler Group

The Baby and Toddler Group meets on a Wednesday morning, 10.00am – 11.30am in the Village Hall. There are lots of toys plus a climbing frame, playhouse, slide etc for the children and coffee and a chance to chat for the Mums. If you are interested in coming along please contact Tracy Gregory on 281650 for more details.

Playgroup

The playgroup is held in the Main Hall at the Ilsleys Primary School on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon from 1.25pm to 3.30pm during the school terms. The numbers at the playgroup have risen suddenly and we are currently only accepting 3 year olds if a place is available. If you are interested in your child attending the playgroup please call Tracy on 281650 for an application form to register your child or if you would like to arrange a visit.

MR GREENFINGERS' ADVICE FOR BEGINNERS

February/March

Sweet Peas

Now is an ideal time to plant sweet peas either indoors, or if the weather is warm enough, directly into the soil.

I prefer to plant sweet peas into special sweet pea tubes which allow the roots to develop without restriction, although toilet roll tubes work just as well. Plant the seeds about half an inch deep. Do not use seed trays or small pots as the roots do not like to be disturbed.

Place in a cool area indoors, perhaps on a window sill, and within a week or so you should see signs of germination. Keep moist and when the shoots are about 8" tall nip out the growing tip to encourage bushiness.

Plant out the tubes, without removing the plants, to minimise root disturbance, in late spring. Canes or netting will be needed to support the peas which will grow to a height of up to 6 feet or more.

Geraniums (Pelargoniums)

If you really want a challenge, plant 2-3 seeds into small pots and cover with about 1/6 of an inch of compost. Water gently with a fine rose or mist spray and cover with a plastic bag and seal with a rubber band. A steady temperature of 70-75 degrees is required. The seedlings should emerge in about 21 days.

A better alternative is to go to a Garden Centre and buy a pack of plant plugs. These have been germinated and are sturdy little plants. Gently transplant into 3" plant pots, keep warm and moist. After about 4-5 weeks repot into 5" pots. Continue to water and feed with a high potash fertiliser such as Phostrogen. Cut off dead flower heads to encourage repeat flowering.

Look out for vegetable advice next month.

MARATHON STRUGGLE

Our one-year-old daughter, Anna, would never have been born without the skill and dedication of an amazing team of doctors and nurses at the John Radcliffe Hospital's Silver Star Unit. Carmel had been through nine miscarriages and would have given up trying for another baby had it not been for Professor Chris Redman, who founded the unit to help women facing an exceptionally difficult struggle to have a

child. The professor encouraged her to have another go and met her almost every week to check that the course of drugs, hormones and rest that he'd prescribed was doing the trick. It was, and although Carmel had to go into hospital a couple of times, she was able to keep the pregnancy going almost to full term. When we held Anna for the first time, we could hardly believe it.

On April 14, I'll be running the London Marathon with the professor to raise money for the Silver Star Society, a registered charity that supports the work of the unit. The Silver Star helps more than 400 women a year like Carmel to have a baby against all odds. We're now trying to raise £100,000 so that the unit can expand and help even more. Would you be prepared to sponsor me? The last 10 miles of the marathon are hell (especially when your nipples start bleeding!) so I'd be grateful for any encouragement and my employer, The Sunday Times, will double any donation you may care to make. If you'd like to help, I'd be very glad to hear from you on 281336 or by email at: sean.ryan@sunday-times.co.uk

Sean Ryan, Winhaven Cottage, Church Way

PRAM SERVICE AND AFTERSCHOOL SERVICE, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

At the February services the theme was "Water" and the children heard the story of Noah's Ark and drew pictures of the animals

The next Afterschool Service will take place on **Thursday 14 March at 4pm** and the Pram Service on **Monday 18 February at 11am**. The theme will be "Mothers".

The Pram Service is aimed at 0-5 year olds and the Afterschool Service for the slightly older ones as well as the babies. The services are well supported but we would love to see new faces or friends from outside the village. If you would like more information please contact Denise Brown on 01635 281825, Antonia Cretney on 01635 248925 or Liz Dray on 01488 638749.

QUEEN'S JUBILEE

The response to last month's appeal for ideas on how to celebrate the Jubilee has been less than overwhelming!

It has been suggested that a virtual tour of the village would provide a lasting record of life in West Ilsley. On a more traditional note, there is some support for organising a children's party on one of the two June bank holidays.

Anyone who would be able to help with either of these projects, or who has any other ideas for Jubilee events, please contact Richard Gore on 281241.

EVENING CLASSES

IN WEST ILSLEY?

