

January/February 2000

No. 280

SOULBURY NEWSLETTER



CALLING ALL RESIDENTS OF STOCKGROVE

We need to recruit somebody who is prepared to deliver 12 newsletters within Stockgrove. If anyone is willing to take this on and collect the newsletters for delivery from Soulbury would they please contact Catherine Fairbairn on 270674.



LETTERS PAGE

In our new format we are considering having a letters page where villagers can 'air' their views on local matters. We would also be pleased to receive, for publication, replies to any letters previously published. Letters would be included strictly on the basis that they would not necessarily represent the views of the editorial team. We have already received one letter from a villager but we would like to point out that we will not publish anything that is not signed, and the letter must be limited to 140 words.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS

Church Cleaning

Help would be appreciated from 10am to 12 noon on Saturdays 5th February and 4th March.

Christmas Bingo

The Bingo evening on 11th December raised £100 for the General Funds of the Church. The vicar and churchwardens are very grateful to all those who helped with and supported this event.

Christmas/New Year

Once again the joint Church/Chapel Christingle Service at All Saints on the Sunday before Christmas was a well attended and joyous occasion. The children from the Sunday Club and their adult helpers and parents took part and the music was provided by the Marion Burch Accordion Music.

After the service we switched on the temporary illuminations of the Church for Christmas and the New Year. This was made possible by the very generous loan of equipment by Steve Miller of SRBE and lights from Geoff Morris, all put together by Chris Bryant. Thanks to all three! The real significance of this New Year was recognised with the joint Church and Chapel Millennium Service held on the afternoon of New Years Eve.

This was the first time that the amphitheatre at the Millennium Green had been used and nearly fifty people were present for prayers and blessing by the vicar, Norman Cotton.

Liz Miller expressed thanks to all those who had helped with the Millennium Green, especially those who were in at the beginning when plans and the grant application were being put together.

Millennium candles were given to all those present and there was a procession through the village to All Saints where curate, Peter Lymbery, conducted the second part of the service.

Church Fete

After a meeting between representatives of the PCC and the Millennium Green to discuss the pros and cons of having a joint fete in 2000, it was decided that while there were obvious merits in having one fete it appeared on balance that both groups would achieve more with two separate events. In the circumstances it was agreed to have a Millennium Green event on 17th June with a Country Fair flavour and a Church event on the 22nd July as a Garden Party.



NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF SOULBURY CHURCH

Bells

Sadly we have now heard that we are one of the five out of 145 Millennium Grant approved schemes slipping back into 2000. We accepted a low quotation but did not realise our contractor was dependent for some of the work on the larger ones with the higher quotes!

Minstrals and Mince Pies

This was the title given to a concert in the Church on 12th December by Voice Versa from Drayton Parslow. It was a fantastic collection of Christmas music with monologues and a mini pantomime thrown in. £100 was raised for the Restoration Fund.

Christmas Sing-a-Long

The Christmas Sing-a-Long at The Boot – raised a further £120. For the sixth year in succession Tony Saint invited Sue Taylor, Chris Jones and some of their friends to put on a Christmas Sing-a-Long. Everybody enjoyed carols and songs. Many thanks to all.

Christmas Cards

Final proceeds have yet to be determined, but look to be in excess of £1,000. Well done Brenda and Chris!

Burns Night

Burns Night will be celebrated in the Clubroom on Saturday 22nd January at 7.15pm. There will be a traditional supper (four course meal provided by the ladies of the W.I.) and entertainment.

If you wish to attend please book with Stan on 270577 or Chris on 270607. Once again our star young piper will be in attendance.

Auction of Promises

Coming up on 1st April. Book the date !! If you wish to donate an item/or promise, please contact either Jane (270493), Sheila (270175) or Jackie (270619). Please get thinking – we need you!!



MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

The candlelit procession from the amphitheatre on the Green to All Saints Church on New Years Eve was well attended and it was good to see several children with their families, as well as everyone else. The Reverend Norman Cotton blessed the Green and Liz Miller, the Project Manager, gave a brief résumé of its history and expressed the trustees' hopes for all future inhabitants of Soulbury – that it will always be a quiet, green oasis for everyone. Even if Milton Keynes one day spreads out this far and swamps Soulbury, the Green will be there at least.

We have some sad news to report. Our secretary Jane Phillpot has had to resign due to ill health, so the rest of us were left feeling somewhat dismayed when Jane announced she couldn't continue. What were we going to do without her?

She did so much work and was always quick to cheer us up with a silly joke or two. She is now resting, we hope, and looking after herself. Meanwhile we have been very very lucky to find a new secretary, Mrs Diane Lowes of Cypri House. We are very grateful to her for offering to take on a very demanding job. Her husband Graeme Lowes has also offered to join us when Diane is otherwise engaged. Thank you both for your support and help. Diane and Graeme's phone number is 270752. And another piece of good news. We are pleased to welcome Bruce and Debbie Hulston who live at Oaklands and have kindly agreed to be Trustees, Debbie will take Bruce's place if he is unable to attend meetings.

