

West Ilsley News

December 2001

☺ As the year draws to a close we would like to say many thanks to Anne Carlisle, Kay Fewtrell-Smith, Angus Muir, John Verney and Carrie-Anne Young for delivering the WIN during 2001, and to all the contributors who have kept us informed as to what is/has been going on. After 30 years Audrey will be retiring from the Post Office at year-end, and nobody has yet come forward to take over. We hope that the Post Office will be able to provide some sort of cover, but we believe this will be on a very restricted basis, and maybe not for ever, so if you're still thinking about registering an interest, hit the phone now! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year, and looking forward to your continued support in 2002.

The Editors

2

EVERGREENS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Saturday 15th December
12 noon
at The Swan, East Ilsley
Names by 7th December 2001 to
Jean Wells 281255

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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.

WEST ILSLEY Linda Gibson
PARISH COUNCIL (Clerk)01635 200242

The Parish Council met on Monday 12th November, with a full Council and seven members of the public.

The War Memorial in the churchyard has now been repaired and will hopefully last for several more decades. A cheque to cover the cost of the wreath for

Remembrance Day including a donation was sent to the British Legion.

Audrey Tizzard has thankfully agreed to stay on at The Post Office until the end of the year. This will give more time to find a replacement.

A letter from Mark Edwards of W.B.C. Highways Department confirmed that now the more serious flooding problems in neighbouring villages had been attended to, attention should soon be turned to West Ilsley. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Highways requesting that the water pump at the bottom of Windmill Hill be made ready in case of future flooding.

Annual donations were made to The Downland Sports Centre, The Downland Volunteer Group, The Downland Practice Handybus and The West Ilsley News.

The Next Meeting of West Ilsley Parish Council will be held on Monday 14th January, 2002 at 7.00p.m. in The Village Hall.

All residents of West Ilsley are welcome to attend this meeting and may raise any matters of concern or interest during the Open Forum.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE - FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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 on sale 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

PRAM SERVICE AND AFTERSCHOOL SERVICE, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

At the November services the children looked at pictures of the nativity and events leading up to it in an Advent calendar. They also wrapped a gift for the baby Jesus to be placed by the crib closer to Christmas.

There will be no Afterschool Service in December but the Pram Service will take place on Monday 17 December at 11am with a "Christmas" theme.

January dates:

Afterschool Service – Thursday 17 January – 4pm

Pram Service – Monday 21 January – 11am

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.

Crib Service

Once again there will be a Crib Service in the church on Christmas Eve, this year at 2.30pm. The children are invited to come dressed as angels, wise men, shepherds etc as part of the nativity story if they wish. We would love to see as many people as possible, with or without children, at the service; it has a wonderful atmosphere and is a lovely start to Christmas.

Ilisley Under Fives

The Under Fives will be manning Santa's Grotto at the Friends of the Ilisleys School Christmas Bazaar on Sunday 2 December – please come and support us – 2-4pm – The Ilisleys School.

Don't forget to sign up for the Christmas meal on 12 December – details will be at Toddlers and Playgroup.

Baby and Toddler Group

Wednesday 19 December – Last day of term

Wednesday 9 January – Term re-starts

The Baby and 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.

The Christmas party will take place on Wednesday 19 December from 11am-1pm. Further details from Jo Gore on 281618.

Playgroup

Thursday 13 December – Last day of term – Trip to pantomime

Wednesday 9 January – Term re-starts

INFORMATION PLEASE Laura Smith

I am trying to gather information about the wooded area behind The Maltings for example the age of the trees. I believe this was the site of the old Morlands Brewery so any information about when that closed or the actual land it was on might help. Also, there is a shed in the wood which presumably belongs to someone who might know about the wood is anybody the owner or does anyone know whose this is or indeed who owns the wood if anyone? Thank you for any information anyone can offer, please email me at paulsmith@palgo.u-net.com or ring on 01635 281163 as soon as possible. Thanks, Laura Smith, Ridgeways.

Father Christmas Visit

Courtesy of the Lions Club

Don't miss Father Christmas when he visits West Ilisley on his Sleigh

On Friday 21st December 6pm onwards.

A house to house collection will be made in aid of

The Castle School Newbury and Helen House, Childrens Hospice, Oxford

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE

The mobile library will be in Morland Close from 2.20 pm to 2.40 pm on the following dates:

December 11th

January 22nd

February 12th

March 5th and 26th

..... Use it or lose it!!!!

