

SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

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DECEMBER 2013 / JANUARY 2014

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2013 It was a bright sunny day on that Sunday, and the service was very well attended. However these words were not spoken, so I make no apology for printing them here! A disappointed Parish Councillor

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, Nor the years condemn At the going down of the sun, And in the morning, We shall remember them.

CHURCH NEWS

ADVENT SERVICE: From Darkness Into Light will take place on Sunday December 1st at 6pm. No service in the morning at Soulbury. A Communion Service takes place at Stewkley at 10.00am and at Wing at 11.00am if you prefer. DECEMBER 15TH is the date for the **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** at 4.00PM. EVERYONE WELCOME. **MIDNIGHT MASS** will take place at 10.00PM (NOTE TIME) on Christmas Eve, December 24th. **CHRISTMAS COMMUNION** will take place at the usual time of 11.30am on Christmas Day.

PHILIP'S message: Dear all,

As I write, we are in yet another 'natural disaster' in the typhoon which hit the Philippines, the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Sri Lanka, the eve of the General Synod meeting of the CofE (discussing women Bishops yet again!). All, some or none of these impact on our lives, depending on what we are interested in. As a Christian I believe they all subjects of prayer and in varying degrees action. They are not nothing, because everything which affects human life is of interest to God our Father Creator and His Son Jesus Christ.

There was a slogan seen on a wall recently in Oxford which said "God is back". I believe he never went away, we just misplaced him and more and more people are beginning to wonder and ask "just what is this God business anyway?" Some of it, but only some, is about the story of Christmas and his entry into our world as a vulnerable displaced baby in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago. God did not choose a palace, a mansion, celebrity or great wealth and power to make himself known personally but humility, simplicity and relative poverty in a very hostile world, full of lack of understanding. As we approach the end of 2013 and the beginning of 2014, I commend to you the oft-told story for further reflection and guidance. God bless you all, Philip.

Many thanks to the ladies who volunteered to clean. What a wonderful morning we chose. The church doors stood wide open as the sun streamed in through the windows and showed up every speck of dust and cobweb! But the sunshine and company lifted our spirits and with coffee and flapjacks we enjoyed ourselves.

The recent **SOULBURY BREAKFAST** made £319.14, a very successful breakfast. Thank you to everyone who helped and made it such an enjoyable morning. The next one is on Sun 19th Jan, a great way of spending a cold and wet Sunday morning.

CRICKET CLUB NEWS

At the recent AGM the following awards were announced for the 2013 season:

Batting Award: Kieron Sear, Bowling Award: Nick Mead, Man of the Match: Jointly Nick Mead & Kieron Sear, Club Member of the Year: Martin French for hard word providing evening refreshments, Most Improved Player: Kieron Sear, Players' Player of the Season: Nick Mead, Most Outstanding Performance: Andy McKinnon for stunning catch v Stewkley, 500 run award: Kieron Sear, George Northam Cup: Stuart Bowles for best bowling figures in an individual game. At the AGM the Chairman thanked all those who had helped the Club during the 2013 season, especially the Parrott family for their continuing cooperation and support.

2014 is the 150th Anniversary of the Club, so there will be a number of special events commencing with a repeat of the first ever fixture v Stoke Hammond on Sunday 4th May. This will be an "all day" match, with refreshments available. Sunday 25th May will be the first of what is hoped to be an annual tri-village 20/20 tournament with Drayton Parslow and Stoke Hammond for a trophy. Sunday 27th July will be a Chairman's XI v Captain's XI match. The celebrations will be completed with a gala dinner and dance in October. It is hoped the village will support the Club during this special year.

There will also be a fund raising Race Night on Saturday 8th March to be held at Stoke Hammond Sport & Social Club for a change.

MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

We had a very successful Bonfire Party on Saturday November 2nd. About 50 people came to watch and eat burgers and sausages. Many, many thanks to Vic Wright and Alan Stevens for doing the fireworks. We could not have managed without them. Many thanks to Michele Nicholas for supplying and cooking the food and to her sous chef Graham Catchlove! And thanks to all those who came out on a blustery night to support the event.

