



December 1999 / January 2000

No. 279

SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

THE NEWSLETTER !

Following our plea for help we are very grateful to Alan Friswell, Debbie Hulston, Jackie Ridley, Sam Stevens and Sharon Wegener for agreeing to join the team. To celebrate the new millennium we are relaunching the newsletter in this new format. We hope you like it and would be pleased to receive your comments - in favour or against !

If there is anything you would like to see in the newsletter which does not appear now, please let us know !



SEASONAL GREETINGS !

We would like to wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please remember if you are going to be away over the holidays, to secure your property and let your neighbours know so that they can keep an eye on your house. There have been a number of burglaries in the village over the course of the year and this gets worse as the days grow shorter.

MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

On November 4th a very successful working day was had on the Green with the R.A.F. Halton trainees. It was a fine sunny day and everyone worked very hard. Many thanks to Alf Peacock, Stan Morris and Fred Fountaine for supervising and helping. Also many thanks to everyone who loaned tools and wheelbarrows.

The amphitheatre area looks very impressive. Turf has been laid; a drain installed and a cedar, blue spruce and monkey-puzzle tree planted at the back; a trench for the hedge along by Andrews Close has been dug; the weeding and strimming, which are on-going tasks, are having a noticeable effect on the looks of the area. Holes have been dug for the specimen trees and orchard trees, which will arrive in December and be planted soon. We would welcome any help with the planting of these trees, so do please phone 270377, or 270545 if you would like to help in a work party.

Thanks are due to all those who have given trees and especially to Mr M Luxton and Rolly Andrews for laying the turf which, by the way, is very soft, so we do ask

the parents of children who sometimes cycle up there to ask their children to keep off the turf until it is firmly established.

The open meeting about the children's play area on the Green was not very well attended, but, those who were there, spoke out eloquently and the options were presented clearly. Thanks are due to the Reverend Norman Cotton for chairing the meeting. The trustees have now decided to have a very few simple, low-lying pieces of equipment made of wood. The Parish Council is planning in due course to upgrade the existing playground in Mount Pleasant and hopefully the more exciting, adventurous equipment will be installed there. However, it is immensely costly to do this so it will take time.

Christmas Cake Draw

The draw for the Christmas cake very kindly made by Mrs Pam Norman, will take place on December 4th. Tickets are on sale till then. Please phone Maureen Payne on 270418 if you would like some.

The 100 Club

The last 100 Club draw prize was won by number 27, Andy Wood from Leighton Buzzard. If you would like to join the 100 Club please phone Diane Lowes on 270 752.

Candlelit Procession

On New Year's Eve December 31st, to celebrate the Millennium, there will be a short dedication service on the Millennium Green at 3.30pm taken by the Reverend Norman Cotton and the Reverend Peter Lymbery, followed by a candlelit procession from the Green, and also one from the Methodist Chapel in Chapel Hill which will join together at the Church. Do please come along and join in. We want to mark this time in history in a meaningful way for everyone. It will give you time to ponder on the past 2000 years and the next 1000 years before you go out to your parties and other celebrations !

Thanks to Mr John Kimble of Stewkley, who went to collect our trees, and to the Conservation Foundation for organising the countrywide project, Soulbury has received two little yew trees, one to be planted on the Green, and one in the churchyard. They are cuttings from ancient yew trees, some as old as 3000 to 4000 years old. Ours, however are only 6cm high, if that, so it will be a few millennia yet before they grow to look like their parents !



ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS

Peter Lymbery

Peter sent a note for the November Newsletter but unfortunately it arrived a day too late, so here it is before any more water flows under the bridge: "After 5 years of training I have finally entered the priesthood and such a lot of people have given me help, too many to mention by name. I thank you all for your practical help, advice and prayers (and Heaven knows I needed them). God bless you all. Your priest and friend, Peter".

Coffee Morning

The coffee morning in the Clubroom on Saturday 13th November raised £208 for All Saints General Fund. The proceeds came from refreshments, stalls selling bric-a-brac and church goods together with a tombola and a raffle. The PCC thanks all those who donated items for sale, provided the refreshments, manned the stalls and who came along to support the event.

Remembrance Sunday

The service at the War Memorial the following day was conducted by the Rev Peter Lymbery. This was followed by a service in the Church with a sermon by John Hibbard. Thanks to Harold Cheyney for, once again, tidying up the area surrounding the memorial.

Church Cleaning

Help would be appreciated from 10am to 11am on Saturday 4th December. In the period from 16th to 18th December it is hoped to give the Church a really good clean for Christmas, paying attention to the candle grease on the mats and to the floor. Please talk to Stan Morris about this.

