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COMING SOON!!

The finishing touches are being applied to the Parish Plan questionnaire. Every household and business in the Parish will have the opportunity to contribute to the plan. Make sure your voice is heard on issues related to the community, transportation, the environment and more! More news next month.



ALL SAINTS CHURCH SERVICES

Priest in Charge : Michelle Morton : The Vicarage, Stewkley. Tel. 240287

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



Sunday	3rd February	11:30am	Candlemas - Holy Communion
Wednesday	6th February	10am-noon	Ash Wednesday - Meditation & Quiet Morning - St. Michael's
Wednesday	6th February	7:30pm	Evening Service - St. Michael's
Sunday	10th February	11:30am	Lent - Holy Communion (no Family Service)
Sunday	17th February	11:30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	24th February	11:30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	2nd March	11:30am	Mothering Sunday

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursdays	7th & 21st	6:30pm	Youth Club	Clubroom
Fridays	8th & 22nd	1:00pm	Mobile Library - Stewkley Road Bus Stop	
Sundays	10th & 24th	09:30am	Sunday morning exercise (walking/running/cycling)	"The Rock"
Tuesday	12th February	8:00pm	W.I. - "Have Needles Will Travel" Dr. Sally Watkins	Clubroom
Thursday	14th February		AVDC Collection for Recycling & Glass	
Monday	18th February	7:30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Clubroom
Thursday	28th February		AVDC Collection for Recycling	

Thank you to Mr & Mrs Chris Bryant for kindly sponsoring this month's newsletter .

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

Mrs. Bunyan 270461

Mrs. Norman 270483

or email : soulburynews@dsl.pipex.com

SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 373 FEBRUARY 2008

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Arriva Buses ceased their service through Soulbury to Milton Keynes and Leighton Buzzard once the bypass was completely open. If anyone would like to organise a petition for the reinstatement of this service then please contact Mrs Brenda Jennings at 25 The Green.

BUS PASSES

The over-60s and people with disabilities will be able to travel further afield for free from 1st April. Bus pass holders will be able to travel anywhere in England using off-peak local bus services. This national scheme allows pass holders to travel from 09:30am to 11pm on weekdays, anytime at weekends and bank holidays. However in Buckinghamshire only, the passes are valid from 9am on weekdays as well. Existing pass holders will be sent a new one automatically – first time applicants should contact AVDC on 01296 585661.

STAPLEFORD TRUST

The Senior Citizens of the village would like to thank the Trust for the Christmas parcels and especially would like to thank those who spent their time delivering.

OPEN GARDENS

The Friends of Soulbury Church are hoping to open Soulbury gardens to raise money for on-going church repairs. However this can only happen with your support. We need volunteers who are willing to open their gardens on 21st and 22nd June. It is most enjoyable and a great way to meet other people in the village. You don't have to open on both days. For further information please phone Margaret Owen on 270305 or Jane Luxton on 270493, or email mjluxton@yahoo.com.

CHURCH NEWS

As many people will already know, Michelle is unwell and will not be available for Church duties for the next few weeks. She has recently seen her doctor and has been advised to have a period of treatment and rest. In a letter to everyone, she expresses her regret at the inconvenience this cause all her parishioners but looks forward to returning to her church duties once she has regained her full health. Bishop Alan of Buckingham is fully aware of the situation and has suggested the church wardens seek alternative arrangements for services. So, our stalwart priest, the Rev. Peter Lymbery, who although retired, has been granted permission to officiate, and has very kindly offered to step into the breach for the next few weeks while Michelle recovers. Thank you Peter!

Please note : there will be no family service in February. Look in the next newsletter for further news about this service. It's Mothering Sunday on 2nd March. Perhaps Michelle will be better by then – we hope so.

There is a quiet morning and meditation organised by the Mothers' Union in St Michael's Church on Ash Wednesday morning, 6th February, to prepare for Lent. It will be led by Valerie Rushton from Buckingham. Everyone is welcome to come for the whole time from 10-12 noon or to come along when they can.

The evening service for Ash Wednesday will also be held in St Michael's at 7:30pm and be led by the Rev. Peter Lymbery. If you need a lift then please phone Christine on 270377.

Just a quick summary of the events and services held over the Christmas period. If was the first year we have held a Christmas Tree Festival so there were not as many entries as we would have hoped. Six village groups decorated a tree and the joint winners were the Parent and Toddler Group (many thanks Alan, Claire & Co.) and the Stables at Ridge Farm (many thanks to Michelle & friends). People really seemed to enjoy decorating their trees, sipping mulled wine and being full of Christmas spirit. Christine would very much like to thank the Book Club members for their great support. Lots of people came to the Christingle Service – over 60, it was a lovely, candlelit, atmospheric event. Midnight Mass at 10pm was very well attended as was the Christmas morning service – a good community feeling.

KIDNEY RESEARCH UK

Why not support this worth cause by walking eight of London's Bridges on Sunday 6th July? Starting and finishing near Tower Bridge, over 1600 people took part last year. It costs £8 to participate and receive a special event T-shirt. Walkers are encouraged to raise sponsorship to help reach this year's target of £100,000. For more information please call 08456 121226, email events@kidneyresearchuk.org or visit www.kidneyresearchuk.org.

