

West Ilsley News

March 2003

Many congratulations to Tony and Jo Sugden and their band of helpers for an excellent "Winter Warmer". The curry and chilli cooks of West Ilsley really showed what they were made of by providing a wonderful selection of tasty food, which, combined with good support from the village all added up to a great evening. When the organizers have recovered - perhaps another one next year?

The Editors

www.westilsley.org.uk

Andrea Cook

The above is the new address for the West Ilsley web site. You may have seen Ian Burton's advert in the November WIN for someone to take over the running of the site, and I am the sucker who said "yes"! The fete committee has kindly sponsored the site so that we now own the above address for the next couple of years, and have paid for it to be hosted for the next year. Thanks to Steve Banks, I also have the use of the necessary software, so now all I need are the skills and knowledge! Ian will be handing over shortly, and initially I will be content just to be able to put the WIN on, but eventually when time and skills permit I would like to develop the site further.

EVERGREENS

Anne Carlisle

The Annual General Meeting will be held in West Ilsley Village hall on Monday 3rd March at 2.30 pm. Raffle and tea. New members welcome.

THANK YOU

Eileen Calder

I would like to thank West Ilsley Cricket Club for their kind donation of money to the MacMillan Nurses at Sandford Day Centre, which Ron attended a few times. It was very kind of West Ilsley Cricket Club, and many thanks once again.

ALL SAINTS, WEST ILSLEY

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church services for March:

2 nd March	All Age Service	11.00 am
9 th March	Holy Communion	8.00 am
16 th March	Family Communion	9.30 am

WINTER WARMER

Great fun - thanks Tony and Jo. Dare I say let's have another one next February and by that time, you may have forgotten that you swore never to make another curry, ever again!!!

APCM - 7th April 2003

Please put this in your diaries and make a point of coming along to the church at 8.00 pm. Your say in the life of the church is important!!

WELL READING Alison Banks

The Malthouse well is now at 5 metres below the surface. The well turned at 4.2 metres and due to the dry weather the water table is now decreasing.

WEST ILSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 13th January, 2003 at 7.00p.m.

Present: N.Carter, A. Day, D.Holling, Dist Cllr J.Morgan, L.Gibson (Clerk) and 2 Members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

None.

2. The minutes of the meetings held on Monday 18th November 2002, having been circulated to members were signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

Poisons. The clerk had written to farmers and placed a note in the West Ilsley News asking parishioners to be careful when using poison or chemicals. No further incidents of suspected poisoning have been reported.

Downlands Area Forum Tuesday 14th January, all welcome.

Land Owner Records Project. W.Berks Countryside and Environment had confirmed that the project did not 'compromise the requirements' of the Data Protection Act, and that although the information was available from the Land Registry this could be time consuming and expensive, it was unanimously agreed that in the circumstances the Parish Council did not have the resources to supply the information required. The clerk to write with apologies.

Main Street. Although Main Street appears on the Register of Electors it has not been officially named. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council take steps to formally register it. Clerk to write to the Royal Mail and to the Emergency Services asking for any objections. If none received then the clerk will consult all residents of 'Main Street' by letter, outlining the proposal and asking for comments. All in favour.

Flooding. West Berks Highways 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. Highways have however, agreed to routinely clean the existing drainage system. District Councillor John Morgan said he would raise the matter at The Downlands Area Forum.

Gritting of Bury Lane. The Highways Dept. had informed the Chairman that although Bury Lane is a bus route it still does not meet the criteria to be upgraded to a primary route. From the floor, it was pointed out that Bury Lane is a designated alternative route for cars and lorries diverted from the A34 in the

event of an accident or similar. The Chairman agreed to discuss the matter further with Highways.

Lorries parking outside 30 West Ilsley. The Queen's Agent, Richard Morris had replied stating that he had asked the contractors to stop parking on the corner. From the floor, Avice Morris said that they were in fact still parking dangerously.

Freedom of Information Act. The Clerk has submitted a declaration form to the Information Commissioner stating that W.I.P.C. wish to adopt the Parish Council Model Scheme. The clerk confirmed that the declaration had been sent before the deadline of 31st December 2002.

4. Correspondence Received

The Parish Council have no objection to the Application received by W.B.D.C. for the Renewal of the Public Entertainment Licence applied for by Mrs Audrey Tizzard and The West Ilsley Village Hall.

5. Parish Councillor Vacancies

David Holling reported that the date of the next Parish Council election will be February 13th.

Accounts for Payment

West Berks Council £84.70 Uncontested Elections (2 @ £42.35)

Audit Commission £222.08 Audit Fee 2000/2001

David Holling proposed payment, Andy Day seconded. All in favour.

