

West Ilsley News

February 2003

A pretty varied WIN this month and still lots going on and it's still not too late to get tickets for the Winter Warmer on the 8th (see below). Please note the slightly earlier than usual deadline for next month.

The Editors

PARISH COUNCIL

Linda Gibson

Clerk Tel: 200242

The Parish Council met on Monday January 13th. The next scheduled date for Parish Council Election is February 13th.

Flooding in the Village. West Berks Highways Dept has stated that 'due to a budget reduction, it would not be possible to fund the upgrading of the drainage system during this financial year'. The Chairman had discussed the matter with them and was informed that the upgrading was not on the schedule for 2003/2004. He agreed to discuss the matter further before the next meeting. In the meantime the Highways Dept. has agreed to routinely clean the existing drainage system.

Main Street. It appears that the road known as Main Street, although it appears on the electoral role, has not been formally named. This has resulted in some confusion when contacting the emergency services. It was proposed that the appropriate steps be taken to formally name it. If after consultation, The Royal Mail and the Emergency Services have no objection, the residents of 'Main Street' will also be consulted by letter.

Parish Precept. The Council set a Precept for the year 2003/2004 of £1965.00. That is an increase of £305.00 on the previous year. The increase being mainly due to extra expenses relating to Parish Elections.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 10th March.

THE WATER LEVELS AT THE MALTHOUSE

Alison Banks

Tel: 281705

The water levels are still rising rapidly and our well is reading 4.40m (22nd January) from the surface.

We believe that this reading might cause flooding to some basements. Please call if you would like more regular updates.

WEST ILSLEY VILLAGE FETE SUNDAY 13TH JULY 2003

The Village Fete will take place on the Cricket ground on Sunday 13th July. This is a fun filled afternoon of activities for all the family. Last year's attractions were: 5 a side children's and Dad's football, Produce Show, Dog Show (Exempt), BBQ, Bar, numerous

selling stalls, Bouncy castle, Children's fancy dress and school dancing, raffle and many more.

Anyone wishing to become involved in the planning and organising (Committee member) or to fashion a stall should contact us ASAP. Our first meeting is on Thursday 20th February at The Malthouse (opposite the Old Post Office).

Other than the date, nothing is fixed yet, so there is much scope for initiating your new ideas or revitalising any old favourites.

At the first meeting, we hope the new committee will form but we are in urgent need of new volunteers so please come forward. Without a committee the event cannot take place.

As a committee member (about 6 in total), we meet once a month (evenings) to plan and implement the Fete activities. On the day we are busy all day – but it is a very rewarding experience and a great way to get to know people. Most importantly everyone enjoys themselves as it is a team effort and much useful money is raised and returned to good causes in the village and to other local needs.

Please do join us and make it an event to beat all.

Alison Banks Tel: 281705

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

WEST ILSLEY

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church Services for February:

2nd February All Age Service 11.00 am

9th February Holy Communion 8.00 am

16th February Family Communion 9.30 am

LOST AND FOUND

I forgot to put in last month's West Ilsley News that a camera was left in church sometime over Christmas, probably at the crib service. Please get in touch with me.

WINTER WARMER – 8th FEBRUARY

You should have bought your tickets for the Winter Warmer some time ago by now. Let Tony or Jo Scriven know if you're a naughty (and ticket-less) boy or girl and still want to come.

SATURDAY ACTIVITY CLUB

WEST ILSLEY VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The next Activity Club for the children will be on SUNDAY March 23rd (not Saturday!). As before we shall be organising activities for 3-14 year olds from 2-4pm. Next month in WI News we shall publish the choice of activities plus a registration form. However in order for us to offer exciting and fun activities we are

always looking for local talent to lead one of the activities. If you think you could offer your talents to lead or assist please call us soon.

Angela Hyde (tel 281500) and Alison Banks (tel 281705) on behalf of The Village Hall Committee.

