



Soulbury Newsletter

April 2002

No. 304

Parish Council News

The clerk was requested to ask the transport section of the County Council to check up on the regularity of the local school bus to Wing. Recently the bus has been running very late or inconsistently, and this has resulted in misbehaviour by some of the waiting children during the many minutes they have been at the bus stop. Perhaps whilst this annoying situation is still evident, parents would stay with the children until the bus arrives.

Correspondence was discussed on a questionnaire about the efficiency of the Greensand Trust stewardship of Stockgrove County Park. Councillor Mrs E. Miller reported that she represented the Parish Council at the regular meetings of Stockgrove Users Group, and how impressed she had been with the communication and activity which had resulted from these meetings.

The adoption of the Parish Code of Conduct caused concern amongst all councillors. John Bercow M.P. had also suggested that the code maybe over officious in that major or minor breaches were treated the same, and intrusion into personal interests would discourage good local people from standing for the council. After all, many Parish Councils only control a very small budget. Councillors were left to consider their response and vote next meeting. Failure to accept the code would result in the Parish Council being disbanded.

Personal safety equipment for this year's grass cutters would be ordered ready for the maintenance season, and Councillor Cross agreed to set a towing hitch on the tractor and make a small grass box for use on the Millennium Green. It was decided that at no time should the tractor tow anything on the highway as this would invalidate the insurance and be dangerous.

A member of the public suggested that the Chapel building should be used as a community centre for the village. Although this was thought to have many advantages, there would be some problems along with it. It was considered worth pursuing. Next months Council meeting will be on Monday 29th April (a week later than usual)

Millennium Green News

The bulbs arrived and have been planted. - a thousand snowdrops (which sounds a lot but they seemed to get lost on such a big site!), 100 Fritillaria and 100 bluebells. We have tried bluebells before but they didn't like the long grass and disappeared. This time we've planted them in the tree plantations where they will, we hope, find the conditions more suitable. Many thanks to those who helped plant them. Maintenance work is continuing and the Green looks full of the promise of spring, with frogspawn in the swales, a few primroses, celandines and daffodils in bloom. Stock doves performing their curious looping mating flights, one

song thrush urgently belting out his delightful song and sparrowhawks, collared doves, moorhens and ducks may also be seen.

All Saints Church News

The A.G.M. of the Parochial Church Council was held on March 6th in the Club Room. There were 10 people present including the Chairman, the Rev. Norman Cotton.

The vicar proposed that the project for the new kitchen and toilets should be progressed according to Richard Onslow's latest plans. This was seconded by Peter Lymbery and the PCC all agreed. The Church has received an immensely generous legacy of £6000 from the late Mrs Lloyd Hart who died a few months ago and was a regular church goer. The Church is deeply grateful for such a large sum of money, which will be used to help pay for the kitchen and toilet facilities.

The new Electoral Roll is being compiled. There are 20 people on the roll so far, but if you would like to be included, there is still time for the form to be filled in. April 30th is the cut off date. Being on the Electoral Roll gives you the right to voice opinions about church affairs. The following people were elected as officers on the PCC: Mrs Chris Bryant is secretary. Mr Stan Morris is treasurer. Mrs Joyce Kellner is Deanery representative and the churchwardens are Mr Harry Ayris and Mr Chris Bryant. All standing members agreed to continue serving. They are

Lady Bonsor, Mrs Brenda Howell, Mrs June Linney, Rev Peter Lymbery and Mrs Christine Sheppard.

The Church coffee morning, which took place on March 9th, was very successful, despite a few misgivings because several key people were unable to attend. Thanks are due to everyone who contributed, by helping on the day, donating cakes, tombola prizes, raffle prizes and bric-a-brac and coming for a coffee and a chat. The sum of £181 was raised for church funds.

On Mothering Sunday there were about 40 people in church, including several children, parents and grandparents. Little bunches of daffodils were distributed to the children to give to their mothers. White wine and a lovely fruitcake, made by Mrs Joyce Kellner, were enjoyed by everyone after the service. It was a very special day for three people because they took their first communion. Michelle Wilde, Karen Bodily and Richard Walpole, who had been confirmed in Linslade by the Bishop of Buckingham, the Right Rev. Mike Hill, were welcomed by the Rev Peter Lymbery and the whole congregation, into All Saints' little community. Many thanks to Alistair Brown from Hollingdon for helping Peter Lymbery by being a server.

