

West Ilsley News

October 2000

Lots of activities being lined up for the Winter have resulted in a much bigger edition than we expected for this month. We're planning to issue a "who to contact guide" along with the December or January edition, based on the information items which have appeared over the last few months, and then issue only updates and changes in the monthly WIN. Please let us know if there are changes to those details previously published, and also any contacts or items of information which haven't already appeared and you think should do so. All ideas welcome.

The Editors

EVERGREENS Anne Carlisle

On Thursday 12th October there is an outing to Gloucester. The Coach will leave West Ilsley Church at 9.30 am. Members £4, non-members £6. Names to J Collier, S Gore or A Carlisle.

On Monday 30th October at 2.30 pm there is a pre-bazaar meeting in the Village Hall.

WEST ILSLEY Avice Morris MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE Chairman

The Millennium Committee is delighted to announce that the final go-ahead for the Millennium Gazebo project has been given and work will commence as quickly as possible. It is hoped that we can make this an attractive focal point of the village with horse trough, paving, turfing, etc.

The Gazebo itself will incorporate three benches and orientation table. We have already received an interest in a donation to dedicate one of the benches to a parish family. If anyone would like to do the same for either of the remaining benches, please contact Avice Morris on 281341. It is also intended to mount a plaque on the Gazebo in memory of Michael Brown who initiated the enthusiasm for the village Millennium projects.

PRAM SERVICE Alison Banks (281705) ALL SAINTS CHURCH Liz Dray (281704)

The next service will take place in the church on Monday 16th October at 11am. The services are for 0-5 year olds plus parent, grandparent or carer etc and last for half an hour, followed by refreshments for the children. This informal service includes lots of songs with instruments for the children to play plus a short story based on a theme. The theme for October is "Lost and Found." Everyone welcome.

POST OFFICE NEWS Audrey Tizzard

Christmas is coming and leaflets with all the posting details are available at the Post Office. Briefly, the latest posting dates are:

Letter Post

Overseas	Europe	14 th December
	Outside Europe	7 th December
Inland	First Class	21 st December
	Second Class	18 th December

Parcel Post

Overseas	29 th November (mostly, but see leaflet)
Inland	15 th December

VILLAGE HALL

PONTOON Audrey Tizzard

The winners of the first pontoon of the season were as follows:

G Cramp	Ayr
Jo Gore	Bristol Rovers
J Braithwaite	Charlton
R Brand	Fulham
M Raymond	Hibs
T Wilson North	Raith
J Verney	Rangers

Who each won £4.

The booby was shared by:

W Coles	Dumbarton
M Bishop	Oxford

Who also won £4 each.

£23 went to Village Hall Funds. There are still a few spaces on the sheet if you would like to join. The up to date (usually!) sheet is displayed on the Village Hall notice board and in the Post Office.

PARISH COUNCIL Linda Gibson (Clerk)

The Parish Council met on Monday 11th September with a full Council and two members of the public.

Millennium Gazebo GOOD NEWS. After several letters and discussions with West Berks Highways, the Gazebo should soon be under way at last!

Best Kept Village West Ilsley was once again placed 7th with a score of 66.7%. Stockcross were top scorers with 81.8% (See separate report from The Organiser). One of the criticisms from the Judges was the poor condition of The War Memorial in the churchyard! Does anyone know of a stonemason who would be interested in giving it a facelift, or perhaps someone can remember who repaired it some years ago after the storm damage. If you can help, please

Speak to a one of the P.C.members or contact me on 200242.

Grain Dryer Noise The noise control centre has written to the PCC reporting that the recent noise limiting work had resulted in a noise reduction of between 5 and 10 decibels. Thanks go to the Carlisle's for their attention to this matter.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church Services for October 2000:

1 st	All Age Service	11.00 am
8 th	Harvest Festival	6.00 pm
15 th	Family Communion	9.30 am

TREASURE HUNT

Very many thanks to Colin Sheppard and Chris Allen-Jones for their clues: a great deal of thought and hard work had gone into the planning. It was a challenging route to say the least and our car didn't finish until dusk, causing a certain amount of bemusement at Catmore, with clues being searched for in vain by the light of a (very pathetic) key-hole torch. Sadly, there were very few takers, partly due I'm sure to the impending fuel shortage but those who did join in seemed to enjoy themselves. Only £40 was made for church funds so hopefully the quiz night will be better supported. The only fuel needed then will be available from behind the bar and we'll not run out of that!