Andrea Cook

Responses to the opportunity are as follows:

	Number interested
Ballroom dancing	11
Yoga	7
Step/aerobics/keep fit	6
Line dancing	3
First Aid	2
Upholstery	1

If the above ideas have whetted your appetite and you would like to add your vote please use the slip at the end, or give me a call on 281224 by next publication date. Those who have already voted don't need to re-vote, but if you'd like to register interest another topic please let me know. Please **don't wait until the classes are arranged before expressing interest**, because we **must have the numbers before we can get them arranged**. If we can get something going, the classes would start in September.

VILLAGE HALL

PONTOON

Audrey Tizzard

The winners of the 6th pontoon of the season were:

B Hayes (Bournemouth)	
T Gregory (Carlisle)	
S Baggs (Chelsea)	£9.33 each

The booby of £8.00 was shared between:

C Beek (Burnley), G Cramp (Bury), K Chitty (Colchester) G Tizzard (Grimsby) and G Taylor (Leicester).

£26 went to village hall funds.

DOG WALKER

If you have a dog but don't have time to walk it just arrange a walk for your dog with Jonathan Sugden!

Jonathan's price is £1.50 per half-hour and your dog will come back happy and tired! (Reference available from Harry a Great Dane)

His time range is after school hours.

Contact details:

Telephone: 01635 281 291

Address: Bramble Cottage
26 West Ilsley

E-mail: paul@sugdendens.freeserve.co.uk



**DOWNLAND SPORTS
CENTRE**

Tracey Weaver

Our recent Indoor Boot Sale (I guess we should call it an Indoor Table Top Sale!) was again a resounding success - both for buyers and sellers. We were booked to capacity with some sellers braving the sunny, but chilly afternoon because we had run out of indoor space. The feedback is extremely positive and because of this, we have decided to hold the sales on a regular basis - probably once every school holiday. The next sale being Sunday 7th April. Hopefully, this notice will give everyone a chance to have a clear out and book a table. Please look for posters/notices and add in the Newbury Weekly News nearer the time for full details.

Following what have been poorly attended Holiday Activities (both Summer and October half-term 2001), we were delighted to see lots of children during this February half-term - both familiar and new faces! We hope your children had lots of fun. As much as we would like to, we can't please everyone, however we are always pleased to hear from you with your comments and suggestions for future programmes.

Our next Holiday Activity programme will be during the Easter break. Activities will run from Monday 25th March - Friday 5th April inc. (Excluding the 29th March and 1st April). We will distribute the programmes, as usual, to all local schools. If your child does not attend one of the local schools, please let us know and we will be happy to post one to you.

And finally, for those of you who aren't aware of our facilities at the Centre - we have a gym. Small, but well attended by lots of friendly people. As well as a 10 station multigym, we have two Concept 2 rowers, a Techogym Treadmill, Stepper and Race bike - not forgetting the Ab. Trainer. If you've been thinking about joining a gym, why not consider us? You are

very welcome to pop in to have a look around without committing to anything (and we promise - no hard sell!) Having a gym facility on your doorstep often makes the commitment to exercising easier as well as saving time and money travelling to town. Price increases apply as of 1st April 2002, so why not book now for you induction at 2001 prices.

MAY FAIR BONANZA

There is something for everyone at the Englefield May Fair, taking place on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th May at Englefield House, near Theale. The Grand Plant Sale offers gardeners the chance to stock up for spring planting, with experts on hand to give advice and a plant creche so that purchasers can enjoy the rest of the Fair. Displayed in the house itself is a Dolls House Exhibition, featuring period dolls houses from private collections, rarely seen in public, and a Quilt and Patchwork Exhibition, featuring fine examples of antique and contemporary work, together with a selection of stalls. There is a flower festival in historic St Mark's church, a steam engine display in the village street, and a Courtyard Market selling quality bric-a-brac, homemade cakes, preserves and handicrafts. Proceeds from the Fair will be divided between the Motor Neurone Disease Association and the Duchess of Kent House Trust. The Fair opens from 10am to 5pm each day; tickets are £5 (children free; discount for groups booked in advance) available from Gloria Sleep, Englefield House, Reading RG7 5EN (0118 930 2221).

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 Tuesday 26th March 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:

Andrea Cook
Clock Cottage
☎ 281224
Fax: please phone first
Email: andreacooklimited@msn.com

Steve Price
Manor Farm Barn
☎ 281738
Fax: 281838
Email: ilsleyfinance@aol.com

Website: www.btinternet.com/~ilsley

EVENING CLASSES please add my vote as follows:

(tick)

Ballroom dancing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yoga	<input type="checkbox"/>
Upholstery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Line dancing	<input type="checkbox"/>
First aid	<input type="checkbox"/>
Step/aerobics/keep fit	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name:
Phone Number:

Deliver to:- Clock Cottage