

West Ilsley News

June 2000

Welcome to the first edition of the News under the joint editorship of Andrea Cook and Steve Price. We are sure that you will want to join us in thanking Alan Muir for keeping this valuable newsletter going for so long, and hope that you will all support us in our efforts to keep up the tradition. We've taken on the role because we feel strongly that the WIN should continue as a service to our community, and will be delighted to relinquish the responsibility if anyone would like to take it over at any time, so any budding journalists or publishers out there - come on down! Our intention is to publish material verbatim wherever possible and to edit only where we feel circumstances demand - we will indicate where we have felt the need to edit.

Over the next few weeks we'll be getting ourselves organised, but initial thoughts are that we'd like to include all of the usual items, Parish Council, Fete, Cricket Club, Tennis Club, Church, Evergreens, Village Hall, Post Office, Farming, Newcomers, Births, Marriages and Deaths etc so please don't hesitate to volunteer copy! We'd also like to include comment on wider issues which affect us - for example, we were surprised that there has been no comment on Dave Morris' two recent contributions, one of which reached the journalistic heights (?) of the Daily Telegraph! We know from experience, that if you're trying to give something away (a summerhouse and a bed for example) the WIN is a very effective way of doing so, so how about a "For Sale" or "Wanted" section? It has also been suggested that we note planning permission applications for those who don't take the Newbury Weekly News, and we're happy to do this. All ideas are very welcome, so please contact us.

The Editors

VILLAGE HALL PONTOON A Tizzard

The **winners** of the last three pontoons have been:
P J Bartaby (Chelsea) and A Dockrill (Darlington) who won £14 each
C Chitty (Clyde), S Price (Falkirk) and E Calder (Tottenham) £9.50 each
J Hayse (Bolton) and S Price (Man Utd) £10.50 each
Booby prizes went to:
V Scowen (Barnet) and D Tizzard (Hull) £4 each
F Powell (Brentford), D Gore (Grimsby) and J Carlisle (Clydebank) £2.50 each
J Atkins (Darlington), R Brand (Mansfield) and T Clacy (Sheffield Utd) £2 each.

That's it for the season, we made £256 for village hall funds. Thank you to everyone who participated, hope you will all join up again next season, plus a few more to fill up the dozen or so spaces on the pontoon sheet.

EVERGREENS

On Thursday, June 15th there is an outing to Bournemouth by coach, leaving outside the Church at 9am.
Members £5, Non-members £6. Tokens may be used.

Names to:
J Collier 281283
A Carlisle 281613
S Gore 281552

POST OFFICE NEWS

On 29th June, West Ilsley Post Office will be computerised! Audrey is attending training sessions so the PO will be closed on Tuesday afternoon, 30th May, possibly all day on Monday 19th June and Tuesday morning, 20th June.

Don't forget that if you are a Lloyds bank, Girobank, Alliance & Leicester or Co-op bank customer, you can cash all cheques plus pay in cash and cheques free of charge at the Post Office - this surely must be the way forward and an answer to all the rural bank branch closures.

The holiday season is just starting - why not order your currency and travellers cheques from the Post Office?

Opening times are:

9 - 12 and 2 - 4 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 - 12 Wednesday and Saturday.

VILLAGE HALL BINGO

It's a while ago now, but on Good Friday evening, over sixty people attended the bingo event in the Village Hall. There were 18 bingo prizewinners and 6 raffle winners, and a good time was had by all. New proceeds to Village Hall Funds exceeded £200, so a worthwhile evening all round.

Tittle-Tattle**Miss Toffelees**

I am late getting this written which is unforgivable as the problems of people offering their submissions late are often more difficult to deal with than if they are not surrendered at all. At least you don't offend anyone. I'm sorry that we were unable to announce the take-over bid from Andrea and Steve but our grateful thanks to them for the offer. I hope that they enjoy the challenge of the News and next month I will be 'on time' as they say. I will also really look forward my news landing on the doorstep in a way that I haven't for a number of years. It really isn't the same when you see it all first whilst assimilating it or it is read as we collate it.

My only piece of gossip this month is the arrival of the young little Sugden. Congratulations to Anna and Ed on the arrival of a strapping brother for Caspar. My source thinks he has been called Ferdy.....am I correct? Does Nigel Dempster have this problem on a daily basis?

**WEST ILSLEY
VILLAGE FETE****The 2000
Fete Committee****Sunday 16th July 2000 - 12:30pm to 5:00pm**

Latest: Pony Rides, Local Soft Fruits and a Quality Bric-a-Brac Stall.

Tell all your Friends - and get them to come along: Art Exhibition, Produce Show, Fun Dog Show, Tug-o-War, Plant Stall, Book Stall, Quality Bric-a-Brac, Aunt Sally, Children's Dancing, Terrier Racing, Fun Golf, Bar, BBQ and Teas.

Loads for the Kids: Pony Rides, Mr Wiggy, Snake Man & Spiders, Face Painting, Children's Fancy Dress, Activity Toys and Penalty Shoot Out.