QUIZ NIGHT – 3rd November

Start getting your teams together and mugging up on ... As before, a prize to the silliest team name and heaps of glory to the winners! £5.00 per team (maximum of 4).

WEST ILSLEY FIREWORKS Sunday 5th November

(next field but one to the pond)

Bonfire at 6.30pm (Guys needed!)
Fireworks at 7.00pm

The Cricket Club Bar will be open

A village organisation is needed to run the BBQ - it is a great way to raise money! Please contact Jo Gore on 281618.

FOR SALE

One simple wrought iron garden gate (3 x 3ft approx) in need of a coat of paint. Highest offer secures – proceeds to church funds. Contact Mel Cook (281224)

ILSLEY UNDER FIVES

Tracy Gregory
281650

Halloween Party

Due to the roaring success of the last Halloween Party organised by the Millennium Committee, the Ilsley Under Fives have decided to host their own Halloween

Party this year to raise funds for both the Toddler Group and the Playgroup.

This is to be held in the West Ilsley Village Hall on Saturday 28th October, 2000 from 8pm to Midnight. Tickets are priced at £6.00 and include a Light Supper and Disco. There will be a Pay Bar.

If you would like tickets for the party please contact either Jill Brophy (281672) or Alison Banks (281705) as soon as possible.

Toddler Group

The Group is for Parent/Carer and baby and/or toddlers up to school age. It is held in the Village Hall on a Wednesday morning from 10.00am to 11.30am during which the adults get to drink tea/coffee and have a good old chat while the children play, hopefully with each other, without too much squabbling. This is followed by juice and a biscuit or two and then Song Time. New faces are very welcome.

Play Group

The playgroup is held in the Main Hall in the Ilsleys Primary School on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 1.25pm until 3.30pm during the school terms. If you are interested in your child attending the playgroup or would like to see it for yourself please call either Jill Brophy on 281672 or Julia (Playgroup Leader) on 281357 for an application form or to arrange a visit.

Pampers 'Flowering Tots' Scheme

Pampers are currently offering a fantastic collection of toys in exchange for points collected. We can collect points by saving our Till receipts with any Pampers products on them. They will give us 1 point for every £1 spent and have generously started the point collection with 50 Bonus Points! This means we can, hopefully, get some new toys for the Toddler Group and the Playgroup.

So any of you using Pampers products (Nappies/Wipes/Care Mats) **PLEASE** save your receipts and either pop them in to me at 5 The Maltings, West Ilsley or give me a call and I will collect them. Thank you for your support.

WEST ILSLEY CRICKET CLUB

Dick Beech
281633

The club AGM will be held on Sunday 29th October at 7 pm in the Cricket Pavillion. All are welcome.

NATURE NOTES

Hedgerow harvest

Despite the non-appearance of summer this year, autumn beckons and our hedgerows are loaded with berries, hips and other fruits. Their bold colours contrast beautifully with the changing colours of leaves. These and many other fruits help to keep some of our native birds going through the winter. We too can use some of this hedgerow harvest to warm the cockles of our collective hearts in the depths of winter by the time-honoured remedy of Sloe Gin.

Many different recipes exist for this, but most are based on three simple ingredients – sloes, sugar and

gin. Sloes are found in the hedgerows around West Ilsley and are the berry fruits of the blackthorn bush which is related to the domestic plum.

Sloe gin

Ingredients:

225g (8oz) Sloes

125g (4oz) Sugar

375ml (13 fl oz) Gin

Procedure:

Rinse and prick each sloe about 10 times and place in a suitably-sized container. Add the sugar, cover or seal the container and mix the contents. Repeat the mixing stage every day for 10 days. Then add the gin and stir the contents. Leave for a month or two until a deep red colour is achieved. Remove the sloes by straining and allow the sloe gin to mature for at least another month in a stoppered bottle.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Mel Cook

This year West Ilsley scored 80 marks out of a possible 120 (66.7%), placing us 7th in the 'Small Village' category. This is unfortunately the same position as last year – but at least we are consistent! Stockcross was first with 81.8%.

The Judges comments are reported below (without any editing):

- The churchyard was generally well kept and cared for especially areas of old graves.
- Village Hall building looked very good but there was litter at the side and back including a long dead rabbit opposite the fire exit and discarded furniture at the rear
- The War Memorial appears to need some maintenance, cement patching cracked and crumbling and many inscriptions difficult to read and also some litter
- Playing fields excellent and well maintained. The Pavillion looked very good and well used, a pity so much litter had been left on the ground in front, also beer canister store area would be improved if screened.
- Pub was bright, welcoming, and clearly popular, clean and safe outside.
- The village was well kept, clean and tidy and enhance by the features judged
- In general the aims of the competition appear to have been met. Some of the features could have been improved by simple good housekeeping measures.

