



No. 257

December 1997/January 1998

We would like to wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year. This is our last newsletter for the year and the next newsletter will be written towards the end of January.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the recent meeting the Chairman warmly thanked Mr Stanley H Morris for his enthusiasm and willingness to help with any matters which concerned the local community. Stan was singled out as being exceptionally helpful, not only to the Church, to which he gave an enormous amount of his time and effort, but also to the village which benefitted as much from his energy and industry. The Chairman also thanked Mrs Jean Morris as he recognised that in a partnership one person does not act alone. Mr Peacock then asked Jean to present Stan with the Parish Council award for outstanding service to the community of Soulbury, which Stan was pleased to accept.

The meeting then continued with a discussion on the funding of Stockgrove Park. The Parish Council had been asked to comment on the suggestions from Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire to raise money through car parking schemes and an Educational Centre and vending kiosk. The Council recommended that the joint owners might explore other financial possibilities such as using revenue raised from local mineral extraction, before resorting to these other ideas, none of which were very welcome.

The Planning Officer had replied to some of the Parish Council's enquiries regarding the multiplication of stable blocks and paraphernalia associated with horses and small holdings, but the Council was still worried that there was not enough restriction or regulation and asked for further clarification and enforcement.

The Clerk was asked to send a letter to the Footpaths Officer regarding footpaths 5 and 6, and it was noted that some action had been taken over Footpath 9.

Councillor Luther Brazier reported on the need to form a Millenium Green Project Group to liaise with the Millenium Green Advisor. A meeting has been arranged for December 2nd. As many interested parties as possible will be advised of this gathering.

The dates of the next Parish Council meetings were decided as December 15th, January 19th, February 16th and March 16th.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS

PCC The next meeting will be held in the Chapel Schoolroom at 8 pm on Monday 8th December.

THE AUTUMN FAIR held on 8 November raised £229 for the General Fund. Thanks to all those who helped by donating goods and looking after stalls and to all those who supported the event by attending.

COFFEE MORNING - Tuesday 2 December

Dr and Mrs Owen have kindly offered to hold a coffee morning, Bring and Buy and raffle in aid of the Church General Fund on Tuesday 2 December 10.30 am onwards at The Old Vicarage. Admission is 50p which includes coffee and biscuits.

CHRISTMAS BINGO in support of General Funds will be held in the Clubroom on Saturday 6 December at 7.30 pm. Prize donations will be welcome.

CHURCH CLEANING Help would be appreciated from 9 am to 11 am on Fridays 19 December and 16 January.

HEATING In the next few weeks 13 under seat heaters will be installed at the end of the pews nearest to the aisle. It is hoped that this will give a little extra warmth.

RESTORATION NEWS

THE FRIENDS OF SOULBURY CHURCH COMMITTEE will meet in the Chapel Schoolroom on Thursday 4th December at 8 pm.

A CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG is being arranged by Tony Saint, Sue Taylor and Chris Jones at The Boot on the evening of Sunday 14th December. There will be a collection for the Restoration Fund.

BURNS NIGHT will be celebrated with a traditional supper (four course meal provided by the ladies of the W.I.) and entertainment on Saturday 24 January 1998 starting at 7.15 pm in the Clubroom. We expect a full house so order your tickets early (£8 each) from Chris Bryant on 270607.

CHRISTMAS CARDS We have not been able to get a new card this year, but we can offer the previous and very attractive card with a picture of the Church at the bargain price of 5p each from Stan Morris on 270577. Stan also has packs of wrapping paper at 30p for 8 sheets, Tea towels with Soulbury scenes at £2.75, Black and White Notecards depicting the Church at 5p each and prints of the Church at £25 framed and £12.50 unframed.

HOLLINGDON DEPOT HEDGE

Permission has now been granted for going ahead with planting a screening hedge along the frontage of Hollingdon Depot. The Environment Group will need as many volunteers as possible to help with this project which will take place on Sunday 14th December. We will need to cut and clear the area, dig a long ditch partially refilled with manure (which will have to be collected), and then plant and protect the saplings. Anyone who can help in any way please come along at 10 am to the Depot Exit with tools (spade/fork) or telephone Liz Miller 270545 beforehand. Your assistance will be much appreciated.

WI

Tuesday 9th December: WI Christmas Party, 7.30 pm in the Clubroom - cost is £6. Please bring a soup bowl, dinner plate, cutlery for 3 course meal and a wine glass. (This is to save on washing-up, but utensils can be provided if you forget!)

Many members would like to continue the tradition of swapping parcels. If you would like to join in, please bring a wrapped parcel of approximate value £3. Alternatively (or even as well) a parcel can be donated for needy local children - please label with BOY or GIRL and appropriate age range the gift is suitable for. This will be distributed via All Saints Church and Peter Lymbery, who has contacts with the Social Services in Leighton Buzzard and district.

This event is restricted to MEMBERS ONLY. Please inform Margaret Rowe if you would like to come and your name is NOT already on the list. For further information about any of the meetings or membership, please telephone Margaret Rowe on 270355 or Mary Giles on 270568.

MOBILE LIBRARY

A new venue has been added to the Mobile Library's fortnightly itinerary in response to local requests. The vehicle will now call at the Bungalows lay-by below The Boot in the mornings 10.15 am until 10.30 am, as well as the afternoons at 2.35 pm by the bus-stop.

