

SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 416 DECEMBER 2011 / JANUARY 2012

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council meeting took place in the Parish Hall on Monday 21 November. The next meeting is Monday 19th December at 19:30 and the January meeting is on Monday 23rd January at 19:30. All are welcome. The Parish Council wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Children's playground: We are delighted that the new goal posts have proved successful having received a letter of thanks only days after installing them. We hope the children enjoy these.

We are still hoping to find somebody in the parish that works for one of the big banks, in order that we have a chance to fund match our current funds to buy playground equipment. If you work for one of the big banks, please contact Parish Councillor Alan Stevens on 01525 270213 to discuss the possibility of obtaining match funding from your bank. It is a requirement of the bank and there would be no cost to you.

Christmas Tree: We would be grateful for volunteers to help install the Christmas tree into the beacon. We have use of a tractor with a lifting arm to get the Christmas tree to the correct height, but need help placing it into the basket. If you can help light up the tree for the season of goodwill, it will be much appreciated. Can you spare just an hour on Saturday morning, 10th December? Please contact Vic on 01525 270537.

We would like to thank Robin Heath from Hollingdon Grange for his donation for the Christmas tree.

Parish Hall: We would like to thank Ian Housley for his assistance with many jobs to the parish hall, more recently installing cigarette bin, interior notice board and grab rail to the entrance door.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons: Help R.A.B.I light up the land. On Monday 4th June 2012 the aim is to light a chain of 2,012 beacons across the UK and Commonwealth. As official farming partner for the beacon campaign, R.A.B.I aims to light 1,000 of the target total. They will use the opportunity to raise funds and reinforce awareness of who they are and what they do to support members of the farming community who are facing hardship. Before the Parish Council register to take part in this national celebration, they are seeking volunteers to organise the preparation and lighting of the beacon. An initial meeting will be organised in order that information and advice can be sought. If you would like to be part of this event, please contact Vic on 01525 270537.

Parking : A plea to motorists not to park on the footpaths in the village. Pedestrians and mothers with pushchairs are finding it very difficult to pass.

New Social Group : ON WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7TH AT 2PM IN THE PARISH HALL, anyone and everyone who is interested, is invited to partake of tea, coffee, biscuits and cake. It is an opportunity for you to meet other people from the village who would like to spend an hour or so relaxing over a cup of tea and chatting. We hope to get an idea of what people would like the group to do, to maybe draw up a list of people who would be willing to give older people lifts to town, visit people if they are lonely and perhaps meet once a month in the Hall. It remains to be seen how the group will develop. So, if you think you might be able to help or, on the other hand, you would like a bit of help and a kind ear to confide in, come along and find out what it's about.

The Soulbury Sing-along

Due to the unprecedented, resounding success of last year's event we propose to hold another stupendous production.

Saturday 10th December is the date, Soulbury Parish Hall is the place
7pm for 7.30pm is the time, Fish and chips is the menu
Chicken and chips is an option

£10 per person is the cost

Alan is the person to book your tickets from, 01525 270213 is the number you need. Please bring your own drinks and glasses

CHURCH NEWS

Advent Course : Apologies for not having put this in the newsletter last month. Unfortunately, the first meeting of the course has already taken place but everyone is very welcome to come to all or just one of the three remaining get-togethers. They will take place as follows:

Wednesday November 30th at Aston Abbots in the Village Hall at 7.45pm

Wednesday December 7th at Cublington in St Nicholas' Church at 7.45pm

Thursday December 14th at Soulbury in the Parish Hall at 7.45pm

All sessions begin with coffee and biscuits and time to chat. Then we have a talk, followed by group discussions. After that, we join together and pool ideas, comments and thoughts and at 9.30pm it's time to go home. Do come along if you think it might be of interest to you.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE from the Reverend Philip Derbyshire:

Dear all, Well it looks as though winter might have started to kick in at last. As I drove to Church on 20th November it was through a considerable amount of murk with quite a chilly edge to it all! Could this all mean that Christmas is on its way? It doesn't feel terribly Christmassy with the news about the economy and every other country in north Africa/Near East imploding under the weight of rebellion. But things weren't exactly ideal when Joseph and Mary set off from Nazareth to Bethlehem 2000 years' ago. Just imagine travelling on a donkey at 8+ months' pregnant---not a comfortable or comforting thought really.

As we approach this special season once again I just wish you all the season's best and take some time to think of those for whom this is just a really hard time to be got through. All best wishes, Philip (Derbyshire).

A Service of Thanksgiving to God for the life of The Reverend Paul Drake was held on November 19th 2011 at 2.15pm in the church of St Francis of Assisi in Welwyn Garden City, where Paul had lived and worked. Paul's daughter, Grace and Peter Lymbery attended the service as representatives from Stewkley and Soulbury.

Stewkley Singers : Saturday 25th November saw around 65 people enjoy a wonderful musical treat in the church to begin the Christmas Festivities. The Stewkley Singers, under the excellent leadership of Jenny Morgan, entertained with a variety of renditions and amusing readings (some read by the people in the audience) and wine was served in the interval. It was a delightful evening which we hope may be repeated at some stage.

MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

The shed on the Millennium Green was recently broken into and an antique Allen Scythe stolen, though, strangely, not the modern sit-on mower, nor the push mower. Several fences were broken down and barbed wire cut, across the fields that back on to the Millennium Green, causing much distress to horse owners, whose horses got out of their paddocks and wondered what was happening. It is assumed they were metal thieves because the Allen Scythe had huge heavy metal teeth on the cutting bar.

Anyway, this news is just to let everyone know and, now that the nights come so early, to urge people to look out for any suspicious (white!) vans or strangers and ask them if they need any help!