7. Audit 2001/2002

Before the Accounts could be submitted for External Audit on February 3rd, an Internal Audit is required. David Holling suggested that he approach Ian Priestley of West Berks Council who may agree to carry out the Internal Audit for a modest fee. If Ian Priestley is in agreement, the Clerk will arrange a meeting with him. All in favour.

8. Parish Precept 2003/2004

The Parish Council set a precept of £1965. The motion was proposed by Andy Day and seconded by David Holling. All in favour.

The Chairman suggested that in future, organisations should be invited to apply to the Parish Council for donations and all that applications would be considered.

9 Planning Applications

No. 02/02616 Downs House Detached double garage and staff accommodation

No. 02/02617 Downs House Demolition of detached garage and outbuildings and erection of a new detached garage and staff accommodation.

As local government officers, all members declared an interest and did not comment.

10. Open Forum

No items were raised.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.30p.m.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 10th March, 7.00p.m. in the Village Hall.

SATURDAY ACTIVITY CLUB

(Organised by West Ilsley Village Hall Management Committee)

Sunday 23 March 2 - 4 pm WI
Village Hall

Following the success of November's Saturday Club we are pleased to announce the next one will take place on SUNDAY not a Saturday (23 March). The activities are offered free and without parents attending. However, we are keen to encourage all parents and villagers to join in but we do need some to lead or assist during the activity sessions. The format will be mainly the same and children from 3 - 16 can choose from the following:-

3 years plus - **Lambing Visit** at Folly Farm by kind permission David Carlisle. Come prepared to walk through the fields from West Ilsley for approx. 1 mile to see the lambs and watch the shepherds at work. Wear old clothes, wellies and wrap up warm if it is cold. Meet at the hall at 2 pm. Collection at 4pm. Any parents or carers welcome to help or join the group. Activity led by Angela Hyde.

5 years plus - **Hockey skills and short game.** Join Adrian Dray for a fun session of ball skills and a quick game of hockey using plastic unihoc sticks. Beginners welcome. Any adult who would like to join the session whether you have played or not are also welcome to join in or help. Wear training shoes if you have them. Meet at the hall at 2 pm. Collect at 4pm.

5 years plus - **Cards and Craft** with Anna Wond. Come and get making a card for Easter or make something creative. Lots of material to work with. Girls and Boys welcome, adults to join in if they wish. Meeting and collection at the hall 2 - 4pm.

8 years plus - **Mountain Bike Trek** led by Paul Willis. Hit the dirt cycling along the Ridgeway from the Lockinge Monument back to West Ilsley. The group will be taken by vehicle and trailer from the hall to the monument where they will be escorted back for 4pm. The ride is approx 3 miles long and all standards are welcome. **All participants to wear cycle helmets** and old clothes. Girls and Boys welcome as well as any other BIG kids! Meet at the hall at **1.45pm.**

Please give Alison a call if you can offer to help on 281705. This is a great opportunity for everyone in the village to meet young and older friends!!

Children do not need to be accompanied but please note that as parents you are responsible for choosing to leave them with us.

Please complete the form at the end of this WIN and drop it in to The Malthouse, Main St. WI by Wednesday 19th March. We look forward to seeing many of you on the 23rd March.

Angela Hyde and Alison Banks on behalf of the Village Hall Committee.

PARISH COUNCIL

Linda Gibson, Clerk

Tel 200242

Formal naming of MAIN STREET

By now residents of 'Main Street' should have received a consultation letter from me regarding the formal adoption of the name of Main Street. If any resident has not received the letter and feels it is relevant to them, would they please contact me and I will put one in the post.

BINGO NIGHT

Good Friday 13th April

West Ilsley Village Hall 7.30pm

All the family welcome. Lots of prizes to be won, Easter Eggs, boxes of chocolates etc. Also a raffle. 20p entry. Bring your own refreshments. Donations of Bingo and raffle prizes most appreciated to Audrey, 1 Fir Tree Paddock.

MISS TOFFELLEES

I missed the WIN deadline for January, so I need to focus my thoughts towards February. Having spent a very pleasant evening in the village hall, thanks to the hard work of The Church and, in particular Tony and Jo Scriven I am moved to put pen to paper (sort of!! - hitting the keys isn't quite the same, is it? It's like that old and amusing expression 'Pull the chain'. How many lavatory facilities do you know that still have chains and not handles? I did see one in Homebase the other day!!).

There is always gossip to be gleaned at these village 'dos'. Some of it is unrepeatable. Some of it is not!! I did promise to welcome Jo and Carole whom I bumped into on New Year's eve (NOT Bonfire Night as I thought....Gee, time does fly...), but having made the error of missing the print deadline, I would now like to say 'Welcome!!' - but I think that you met a lot of people who welcomed you at the Winter Warmer, the other night. Carole and Jo have moved into The Retreat, a seemingly infamous residence in the village, though quite why that should be I don't know. It just seems to be the way of the village that as soon as a New House is built everyone is full of curiosity. The incumbents are then already famous before they make an appearance.