The playgroup is held in the Main Hall at the Ilsleys Primary School on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon from 1.25pm to 3.30pm during the school terms. The numbers at the playgroup have risen suddenly and we are currently only accepting 3 year olds if a place is available. If you are interested in your child attending the playgroup please call Tracy on 281650 for an application form to register your child or if you would like to arrange a visit.



CHRISTMAS TREES



**Needle-fast Christmas Trees are for sale at
Manor Farm, West Ilsley,**

**8th & 9th December
15th & 16th December**

10am-4pm

**Trees from £10
Or ring Jemma on 281241**

NEWBURY BUSES Peter Bartaby

Revised service times – November 2001

MONDAY – FRIDAY

West Ilsley to Newbury

From West Ilsley Church at 0740 ; 09.45 ; 11.45 ; 13.45 ; 15.45 ; 17.15 ; 17.45 ; 18.45 and 18.51.

West Ilsley to Didcot

From West Ilsley Church at 07.50 ; 10.50 ; 12.50 ; 14.50 ; and 16.50

Newbury to West Ilsley

From Newbury Bus Station at 06.55 ; 07.18 ; 10.18 ; 12.18 ; 14.18 ; 16.18 and 18.18

Didcot to West Ilsley

From Didcot Railway Station at 09.20 ; 11.20 ; 13.20 ; 15.20 ; 17.20 and 18.20.

SATURDAYS

West Ilsley to Newbury

From West Ilsley Church at 07.39 ; 09.45 ; 11.45 ; 13.45 ; 15.45 ; 17.45 ; 18.45 and 18.51

West Ilsley to Didcot

From West Ilsley Church at 08.50 ; 10.50 ; 12.50 ; 14.50 ; and 16.50

Newbury to West Ilsley

From Newbury Bus Station at 07.10 ; 08.18 ; 10.18 ; 12.18 ; 14.18 ; 16.18 and 18.18

Didcot to West Ilsley

From Didcot Railway Station at 09.20 ; 11.20 ; 13.20 ; 15.20 ; 17.20 and 18.20

JOURNEY TIMES (Approx.)

West Ilsley to Newbury 32 Minutes

West Ilsley to Didcot 25 Minutes

WEST ILSLEY CRICKET CLUB

Bar opening times December:

Monday 3rd Dec. 8pm

Friday 7th Dec 8pm

Monday 10th Dec 8pm

Friday 14th Dec 8pm

Friday 21st Dec 8pm

Monday 24th Dec 8pm

Xmas Day 11am-1pm

New Years Eve 8pm till late

Details of social events at the Cricket Club through the early part of the New Year will appear next month.

MISS TOFFELLEES

November 5th was a very sociable evening. I meet as many people whilst being entertained as I do walking through the rec. on the WI Show day. It's good to talk, as they say. I discovered from Gail that I need to welcome Robert, Libby and Paul Lyford who have moved into the Post Office.

On visiting the Post Office last Tuesday, still hoping that I will be able to collect my pension there rather than have it paid into a bank account, I discovered a modest certificate. Audrey has served the community (and the Post Office) for 30 years!! This is some achievement, especially given that in the current time two years is considered a long time to serve an employer. My father was a PO engineer and retired with a large number of years under his suit. How times have changed! The paternal advice given to me when I was thinking about my future career prospects was to choose an interesting, job with a good pension and a reliable employer. Do jobs like that exist these days and does the NHS count? Anyway, Audrey, it's a wonderful thing you've done, we all appreciate the sound advice and wealth of experience you give us. It's hard to buy the sort of knowledge that you've acquired over the years you have spent behind the counter.

I'm hoping that there will be some equine and farming tittle-tattle this month.

Following on from another conversation with Norman Carlisle (he was poised in the middle of the road - again- and I was in my car -again- we can't go on meeting like that!!), he promised that if I didn't go round to his house and beat him up, he would get 'Someone' to write about the ewes and the tegs so that we could all go 'James Herriot' again. Life is normalising, but still difficult after Foot and Mouth. It will be interesting to keep our ears to the ground for the items of interest which will continue to impact on the farming and rural community. The NFU are very

vocal over this issue but it seems to get swamped by news of Afghanistan.

(If there's no horsy news I haven't thought of a plan of action yet. I don't know Mick Channon well enough to carry out any Mafioso threat. The violin will stay in its case)

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Ian Fewtrell-Smith

Church Services for December 2001:

2 nd	All Age Service	11.00 am
9 th	Holy Communion	8.00 am
16 th	Holy Communion	9.30 am
23 rd	Carol Service	6.00 pm
24 th	Crib Service	2.30 pm
25 th	Christmas Day Communion	9.30 am

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

There will be a card coming through village doors soon with the services for Christmas over the whole benefice. As last year, you will be able to sponsor a candle in our carol service. I hope as many children as possible will be able to come to the crib service this year, dressed as shepherds, angels or wise men (no one will worry if there are more than three!!!).