Help (Still) Required: Our pleas for Helpers and Donations aren't working. So many stalls still need Helpers, they include: Crockery Smashing, Stocks, Welly Wanging, Egg Throwing, Ducks in Pond, Treasure Hunt, Face Painting, Balloon Throwing, Clown Face, Balloons in Land Rover, Roll-a-Coaster. Chris Allan-Jones Tel: 01635 281306 christopher@allan-jones.freeserve.co.uk

Door-to-door campaign requesting your help to start shortly.

Would also like: Donations for the Quality Bric-a-Brac stall - toys, clothes and other re-sellable items - Jill Wiejak Tel: 01635 281665 to arrange delivery/collection.

Donations for the Bookstall and Plant Stall (do plant those extra seeds for the Show). Spare 7- 8cm plant pots for potting up plants to sell on the Plant Stall. Some generous residents to put up Prizes.

Produce Show. No entry fee this year - Interesting new and revised Classes as published in the April West Ilsley News and on the Ilsley Web Site at <http://www.btinternet.com/~ilsley>. Discount vouchers

for entrants - 10% off purchases over £20 at Chilton Garden Centre. Karen Miller Tel: 01635 281876 karen.miller@btinternet.com

Fun Dog Show: The dog show will be run along the same successful lines as last year, classes will include:

- Best Choc-Drop Catch
- Dog with the waggiest tail
- Dog the judge would most like to take home
- Fastest Recall
- West Ilsley Dog Derby (dog agility)

So, all West Ilsley dog owners - get training! Jo Gore Tel: 01635 281618 joanna.gore@btclick.com

Children's Fancy Dress:

Two competitions: under 5's and 5-11. Entrants to be in front of the Cricket Pavillion at 1:00pm. Prizes for every entrant. Theme is 'Nursery Rhyme Characters'. Jo Gore or Alison Banks Tel: 01635 281705 alison@malthouse.org.uk

Saturday 15th July - Pre-Show Dinner and Dance: Dance to West Ilsley's favourite DJ. 7:00pm until Midnight. Tickets £10 from Ali Easton Tel: 01635 281365 or Alison.

BERKSHIRE BEST**KEPT VILLAGE****COMPETITION 2000****Mel Cook**

We have entered the competition again this year, and judging will take place between 5th and 19th June. As we are a small village we do not have all of the potential judging areas listed in the competition rules, but those we do have are listed below together with the standards that the judges use to mark up or down - just to show what sort of things the judges will be looking for.

If you are responsible for these areas we should be grateful if you could just keep an extra special eye on them during the judging period; and everyone else can help by making sure that ever present problems of litter and dog-fouling are kept to a minimum.

Judging Notes

Area	Mark up ☺ or Mark down ☹ if:
General impression of the Village	☺ The impression is given that the residents, local traders and those who manage the parish facilities are generally on the same wavelength ☹ The opposite applies
Churchyard	☺ Maintenance takes place. ☺ Notice of services and public notices on public notice board are current ☺ Water is available for flowers ☹ Uncaring attitude prevails with an obvious lack of maintenance
Village Hall	☺ Good general appearance outside ☺ Location and purpose signed adequately

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊗ Difficult to identify as a village hall ⊗ Surrounds littered and weedy ⊗ Notices out of date ⊗ Air of neglect prevails
Post Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ Exhibits and has stocks of up to date notices and booklets of official services relevant to villagers ⊗ Faded, out of date and dusty leaflets are present
War Memorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ Well maintained ⊗ Empty jars, vases, dead flowers etc are in evidence
Playing field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ Seating and sports/play equipment are safe ⊗ Obvious no routine maintenance takes place ⊗ Four marks deducted if steps haven't been taken to discourage dog fouling, if receptacles are unavailable or warning notices are not posted
Pavilion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ Viewed from the outside it is well maintained and compliments the playing field ⊗ Poorly maintained or could present a safety risk
Public House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ Appearance is bright and welcoming ⊗ Littered outside and bins unemptied ⊗ Seats, tables and surrounds are not clean or safe.
Display of competition posters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of two posters to be clearly visible go the general public – ⊗ deduct four marks if less

Although we have had our triumphs in the past our recent performance in the last few years has been disappointing. Let's try and make a difference in for the millennium competition.

CRICKET FIXTURES

Saturday 3rd June

1st XI Emmbrook (away)

2nd XI Yattendon (home)

Sunday 4th June

Blewbury (home, 2.30)

Saturday 10th June

1st XI Unity (away)

2nd XI Stratfield Turgis II (home)

Sunday 11th June

East Woodhay (home 2.30)

Saturday 17th June

1st XI Sandhurst (home)

2nd XI Sandhurst II (away)

Saturday 24th June

1st XI Goring (away)

2nd XI Woodcote (home)

Saturday 1st July

1st XI IBIS Mapledurham (home)

2nd XI Thatcham (away)

Sunday 2nd July

Market Lavingdon (home 2.30)

BLACK WOOLLY JUMPERS!