Pia and Ian Burton are leaving the village this month, and taking Mark and Amy with them. Amy is very excited by the prospect of city living, as is Pia, I have yet to enquire of Mark and Ian! Ian has promised that we will receive 'Burton's Bulletins' from Botley. I have known Pia and Ian for a very long time and so this will represent the end of an era for me, personally, though I know Pia is to continue working locally for some time. They have both contributed to village life in many ways. Pia served a long stint on the village hall committee and Ian has supported the West Ilsley Show for many years. Latterly, he has set up and run the W.I. website which was a considerable undertaking and responsibility. It was very appropriate to sit with them at supper on Saturday night and I wish them every happiness with their move to Oxford, where they living in temporary accommodation until they finalise their plans for their home.

Lola has moved into 'John Verney's' cottage. 'Hi!' to her. I had no idea that John had lived in the cottage all his life and had, in fact been born there! I really am still a newcomer to the village, whatever I might think after 21years!

The Rectory has been revamped and we await with eager anticipation the arrival of its occupants. I ought to offer a bribe to someone for early information to ensure that that I can be assured of the imminent (eminent?!) news for this prestigious publication!

Anyway, after all that, I didn't say quite how much I enjoyed my evening out at the Chili Warmer. I'm afraid that they had to clear the tables from around me, such was the enjoyment of the event and the company. Long may West Ilsley continue to host such soirees!!

APPRECIATION FOR

A JOB WELL DONE

Andrea Cook

Those of us who are customers of Bruce Fairchild, will know that he is retiring from window-cleaning very shortly.

Bruce has cleaned some of the windows of West Ilsley for twenty years, and has always been cheerful, reliable and trustworthy and has even organised for the service to be continued!

If any of his customers would like to show their appreciation by contributing towards a "thank you" gift, (a cheque) I will be happy to organise it.

Let me have cash or a cheque (payable to A Cook) with a note of your name(s) as you would like them to appear on the card and your phone number **by Friday 14th March**. Depending on the response, we might lure him out to the pub for a drink and make the presentation to him there, (in which case I'll let contributors know the arrangements by phone) or simply deliver it to his house. I'll let you know what happens.

Children's Church



All Saints, West Ilsley

invite you to

An Easter Activity morning

on

Wednesday 16 April
10.15 – 12.30
Village Hall, West Ilsley





WHAT IS THE ACTIVITY MORNING?
A fun morning of activities to help the children follow the story of Easter. We will be baking bread, making plate gardens and decorating eggs.

WHO IS IT OPEN TO?
Children of all ages.
Under 7s accompanied by an adult please.

REFRESHMENTS?
Drinks will be provided. Please bring a packed lunch.

As places are limited please apply to Alison Banks,
The Malthouse (Tel: 281705)
by Wednesday 9 April.



Please complete the reply-slip at the end of this WIN

United Benefice of Beedon, Peasmore, West Ilsley and Farnborough

WEST ILSLEY FETE

Gordon Bewick

Sunday 13 July should be put onto your calendars now!

We can't guarantee the sunshine we enjoyed last year, but we can guarantee another wonderful day for the whole family.

The first meeting of the 2003 Fete committee has taken place and, with the influx of new blood, we have already got lots of new ideas to make this year's fete bigger and better than ever. Everyone's favourite attractions will, of course, be there but there will be even more to enjoy for all ages.

As always, we need the support of everyone; whether it's manning a stall or attraction, taking part in the produce show and competitions, or making suggestions for new attractions.

Now is the time to be making marmalades for the produce show, for planting your prize winning blooms and vegetables and starting to collect books and bric-a-brac that you have enjoyed but no longer have the space to store. Raffle prizes and bottles are always welcomed and the generosity of the gifted gardeners in the village who donate plants to the plant stall helps to make the village an even more attractive place for years to come.

Any offers of help or ideas can be made to any committee member and we look forward to hearing from as many of you as possible.