Christmas Bingo

A Bingo evening in support of Church General Funds will be held in the Clubroom on Saturday 11th December. Eyes down at 7.30pm. The cost is £1 per book (8 houses). There will be refreshments and a raffle. Prize donations will be welcome.

Christingle

This year's joint Church and Chapel service of carols, readings, Blessing of the Crib and music will be on Sunday 19th December at 2.50pm for 3pm at All Saints. The Marion Burch Accordion Band will provide some of the music. Those attending are invited to bring gifts for deprived children. There will be light refreshments afterwards in the Chapel.

FRIENDS OF SOULBURY CHURCH

Current Position

The Committee met on Sunday 21st November and were advised that Phase2 was complete with the exception of some DIY work on gulleys etc. All bills had been paid and most of our share of

money for the bells was in hand or had been promised. There was still hope that the bells would be back for the New Year. It was possible that there might be a temporary cash flow problem between paying the contractor and obtaining the grant from the Millennium Commission but this should not cause too much of a headache.

There is still about £80,000 worth of work to carry out over the next few years so fund raising will continue, but on a much reduced scale.

Minstrals and Mince Pies

This is the title of a concert to be held in the Church on Sunday 12th December at 3pm with the Musicians of Voice Versa. The concert will last about an hour and a half plus an interval for refreshments. There will be a silver plate collection for the Restoration Fund. Further details from Norman Cotton on 01525 240287.



Christmas Sing-A-Long

This popular event has taken place every year since 1994 and once again, Tony Saint is making the Boot available for a convivial evening with Sue Taylor, Chris Jones and their friends on Sunday 19th December at 7.30pm. There will be a collection for the Restoration Fund.

Burns Night

This will be celebrated with a traditional supper (four course meal provided by the ladies of the W.I.) and entertainment on Saturday 22nd January 2000 starting at 7.15pm in the Clubroom. We expect a full house so order your tickets early from Stan Morris on 270577.

Christmas Cards

We still have some very attractive Christmas Cards showing the Church and celebrating the rededication of the Church Bells for the Millennium 2000. The price is £1 for four and they can be obtained from Brenda Howell on 270307 or from The Boot. Proceeds to the Restoration Fund.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Bucks County Council had confirmed their intention to resurface the whole of the path from the Old Vicarage down to the Church. Concern was expressed that a tarmaced footpath would be tending to urbanise the village and it was agreed to discuss with Bucks County Council whether there was a compromise which would harden the footpath but at the same time allow grass to grow through.

It was agreed in principle that additional signs similar to the one in Leighton Road (with slightly revised colouring and wording) be erected on the other approaches to the village. The Chairman would check that there

was no objection from County Council.

Bucks County Council had agreed to trim back the hedge along the Mead.

The Parish Council unanimously supported the idea of having one large fete next year with the proceeds divided between the Church and the Millennium Green, instead of two fetes as this year.

A villager drew attention to the danger of motorists turning out of Hollingdon Lane towards Stewkley. It was a potential accident spot because of the bad visibility and also because the road signs were too near the junction. It was agreed that urgent action was needed and the Clerk said he would contact the County Council with a view to having the road signs moved further away from the junction and also the placing of an additional sign indicating that schoolchildren (waiting for the school bus) were in the area.

It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would cut the grass on the Millennium Green.

The village has been kept very neat and tidy over the summer and many thanks go to Stan Morris and his small team of volunteers who have put literally hundreds of hours into keeping the Green, the playground, the verges and the paths so tidy.

REFUSE COLLECTION OVER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

There will be a normal collection on Thursday 23rd December, and then no collection on Thursday 30th December. The next collection will be on Friday 7th January. Because there will be no collection during the middle week of the holiday period you may need to store extra refuse. Plastic sacks supplied by the Council will be available free of charge from the Clubroom when it is open. Refuse collection will be back to normal from Thursday 13th January. There will be no recycling collection on the 30th December so there will be a 4 week gap between collections. Again free sacks will be available from the Clubroom to store extra paper, plastics and cans.

DOG WASTE SACKS

These are available free of charge from the Clubroom when it is open (see pull-out). Please use them.

BABYSITTER NEEDED

Babysitter required for children aged 12 and 9. Please call Mrs MacDonald on 270448.

Debbie Hulston is also looking for a babysitter. Tel. 270349.

And, Sam Stevens is looking for a babysitter. Tel. 270514.

