

WEST ILSLEY NEWS

1 December 1998

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

PARISH COUNCIL

You may have noticed the "dog fouling" signs which have appeared around the village. These are accompanied by "poop scoop" bags which can be found inside the notice board in front of the Village Hall, but please don't leave them there after use.

Consent for the Gazebo has been granted so now we have to resolve the problem of car parking at that end of the village. Any ideas?

Once again flooding outside Gretna has been a problem. The Parish Council hopes to raise the priority for action with the West Berks Council as it causes gross inconvenience to householders and has become a severe danger to traffic.

Next meeting Monday 18th January 1999 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Gail Wilson-North - Clerk

TITTLE - TATTLE

It's Merry Christmas time so I hope that the editor has wished everyone a Bah Humbug Christmas (he dislikes the Festive Season for all its commercialism and the fact that everything shuts down so that he can't achieve anything).

Past news first: I must apologise for omitting to report the wedding of Tracey Nash to Graham Larkinson. This happy occasion took place back in September and I didn't know whose wedding it was when I saw it take place. By the time I had been put right, poor Tracey and Graham find themselves being congratulated months after the event! Sorry it took so long and I hope that you are both enjoying wedded bliss.

I really enjoyed the wonderful Halloween disco. The transformation of the village hall was staggering and quite stunning. The carved pumpkins had been so cleverly presented, the intricacy of the work was amazing. A great evening.

Present news: - Congratulations to Jo and Tony Scriven on the arrival of Thomas Anthony, born on Wednesday 18th November and who is rumoured to weigh 8lb 2/4/6oz (according to my source in the pub). Jo must be the only woman in history who would have liked a 12 month gestation period!

I was very saddened to hear of the resignation of Lord Huntingdon. Not only to learn of the demise of the yard but to realise that the closure of the yard will mean that the very backbone of this community will be fractured. All the people we see (or don't see) going to and from work at varying hours; the guys on their bikes, the ones that you see around the village at lunchtime on weekdays, those who walk their

dogs.....they are not going to be here if there is no West Ilsley Stables and I am mighty sad about that. This village could turn into a dormitory of commuters or weekenders households of people with two cars all purposefully travelling to and from, to and from wherever to West Ilsley (just like us). Thank heavens there are still two working farms, though with the advent of mechanisation and larger vehicles there are fewer farm workers than of yesteryear. I hope those of you from the yard who move on to pastures new will be happy and know that we shall all miss you in the village. I know I am not alone in expressing these sentiments.

I seem to have made up for my silence of the last few months with a huge column this month. I also apologise for the lack of chasing for material and articles. The news is noticeably thinner when I fail to remind people but there are the stoic few who remember month by month. (Thank you Ian F-S and Dave Morris particularly). I am now going to tell you that my New Year's Resolution will be...No! I'm not.

Thank you to all those who do contribute, reminded or not, and those who distribute and particularly to Andrea who nobly types a lion's share each month.

A very Happy Christmas and a grand New Year to y'all. See you in the pub.

P.S. Pub opening times and availability of food as follows:

Xmas Eve Lunchtime - food as usual

Xmas Eve Evening - drinks only

Xmas Day - drinks (12.00-1.00)

Boxing Day Lunchtime - food (from 12.00)

Evening - drinks only

27th - 31st December as usual

New Year's Eve

70's party with disco, food and fireworks - £15.00 per ticket to include food, or join the proceedings later without the food for £3..50

New Year's Day

Breakfast from 10.00 a.m. - £5.95

Lunch as usual

No food in the evening.

Ring 281260 if you need to know more!!!

Miss Tofilees

FRIENDS OF THE ILSLEYS PRIMARY SCHOOL

The winners of the lottery drawn on Thursday 22nd October were:

1st	no. 37	Mr Jones	£38
2nd	no. 87	Mr Lister	£20
3rd	no. 61	Mrs Osbourne	£8
4th	no. 52	Marie Greenfield	£4
5th	no. 13	Sarah Merritt	£4
6th	no. 14	Emma Hibbert	£4

Thanks to all who helped raise £78 for the school funds.

Thanks also to all who supported our Fashion Show, we had an amazing turnout, far greater than we or the Just A Second people anticipated. It was extremely cramped in the back class room so thank you all for being so patient and buying over £1000 worth of goods thus enabling the school to profit by £360.

The winners of the raffle were:

Bottle of red wine - Sandra Savage

Bottle of white wine - Jackie Atkins

Box of chocolates - Pat Hardy

Yard of chocolate - Heather Brown

Jelly fruits - Liz Stiles

The next fund-raising event is the Christmas Bazaar on Sunday December 6th from 2-4pm, we look forward to seeing you all there.

Sue Tooke

EVERGREENS

Tuesday December 1st 9.30 am leave the Church to Moreton in Marsh and Stow on the Wold.

Saturday December 12th 12.30 pm Christmas lunch at The Star, East Ilsley. Names by December 5th please to S Gore, D Wells or A Carlisle

Anne Carlisle

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PRAM SERVICES

We were delighted to have a large number of babies and children at the pram service in November. The children looked at a small statue of Mary and an angel and heard the story of the angel Gabriel coming to Mary to announce the birth of Jesus. As usual they all had fun playing their instruments during the songs and forming a procession into the church.

There will be a special Christmas pram service at 11.00 am on Tuesday 15th December in the Church. Do come and join us, the services are for 0-5 year olds with refreshments for the children afterwards.

Liz Dray - 281704

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Church Services for December:-

6th December:-

All Age Service 11.00 am

13th December:-

Carol Service 6.00 pm

20th December:-

Family Communion 9.30 am

25th December

Christmas Day Communion with

Carols 9.30 am

27th December:-

United Benefice Communion *at* 10.00 am

Farnborough

Carol Services

There will be a card popping through the letter flaps in the village within the next few days giving all the details of the Christmas services within the benefice. Watch out for the special notice about our carol service in West Ilsley on 13th December. The service will be in the churchyard (or inside the church if wet), accompanied by the Wantage Silver Band. The Christmas tree in the churchyard will be lit up and you can sponsor a light in memory of a loved one. Contact Avice (281341), Janice (281345) or me (281625) if you would like to help to illuminate the Tree of Light. There will be mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. It promises to be different - and great fun, but remember to wrap up well and bring a torch!

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

The Blue Peter appeal

Please can you save aluminium drink cans and tin foil until Christmas for the Blue Peter appeal.

I will collect the cans and foil if you telephone me on 281340.

Thank you,

Victoria Carlisle

FREE BED!

Single bed with "slide storage" underneath. Hardly used. Very similar to Argos catalogue page 139, item 15. Yours for the taking.

Call Mel and Andrea Cook on 281224