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MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

Greetings to you all in Soulbury and our friends in the outlying hamlets including Stockgrove! I know some of you read the Newsletter!

Firstly The Trust would like to say a big thank you to all who joined this year's 100Club, we have a total of 65 members so a payout is £32.50p, if my maths is wrong, sorry, but I know our treasurer and Nan will get it right when it comes to paying out. The first lucky winner was No.26 the winner lives in Hollingdon, I won't name him as he may not be able to cope with all the begging letters!

Many of you enjoyed the very well run Burns Night supper this last Friday evening, I am very sorry I could not be there to join in the festivities but I understand from the reports to me that many of you had a fun evening so that's great. My thanks go to the usual suspects Chris Bryant and Christine Sheppard, and all those who assisted them, you all did a sterling job of organising and setting up the event. I also would like to thank all of you for attending and taking part in the celebrations.

The Millennium Green is about to lose a few key members within the Trust and we are keen to recruit new Trustees to replace them. This coming June will see Jane, Nan and Liz (tbc) step down. Both Liz and I have served the Millennium Green since 1997 and Nan has been involved for the last 5yrs, bless her she does not even live in the village but came on board to take on the physical work I could not do, in doing this Nan became committed to the Millennium Green and has had great enjoyment from helping out; she too is keen to see it carry on. This village owes Nan a big thank you, she has always had a big ready smile an open kind heart and has given many hours to keep the Millennium Green looking nice. Along with Kathie and Michel she has always supported local events including the many race, and quiz nights, harvest suppers and coffee mornings but now Kathie, Nan's daughter needs more care than before so Nan is stepping down from the Trust. All the Trustees and helpers do their best but for those of us leaving we would like to thank all in the Parish who have appreciated our efforts and shown us support. For the most part it's been a great experience and I personally have had a ball so thank you to everyone who has helped and given encouragement, I hope you will continue this support with the remaining Trustees and our replacements.

If you have a desire to help the remaining Trustees to maintain the Millennium Green to the standard you have become accustomed to then we do need active volunteers. Gender does not matter but we must ask that you be 18 yrs or above to be eligible as a Trustee. The existing Trustees earnestly seek likeminded people who have the welfare of the Millennium Green and its future in mind. If you would like to demonstrate your appreciation for the existence of the Millennium Green by coming forward and giving a year's commitment that would be great and secure the future of the Trust. I know many dog walkers would be a little lost if they had no where so convenient to let their dogs loose, perhaps one or two of you would like to offer some help by way of a thank you? An hour of grass cutting would be wonderful..... Please think about it. If you would like to know more or have an interest in becoming a trustee then please contact me; Jane 270532 or Christine Sheppard on 270377 or of course you can email jane@soulbury.org.

I will keep you up to date with news on this front. For all the legal minds in the village please accept this as the start of the 3 months notice that has to be given to the Parish. I, Jane Phillpot as Trustee Chairman of the Millennium Green Trust will be stepping down as Chairman and terminating my Trusteeship in June 2008. The Trust has been aware since November 07.

BURNS NIGHT SUPPER

This event, held on Friday 25th January was a great success. Some people even said it was the best there had been in Soulbury. Just under 40 people were seated in the Clubroom and enjoyed a very pleasant evening. After the Chairman's (Chris Bryant) welcome, the Haggis was brought in, in style on a silver platter, to the sound of Scottish bagpipes by Parish Councillor Alan Stevens. It was presented to Leo Doherty who did the "Address Tae a Haggis". After the traditional farin of cock-a-leekie soup, haggis (very nice), neeps and mash, followed by trifle and bannocks with cheese, we were entertained by several guests doing little turns. Robbie Burns was remembered, a few of his delightful poems read out, toasts declared, stories told and Auld Lang Syne sung.

Many, many thanks to all who came and supported this Millennium Green fund-raising event. Special thankyou's to Jonathan Kellner (Joyce's grandson) who did the catering, to Chris Bryant who is an IT specialist and an experienced organiser of this kind of event and to all the trustees and their partners for their help. The sum of £140 was raised for the trust.

Get Fit Soulbury

Starting with a modest 3 runners, this Sunday morning activity has been growing in popularity with 7 people turning up one week. So if you feel the urge - come and join us! Dates on the back page.

simon_ms@btinternet.com

THE STEWKLEY SINGERS

Do you like singing, have always wanted to join a choir or used to be a member and fancy another go? Why not join this flourishing community choir? This friendly group of about 30 singers from Stewkley and surrounding villages formed in 2006 and meet during the Autumn and Spring Terms on Thursdays at 8pm to 9:30pm in St. Michael's Church.

All are welcome (young people from Year 7 and upwards). Choral experience and ability to read music appreciated, but not essential - you will pick it up along the way!

This term the group is working towards a spring concert to be held on Saturday 17th May to include the beautiful Faure Requiem. Don't be shy - why not come along and have a go? For further information, please contact Jenny on 242014.

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