

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org.uk

January 2005

We wish you all a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year and look forward to seeing you at village events during 2005.

The Editors

ALL SAINTS CHURCH WEST ILSLEY

William and Alexandra Axtell

Church Services for January:

2 nd January	All Age Service	11.00am
9 th January	Holy Communion	8.00am
16 th January	Family Communion	9.30am
23 rd January	No service	
30 th January	No Service	

A New Year and Some Changes

We are sorry to say goodbye to Rev. Tim Astin, who has given so much support to our church over the last few years. During this period, he gave a great deal of time to the benefice but especially to West Ilsley. His wife, Moira, has been appointed to a new parish in Woodley, Reading and will be moving there with Tim and their daughter Emily in the New Year. By the time you read this, Tim will have taken his last service in West Ilsley on Christmas Day. We all wish him and his family God speed and our thanks for the contribution he made to the life of the church here.

However, we will soon be welcoming Rev. Trevor Maines who will be licensed in the benefice towards the end of February. He and his wife Olive will live in the rectory at Peasmore. Trevor has a great deal of experience in a number of parishes and we look forward to him coming.

Nativity Play

A huge thank you to Angela Ryan and her committee for organising a wonderful nativity play. Rowles Farm Barn (by kind permission of the Carlisle family) provided a beautifully rustic setting for the play and was packed with proud parents and grandparents. A donkey, sheep, goat and 'Turkey' the chicken were generally well behaved despite Turkey falling off-stage at a critical moment! The children were stars and added magic and sparkle to a memorable occasion. Over £700 was raised for the Raising the Roof fund, which is a tremendous effort.

Vodafone

The Vodafone UK Foundation has kindly provided £1000 to the Raising the Roof fund. This is to support

the fundraising of Richard Gore's clay shoot and Alexandra Axtell's charity Thai lunch. A big thank you to Vodafone for its quiet support of this cause.

Winter Warmer

A date for your diary - the popular winter warmer returns on 29 January! A great opportunity for us all to come out of winter hibernation and to enjoy some chilli or curry and a drink or two. Tickets from Jo Scriven (281 405) and Alexandra Axtell (281 306)

CAROL SINGING

Rosie Pigott

Rosie, Lauren, Clare and Alina all say a big "Thank you" for the money donated for their carol singing on Christmas Eve. We raised £60.10p which will be donated towards Cancer Research.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Jill Wiejak

Another successful event in the village! We are pleased to confirm we raised £300 towards the Church Roof Appeal.

Every table was booked and the hall was filled with the most beautiful items, mostly made by residents of WI. I think everyone who came was impressed by the quality and choice on display and was pleased with their purchases. We raised a large proportion of the total from the raffle, so a very big thank you to all those who were so kind with their donations and of course to those who bought the tickets.

Thank you to my trusty band of helpers before and on the day, you know who you are.

DIARY

JANUARY

10 th	Parish Council Meeting
14 th	Nativity Play Cast Party
29 th	Winter Warmer

Deadline for the next publication is 5pm on Tuesday 25th January

Contact details:

Andrea Cook
Clock Cottage
☎ 281224

Email: andreacooklimited@msn.com

Lynne Smith
Ridgeways
☎ 281163

Email: lynesmith@palgo.u-net.com

Wanted

Has anyone a knitting machine
they don't want anymore?

Please ring Jill Wiejak

on

01635 281665 or 07776 421447

WEST ILSLEY NATIVITY PLAY

19 December 2004

Angela Ryan

Back in September when I wrote an article for WIN about the play I began wonder what I might have got myself into. A committee was swiftly formed and off we went with our lists. It was a bigger task than I first imagined but we did it and the village children raised £700 for the 'Raise the Roof Appeal'. Staging, stables, doors, backdrops had to be built, lighting and animals had to be sourced. The barn had to be prepared for the production; doors on, floors swept, tables and chairs to be put in place. Mince pies baked, mulled wine warmed and costumes to the ready! Dingle the donkey stayed the weekend and was the star of the show. Who says don't work with animals or children! They were all delightful, if a little noisy at times. The children were committed and were on top form for the production after 6 weeks of rehearsals. The production only cost £80 to put on and the amount raised was high due to the generosity of many villagers who gave their time, skills and equipment free of charge. I would like to thank you all for your support and effort. It was a wonderful beginning to Christmas and lovely to see so many people who had come to watch.

There will be a 'cast' party on Friday 14th January from 6-8pm at the village hall for all the children who starred in the production along with parents and any siblings who may wish to join us. I hope that all the children can come for a few hours of fun and to watch the production on the big screen – I think it's the least they deserve after spending many cold evenings in the barn being shouted at by me! Once again thank you and a happy new year to you all.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Fred Carter

Identity Thieves Target our Rubbish Bins

If you have tried to open a bank account recently or applied for a credit card you will know that nowadays they want more and more identification, including electricity bills and bank statements showing your name and address. These documents are used to verify your identity and for thieves they are gold dust – the route to false I.D. Identity theft has become Britain's fastest



growing crime. Last year nearly £30 million was stolen using plastic cards where it was the identity rather than the card that was stolen. The thieves can even use the identities of people who have died. In 2003, a total of 16,000 families discovered that a relative's identity had been used, after death, to open accounts and get loans. You can help stamp out the ID fraud by taking care of all your financial and personal information. Always take your credit card to the till and make sure it is only swiped once. Never discard receipts when you pay by debit or credit card – some contain card details – and never throw old bills or bank statements into the bin or the recycling container. Even junk mail can be used, so tear the address and numbers into small pieces or better still destroy the whole document.