IRONING SERVICE offered.

Reasonable rates. Call Clare, on 270802.

CALLING ALL LADIES IN THE VILLAGE!

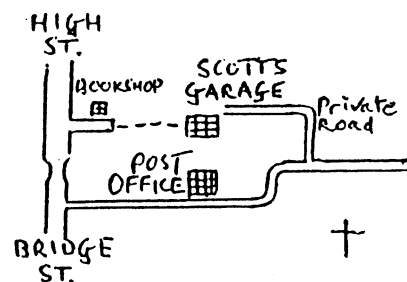
Would you be interested in forming a new group to meet socially and possibly raise funds. All ages welcome and particularly anyone new(ish) to the village who feels that they do not know anyone else. First meeting for a drink in The Boot on Thursday 27th January. If you cannot come but would like to be involved, please call Jackie Ridley on 270619 or Catherine Fairbairn on 270674.

GARDEN MACHINERY SERVICE

Repairs and Sales by RGC Machinery, Station Road, Mursley, MK17 0SA. Most leading makes supplied. Free local collection and delivery. Reconditioned mowers usually available. Also suppliers of ATV's & Farm Machinery. Tel. 01296 720066.

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



CALENDAR PULL-OUT

DECEMBER 1999 / JANUARY 2000

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (in the Clubroom unless otherwise stated)

Wed December	8 th	2.30pm	Social Circle
Sat December	11 th	7.30pm	Christmas Bingo
Sun December	12 th	3.00pm	Minstrels & Mince Pies at All Saints Church
Tues December	14 th	8.00pm	WI
Wed December	15 th	8.00pm	Womens Fellowship
Mon December	13 th	2.00pm-2.15pm 2.20pm-2.35pm	Mobile Library at Bungalows layby Mobile Library at Bus Stop
Sun December	19 th	7.30pm	Sing-A-Long at the Boot
Mon December	20 th	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting
Thur December	2 nd , 9 th	7.30pm	Bowls Evening (Nb. Bo bowls on 16 th , 23 rd or 30 th Dec)
Thur December	2 nd , 16 th		A.V.D.C. Waste Paper & Recycling Collection
Thur January	6 th , 13 th	7.30pm	Bowls Evening
Thur January	6th, 20th 13 27		A.V.D.C. Waste Paper & Recycling Collection
Sat January	22 nd	7.15pm	Burns Night

METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev. Brian Trudgian, The Manse, Stewkley, Tel. 240251

Sunday December	5 th	10.00am	Dr. Roger Owen – Family Service
Sunday December	12 th	6.00pm	Mr Mike Owens – Carol Service
Sunday December	19 th	3.00pm	Christingle Service in Parish Church
Friday December	24 th	11.30pm	Christmas Eve Service with Communion
Sunday January	2 nd	10.00am	Rev. Bob Morris – United Service with Parish Church in Methodist Church, with family communion.
Sunday January	9 th	6.00pm	Rev. K Salter – Covenant Service
Sunday January	16 th	6.00pm	Rev. G Rogers – Chairman of the District
See All Saints Church for details of Sunday Club			

ALL SAINTS CHURCH SERVICES

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

Curate: The Rev Peter Lymbery, 17 Hartwell Crescent, Leighton Buzzard, Tel. 371235

Sunday December	5 th	8.00am 4.00pm	Holy Communion Evensong
Sunday December	12 th	11.30am	Sung Eucharist
Sunday December	19 th	11.30am 2.50pm for 3.00pm	Said Communion Christingle **
Christmas Eve	24 th	11.30pm	Communion Service in the Chapel
Christmas Day	25 th	10.30am	Christmas Morning Communion
Sunday December	26 th	10.15am	No service at All Saints. Sung Communion at St. Michaels in Stewkley.
Friday December	31 st	3.30pm	Short service at the Millennium Green (including dedication) with candlelit procession to the Church for another short service. **
New Years Day	1 st	11.45am	Service for the New Millennium **
Sunday January	2 nd	10.00am	Family Communion at the Chapel. ** No Service at All Saints.
Remaining Sundays in January		11.30am	Sung Eucharist
Sunday February	6 th	8.00am 4.00pm	Holy Communion Evensong

**** Joint services for Church and Chapel congregations**

No Sunday Club 19th and 26th December or 2nd January. Resumes on 9th January. New faces welcome. This is a joint Church and Chapel project. Bring the children along, stay and see what happens. 10am each Sunday in the Chapel. Contacts are Christine Shepherd on 270377 and Margaret Harris on 376492.