

# West Ilsley News

December 2002

Our thanks, as ever, at this seasonal time, to Anne, John, Kay, Angus and Carrie-Anne for their sterling work in delivering the WIN throughout the year, and also to Alison Price, for her help with copying and collating. A very Merry Christmas and Happy 2003 to all our readers.

The Editors

WEST ILSLEY Linda Gibson (Clerk)  
PARISH COUNCIL Tel. 200242

## Report from the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2002

In the absence of any volunteers applying to become Parish Councillors, three Local Government Officers from West Berks Council have been appointed to fulfill Parish Council functions. They introduced themselves as: Nick Carter - Corporate Director, Strategy & Commissioning, David Holling - Head of Legal & Electoral Services, Andy Day - Policy Manager of the District Council. Nick Carter was elected as Chairman.

David Holling explained that that the vacancies would continue to be advertised every two months until they were filled. The next notice of vacancies will be posted on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2003. The cost to the Parish for each uncontested election is £42.35 payable to West Berks Council.

The matter of flooding in the village was discussed at length. The Clerk will again write to West Berks Highways department requesting that the matter be urgently addressed and that in the meantime the drains be kept clear.

There have been several dogs in the village that appear to be suffering with symptoms of poisoning. Would all parishioners be careful with poisons and chemicals ensuring that they are used responsibly and stored securely.

The Mobile Library will be calling at Morland Close on January 14<sup>th</sup>, February 4<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup>, and March 18<sup>th</sup>.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January.

ST.PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
EAST ILSLEY Mary Hughes

Mass is celebrated each Sunday @ 11.15 am.

### Church Services for Xmas

22<sup>nd</sup> Dec Mass @ 11.15am  
Xmas Day Mass @ 11.15am, preceded by carols  
29<sup>th</sup> Dec Mass @ 10.30 am at St. Mary's East Hendred.

Father Sean Murphy is retiring at the end of the year and the Parish Mass on Sunday Dec 29<sup>th</sup> will be followed by a celebration bring and share luncheon all are welcome.

## TREAT YOURSELF THIS CHRISTMAS TO A TRADITIONAL



## FARM FRESH TURKEY

PE and JM Walters have been local producers for over 30 years, serving individual and corporate orders. Choose from

**Barn-reared White turkeys  
from £1.85 per lb**

Or

**Free Range Bronze Turkeys  
at £2.75 per lb**

**Phone TODAY for your Christmas order  
01635 578251**

Bower Farm  
Aldworth  
Reading  
Berks RG8 9TR

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH

WEST ILSLEY Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church Services for December:

1 <sup>st</sup> December	All Age Service	11.00 am
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Holy Communion	8.00 am
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service	6.00 pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Crib Service	4.00 pm
24 <sup>th</sup> December	Midnight Mass	11.30 pm

There will be a card coming through your door very shortly giving the services for the whole benefice. As you see, it is our turn for the midnight service and for those wanting to worship on Christmas Day, there will be a choice of times elsewhere.

### MUSIC QUIZ NIGHT

Unfortunately, this had to be cancelled due to lack of support. My apologies again to the teams who had already booked: unfortunately, with catering etc. for a village function, entering a team the day before is rather too late.

### CHURCH CLEANING ETC.

If you are able to give a hand running a duster and vacuum cleaner round the church (and there is hardly any dust at all!), please let me know and I will put you

on the rota. At present, it works out at ten times a year, so not a particularly great effort but one that would be very much appreciated by the few who have regularly kept the church clean over the years.

I would also like to thank those who provide flowers, look after the churchyard and do all the various little, and sometimes not-so-little, tasks to keep things running smoothly over the year.

## CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

Steve Price

A small number of us thought that it might be nice to resurrect the Carol Singing around the Village - it always proved very popular in the past and raised much needed funds for various good causes as an added bonus. It also gave some of us an excuse to sing loudly in public without necessarily having had a drink first. We hope to include most of the usual favourites and as an added bonus expect to be accompanied by at least two instrument-wielding musicians to give added depth to our performance!

We have selected Wednesday, December 18th at 7.30pm as a likely date/time and ideally it would be useful to know how many might be able to join us, though of course if the mood takes you at anytime on the evening in question you are of course most welcome to come along! We would probably start at the end of the Village opposite the Post Office - this rather conveniently means that we will end our evening at The Harrow - we would expect to arrive there about 90 minutes later. So - please do support us with your singing voices or - if you are not able to join us - please instead feel free to line our collecting tins!