This year's committee members are listed below, with full contact details;

Chair	Ron Cook	
	Ron1.June2@virgin.net	281565
Secretary:	Alison Banks	
	Alison@Malthouse.org.uk	281705
Treasurers:	Paul & Lynne Smith	
	PaulSmith@palgo.u-net.com	281163
	LynneSmith@palgo.u-net.com	281163
Produce Show:	Karen Miller	
	Karen.miller@btinternet.com	281876
Publicity:	Gordon Bewick	
	Gordonb1@ntlworld.com	281876
Sponsorship:	Sue Evans	
	s1.evans@btinternet.com	281763
Dog Show:	June Cook	
	Ron1.June2@virgin.net	281565

POLICE REPORT

First let me introduce myself. I am PC Andrew Buckingham the newly appointed Community Liaison Officer at Hungerford Police Station. So what does that mean I hear you say, 'just another fancy job title?'.....'I still can't contact the police and speak to a local officer and when I do it's to some answer machine and then the police do nothing anyway so what's the point?'. Well a great deal of my work is as a contact for local communities and parish councils where there are local issues which might necessitate police action or advice, it is with regard to these local issues that I can be contacted. (I do stress, that this is for non-urgent matters only. Obviously if there is an emergency then call 999 or to report a crime or other incidents then use 0163531000 and ask for the appropriate department). You may use my mobile number, and yes I'm afraid there is an answer message when I'm not on duty (my wife and boys like me home sometimes!) but I promise that if messages are left I will contact the caller. I'm afraid that the days of the copper walking or cycling the beat in the rural communities is something of a rarity (yes OK he's probably extinct in some places) I do hope that I will be used as a contact. I don't profess that my appointment is the answer to all of the problems in our communities but I hope it will go some of the way. I can offer advice from the Police perspective and if required contact the department that might have an answer. Hungerford's patch consists of 19 local parish councils from Lambourn to Hermitage and South to Inkpen, obviously I can't spend all my time writing specific articles for each parish so I will endeavour to make them topical and give an overview of Policing commitments, which affect our rural communities. Over recent weeks the Hungerford sector has experienced a number of break-ins to outhouses and

sheds, this happens year in and year out with garden machinery be stolen and I put money on the fact that I will be saying exactly the same thing this time next year. Please make sure that your sheds garages etc are locked and secure, a flimsy padlock on a twenty year old rotten wooden door would blow off in a high wind and probably fall off if a 'burglar' coughs at it!.....These breaks are mainly occurring overnight in the isolated rural villages, the villains are using cars and vans to commit these crimes. You might have had to answer a call of nature in the early hours and looked out of the window and wondered what that strange van was doing driving down the lane, you might not give it another thought or think there is no point in reporting it as the police won't be interested or, who do I ring and speak to in the Police. Well this is just the type of occurrence that we the Police at Hungerford would like to know about, so if you manage to jot down the number of that strange van or see or hear anything suspicious then please give me a call at the station. (Obviously if you think it is something we should know about immediately then if an emergency call 999 or if not 01635 31000 for an officer to attend.) We are also having some break-ins where food and drink is being stolen, are these just hungry burglars or as it might indicate do we have persons sleeping rough on the patch? A vehicle possibly connected to these break-ins is a blue Nissan pick-up K135PKA. This car was seen in suspicious circumstances in Shefford Woodlands on 3/2/03 with two white males aged 20-25yrs, to date we have been unable to trace the occupants. If anyone has any knowledge of this vehicle then please contact me.

Vehicle crime is another high priority and over past weeks a number of vehicles in rural locations have been broken into and some deliberately damaged with what appears to be a catapult or similar device.

Please can householders ensure that the names and numbers of houses are clearly visible, or if you haven't got one please provide one as this will assist us greatly in finding your property if we have to. There is nothing worse than on a dark and foggy night trying to locate a house that has lost its name or number (especially if ones torch batteries are running down!).

Well that's about it.....hopefully over the coming months my reports will become a little more coherent.

Lock up your chattels and keep them peeled.

Andrew Buckingham, Police Constable 2078

Community Liaison Officer, Hungerford Police Station

01488 685915 Mobile: 07970145132 fax 01488 685916

E-mail Andrew.Buckingham@Thamesvalley.police.uk

WELCOME!

Welcome to the Piggott family: Isabel, Andrew, Sally and Rosie, who have moved into the Burton's house in The Maltings. We hope you enjoy living in West Ilsley.

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 28th March 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.westilsley.org.uk



SATURDAY ACTIVITY CLUB

(Organised by West Ilsley Village Hall Management Committee)

Sunday 23 March 2 - 4 pm WI Village Hall

Name..... Age..... Activity Choice.....

Name..... Age..... Activity Choice.....

Name..... Age..... Activity Choice.....

Please give details of any relevant medical information regarding any of the above child/ren.....
&

I give permission for my son(s)/daughter(s) to take part in the Activity Club. I understand that the activities are led by volunteer leaders & helpers and I take full responsibility when sending my child/ren.

Our emergency contact tel. No during the afternoon is.....

Signed by a parent/guardian..... Date.....



Reply slip for Children's Church Easter Activity morning: Wednesday, 16th April

NAME(S) of children attending:

.....
.....
.....

An adult will be accompanying