HOME SAFETY SCHEME

The Home Safety Scheme is a Help the Aged initiative which is offered through the existing AVDC Save Energy Home Service. The Home Service currently provides free or low cost household repairs, advice and energy insulation measures for the disabled and over 60s. The Help the Aged scheme will enable the Home Service to fit free mortise locks, window locks, smoke alarms, door viewers and door chains into the homes of all those aged over 60 in the AVDC area. For further information please contact Annette Deveson, Sustainable Development Officer at 84 Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QT or Tel 01296 585858 Ext 5087.

WELCOME

We are pleased to welcome to the village Greg Shimmin who has come to live in The High Road.

DEBBIE WALTON

The village has been stunned by the recent death of Debbie Walton at just 36 years old. Liver cancer claimed her life in the short time of three weeks from diagnosis. Debbie had lived in The High Road for about ten years with her husband Phil and her sons Jake and Ike. Over most of this time she worked at The Boot, mainly in the restaurant, where she was well known to all the customers from the village and further afield. She took an active part in village life participating in the work of the Friends of Soulbury Church, Neighbourhood Watch and helping with fund-raising at St Michael's School, Stewkley, where both sons are pupils. Our sympathy goes out to all her family and many friends.

CHILD MINDER

Experienced registered Child Minder has vacancy for two children. Phone 270130.

VEHICLE REPAIRS, SERVICING AND MOT TESTING

High quality workmanship from a friendly establishment convenient to Leighton Buzzard High Street.
David J Scott. Tel. 01525 373628.

JD ROOFING AND GENERAL BUILDING

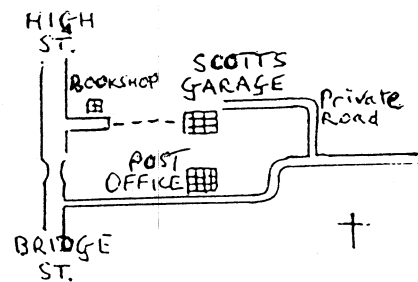
All work undertaken, extensions etc. Tel. 01525 270878.

HENDRICK JOOSTEN - GARDEN DESIGN

Professionally hand drawn plans, planting schemes and construction drawings for gardens large and small. From single consultation to full design, construction and planting. Specialists in ponds and water features. Plumtree Cottage, Soulbury. Tel. 01525 270597 or mobile 0831 681447.

GARDEN MACHINERY SERVICE

Repairs and sales by R.G.C. Machinery, Station Road, Mursley, MK17 0SA. Most leading makes supplied. Free local collection & delivery. Re-conditioned mowers usually available. Also suppliers of A.T.V.'s & farm machinery. Tel. 01296 720066.



ALL SAINTS CHURCH Vicar: Rev. Norman Cotton, The Vicarage, Stewkley. Tel. 240287

Sun Dec 7,14 & 21 11.30 am Sung Communion
Sunday Dec 21 4.00 pm Christingle Service *
Christmas Eve 11.30 pm Midnight Communion Service in the Chapel
Christmas Day 11.30 am Christmas Morning Communion
Sun Dec 28 + all in Jan 11.30 am Sung Communion

The Sunday Club will not meet on 21 December, 28 December and 4 January.

* Due to the large numbers who come to the Christingle we have revised the form of the service so that more people can see what is happening and be more comfortable. We also have a group from Leighton Buzzard Chapel to help us with the music. There will be tea afterwards in the Chapel.

METHODIST CHURCH Minister: Rev Ian Banks. The Manse, Stewkley. Tel 240251.

Dec 7 10 am Mr Ken Gregory
Dec 14 6 pm Rev I Banks Sacrament of Lords Supper
Dec 21 4 pm United Christingle Service
 Parish Church followed by tea in Methodist Chapel
Dec 24 11.30 pm Christmas Eve Communion
Dec 25 9.30 am Christmas Day Service
Dec 28 10 am Family Carol Service led by Mr K Edlington
Jan 4 10 am Mr P Mayle
Jan 11 6 pm Rev I Banks Covenant Service

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (meetings in the Clubroom unless otherwise stated)

Tues Dec 2 10.30 am Coffee Morning, The Old Vicarage
Sat Dec 6 7.30 pm Christmas Bingo
Mons Dec 8 & 22 & Jan 5 & 19
 10.15 - 10.30 am Mobile Library (High Road)
 2.35 - 2.50 pm Mobile Library (Stewkley Road)
Tues Dec 9 7.30 pm W.I. Christmas Party
Wed Dec 10 2.30 pm Social Circle
Sun Dec 14 10 am Planting Hollingdon Depot Hedge
Sun Dec 14 Evening Christmas Sing-a-Long at The Boot
Mon Dec 15 8 pm Parish Council Meeting
Wed Dec 17 W.F. Christmas Party, 21 The Green
Thurs Dec 4 ,11,18 7.30 pm Bowls Evening
Wed Dec 10 & 24 & Jan 7 & 21
Tues Jan 13 Woodland Waste Paper Collection
 WI "Shaker Communities in America" a talk by
 Dr Trevor May
Thurs Dec 4 & 18 & Jan 3 & 15 A.V.D.C Waste Paper Collection
Sat Dec 27, Sat Jan 3 & Fri Jan 9 A.V.D.C. Refuse Collections over Christmas period
(thereafter back to normal)

DIARY DATES

Jan 19, Feb 16 & Mar 16 Parish Council Meeting
Jan 24 Burns Night Supper

Items for next issue by 10 January to: Mrs Miller 270545, Mrs Bunyan 270461, Mrs Norman 270483 or Mrs Fairburn 270674.

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