Any questions and all responses to me on 281738 soonest please.



## CHRISTMAS TREES



**Needle-fast Christmas Trees are for sale at Manor Farm, West Ilsley,**

**7th December  
14th & 15th December  
21st December**

**10am-4pm**

**Trees from £10  
Or ring Jemma on 281241**

## NEW NEIGHBOURS

Steve Price

A short note to welcome Ian and Vicki Talbot and their two children, Charlie and Henrietta, to the Village - they have moved into the Barn recently vacated by Charles and Maggie Taylor following their move to Bucklebury Alley. We hope you will settle in quickly and enjoy living in the Village.

## WEST ILSLEY VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

We would like to welcome Paul Willis and Tracey Young to our thriving and busy committee. Other members of this year's committee are Angela Hyde (Chairman), Alison Banks (Secretary), Audrey Tizzard (Treasurer), Shirley Gore, Peter Barratt, John Verney and Maureen Thimbleby.

A big thank you to all of you who supported the BBQ at the Fireworks party - we made £440 for Village Hall funds.

The Saturday Club was a great success. 29 village children took part. Our thanks goes to Antonia Cretney and Andrea Cook who led the stable visit. Tracey Young, Audrey, Liz Dray and Toni Sugden led a variety of activities for the 3 - 6 year olds. Jemma Gore worked with 4 of the 6 - 10 year old girls on their disco dancing routines - well done girls for dancing in front of the boys to show us your new routines!! Andy Carrington and Mark Ryan led the bike maintenance and Paul Willis and Peter Barratt did a great job with 8 of the boys building Viking long ships. Lastly thanks to the cricket club for the use of the club house and to the Carlisle family for use of the top barn. We are planning another Saturday Club for next April. We hope to be able to offer another great set of activity choices for the children. Anyone offering their talents to lead a small group of children in a fun activity please don't hesitate to call me on 281500.

## STABLES VISIT Andrea Cook

I know that Saturday Club is meant to be for the under-18s, but if the Village Hall Committee want to start an over-18s group I'll be first on the member's list! I was delighted to be able to go with the group on the visit to the stables because, even though I was brought up by my father to "mind the front end - it bites, the back end will kick you, and the sides will stand on you" and have therefore always been a bit wary of horses, I'm also fascinated by them and the workings of a yard.

Our group comprised Beccy, Ben, Catherine, Charlotte, Alistair, Antonia C and me. We were met by Paul Willis and spent a couple of hours looking around. It was fascinating to see the sheer number of horses (around 140) and the many staff involved in the operation. The yard is clearly very well organized and is spotlessly clean and tidy, and all the staff we saw were very friendly. I hadn't realized quite how much "indoor" work was done with racehorses, and was surprised that they have a horse "walker" where up to 6 horses can be walked round at once, and an indoor circuit where the horses are inspected by Mr Channon before they go out onto the gallops. Paul was an excellent guide, he clearly knows a huge amount about the business. He is very enthusiastic about his job, and was happy to answer the many questions which were put to him.

Many thanks to Paul, and to Mr Channon for allowing us to visit - and readers, if there is ever another opportunity to visit, get your names on the list - I'm sure you will be fascinated and impressed with what's just up the road!

**Father Christmas Visit**  
**Courtesy of the Lions Club**  
**Don't miss Father Christmas when he visits**

**West Ilsley on his Sleigh**  
**On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 5.30 onwards**  
**A house to house collection will be made**  
**In aid of:**  
**Helen House**  
**Childrens Hospice, Oxford + tba**

**THANK YOU**

**Eileen Calder**

My family and I would like to thank everyone very much for all the letters, cards, flowers and offers of help that we received following our sad loss of Ron. I would also like to thank John for organising and getting together all the ladies who put on such a lovely spread, thank you all very much. I would also like to thank Antonia and all who came for making the funeral service such a memorable occasion.

**PRAM SERVICE AND AFTERSCHOOL SERVICE, ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

There will be no services in December, however there will be a Crib Service on Sunday 22 December at 4pm. As in previous years the children and babies are encouraged to come to the service dressed as angels, kings and shepherds and we welcome everyone, with or without children, to participate in the service.