The mason bees in the church walls are coming out of their holes. Six to eight males have been seen flitting about the entrances to the holes waiting for the females to emerge from their cocoons. The next task (which may not be easy) is to block up the holes, when they are all outside and hope they will use the bamboo sticks as new homes. Many thanks to Chris Bryant for producing the explanatory laminated notices. N.B. The date of the Church

Fete has had to be moved from July to Saturday August 31st 2002. If anyone is interested in going on a pilgrimage to Walsingham to visit the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, now is the time to book up. Deposits of £10.00, non-returnable, are being accepted, in order to secure a place. The cost of accommodation is £65.90 and there will be an additional cost for the coach, payable later on. The dates for the pilgrimage are Friday October 11th to Sunday October 13th. Contact Peter on 371235 or Christine on 270377 for more information.

Friends of Soulbury Church

A musical evening has been arranged for Sunday 21st April in the Church at 6.30pm. Local amateurs will be singing popular easy-listening songs and excerpts from West End musicals. Tickets at £5, or £3.50 senior citizens and children will include a drink on arrival. They are available from Paul or Sam Mardlin 270292 or Amanda Lindsay 270540.

Jubilee Celebrations

Arrangements are beginning to look more settled now, and as many villagers have spoken to their local caller, we are getting a better picture of how to manage the planned entertainments to suit as many as possible. Barn Dance tickets for Sun 2nd June 7.30-11.30 will be available shortly, from any member of the committee, phone numbers below. The cost will be £10, or £5 for a child under 14, or £7.50 for senior citizens. There will be a bar on the night and of course this price includes the Pig Roast and a dessert.

On the Monday there will be a fete atmosphere with a children's party, music, tea for the senior citizens of the village, and stalls. Teas will

also be available for everyone else. Anyone who would like to hire a pitch for the afternoon, - crafts, artefacts, etc will be most welcome. A £10 fee will be charged and you will have to provide your own tables. A reminder that there is a Fancy Dress competition with the theme 'Kings and Queens' which will be in 2 groups, - 6year olds and under, and 7years and up, with two prizes for each group. This will be judged at 2.00pm on Monday 3rd June.

Mugs will be presented to all the children 16years and under in the village. These are unique Soulbury Jubilee mugs and are available to the rest of the public for £6 each. To book your mug for fee payers - call 270377.

In the meantime, funds are being raised to help cover the cost of these entertainments and to give the village a lasting memorial to the Queen's Jubilee. A Jubilee commemorative sign, something along the same lines as the Wing village sign, is planned. We would like to hold a competition for the design of this sign, which would be around 2'6" square. So any of you who have a flare for putting images together - here's your chance. Get drawing. The deadline will be announced later.

Raffle tickets are selling well, but keep up the good work! Counterfoils and money to your local caller or June Cleveland, 14 Chapel Hill (270537). The biggest fund raiser we hope will be the Auction of Promises on April 13th in the Clubroom. Some of the items or services promised so far are a meal for 4 cooked in your own home, a car, driver and trailer for a trip to the tip, baking a cake, personalised hand made cards, a bottle of Moet, chauffeur to the airport etc etc. Jackie would be

pleased to receive more lots A.S.A.P.(please call Jackie on 270619 or Paul on 270292) and of course do come along on the night and enjoy the fun. The catalogue will be delivered a week before; early bids (maybe you can't attend) can be recorded with Maureen 270418 Paul 270292, Christine 270377 and Liz 272545. Next meeting for any interested parties is at 8.00pm at Jackie's, Mon 8th April.

The Neighbourhood Watch

The meeting on Thursday 14 March was interesting and useful. It was disappointing that only 8 members of the public turned up despite 3 mentions in the LBO and 1 in the VNL and the distribution of a last minute reminder to most houses. The latter did however produce a number of apologies and offers of help.

Helen Thomas, the NHW Administrator for the Aylesbury Police District, talked about how to make watches really effective and PC Flowerdew, the Crime Reduction Officer for the district, spoke about the protection of property and the person.

PC Briggenshaw, the local beat officer, illustrated how NHW helps him and answered questions on local policing.

Steps are in hand to try and break the parish up into 20 or 21 sectors of 12 or 13 houses to give a more effective means of distributing police messages and the quarterly Aylesbury Vale Watch Update.

Watch Update has now been put into circulation in each of the 21 sectors and residents are asked to pass it on within 24 hrs, indicating whether or not they are interested in seeing it in the future, and if you do not see it within the next two weeks ask your neighbour if they have got it! A similar experiment is being conducted with Police

messages (Ring Master). In this case it is really necessary to pass the message on within an hour if you can. Copies will also appear on the Notice board at the Church, the Clubroom, The Forge and 31 The Green.

The co-ordinators will be meeting on 25 April at 8pm in the Clubroom to discuss ways of improving distribution of magazines and messages.

It is appreciated that most of the outlying area have informal arrangements already, but it maybe that some residents would like to see the NHW magazine and receive the Ring Master messages.