Fly Tipping

Residents can play a part in tackling this problem. If anyone sees a person illegally tipping rubbish, they should not approach the individual or handle the waste, but should make a note of the time and date, exact location, vehicle registration number, brief description of the person and what was tipped. They can then report the incident by calling West Berkshire Councils Streetcare service on 01635 519080, or the Environment Agency's 24 hr hotline number 0800 807060

WINTER WARMER!



Come out of hibernation for the
popular Winter Warmer!

Curry and chilli will be served and
there will be a bar on hand to cool the
palate!

7.30pm on 29th January

in the
Village Hall

Don't miss out!

Funds raised to go to the church.
Tickets from Jo Scriven (281 405)
and Alexandra Axtell (281 306)

DOWNLAND SPORTS CENTRE

Well, we missed the chance to wish everyone a Merry Christmas – but we can still wish everyone a very Happy, Healthy New Year!

By the time this is read, we will be recovering from the Children's Holiday Activities. The Christmas sessions are usually heaving with 5 – 11 year olds who get more and more excited the closer we get to Christmas (and if I'm honest, the staff do too!). It is usually really great fun and I am sure this year will be no exception. We hold the activities every school holiday period for this age group. If you would like to know more, please contact us.

As for us adults during the festive season, we lose pounds from our purses and gain pounds in body weight - a bit depressing! Don't despair, we at the Downland Sports Centre can help. We have a range of exercise options that can be fun (honest) and help shift those unwanted pounds – Circuit Training, Tums, Bums and Thighs, Step Aerobics, our small Gym facility and the Sports Hall which can be hired for Badminton, 5 a side Football etc. For further information or a timetable, please contact us on 01635 578866 between the hours of 6 – 10pm Monday – Friday.

We hope to see you in the near future.

FOSTERING NOW

The world of fostering is continuing to undergo significant change. It has moved on from a time when foster carers were unpaid, untrained, volunteers who cared for orphaned children. Foster carers are gradually coming to be seen as professional childcare specialists who care for children with a wide range of needs. There are a number of reasons for these changes.

On the childcare front, efforts to enable more children to live in a family setting rather than in children's homes have proved so successful that a greater proportion of "looked after children" now live with foster carers than ever before.

Increasing awareness that some foster children require carers with high level parenting skills means that foster carers now receive a higher level of support, training and financial reward. Although foster carers are still primarily motivated by a desire to help children in need, these extra inputs now help to ensure that their efforts are more properly valued, recognised and supported. The range of children needing help is now much more diverse and some foster carers now develop specialist interests. For example, caring for a sick baby, helping a young person who has sought asylum, supporting young mums and babies or caring for a disabled child. If you are interested in fostering and would like more information, please telephone Andy Clipson on 01993 201514 or email info@familyplacement.com

BUZZ CHALLENGE

Have you got a good idea that would really make a difference to your community, school or youth group. Then the BIG BUZZ CHALLENGE would like to hear from you.

We have £5,000 in total to give away to young people for projects that they would play an active part in developing.

You would need to find out what other young people thought about your idea, they might have some ideas themselves and then next year you would have to come back and tell us about it using art, maybe you could make a video or write a song or act out some sketches to get your ideas across.

So if you want your community, your school or your youth group to BUZZ get someone to give Community Action West Berkshire a ring for an application pack on 01635-523857 or E mail sarah.ward@ccberks.org.uk

Pre-Fete Dance

Saturday 9th July 2005

Local organisations who would like to run the pre-fete dance are invited to submit their

applications to the

Fete Committee

by Monday

15th February 2005

Please submit your applications

To

Mr Ronnie Cook

April Cottage, Fir Tree Paddock.

All proceeds from the dance will go to the organisers.

"FETE ACCOMPLI "

A date for your diaries – Sunday 10th July 2005.

As you will be aware there is an increasing number of summer events competing with each other to raise money for worthy causes. The objective of the West Ilsley fete is to provide a fun day for all the family as well as raising monies for local charities. In order that we continue to be successful we need new ideas, the committee would like to hear your views. We would appreciate your time in completing the short questionnaire overleaf.

Fete Accompli Questionnaire

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AT THE FETE :

	More	About the same	Less
Children's entertainment	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Children's games	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Team competitions: children's	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Team competitions: adults	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Selling stalls	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Produce show	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Please provide suggestions for produce classes:

The success of the fete depends upon the fantastic support from volunteers. We are always keen to welcome new people to organise and run stalls, competitions etc . If you would like to volunteer to help on the day please enter your details below and a member of the committee will contact you during 2005 .

Name:		Phone Number:		Email Address:	
-------	--	------------------	--	-------------------	--

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO :

Ronnie Cook
 April Cottage
 Fir Tree Paddock
Ron1.june2@virgin.net
 Tel 281565

You can contact other members of the fete committee on the following :

Lynne & Paul Smith	PaulSmith@palgo.u-net.com	Tel : 2811631
Karen Miller	Karen.miller@btinternet.com	Tel: 281876
Gordon Bewick	Gordonb1@ntlworld.com	Tel :281876
Kath & Fred Carter	kath@silkartwork.fsnet.co.uk	