The dates of the January services will be 16 January - Afterschool service and 20 January - Pram Service. The theme will be "Christingle".

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 for 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.

**Christmas BINGO**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**In the Village Hall**

**7.30pm**

**Bingo and Raffle Prizes**

**Bring your own refreshments**

**Admission: Adults 20p, Children 10p**

**Bingo Books 30p**

**Any donation of prizes to Audrey,**

**5 Fir Tree Cottages**

**Proceeds to Village Hall Funds**

**MISS TOFFELLEES**

I was very pleasantly surprised to find a face I knew at the front door the other day. Talk about a blast from the past!! We stood looking at each other, he remembered first. He had worked for Dick Hearn many years back and knew Tessa as a tiddler when she was child-minded at The Yard. He didn't know that since those halcyon days we had swelled family numbers by another two. Dave Gillespie, for those of you who remember him, is now a BT engineer and had come to mend my phone. He had visited Norman Carlisle previously to me and so we had a small (?) amount of gossip to exchange, a quick cuppa and a working phone again. Heyho!

It is a sad time in the village as I have to report another untimely death: Ron Calder's funeral service was held in All Saint's on Tuesday 19th November. I best remember Ron for his jokes he told after the Harvest Supper, or various other soirees, often held in the village hall. He always managed to raise the roof, and a smile. If he did the same in the cricket club I missed it, but I am quite sure that he would have done - I just wasn't there. I have etched on my mind, a silhouette of Ron in his white umpire's coat at square leg and that is how I am going to remember him. Our sympathy at this time are with Eileen and their family.

Tony Scriven had to cancel the church's music quiz. I was very upset as I had a carefully chosen team (which was gradually eroded) that I had hoped might stand up to a challenge, only to be told that half the miserable so-and-so's in the village don't 'do' music. And after all his hard work. Be ashamed of yourselves - now!! You are the weakest link.

I caught up with most of the village recently in an aircraft hangar at Hullavington. They were all at it, doing what we all do best - spending money that is, for Christmas.

So, on that happy note, as it's only five weeks to go I'm going to finish my shopping - on the phone, of course as I hate fighting for car park spaces. I shall try the next year when I trust it more.

**Season's Greetings to y'all.**

**ILSLEY UNDER FIVES**

**Baby and Toddler Group**

The Baby and Toddler Group meets on a Wednesday morning from 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.

The Christmas party will be held on Wednesday 18 December at the hall at the later time of 11am - 1pm. Please sign up for party food contributions at Toddlers or call Jess. Father Christmas will also be paying a visit! (present to be supplied please).

**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.

Term ends on Thursday 12 December with a trip to the pantomime.

**Term re-starts for both Baby and Toddler Group and Playgroup on Wednesday 8 January.**

D. Stead (Tottenham)  
£1.50 each

(Apologies for the family connections!!!)  
£63.50 went to village hall funds.

## COFFEE MORNING

*Saturday 7th December*

*10am-12 noon*

*West Ilsley Village Hall*

*In aid of the Ilsleys Primary School*

*Come along for a coffee and a chat*

*A great chance to stock up on Christmas presents including hand-made cards and jewellery and lots*

*more.*

*Coffee and mince pies*

*Take stall*

*Jill Wrejak 281665*

### EVERGREENS

Anne Carlisle

The Bazaar held on November 23<sup>rd</sup> made £450. Thank you to all who helped on the stalls and came to the Village Hall. In all a very successful afternoon.

Raffle results

1 Hamper	J Wells
2 Bottle Whiskey	T Barnes
3 Teddy Bear	A Dockrill
4 Bottle Pimms	S Coote
5 Bottle Port	B Bowden
6 Bottle Wine	B Humphreys
7 Bottle Sherry	S Gore
8 Umbrell set	A Cook
9 Bottle Wine	P Barratt
10 Bottle Wine	T Gagg
11 Chococlates	B Bird
12 Tin Biscuits	C Hooker

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Christmas Lunch is on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 12 noon for 12.30 pm at the Swan at East Ilsley. Names to Jean Wells by December 5<sup>th</sup>.

