

West Ilsley News

November 2001

Please, please, please - if you have even a slight interest in running the Post Office do something about it now! There is a high probability that the Post Office will close at the end of the year if a successor to Audrey is not found. An advertisement appears at the back of this edition which gives formal details and a phone number. We understand that the PO authorities are very willing to be flexible with hours/times/days etc so if the current arrangements don't suit you it may well be possible to work something out. Audrey is happy to help if you want further information, or if you prefer, call the number in the advertisement.

The Editors



WEST ILSLEY FIREWORKS

(Kindly paid for by West Ilsley Cricket Club
and West Ilsley Fete Funds)

MONDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

(next field but one to the pond)

Bonfire at 6.30pm

(Guys needed)

Fireworks at 7.00pm

BBQ in aid of Village Hall Funds

The Cricket Club bar will be open afterwards

EVERGREENS

Anne Carlisle

On Thursday 22nd November there will be an outing to Cardiff. The coach will leave from outside West Ilsley Church at 9.30 am. Members £5, non-members £7. Tokens can be used.

Names to J Collier, S Gore or A Carlisle.

EVERGREENS BAZAAR

SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

**AT
2.30 PM**

**IN THE
VILLAGE HALL**

**TOMBOLA
BRIC A BRAC
CAKES**

**BOOKS AND TOYS
RAFFLE
TEA**

DOWNLAND SPORTS CENTRE

It's been a while since we've put a piece in W.I.N.. This is mainly due to the Summer holiday activities taking up the majority of our time. Unfortunately, because of this, we did not advertise through W.I.N. our Open Day and Car Boot held on the 23rd September. I did put a notice in the village though! The Open Day was enjoyable with many children trying Trampolining, having their faces painted and bouncing on the Bouncy Castle. Adults had a go at Indoor Bowls and Archery. Quite a few sellers turned up but unfortunately not many buyers which was disappointing for those who had had a clear out. We are considering having a indoor Boot Sale on a regular basis through the winter months - we'll keep you informed.

At the time of writing this, we are thinking about the October 1/2 term Activity Programme for children aged 5 - 11 years. It will have a 'spooky' theme on some of the days along with our usual sport/games/blading etc.. The programme will be distributed, as usual, to the schools in the surrounding area. If your child does not attend one of the schools, please contact the Downland Sports Centre on 01635 578866 (6 - 10pm. Monday - Friday or, 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.) Sundays) and we will send you a copy.

FOR SALE

Boys Mountain Bike, 16 inch frame, blue
Girls Mountain Bike, 14 inch frame, green

Both little used

£25 each

Telephone Ian on 281536

THE MALTHOUSE WELL

Alison Banks

Currently measuring 15m 69cm from ground level and still getting drier it seems. Last year it was 12m at the same time so some 3m in hand. A good start before the rainy season.

POST OFFICE

The recommended last posting dates for Christmas are as follows:

Inland	First Class	21 st December
	Second Class	18 th December
Airmail	Western Europe	14 th December
	Eastern Europe	10 th December
	Outside Europe	7 th December

Leaflets with full details are available at the Post Office. Christmas stamps (self adhesive) go on sale on 6th November.

ALL SAINTS

CHURCH

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church Services for November 2001:

4 th	All Age Service	11.00 am
11 th	Remembrance Day Service	10.55 am
18 th	Holy Communion	9.30 am

HARVEST

The children came with gifts which were laid on the altar and given, with other produce, to Willows Edge Residential Home in Newbury. Thanks to all who gave so generously of their produce, flowers and time to make the church look so beautiful. The harvest supper was held at the end of September, too late for the October West Ilsley News. The village hall was not as tightly packed with people as we would have wished. But those who came enjoyed a delicious meal followed by a talk with slides by Dr. Paul Sievers of a trip in the Himalaya he made about nine years ago.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

The British Legion will be joining our service this year, with Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides joining the parade before the service. The parade will start at The Harrow at around 10.35 am, marching to the church for the two-minutes silence at 11.00 am.