PRAM SERVICE AND AFTERSCHOOL SERVICE, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

The dates for the forthcoming services will be as follows:

Afterschool Service		Pram Service
4pm		11am Mondays
Thursdays		

13 February	Jesus the Good Shepherd	17 February
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13 March	New Life	17 March
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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. Each service lasts approximately half an hour followed by drinks for the children. If you would like more information please contact Denise Brown on 01635 281825, Antonia Cretney on 01635 248925 or Liz Dray on 01488 638749.

VILLAGE HALL PONTOON

The results of the 6th pontoon were as follows:

Winners

R. Brand (Albion)

J. Evans (Falkirk) £14 00 each

Booby

A. Price (Peterborough) £8.00

£23.00 went to Village Hall funds.

NEW VILLAGERS

We are pleased to welcome Hugh, Sue, Georgetta and Harrison to the Village - they have moved into Wheatfield Barn. We hope they will be very happy here and look forward to welcoming them to Village events.

ILSLEY UNDER FIVES

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 Jess Logan on 281670 for more details. There will be no Toddlers on Wednesday 26 February during half term. We have the opportunity to do a lambing visit instead of our usual Toddler session on 12 March – details to follow.

Playgroup

There will be no Playgroup on Wednesday 26 February or Thursday 27 February during half term.

We are still urgently seeking a 3rd member of staff for Playgroup – please see the enclosed advert. The

group is fairly small and has a lovely atmosphere so it should be an enjoyable and fulfilling position.

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.

THANK YOU

Angela Hyde
Tel: 281500

I would like to thank All Saints Church for their kind donation to the Beale Park Trust Fund of £79.20 which was collected at the carol service back in December. The park has a programme of environmental and educational activities which aims to offer opportunities to all groups regardless of ability or financial state. This money will go to providing farm based activities for young adults with learning difficulties who live in West Berkshire. One 2 hour session took place at the end of 2002 and another group will visit on the 10th February. Both groups feed and groom the animals and consider job opportunities in this field. The last session was great fun for the youngsters, many of whom have had little or no previous experience in caring for and handling animals.

Finally, if anyone would like to know more about the activities we offer or has any fundraising ideas please get in touch. Thanks again.

VOTERS LAMENT

Now that we have been disenfranchised from the lowest levels of government as our elected representatives have quite rightly stood down from office rather than sign a declaration of details of property and other financial interests, it appears the requirement of disclosure may be unjustified.

The unadopted standards were imposed upon the Parish councillors without consultation. Rod Smallwood, chairman of a Hertfordshire Parish recently commented "we are an elected body with absolute sovereignty in our Parish, although we have no powers of decision and are not paid". Parish Councils have objected to the code and a High Court Judicial Review is being prepared.

As West Berkshire District Council has imposed an unelected interim council upon us, while bi monthly requests for nominees costing £45 a time are publicized, perhaps a record of any decisions taken might be made public in our excellent "clarion" the West Ilsley News. Name supplied upon request.

Editors' note: We'll be happy to publish the minutes if required – they are available on the noticeboards but perhaps a précis could be supplied for inclusion?

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Do you know of anyone who is making a real difference to their community?

The Community Council for Berkshire is administering a scheme on behalf of the Government Office of the South East (GOSE) entitled **Community Champions**. The main objectives of the Community Champions Fund in the South East are:

- To support individuals who are already active in their communities by developing their skills through formal and informal training and access to information, wider networks and learning opportunities;
- To encourage more community involvement in regeneration activity by supporting key individuals who can drive forward community projects and pass on their expertise to others in their local communities;
- To support a high percentage of individuals from the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) community; and
- To support older people (over the age of fifty).

Funds are available to support all these types of initiatives e.g. costs for training, equipment, financial assistance to progress an existing community-inspired project or bid for a new one, funding to visit other projects and communities (**maximum grant £2000**). Applications are invited by **Friday 7 March**. Further details and application forms are available from:

Wendy Dacey

Community Council for Berkshire

Epping House

55, Russell Street

Reading

RG1 7XG

Tel: 0118 9612000

Email: ccberks@aol.com

Or visit the Community Champions website:

www.dfes.gov.uk/communitychampions for further examples of successful bids.