That is the first time we have had a November fireworks and bonfire on the Green and the trustees were a bit apprehensive to say the least and very gratified that it turned out as well as it did. Thank you.

"**THANK YOU** to Alan and Vic for erecting the new goalposts in the park and to Maurice Cross for making them and also to Tony from the Vicarage for helping too. They are awesome new goals and we promise to look after them". Rhys, Sam and Ben.



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W.I. NEWS Soulbury WI held their Annual General Meeting this month. After the minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed, Jean Housley presented the Annual Report for 2013. This reminded us all that the year had provided a varied and interesting selection of speakers. These ranged from an informative insight into the work of S.E.R.V (service by emergency rider volunteers) to a talk by the guru Kaur both of which led to a great deal of discussion. Other topics included a trip to Canada, Colour in the garden, fabrics and fashion through the ages and culminated with a visit from the head gardener at Woburn. We also hosted an open meeting held to discuss the feasibility of installing a defibrillator in the village.

Chris Bryant, our Treasurer, then presented the financial Report for the year. Our finances are in a healthy state assisted by the proceeds from our Pudding Evening held earlier in the year and we look forward to a similar situation in 2014.

The rest of the evening was taken up by our contribution to recycling as we endeavoured to construct small boxes and lids from used greetings cards, cereal packets etc. with varying degrees of success, under the watchful eye of our instructor, Gaye Henrick.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 3rd. December and will be a Social Evening, followed by our Christmas meal on Tuesday 10th December.

The Parish Council meeting took place in the Parish Hall on Monday 18th November, where twelve members of the public were welcomed. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 18th December 2013 at 19:30 and the January meeting will take place on Monday 20th January 2014. All are welcome. **Automated External Defibrillators:** Donations received to date total £1090 and we thank all who have contributed. If you are able to donate any amount at all, it will be gratefully received. We have now received quotations for the purchase of the AED's and submitted these to AVDC in an endeavour to obtain some part funding. **Children's Playground:** The new goalposts are now in place in the Mount Pleasant playground. Thank you to Maurice Cross who has made a splendid job of making them and to Tony our only volunteer to help install them. We do have some young budding footballers who showed their appreciation by thanking us for the efforts, which is much appreciated. **Mercan (Pascal) - Hollingdon:** The Chairman of the Parish Council visited the General Manager of Mercan who agreed to attend the Parish Council meeting. Unfortunately, he was unable to make it at the last minute due to a burst water pipe at his home. He sends his apologies. However, during public participation interesting views and points were put forward, which the Parish Council agreed to investigate. **Speed Watch:** During public participation the matter of vehicles speeding through the village was raised. Speeding is a problem in all villages. It was suggested that we organise a Speed Watch. We can borrow the equipment from Winslow and volunteers will be trained to use this. Data will be collected regularly over a period of time in order to build up speeding patterns. The police authority will analyse the information in order to establish whether there is an actual speeding problem (as opposed to a perceived speeding problem) in the village. Should a vehicle be recorded as consistently travelling over the speed limit, this information can be passed to the police and they will make contact with the driver. Without back-up information, the situation cannot be improved. If residents feel there is a problem with speeding in the village, then we need your help. The more volunteers' available means less pressure on just a few and we are more likely to get somewhere. If you think this is worth pursuing, please volunteer to take part. Possibly a better time of year to start this would be Spring over a period of several months. However, we do need to know now if we have enough people to take part before organising and booking the equipment. Please register your name and telephone number by calling Cllr Vic Wright on 01525 270537 or emailing to junewzone-speedwatch@yahoo.co.uk Street Lighting: Work will progress with maintenance of street lighting in the Parish following an authorised independent inspection. **Christmas Tree:** Can you help with erecting the Christmas tree on Saturday, 7th December at 10:00am by the beacon?