CHURCH CLEANING

May I make a final (well, I may still continue to pester for a little while yet) plea for help with cleaning the church? So far, one other person has kindly offered, but like most chores, it's a case of "the more the merrier". OK, I know there's nothing merry in cleaning but it doesn't take very long to run a vacuum round or dust the pews. I will be producing the rota for 2002 in the next few weeks, so please don't be shy in coming forward!

VILLAGE HALL PONTOON

The second pontoon ran for four weeks up to 6th October and was shared by 5 winners each receiving £5.60. They were:

P Barrett	-	Rangers
J Wiejak	-	Tranmere
G Cramp	-	Man City
R Waters	-	Hibernian
N Raymond	-	Airdrie

The booby prize of £8.00 was won by G Searis (Macclesfield). £26 went to village hall funds.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE - FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BBQ at The Bonfire night in aid of Village Hall funds
Monday 5th November 6.30pm. Field behind the pond.

Village Hall Management Committee A.G.M

Monday 3rd December 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

All welcome and any volunteers for Committee positions most appreciated.

Grand Christmas Raffle

Tickets will be on sale shortly via Committee members and at The Post Office.

1st Prize Christmas Hamper

Raffle draw – 14th December at The Bingo night



Village Hall Committee

Christmas Bingo

&

Draw for Christmas Raffle

Friday 14th December

Village Hall 7.30pm

Donations of Bingo prizes most appreciated

HEALTHY LIVING

Alan Bloor

Many consumers and scientists are turning back to look at more traditional ways and natural therapies to provide the benefits for our health and lifestyle and a considerable number of readers will have heard about Aloe Vera, often referred to as the "Miracle Plant" or the "Natural Healer". Hardly a week goes by without the benefits of Aloe Vera being highlighted in the health pages of major national newspapers and magazines. As an example, in 2000, UK sales alone of Aloe Vera drinks were £10 million.

In combination with my Agricultural Consultancy business, I have become an independent distributor for Aloe Vera and beehive products for a company who owns patents in the important stabilization process, enabling it to develop an expertise in Aloe that is second to none.

If you would like to know more about the products, which range from health and nutrition through to daily care and beauty products, please contact me on 01635 281341.

WEST ILSLEY Linda Gibson (Clerk)
PARISH COUNCIL 01635 200242

The Next Meeting of West Ilsley Parish Council will be held on Monday 12th November, 2001 at 7.00p.m. in The Village Hall.

All residents of West Ilsley are welcome to attend this meeting. The 'Open Forum', at the end of the meeting will give Parishioners an opportunity to raise any matters of concern or interest.

PRAM SERVICE AND AFTERSCHOOL SERVICE, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

At the October services the children heard the story of the "Loaves and Fishes" and drew faces on plates to make extra numbers for the crowd. The mothers were amazed at the great gusto with which the dry bread was consumed as part of the story! If only they'd do that at home!

The theme for the November services is "Advent" and the dates are:

Afterschool Service - Thursday 15 November at 4.00pm

Pram Service - Monday 19 November at 11.00am

Please note:- The November Afterschool Service will be the last one for the year as the 13 December service is now cancelled. The Pram Service will still take place on Monday 17 December.

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. If you would like more information please contact Denise Brown on 01635 281825, Antonia Cretney on 01635 248925 or Liz Dray on 01488 638749.

Ilsley Under Fives

Don't forget T-shirts available now – ideal stocking fillers!! We are looking into the possibility of sweatshirts too.

A photographer will be at the Ilsleys School on Wednesday 7 November at 1.15pm to take photos of toddlers as well as playgroup children. There will be a group playgroup photo taken this year as well as individual photos. Parents are very welcome to bring siblings to have photos taken. The photos are usually very good value and will be back in time to make good Christmas presents.

Toddler Group

The Toddler Group meets on a Wednesday morning, 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 Tracy Gregory on 281650 for more details.

There will be a display of Body Shop goods at Toddlers on Wednesday 21 November – a great opportunity to get some of that Christmas shopping done with no parking or child entertainment difficulties!!