May Fayre. Leighton Buzzard May 6th. Alf Peacock will be running his usual stall at the May Fayre in aid of the Parkinson's Society. If anyone has any books, Alf would be particularly pleased to receive them: 270541.

Bat Warden Scheme

AVDC Countryside Services are aiming to help protect bats in this area. As a species, bats are highly threatened. They are looking for volunteers to conduct surveys of their local patch, to keep records of sightings and to try to discover summer and winter roosts. Wardens can carry out as much work as suits them, all contributions will be extremely valuable. Training days will be organised and the launch will be marked with a training session on Sat 18th May at Winslow Centre. If anyone is interested please call 01296 427972.

Leaving Soulbury

It is with some sadness that we learn of the departure from the village of Mr and Mrs Harold Cheney of Brook Cottages. They came to the village in 1948, the year they were married, and have lived here

ever since. Harold was well known, particularly in Leighton Buzzard, for all the voluntary social work he undertook. He was for years connected with The Women's Aid refuge, Willen Hospice, the Baptist Church and visited and helped the elderly. He was a member of Stewkley Methodist Church and will be sorely missed by many, many people. Winifred worked at the Westminster Bank, now the Nat. West. in Leighton High Street, as a young woman, brought up two children, then worked at the Stonegate egg packing premises at Hillcroft and finally moved to work for Lancer Boss. Winifred has been ill for some 10 years with a very weak heart, which is what has prompted them to move near to their daughter in Ludgran, near Penzance in Cornwall. We wish them all the best in their future home.

Mr and Mrs Jan Chetciwicz of Dean Farm Lane are also moving. Jan and Christine have lived here nearly 3 years but have decided to return to Canada. They are going to Calgary, Alberta, further South than where they were before and near family. We wish them all the best in the future and hope they settle down quickly. The Millennium Green trustees will certainly miss Jan - he mowed the grass frequently and walked his husky regularly on the Green.

We also have to say goodbye to Brian Mead and Lorna Stephen who have moved into Linslade. They made such a big contribution to village life that they will be greatly missed - even though they are not too far away.

Welcome

We would like to welcome to the village Daniel and Julie Axtell Powell, and their four daughters, who have come to live on The Green.

Peter Bone

We are very sorry to hear of the death of Peter Bone of Rislip Farm, where he was born some 60 years ago and which he later farmed. As a young man Peter was a keen sportsman and played cricket and football for Stoke Hammond. He was also very active as Chairman of Stoke Hammond Parish Council. Pete was a farmer who loved the land and countryside he worked in. You could always be sure of a cheery hello and wave when he passed through the village on his tractor. A few weeks before he passed away, he planted a copse of trees on his land, which will be a lovely way for everyone to remember him by.

We offer our sincere condolences to Barbara, Nicola, Robert and his two grandchildren.

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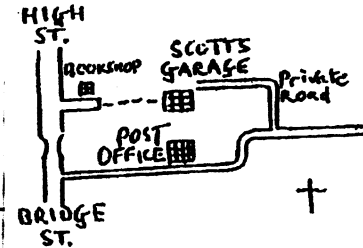
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**ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS**

Vicar: Rev Norman Cotton, The Vicarage, Stewkley – Tel 240287
Curate: Rev Peter Lymbery, 17 Harwell Crescent, Leighton Buzzard – Tel 371235
All Sunday Services in April will be Sung Eucharist at 11.30a.m.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR APRIL 2002

(In the clubroom unless otherwise stated)

Monday	April 15&29	2.pm – 2.15pm 2.20pm – 2.35pm	Mobile Library – Bungalows Lay-by Stewkley Road Bus Stop
Friday	April 5 & Thurs 18		A.V.D.C.Waste Paper & Recycling collection
Tuesday	April 9	8pm	W.I. Memories of Afghanistan
Wednesday	April 10	2.30pm	Social Circle
Saturday	April 13	7.30pm	Auction Of Promises
Wednesday	April 17	7.45pm	Women's Fellowship
Sunday	April 21	6.30pm	Musical Evening in Church
Monday	April 22	8pm	M.G.Trustees Meeting
Thursday	April 25	8pm	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators Meeting
Monday	April 29	8pm	Parish Council Meeting

DIARY DATES

Monday	May 6	The Grand Draw of the Jubilee Raffle will be held on the Millennium Green.
Sunday	July 14	Ramble & B.B.Q will be held on the Millennium Green

Items for the next issue by 19th April 2002 to: Mrs Miller 270545, Mrs Bunyan 270461, Mrs Norman 270483, Mrs Fairbairn 270674, or Debbie@dbegroup.co.uk