A pretty good report all round and perhaps the most important comment made by the judges was that they considered the village to be well kept, clean and tidy.

Thank you to all those concerned.

WEST ILSLEY RECREATION AND SOCIAL ASSOCIATION

Advance notice of two forthcoming events:

AGM – Wednesday, 15th November

As residents of the Village, we are, under the terms of the lease for the Village Hall between Lockinge Estate

and the Parish Council, all members of the Association and entitled to attend the AGM, stand for election to the Management Committee, praise/criticise the past year's work of the committee etc. The committee would like to see more villagers at the meeting than on previous occasions, so please put the date in your diaries now – more details will be in the November WIN.

Christmas Bingo – Friday, 15th December

Following the success of the Easter Bingo, the committee would like to *double* the numbers for the Christmas session. Donations of prizes will be gratefully received, and will enable more of the funds raised to be ploughed back into the running of the hall.

WEST ILSLEY

VILLAGE FETE

The 2000 Committee

The 2000 Fete Committee are very pleased to report that the moneys raised by this year's Fete are sufficient to pay all the requests in full. A summary of the donations made and use to be put follows. Full details of the Fete accounts are available in a spreadsheet on the Ilsley Web Site.

Donations and Use:

Evergreens - £150

WI Children's Football Club - £400 - Since the Fete, Gary Taylor has been asked by several people in the Village to continue children's football training on a permanent basis. Training to continue on Friday's. The current price of a set of goals is £400 and better facilities will help the Village children.

WI People in Need Charity - £100 - Gives Christmas gifts of £5 to elderly residents of the Village.

Tennis Court - £200 - To fund a tennis coaching course for Village residents. Look out for an announcement from Denis Gilmore and the Tennis Committee.

Friends of the Ilsley's Primary School - £400 - To help fund the refurbishment of the classroom in the old school building. The total project cost is in excess of £1,500.

WI Fireworks - £250

Church - £500 - Verbal request - funds for general use.

WI Millennium Committee - £300 - Millennium Gazebo Project; the grant from West Berks Council of £3,000 has to be matched. Presently a £300 shortfall having raised £2,700 from the New Years Eve and the Children's Party.

WI Recreation & Social Association - £250 - "Anything you may give will be gratefully received....and faithfully applied".

EI Youth Club - £100

Brightwalton School - £50

2001 Fete:

New Committee Members are required if we are to hold another event in 2001 - planning for which will need to start in February. Your opportunity to enhance those organisational skills, make a contribution to the

Village and make an impact with your new ideas. Please contact our Chairman - Chris Allan Jones on 281306 or mail

christopher@allan-jones.freemove.co.uk

PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID COURSE

(organised by Angela Hyde on behalf of West Berkshire Under Eight Forum)

Wednesday Evenings
22nd and 29th November
At

West Ilsley Village Hall

This course is suitable for all parents and carers of children any age. It will be run by a professional first aid training company, Pre-Med Health Care Ltd. The course will comprise 2 x 3 hour evening sessions (Probably 7.00 pm to 10.00 pm). The course is funded by West Berkshire Under Eights Forum. It is free but I need a £10 deposit refundable on the second evening of the course. If you would like a place please drop a note through my door along with a cheque for £10.00 made payable to "West Berkshire Under Eight Form". Maximum 25 places.

Angela, Forge Cottage, High Street, West Ilsley



WE ARE OPEN WEEKENDS !!!

Saturdays and Sundays 10.00am - 4.00pm*

For

Gym use, children's parties, casual use of the sports hall (Badminton, 5 a side Football etc.) and much more..

Please ring 01635 578866 for details

Saturday morning sessions (10.00am - 12.00pm for children aged between 5 - 11 years will start at the end of September. If you like working with children (arts n' crafts, sport etc.) and are aged 16 or over and would like to know more, please telephone 01635 578866 for an informal chat)

Cakes for every occasion



- ❖ *Your cake handmade*
- ❖ *Decoration individually designed*
- ❖ *Birthdays a speciality*
- ❖ *Christmas commissions accepted*

Telephone Tanya Richardson or Annette Osborne on 01635 281 675

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 Tuesday 24th October 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

Website: www.btinternet.com/~ilsley

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