WANTED!!: Jolly person ideally with large quantity of facial hair (if not can be supplied) for approx. ½ an hour for Toddlers Christmas party on morning of Wednesday 19 December. Interested applicants please contact Tracy Gregory on 281650 or Liz Dray on 01488 638749 asap.

WATERMILL THEATRE TRIP

Andrea Cook

Well, if the broad grins I observed, and the warm words of thanks I received for organising Wednesday's trip are anything to go by, we had another successful evening!

"Piaf" was not a "jolly musical" – the NWN review called it an "outpouring of raw emotion" and the Daily Telegraph said "the show captures the bleary confusion of a messy, desperate life" - both quotes which could be a bit offputting!

You have until 24th November to see this excellent production which is totally enthralling – a wonderful performance by Josephine Baird in the title role, and yes, there are those songs too!

The Watermill box office number is: 01635 46044

MISS TOFFELLEES

Now that that they have lived in West Ilsley for such a long time, I would like to welcome the Smiths. Lynn, Paul, Laura and Hannah have become used to the sight of the Nutty Old Bag delivering the News who faithfully promised with each passing month that they would get a mention. Well, I've made it at last!! They are probably imminently due to move on account of the fact that it's been so long since I made contact, but last month they were still residing in 'Alec's Bungalow'- aka Ridgeways.

I don't know of any gossip, so I think it is high time that somebody else took this column over and then you would all have something to read about. However, I must report that I enjoyed the Harvest Supper. The food was very good - the apple pie I was served was particularly tasty. As a hopeless pastry-maker myself, I always marvel at people's pies, we only ever seem to eat crumble in this house! I was truly fascinated by Paul Sievers' account of his trekking in Nepal. The views from the routes that traverse this beautiful part of the world are so breathtaking one can only begin to imagine the peace, tranquility and contrast to life in the Thames Valley. I would love to go there, but, could I hack the pace? I not be fit enough, but I would like to

try! They may not be cash rich in the Himalayas, but there is a wealth of beauty in the country.

If it stays this warm for bonfire night I won't feel it's November 5th. This unseasonably warm weather seems to encourage the leaves to stay on the trees. I'm sure that they are usually more de-nuded by this time of year? I believe there's even been some hay-making recently!!

AN AUTUMN PICTURE Ian Burton

As you may be aware trees can have a serious effect on television reception. Even more so for terrestrial TV viewers in fringe (to Hannington) areas such as West Ilsley. In winter when deciduous trees are bare, the quality of TV reception can improve quite markedly.

If you would like to know more about this the BBC have a detailed fact sheet that is available via:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/reception/factsheets/docs/recepti_on_trees.pdf

If you didn't know of this effect and if the quality of your TV picture increases over the coming weeks you now know why!

PS – If anyone in the village is using digital terrestrial TV please let me know on ian@netdra.freereserve.co.uk

INTRODUCING CLIVE

It is quite likely that at some time in the next few months you will see a very brightly decorated vehicle around the roads of West Berkshire, especially in some of the smaller and more isolated rural areas. This is a new service which is being launched by West Berkshire Libraries in partnership with a variety of other organisations including Newbury College, the Employment Service, Berkshire Information, Advice and Guidance Service, the Life Long Learning Partnership, the Community Council for Berkshire and many others.

CLIVE stands for Community Learning and Information Vehicle and will bring a full range of services and information to you. There will be opportunities to have some basic computer training, access to the internet,

advice about training opportunities, careers information and information about council services.

If you want to know if CLIVE is coming to your area or if you have an idea of how it could link in with an existing group in your community contact:
John Ellis, CLIVE coordinator at Newbury Library on 01635-519900.

EEZEWEB

www.eezeeweb.org

*WANT TO LEARN?
LOOKING FOR TRAINING?
FANCY A NEW HOBBY?*

INTRODUCING

Eezeeweb is a website especially for people in West Berkshire – residents or business – to help you to find the right learning opportunities. The service is totally free and independent.

**ENGLEFIELD MAY FAIR
ENGLEFIELD HOUSE
THEALE
BERKSHIRE**

**FRIDAY 10TH MAY 2002
SATURDAY 11TH MAY 2002**

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 27th November 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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