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



ADVENT SUNDAY - Holy Communion 11:30am 2nd December Sunday 11:30am Holy Communion 9th December Sunday CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 10am-5pm 15th December Saturday CHRISTINGLE SERVICE (no morning service) 4:00pm 23rd December Sunday MIDNIGHT MASS 10:00pm Monday 24th December CHRISTMAS DAY - Holy Communion 10:00am 25th December Tuesday Benefice at Holy Trinity, Drayton Parslow (no service in Soulbury) 10:00am 30th December Sunday **EPIPHANY** - Holy Communion 11:30am 6th January Sunday FAMILY SERVICE - The Wise Men Visit Soulbury 11:30am 13th January Sunday Holy Communion 11:30am 20th January Sunday Holy Communion 11:30am 27th January Sunday

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursdays	Dec 13th, Jan			G1 1
	10th, Jan 24th	6:30pm	Youth Club	Clubroom
Friday	14th December	1:00pm	Mobile Library - Stewkley Road Bus Stop	
Monday	17th January	7:30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Clubroom
Friday	11th January		AVDC Refuse Collection	
	6th Dec,5th Jan		AVDC Collection for Recycling	
	31st Jan			dia
Thursday	20th Dec,17th Jan		AVDC Collection for Recycling & Glass	

Thank you to Soulbury Parish Council for kindly sponsoring this month's newsletter.

If you would like to sponsor an issue, or submit items for publication by 25th January, please contact:

Mrs. Bunyan 270461

Mrs. Norman 270483

or email: soulburynews@dsl.pipex.com

# SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

Number 372

DECEMBER 2007 / JANUARY 2008

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our readers.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Great news! The Parish has been delighted with the way Mr Keel and his garden team of workers have looked after the village this year. The grass has been kept cut and the edges strimmed, people have been saying how nice it is to see the village at its best. Those living at the top end of the village around The Green really appreciate seeing it all looking so nice. Mr Keel and his team are expected to carry on the contract for another two years. Thank you Mr Keel and lads.

Concerns have been raised about the legality of the "Land Acquired and Wanted" sign at the bottom of the Great Brickhill Road, near the Three Locks junction causing a possible traffic hazard by restricting views of the road. There are also concerns over the new 40mph limit ending 25yds down the lane off the Soulbury/Stewkley road. At the Council meeting the proposed changes to the T junction where the Stewkley Road joins Soulbury were discussed. It appears that the priority will be changed in favour of the Stewkley traffic. It will be interesting to see the effect that this has on traffic in the village so soon after the bypass opening to reduce traffic flow in the village.

Cllr Jennings reported that the proposed Wing bypass has been shelved for now. Council funding has been reduced so this will mean some existing service will be cut or reduced. Community expenses have risen such as street lighting repairs and dog bins being emptied. We would like to mention that it is illegal and inconsiderate to park on the pavement so please think twice and don't make it difficult for pedestrians, especially those with small children, prams and wheelchairs. The next Council meeting will be held on 17th December, please come along and join in so we can raise any issues that should be looked into next year.

### CHURCH NEWS

Pastoral Reorganisation: The Deanery Synod meeting was held on 20th November and was attended by the new Archdeacon, Karen Gorham and Mary Saunders, wearing her Registrar's hat (Diocesan legal person). At the meeting the new proposals for the reorganisation of the deanery were passed. The Deanery Synod is the decision making body for the deanery which includes the Brickhills, the Mursley Benefice, Stewkley, Ivinghoe, Wing/Wingrave Benefices and Cheddington Parish. The clergy present stressed that this was their agreed plan and that they were quite happy with it. There were objections and many voices raised concerns over the increased workload for the clergy. The Deanery Synod voted

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AND FAREWELL

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FROM CANADA

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in favour of the proposals by 20 votes to two, with three abstentions. As many of you will know, our benefice will lose Drayton Parslow after 30 years. It is with regret that this is happening but we are looking forward to welcoming our two new parishes of Cublington and Aston Abbots. The new arrangement will probably commence immediately after Christmas on an informal basis, but Mary Saunders reported that the procedure will take as long as a year to be completed.

Christmas Tree Festival: This will take place on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December from 10am to 5pm. Everyone is invited to come along to the church and vote for the best dressed and most original Christmas tree. There will be a raffle, Christmas music, festive coffee and mince pies. Admission will be £2 for adults, £1 for concessions and free for children. Several groups in the village have been invited to enter the competition and decorate a tree. If anybody else would like to decorate a tree then bring it along on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December when the church will be open. See you there!

