

# WEST ILSLEY NEWS

1 February 1999

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

## PARISH COUNCIL

Lots of local correspondence made for a topical meeting. The council once again discussed drains, speed limits, the pond and The Butts, amongst their other issues. Hopefully, a root cutter will clear drain blockages in the system shortly and the pipes will be replaced in the new financial year. We will ask that the 30mph sign at Cold Harbour be moved west giving cars time to slow sooner, and beware, the traffic police may be coming to catch speeding vehicles! The alternatives to parking at the pond and along Main Street by the Harrow are being investigated by Tracey Allan-Jones, Norman Carlisle and Colin Sheppard, who will draw up a plan to look at the possibility of locating a children's playground and car parking in the paddock behind the pond. The new fence along The Butts at Hunter's Ride has been moved in compliance with the Footpath Officer's wishes.

The Parish Council meetings will now include an "Open Forum" at 8.30 whatever stage the meeting is at, thereby allowing parishioners to speak sooner without having to sit through an entire meeting before airing their views. As usual, any member of the village may contact the clerk, once an Agenda has been publicised, if they have a specific point regarding the Agenda they would like discussed during the meeting, otherwise, any topic desired can be raised during the "Open Forum" at 8.30 pm. The Precept was set for 1999/2000 and is almost the same as last year despite supporting village children's organisations and making donations to local community groups. The books go off to Audit shortly and will be returned on February 12th.

The Parish Council will be without a clerk from the end of the financial year. Anyone wishing to take on this entertaining and informative position should speak to Bas Pease (chairman), or any of the councillors.

**Gail Wilson-North - Clerk**

## TITTLE – TATTLE

Oh! Dear I wrote a list of the things I had to remember and can I remember where it is when I need it? Of course not!

I confess to having really enjoyed the Burn's Night. I could manage a Dashing White Sergeant at least fortnightly (and then dance afterwards!). The Scottish Dancers frae Harwell managed to inspire us onto the floor in every sense of the word. I hope they laughed as much at us as we did at ourselves. The ensuing effort made in order to copy them was made with great sacrifice to legs, feet and toes. The evening was a triumph. The meal, particularly the haggis, was excellent, the piper haunting and the dancing fun.

I trust that you have spotted the plaque in The Harrow, or heard through the grapevine, that it has been given the prestigious Berkshire Dining Pub of the Year Award. And if you haven't yet been to spot the certificate, celebrate this or experienced the culinary efforts of The Local, then you should go, post-haste.

**Miss Tofilees**

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Church Services for February:-

7<sup>th</sup> February:- 11.00am

All Age Service

14<sup>th</sup> February:- 8.00am

Holy Communion

21<sup>st</sup> February:- 9.30am

Family Communion

28<sup>th</sup> February:- 11.00am

Morning Prayer

**Burns Night**

It seems that the long awaited Burns Night was the success we were hoping for. The Harwell Caledonian Society just about managed to control the chaos from descending into anarchy. Thanks to all who worked to make the evening so enjoyable and to all who came.

**Ian Fewtrell-Smith**

**PRAM SERVICES**

The January service suffered a little from the dreadful weather but our small number soldiered on and heard about Christingle and its four elements representing Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer. We hope for some more Spring-like weather for the next service that will be on Tuesday 9th February at 11.00am. The church is surprisingly cosy once we get the heaters going so do come and join us for half an hour! The theme will be new life and the seasons.

The services are for 0-5 year olds plus parent, grandparent, carer etc. Dates going forward are Tuesday's 16th March and 13th April at 11.00am.

**Liz Dray - 281704**