CALLING ALL COMMUNITY GROUPS

West Berkshire Council's Downlands Area Youth and Community Team would like to hear from anybody involved in a community group. We are currently undertaking an audit of the area in order to understand what provision already exists and to help aid us with enquiries from people living in the community who would like to join groups in their local area.

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 Monday 24th February 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

We are interested in hearing from **ALL** groups and clubs ranging from parent & toddler groups to youth clubs, sports clubs to friendship clubs.....if it happens in your village we would like to know about it.

We can offer advice and support to groups on a whole range of issues and maybe even help increase your membership figures

Please call us on 01488 683692 or email the team on jogauntycc@westberks.gov.uk

POLICE NEWS

We have heard from PC Andrew Buckingham who has taken over as Community Liaison Officer at Hungerford, following Robin Athawes' transfer to Newbury. Andrew hopes to continue the crime updates, so watch this space.

For non-urgent matters PC Buckingham can be contacted at the Police Station on 01488 685916. For emergencies call 999 or to report a crime or other incidents use 01635 31000.

ILSLEY UNDER FIVES



Assistant to Playgroup Supervisor

Enthusiastic person urgently required to help in this popular and friendly village playgroup.

Ideally NVQ Level II (not essential) this is a highly rewarding role within the local community.

Playgroup sessions are held in The Ilsleys Primary School, East Ilsley.

Wednesday and Thursday afternoons
1pm to 4pm.

No qualifications required.

Apply to Sue Carrington on
01635 281354

Closing Date: 14th February 2003

NEWBURY BUSES

Service No 6

Monday - Friday (Except Public Holidays)

West Ilsley to Newbury

From West Ilsley Church at 0740; 08.25 ; 11.40 ; 13.40; 15.40 and 17.40.

West Ilsley to Didcot

From West Ilsley Church at 08.02; 10.47 ; 12.47 ; 14.47 ; and 16.47

Newbury to West Ilsley

From Newbury Bus Station at 07.30 ; 10.15 ; 12.15 ; 14.15 ; 16.15 and 18.15.

Didcot to West Ilsley

From Didcot Railway Station at 1U5;13.15; 515 and 17.15

Saturdays

West Ilsley to Newbury From West Ilsley Church at 07.40 ; 09.40 ; 11.40 ; 13.40 ; 15.40 and 17.41.

West Ilsley to Didcot From West Ilsley Church at 08.47 ; 10.47 ; 12.47 ; 14.47 ; and 16.47

Newbury to West Ilsley

From Newbury Bus Station at 08.15 ; 10.15 ; 12.15 ; 14.15 ; 16.15 and 18.15

Didcot to West Ilsley

From Didcot Railway Station at 09.15 ; 11.15 ; 13.15 ; 15.15 and 17.15.

JOURNEY TIMES (Approx)

West Ilsley to & from Newbury - 32 minutes:

Didcot - 25 minutes

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS FUND 2002-2003



An opportunity to apply for up to £2,000 of funding to support an individual who can inspire others to get more involved in their community, to make initiatives happen and overcome barriers. Grants can pay for training, assistance to progress an existing project or a bid for a new one, visits to interesting projects and equipment.

For further details of this funding contact:
Wendy Dacey at The Community Council for Berkshire
on 0118 9612000. Closing date 7th March 2003



For Sale

20 odd 10kg bags water softener salt tablets £40 the lot

Honda Lawnmower, old but perfectly serviceable
21" cut, 163cc 4-stroke engine - £100

24" Groundsman walkover sprayer - £50

5 Gun Cabinet, Taurus, as new - £60

Stag Bedroom Set in mahogany, chest of drawers, two
bedside cabinets, stool, wall mirror, double bed
headboard, no scratches - £200

Tunturi Rowing Machine, flywheel type, electronic
meter, as new - £200

Solid pine coffee table - £30

20 foot Roof Ladder - £80

24 foot total, 2 section aluminium Ladder - £80

Tel: 281536

Ian Burton