CHURCH CLEANING

This is my final plea (this year) for help with cleaning the church. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are able to spare half an hour or so every few weeks.

BURNS NIGHT

There will be the opportunity to let your hair down on 2nd February next year, so put it in your brand new diaries.

DOWNLAND SPORTS CENTRE

Two dates for your diary:

INDOOR CAR BOOT SALE

Sunday 9th December

12.00 Midday - 3.00 pm

(setting up from 11.00 am)

£5.00 (bring your own table)

Refreshments will be on sale

CHRISTMAS DISCO



Saturday 22nd December

Ages - 5 - 8 years (5.30 - 7.00 pm)

9 - 14 years (7.00 - 9.30 pm)

Cost - £2.00 per ticket

TUCK SHOP

Pre-booking/payment essential.

Please note: if we do not get enough interest by Monday 17th Dec., this will not run. Ticket money will of course be refunded.

For further information and ticket sales, please contact the Downland Sports Centre – Tel: 01635 578866 between the hours of 6 – 10 pm (Mon. – Fri) and 10 – 4 pm (Sundays)

May we take this opportunity to wish all our customers a very happy Christmas



and New Year!!



The Network

Extracts from:

AGE CONCERN NEWBURY & DISTRICT

Do you have a relative or friend at home who needs constant care?

Are you looking into residential or nursing home care?

Do you already have a relative or friend who lives in a residential home in this area?

If you would like to talk through any of the issues involved with someone from Age Concern please phone 01635 41294 and ask for Lynda or Sue.

THE WARM FRONT TEAM

The Warm Front Team is a Government funded scheme. The grant focuses on households with the greatest health risks – older people, families with children under 16 and people who are disabled or who have a long term illness.

The Warm Front Plus Grant

Provides a grant of up to £2000 to make homes warmer, healthier, more energy efficient and more secure. Those eligible for the Warm Front Plus Grant should be over 60 and receiving one or more of the following benefits.

Income support
Council Tax benefit
Income bases job-seekers allowance
Housing benefit.

The Warm Front Grant

Provides a grant of up to £1000 for any householder with a child under 16 who is receiving one or more of the following benefits:

Income support
Housing benefit
Council Tax benefit
Income Based jobseekers allowance.

Please ring freephone 0800 316 6011 or mimicom 0800 072 0156 for further details

BERKSHIRE WOMENS AID

Berkshire Womens Aid supports and accommodates women and children fleeing domestic violence. Christmas is a difficult time for families in refuge, they have had to experience tremendous upheaval. The children, in particular, will be apart from all that is familiar to them including toys, pets, friends and relatives.

This Christmas BWA is appealing for donations of sweets, chocolates, Christmas Food, toys, stocking fillers, toiletries or other presents for some of the families they support.

Please contact Nicola Napier-Brown on 01635 524866 if you could help.

SHELL BETTER BRITAIN CAMPAIGN

Manages two grant funds, which directly invest in community action. The Community Projects Fund -

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 3rd January 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

Steve Price
Manor Farm Barn
☎ 281738
Fax: 281838

grants of up to £2000 are awarded to community based groups, delivering projects organised by local people to improve the quality of their neighbourhood in a sustainable way. Groups can apply at any time.

To enable groups to learn from each other's experiences and gain new skills and ideas the Interactive Connect Fund grants up to £150 towards fares and reasonable costs.

Telephone 0121 248 5902 or visit website www.sbbc.co.uk for further information

Extracts from the news-sheet produced by CCB's Rural Networks Project in partnership with West Berkshire Council for Voluntary Service. Contact Sarah Ward Project Worker if you have any interesting information that Rural Communities would benefit from on 01635-523857.

POPPY APPEAL

Audrey Tizzard

The village collection for this years poppy appeal amounted to £166.20. a further £285.97 was collected at the church service making a West Ilsley total of £452.17. Many thanks to all who donated.

VILLAGE HALL

PONTOON

Audrey Tizzard

The 3rd Pontoon ran for 4 weeks and was won by:

A Price (Cowdenbeath)

T Wilson-North (Watford) who won £14 each

The booby was shared by:

K Chitty (Bristol C)

J Atkins (Bristol R) £4 each.

£26 went to Village Hall funds

Email: andreacooklimited@msn.com

Website: www.btinternet.com/~ilsley

Email: ilsleyfinance@aol.com