LOLLIPOPS TODDLER GROUP

We are looking for volunteers to re-start Lollipop Toddlers Group, that until recently ran in the Parish Hall every Tuesday morning. If you would like to find out more about exactly what's involved, please contact Alan Humphreys on 270722.

The STAPLEFORD TRUST provides Christmas hampers to anyone who has lived in the village for more than a year, is over 65, and would like to receive one. The Trustees are concerned that they may be unaware of some villagers who, due to their youthful looks, may be missing out. - If so, please contact Ian Parrott on 270234 or Greeba Cochrane on 270271.

CRICKET CLUB NEWS

There has been another break-in at the Cricket Club, thought to be Monday 31st Oct/Tuesday 1st Nov. Thankfully nothing was taken (all equipment of any value is now stored off-site), although doors and locks were damaged. The thieves attempted to remove a can of diesel, but this was abandoned near the kissing gate. If anyone has seen anything suspicious, please inform Wing Police.

The AGM of the Cricket Club took place in November and we now have a new Club Captain. Nick Mead takes over from Roger Rolls, who becomes Vice Chairman. Brian Mead is still Chairman, with Nick Carter Secretary, Mrs Chris Bryant Treasurer, Kevin Rolls Fixture Secretary and Martin French Social Secretary. Bernard Wildsmith was thanked for over 40 years service as Treasurer. Diary Dates: Saturday 10th March 2012 - Race Night, Saturday 31st March 2012 - Quiz Night with Fish & Chip Supper, Saturday 14th April 2012 - Golf Day at The Three Locks Golf Club.

Stop Dorcas Lane Turbines (SDLT)

Sadly in November, AVDC Councillors approved the planning application for the 230ft "metmast" to be sited in the field next to Hollingdon for 2 years. The decision was expected because the Councillors do not have AVDC planning guidelines to apply and have to follow national policy which is written in favour of wind turbines. Thank you to all the supporters who travelled to Aylesbury to listen to the application being debated.

Over 30 supporters enjoyed the Safari Supper, organised by Anne-Marie Mosley and Sam Gotzheim. Thank you to them and all the hosts/hostesses, along with Stuart and the staff at The Boot for the pudding course. £500 was raised for SDLT.

At the July Public Meeting the developers of the Dorcas Lane wind turbines promised to submit the planning application for the five 410ft turbines by "the end of the year". We will keep you informed of any action they take before Christmas.

Don't forget to support the SDLT raffle, tickets from The Boot, prizes include hampers, food and drink.

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FRIENDS OF SOULBURY CHURCH

If anyone has an unwanted present, would they consider giving it to Jane Luxton to sell on eBay, to raise funds for the repairs to the church roof? There is still a shortfall between what we have raised and what we owe, unfortunately. Please call Jane on 270493 if you can help

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SDLT will be taking a road show round the villages impacted by the proposed wind turbines in January 2012. The road show will enable you to identify the impact on your home of the five turbines by use of photographs and a computer generated 3D photo-montage of the turbines and some of the countryside and villages. A provisional date for 21st January has been booked. Please lookout for posters and leaflets. Joseph Cresswell 01525 270748

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Curate : Rev. Peter Lymbery, 19 White House Court, Leighton Buzzard. Tel. 371235



Sunday	4th December	11:30am	Morning Worship - Lay Led Service
Sunday	11th December	11:30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	18th December	4:00pm	CHRISTINGLE and CAROLS
Saturday	24th December	10:00pm	MIDNIGHT MASS
Sunday	25th December	11:30am	CHRISTMAS DAY HOLY COMMUNION
Sunday	1st January	11:00am	BENEFICE SERVICE at All Saints, Soulbury
Sunday	8th January	11:30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	15th January	11:30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	22nd January	11:30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	29th January	10:00am	BENEFICE SERVICE at Stewkley

IT'S BACK!!

The Soulbury Ball
23rd June 2012

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Sam Mardlin
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesdays	14th Dec	11:15am-11:35am	Mobile Library - Stewkley Road Bus Stop
Thursdays	1st, 29th, Jan 26th		AVDC Refuse & Recycling Collection
Thursdays	8th, 22nd Dec. Fri 6th, Thu 19th		AVDC Refuse Collection
Thursdays	Dec 15th, Jan 12th		AVDC Refuse & Recycling Collection including Glass
Sunday	4th December	9:30am	Soulbury Breakfast (Parish Hall)
Tuesday	6th December	8pm	W.I. - Action for Children Xmas Presents
Tuesday	13th December	7 for 7:30	W.I. - Dinner
Saturday	10th December	7pm	Soulbury Sing-along (Parish Hall)
Monday	19 Dec / 23 Jan	7:30pm	Parish Council Meeting (Parish Hall)
Tuesday	10th January	8pm	WI Speaker, Mike Bartlett (Heritage Museum, Russia)
Saturday	21st January		Wind Turbine Road Show in The Parish Hall

Stewkley Singers present "Music & Mince Pies"

A Celebration of Christmas Music and Readings.
Stewkley Singers, St. Michael's School Choir and St. Michael's School Handbell Ringers
9th/10th December 7pm
Stewkley Village Hall (opposite "The Swan")
Tickets £6 adults, £4 children includes Wine & Seasonal Refreshments
Tickets in advance from St. Michael's School (240248) and Julia Sims (240671)

WE ARE PLEASE TO SEE THAT IAN PARROTT IS WELL ON THE WAY TO RECOVERY

This month's newsletter is paid for from funds. Happy Christmas and a Healthy, Prosperous New Year!

If you would like to sponsor an issue, or submit items for publication by 22nd January please contact:

Mrs. Bunyan 270461

Mrs. Norman 270483

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