

WEST ILSLEY NEWS

1 January 2000

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

TITTLE - TATTLE

This month has seen some of the greatest celebrations this century, from West Ilsley to West Samoa. The spirit that we all experienced in the Tythe Barn was, indeed, magical. In part due to the decor and in part due to the buzz that pervaded throughout - an invisible cohesion held us together as I would have imagined it did in the post-war celebrations. It was more than a party! Thanks are due to the Carlisle family, who made it all possible by letting us use their premises, and to the Millennium Committee who engineered it and made it happen. Avic must have sighed a small(?) sigh of relief that it all passed happily, and then patted herself (quietly) on the back. It was a triumph for unity in this village. We should not underestimate the huge amount of work done both before and after the event. I must say that each 'do' the Millennium Committee has organized has had a ring of military precision and a dose of country friendliness liberally scattered in it - they have all been very enjoyable. The disco was memorable for keeping everyone on the floor, bopping madly (and not so madly!). I understand that Alec Coles draught-proofed the barn with the erection of huge doors. What an enormous task!

It was a great tragedy that Michael Brown who had had the vision for this party did not live to see its success. The conception was his, but the delivery, sadly, fell to others.

Well, with the big day over we are now dusting down the decks, putting the decorations away and getting set for the next year. Thanks to all those who help each month with getting The News delivered to the doorstep. Anne, Kay, Sarah and Angus voluntarily trudge round every month in all weather (not always conveniently to time because we are late to press). Thank you, too, to Gail who photocopies and collates. Please do make it your Resolution this year to get on the phone and let me know who is doing what to whom and where (alternatively, put pen to paper).

A Happy and Peaceful New Year to you and your families.

Miss-Tofilees - (281647)

DIAMOND WEDDING

We just want to say "thank you" to all our family, friends and neighbours who helped make our anniversary so unforgettable. We know it took a lot of organising, but it was a great success. Thank you for your cards and gifts (although we said "no presents"). The card from the Queen was a surprise too.

Thanks again for everything.

Lew and Joyce Hayes

WEST ILSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on Monday 8th November when it was agreed to commission street nameplates for Catmore Road and Bury Lane. West Berks Council will be sharing the cost. These should be in place in the New Year.

The Parish Council is working with West Berks Council to replace the Parish Map outside the church. The first Draft of which should be ready in the New Year.

Housing Needs Survey: Over the coming weeks the Parish Council in conjunction with the Rural Housing Trust will be carrying out a survey in the village to determine the need, if any, for affordable village housing. There have been similar schemes in other Downland villages that have proved very successful. We hope you will take a little time to read the information and complete the questionnaire that will then be returned directly to The Rural Housing Trust at Beedon.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 17th January 2000 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall. All parishioners are welcome.

Linda Gibson – Parish Clerk

VILLAGE HALL PONTOON

The winners of the 3rd and 4th Pontoons are as follows:

3rd (4 weeks)

A Carlisle (Arbroath)

G Hawker (Queens Park)

Sarah Gore (St Mirren)

B Wreay (Stirling)

All won £7 each

4th (5 weeks)

D Gore (Bristol City)

S Gore (Clyde)

C Sheppard (Gillingham)

C Tyrrell (Mansfield)

Sarah Gore (Rangers)

All won £7 each

Booby prizes went to:

Emily at the Harrow (Rochdale) £8

J Wiejak (Notts Forest) £10

£37.50 went to Village Hall funds.

Audrey Tizzard

PRAM SERVICE, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

At the Christmas Service the children sang Happy Birthday to Jesus, and the statues in the crib survived inquisitive fingers!

Forthcoming dates of Pram Services for your diaries are:

11th January – Christingle

8th February – Stormy Weather

14th March – Jesus Loves Children

11th April – Easter.

The services are for 0-5 year olds and last for approximately half an hour followed by refreshments for the children.

Liz Dray - (281704)

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Church Services for January 2000:-

1 st January:-	noon
Simple Service of Dedication	
2 nd January:-	10.00 am
United Benefice Communion	
9 th January:-	8.00 am
Holy Communion (BCP)	
16 th January:-	9.30 am
Holy Communion (Rite B)	
30 th January:-	11.00 am
Christingle Service	

Ian Fewtrell-Smith