David Carlisle

For the inquisitive members of West Ilsley, I thought I would let you know a little bit about the hebridian sheep you have seen grazing at Folly Farm. They belong to Jane's father, Stan Cooper who bought the original ram and three ewes twelve years ago. The flock has now increased to forty.

This primitive breed originated in the Outer Hebrides, living on seaweed. It was brought onto the mainland in the early 1900's and first seen in numbers in the Lake District. You can find them with 2, 4 or no horns. The National Trust use them in their parks as they are very good selective grazers. They are a very timid breed, not at all used to being worked by sheep dogs, which is why we had a pen up by the road at lambing time.

As Stan had to relinquish the field behind his house, which was rented, he had no option but to sell them. We have kept a couple and have sold three to the Butterworths. The rest were bought by the landlord of the Four Points at Aldworth. Richard hasn't been persuaded to diversify into this rare breed!

VACANCY



DEVELOPMENT WORKER NEEDED

Salary £14,391 (pro rata) 25 hours



If you have drive, enthusiasm and can show initiative, then this may be the post for you.

The Community Council for Berkshire require a development worker to work in partnership with an existing worker to continue the development of the West Berkshire Friendship Clubs. These clubs provide accessible, supportive meeting places in rural locations for people experiencing mental health problems, isolation or loneliness.

Some experience in the field of mental health or community development would be an advantage. You should be an excellent communicator, have good administrative skills and be a caring and approachable team worker.

This is a three year project funded by the National Lottery Charities Board. There is tremendous scope to take this project forward. There is a strong emphasis on the involvement and personal growth of the members.

If you are looking for a role that offers you the freedom to really express your creative talents – you may have found it!

For further details contact Sarah Ward Community Council for Berkshire 1 Bolton Place Northbrook Street Newbury Berkshire RG14 1AJ Tel.No: 01635-523857

We were very sorry to read the announcement in the Daily Telegraph of the death of Jean Pease on May 24th.

WEST ILSLEY CRICKET PAVILION

Steve Price

It takes something pretty unusual to stir the Price household into action on a Friday night – our more intimate friends know that Friday night is “Spaghetti Night” and that attempts to coax us from our gastronomic and alcoholic excesses on that evening are likely to be rebuffed. How then to account for our presence at the West Ilsley Cricket Club on Friday evening?

In common with many Village Clubs, the WICC has a dedicated and central core of contributors and at the Parish Council Meeting the previous Monday (which all who attended I’m sure found most entertaining) David Gore happened to mention the over-winter refurbishment that the members had undertaken in the Pavilion. The following Thursday all residents will have received a note through the door to advise that the Pavilion would be open on Friday evening from 7.00pm and my roving reporter instincts were immediately aroused.

We arrived at 8.15pm to join a very respectable crowd of perhaps 40 people had also turned out and discovered that the Pavilion had indeed undergone a transformation, with plush carpeting, proper tables and chairs, and a well-stocked bar.

Associate membership of £5.00 annually – a rare bargain - confers upon the holder the right to purchase drinks at prices more akin to the 80’s – a typical round for six gave significant change from a tenner and made the inevitably frequent trips to the bar (it was Friday night, after all) a much more enjoyable experience. The consensus seemed to be that a good time was had by all and the intention is to open the Pavilion on a regular basis provided that sufficient support for this exists.

The Club fulfils a useful role in the Village and needs our support if it is to continue to do so – please do take the time to visit the Pavilion occasionally. You will be assured a friendly welcome whether on a Friday night for just a drink or at any of the future planned events (bingo, quiz nights etc) which are in the pipeline.

OPENING TIMES UPDATE: The Club will be open during June on Friday nights from 7pm to 11pm and on match days.

OUT AND ABOUT

Most of us go out for a pub meal once in a while, and we probably play safe and choose somewhere we know rather than take a risk with a new venue. There are a good number of hostelrys within a few minutes drive of West Ilsley which many of us have never tried, so how about sharing our experiences of the various eateries around? Please let us have your reviews of pubs in the area – it can be your favourite or a new one to you, and can comprise a few words or a full review so please let us have your views!

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church Services for June 2000

4 th June	All Age Service and Baptism	11.00 am
11 th June	Holy Communion	8.00 am
18 th June	Family Communion	9.30 am

Diary Dates

10 th September	Treasure Hunt
29 th September	Harvest Supper (not 19 th September as stated in “Fourways”)
3 rd November	Quiz Night

WEST ILSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Linda Gibson
Clerk

The Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 15th May, 2000 welcomed Peter Bartaby and Peter Carlisle as newly declared Councillors. Richard Gore, the new Chairman, paid tribute to retiring Councillors Bas Pease and Norman Carlisle and thanked them for their enthusiasm and hard work over the years.

The following dates were agreed for Parish Council meetings for the coming year: 10th July, 11th September, 13th November, 8th January, 12th March and May 14th. That is, every other month on the second Monday at 7.00p.m. in The Village Hall.

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 Saturday 24th June 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: MWandACook@email.msn.com

Steve Price
Manor Farm Barn
☎ 281738
Fax: 281838
Email: ILSLEYFIN@aol.com

Website: www.btinternet.com/~ilsley