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Sun. 1st Dec. - 6pm	Advent Service	Wed. 25th Dec. - 11:30am	Holy Communion
Sun. 8th Dec. - 11:30am	Parish Communion	Sun. 29th Dec. - 10am	Communion - Stewkley
Sun. 15th Dec - 4pm	Christingle	Sun. 5th Jan. - 11:30am	Morning Worship
Sun. 22nd Dec. - 11:30	Parish Communion	Sun. 12th Jan - 11:30am	Parish Communion
Tue. 24th Dec. - 10pm	Midnight Service	19th & 26th Jan. - 11:30am	Parish Communion

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesdays	4th & 18th Dec 15th & 29th Jan	11:15am- 11:35am	Mobile Library - Stewkley Road Bus Stop
Tuesdays	10th & 24th Dec 7th & 21st Jan		Food Bin & General Waste (Green Lid)
Tuesdays	3rd, 17th, 31st, 14th & 28th Jan		Food Bin & Recycling (Blue Lid)
Saturday	7th December		Erect Christmas Tree on The Green
Saturday	7th December		Christmas Sing-a-long
Social Group	18/12, 9&22/01		Thursday 5th December - Social Group Lunch
W.I.	3/12 & 14/01		3rd December - Social Evening 7:30pm
Monday	16/12 & 20/01	7:30pm	Parish Open Meeting (Parish Hall)



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SOULBURY ENDOWED SCHOOL TRUST The trustees will meet in January to consider applications for a grant. Any person living in the Parish of Soulbury aged between 14 & 18 years on 31st December can apply for a grant towards any items that will help their education. An application form is on www.soulbury.org and should be submitted before the end of December.

THE BACKGROUND TO THE TRUST : In 1710 the Rev. John Sambee (Vicar of Soulbury) received a bequest of £300 from Robert Lovett to be used for the best advantage of the parish of Soulbury. By November 1728 a school and house (now Lovett House) had been built and land purchased to maintain the income. The trustees were instructed to use the money to help children's education. Today the fund is still operating.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! soulburynews@btinternet.com

SDLT Update: On-Line Auction 2nd - 8th December.

SDLT will be running a unique On-Line Auction to raise funds to fight the Appeal phase of the wind farm development. The live auction will take place from 2nd - 8th December.

The items up for grabs will make perfect Christmas gifts – there will be desirable, quality memorabilia such as signed shirts and photos of well-known names from the worlds of sport, music and the movies as well as some fantastic experiences to bid on, from flying lessons and hotel breaks to beauty treatments and a family photo shoot with framed print. Hopefully you will receive this article in good time to support our auction and participate in the bidding.

You will find the auction at <http://sdlit.auctionlots.co.uk>. We will need to raise in excess of £80,000 to pay for the legal and expert witness costs that the Appeal phase will incur - we have no financial means other than that provided by the generosity of the local community so your support is crucial.

Fund Raising is no laughing matter!

On Friday 18th October we held our fund-raising Comedy Night at the Three Locks Golf Club, Great Brickhill.

The Club restaurant was packed to maximum occupancy as the audience were kept entertained through the night by the MC and an international cast of comedians who between them have appeared on TV and radio as well as major festivals around the UK and further afield. The event was a big success and raised a significant sum towards the fighting fund. A great big THANKS to everyone who attended and in particular to the Three Locks Golf Club Great Brick Hill for donating the venue free of charge and their continued support for our cause – as one of the biggest local employers they recognise the damage that this development can do to the local economy.

You can find out about future events by visiting www.stopdorcasslaneturbines.com.

Progress made in our fight against the Appeal.

We are pleased to advise that SDLT have been granted Rule 6 (6) status by the Planning Inspectorate within the forthcoming Appeal. This means that SDLT will have equal status with both AVDC who are opposing the Appeal and the wind farm developer Force 9 Energy, who have lodged the Appeal. We are therefore able to ensure that all the concerns of the local community are fully represented to the Planning Inspector. As a consequence, we have now appointed and met with our Barrister in order to begin the extensive process of the preparation of the Statement of Case and, subsequently, the Proof of Evidence. It is our intention to work in close collaboration with AVDC to define the overlapping areas for the fighting of the Appeal.

We are still waiting to hear when the Inquiry will commence but we believe it will be some time in the spring before it is fully underway. We will keep you informed as things progress through the winter months.

For now, Merry Christmas and please support our cause whilst bagging some great Xmas gifts by bidding in our auction at <http://sdlit.auctionlots.co.uk>.

This article has been written by Stop Dorcas Lane Turbines action group. If you would like to find out