### VILLAGE HALL PONTOON Audrey Tizzard

The current pontoon results are as follows:

#### 3rd Pontoon

Winner	B. Sheppard	(Rangers)	£21.00
Booby	F. Tizzard	(Derby)	£ 6.00

#### 4th Pontoon

Winner	A .Bloor	(Inv. Cal. Th.)	£21.00
Booby	TAR. Muir	(Bristol Rov.)	
	Cr. Tizzard	(Huddersfield)	
	D. Tizzard	(QPR)	

## LUXURY WREATHS CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

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INDIVIDUALLY MADE TO ORDER

PLEASE TELEPHONE  
VERONICA SMITH  
01635 281704

### Ski Apartment in Megeve, France.

Available from 6<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> January 2003. 3<sup>rd</sup> floor duplex apartment with lift, sleeps 6-8, overlooking ski slopes of Mont D'Arbois. Local lifts connect to extensive ski area including St Gervais, Rochebrune, Cote 2000 and Mont Joly (2350m). Close to the shops, restaurants and ice rink in Megeve. Bus connections from Geneva airport. Apartment has free use of heated indoor swimming pool, games room and underground car park. There is a bar, lounge, restaurant and laundry room.

1<sup>st</sup> floor: kitchen, dining area, lounge with balcony and pull out d/bed, bathroom and separate WC.

2<sup>nd</sup> floor: private double bedroom, large open area with bunk beds, 2 single beds plus bathroom. 13 nights - £850.

Contact Alison Banks on 281705

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

#### GENERAL INTEREST

This will be the last magazine entry for 2002. I can't believe it's nearly Christmas already. I would like to end the year by thanking all the editors, who have included these articles each month and for the additional contacts that I have built up as a result.

#### HARE COURSING

I mentioned last month about Hare Coursing and the problems that the coursers create, mainly for the farming Community. A couple of weeks ago we ran a special operation in West Berkshire in conjunction with an op being run in South Oxfordshire. Although we didn't have any arrests on the day I would like to think that we were successful. A couple of groups of suspected coursers were encountered early in the day who were quickly moved on. Word obviously got round that we were out in force because for the rest of the day we had no problems at all. Unfortunately we simply haven't got the money to run these type of operations on a regular basis.

#### WILDLIFE

On the wildlife theme some of you may be interested and probably upset to hear that we have had bird of prey illegal shootings in the area recently which I am currently investigating. Both Red Kites and Buzzards have been shot which I find almost beyond belief as both species rely almost entirely on carrion (dead things) and very rarely take anything live, unless it is sick or injured. This makes it even more galling when someone takes a gun and shoots one of these spectacular birds out of the sky. Through these pages I would like to make it absolutely clear that I would have no hesitation in securing a prosecution if it could be proved who the offender was and very hefty fines and short prison sentences are now there to be used by the courts. We would also do our utmost to have firearms and shotgun certificates revoked if the circumstances fitted.

#### RESULTS

On the above subject we have just charged a male youth with offences surrounding the death of a bird of prey in Hungerford just to support what is said above.

2 males were caught in Chieveley who were responsible for a house burglary that had just occurred. One was charged and the other was cautioned.

A male person from the Hermitage area was arrested for drugs possession.

An adult male from Curridge village was arrested and charged with criminal damage.

We had a serious incident involving someone being slashed with a knife in Hungerford. The offender was initially arrested for attempted murder but later charged with assault.

Unfortunately we had a very serious public order incident in Lambourn a couple of weeks ago when 3 police officers were injured, one of whom received very serious leg injuries which will probably result in him being off work for some considerable time. 3 persons were arrested and charged with a variety of offences including Grievous Bodily Harm.

There have, yet again, been several arrests throughout the area for drink drive related matters.

#### FINALLY

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

BUT, before I go, I will make an appeal to you all! Please do not leave lots of presents under the Christmas tree and then promptly go out for the evening leaving your curtains wide open with your

lights on, showing off the 'loot'. You might find that when you come back from your pleasant evening out that 'Billy burglar' has been at work IN YOUR HOUSE! and there could be tearful children (young and old!!) on Christmas day, with no presents to unwrap.

#### FINALLY, FINALLY

I will shortly be leaving Hungerford for 3 months taking up a post at Newbury Police Station. During that period I will not be in a position to carry on with these articles. However, it's probable, that I shall return after that 3 month period, when I shall, once again, eagerly put pen to paper.

# NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

WEST ILSLEY



CRICKET CLUB

7.30PM - GOING INTO 2003!

Entry Dress Optional

THEME: TV OR FILM STARS

Music and Light buffet

FREE ENTRY

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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 Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 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.

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