Please note the different times for service over Christmas. Midnight Mass starts at 10pm. Christmas day Holy Communion is at 10am. The Christingle Services on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December will be our traditional service except that we will not be collecting toys as we have done in the past. After the Christingle, the next family service will be on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 11:30am when the Rev. Michelle Morton will talk about Wise Men visiting Soulbury! Come along and see what that's about.

Graveyard Rules & Regulations: At the last meeting of the PCC concern was expressed about the general lack of awareness about what can and cannot be put on a grave. The rules are established by the Chancellor in consultation with the Diocesan Advisory Committee and unfortunately parishes and PCCs can be fined if the rules are discovered to have been broken. Please contact churchwarden Christine Sheppard on 01525 270377 if you would like a copy of the rules. There are rules such as asking for permission and paying a fee for headstones larger than 4'x 3'x 6" and although some rules may seem a bit restrictive we are legally required to follow them.

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SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

## MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

The end of year is a quiet affair with Liz and Nan taking care of the usual ongoing tasks. The Green is doing its winter thing now and the birds are getting the most from all the fruit and berries which will hopefully see them through the season. 100 Club winning numbers over the year have been 73, 32, 72, 89, 55, 4, 41, 36, 40 and 45 - November and December's will be announced next time. Now is the time to invite you take part in the 100 Club for 2008. Tickets cost £1 a month with half the proceeds given away in prize money every month. You will be allocated a number for the year and each month a number is pulled out of the drum at the Trustees meeting. The person owning the lucky number wins the cash prize. The odds of you winning are far better than the National Lottery and you will be supporting your Millennium Green. There were 100 members for 2007 which meant a monthly payout of £50. Thank you to everyone who took part this year, sorry if you didn't win! If you would like to be included in the draw for 2008 then contact Jane on 01525 270532 for details.

## LOLLIPOPS BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Lollipops has been running since November in the Clubroom every Tuesday 10 to 11.30. Babies and toddlers three years and under are most welcome to join us (don't forget your parents!). We will run until Tuesday 18 December, break for Christmas and start up again on the first Tuesday of the January school term.

We would like to say thank you to everyone who has made a donation to Lollipops, especially to Kingfisher Carpets in Leighton Buzzard for their generous contribution.

For further information about Lollipops please contact Alan on 01525 they move onto a new pub in Leicestershire. 270722 or Claire on 01525 270572.

#### YOUTH CLUB

The last youth club session of 2007 will be the Christmas Party on Thursday  $13^{\rm th}$  December. Sessions will restart on Thursday  $10^{\rm th}$  January.

#### **FAREWELL**

Paul and Tina Stevens are leaving The Boot after over five years in Soulbury. We wish them all the best as they move onto a new pub in Leicestershire.

## THANK YOU MESSAGES

We would like to thank Jackie who at short notice, very kindly delivered over 40 newsletters for us. A big thank you to Alan Humphreys, who has also volunteered to help. Jackie and Alan will now share the delivery.

A donation of £55 was made to Soulbury's All Saints Church fund from the material sale in November. A very big thank you who made the effort to come along and support the event.

The family of Daphne Booth would like to thank all those who made kind donations in lieu of flowers. A total of £110 was raised for the Florence Nightingale Trust.

The Trustees of the Millennium Green would like to thank all the people who have helped, contributed and offered support over the year.

The Reverend Michelle Morton would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Merry (but not too merry!!) New Year. She is looking forward to the challenges of 2008.

#### **Get Fit Soulbury**

Thank you to everyone who expressed an interest. The first run will be at 9am on Sunday 16th December, meeting at the rock in Chape. Hill. There will be three routes (depending on who comes) one for walkers, one for beginner runners and a more challenging one for those who want it.

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM CANADA

As I am typing this, we have had no snow yet. By this time last year it had already been here three weeks. We will, for certain, have a White Christmas. It all looks very picturesque to start with but you know it will be around for five months. It seems strange to watch it snow when the sun is shining. We may only get two or three heavy falls but it just doesn't want to go. Never mind, the shovelling is good exercise and our dog, Alfie loves it. Dave the budgie is quite happy to sit indoors and watch us fall about!!

We want to say a special Happy Christmas to Mum & Dad and Sandra & Dan and to our friend and former next door neighbour, Arthur Wrighton. Also, Chris & Chris, Val & Dave, Maureen & Doug.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone from Helen, Melvin, Dave and Alfie.

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#### The Gardening Gal

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