We are waiting for news about grants from E.B.Bucks and Awards for All before we can go ahead with footpath improvements, playground equipment and finishing the amphitheatre feature.

The orchard trees are to be planted at the end of January/beginning of February. We would like a tree planting party to help so please contact Liz on 270545 or Christine on 270377 if you would like to help. Alternatively we might ring you up to see if you could help. The weekend date is still to be decided.

Please continue to collect Target Stamps from the Leighton Buzzard Observer newspaper. We hope to collect £100 to buy a bench.

Sweatshirts, etc. are still available – call 270377 to order one.



THE 100 CLUB

We now have 82 members, well done Diane for encouraging so many to join in. The December draw winner therefore won £41 and was Stephen Kittoe. If you would like to become a member do let Diane, or any of the Trustees know – it would be good to make the 100.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At December's Council meeting the state of the children's playground in Mount Pleasant was discussed. As it is desperately in need of upgrading the Council will consider the matter when the next financial year's budget is planned.

The contract for emptying the dog waste bin with A.V.D.C. has been renewed as the present emptying regime is satisfactory. However, would villagers please ensure that the bin and the bags which are free of charge and available in the Clubroom, are used to eliminate the fouling of our village.

The theft from the Millennium Green was noted - £500 of posts and wire have been taken. If anyone sees any vehicles in the entrance (not Lizzie's), please note their registration and let any of the Millennium Green Trustees know.



REMINDER TO THE LADIES OF THE VILLAGE

Don't forget the meeting in The Boot for a drink and chat on Thursday 27th January at 8.00pm. All ages are welcome for an informal get-together so that more people can get to know one another.

A REQUEST

We have been asked to include the following in the newsletter:

“A few children from the village are causing some of the older residents in Mount Pleasant quite a great deal of distress. They play with footballs in the area and have broken windows, and fences as well as damage to walls and gardens. A.V.D.C. will not repair fences or walls for their tenants. A few months ago it was mentioned in the newsletter that no ball games were to be played on the paved area in Mount Pleasant, please remember - there is a playing field for all ball games!!”



RACENIGHT

Leighton Buzzard Lions Club are holding a Race Night in aid of local charities on Friday 4th February in the Clubroom. First race 8pm. £5 per person, including hot supper. Horses £3 each. Please contact Chris Bryant on 270607 if you would like to come and/or buy a horse.

CRIMESTOPPERS

Crimestoppers' guarantee of anonymity for the caller means that a vast army of members of the public can join in the fight against crime. Many people are disgusted by the crime, fraud and dishonesty they see about them but are prevented from doing anything about it by a fear of reprisal or a reluctance to get involved. Crimestoppers, and its Freephone number (0800 555 111) that cannot be traced, is the answer for them. This is well proven by the fact that their Crimestopper information now helps to solve no less than fourteen crimes a day nationally.

Whilst Rewards are available, the fact that less than 10% of those offered are taken up surely proves that the public want this ability to help make their own communities safer and better places in which to live.



ENERGY EFFICIENT SHOW HOME

A.V.D.C. have transformed a two-bedroom townhouse inside and out to create an Energy Efficient Show Home. The house features the latest energy saving technology and is a real life demonstration of how everyone can keep warm and save money on fuel bills. The house will be open until May 2000. Come and visit the house and see how you can:

- Save money on Fuel Bills
- Make you home warmer
- Help the environment

The house is situated at 23 Alexander Road, Aylesbury (off New Street) and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10am to 3pm. For further details phone 01296 585211.

AYLESBURY VALE CARERS ASSOCIATION (AVCA)

Are you a carer?

Definition: A carer is a relative or friend who, unpaid looks after someone who is ill, frail or has a disability. You are a carer if you merely “keep an eye” on a friend or relative, if you are concerned with round the clock care.

Help is available for you.

All carers need to share information, lack of it makes caring harder than it should be. Aylesbury Vale Carers Association are able to provide a range of services for carers of any age, from providing general information and support to organising training events and time out from caring. The project works all over Aylesbury Vale so if you know someone else in a caring situation or you would like to find out more information about AVCA please ring 01296 392711.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

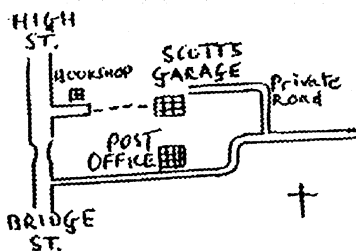
To work with children and young people up to 18 who are caring for a sick or disabled relative. Drivers/activity supervisors/befrienders wanted. Training and expenses provided. Contact Lucy Falconer, Young Carers Project Worker 01296 392711.

GARDEN MACHINERY SERVICE

Repairs and Sales by RGC Machinery, Station Road, Mursley, MK 17 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.



Next newsletter editorial meeting will be held at 6 Andrews Close on Thursday 17th February at 8.00pm. Anyone who is interested in joining please come along.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2000

(in the clubroom unless otherwise stated)

Thursday	3 rd , 10 th , 17 th & 24 th	7.30pm	Bowls Evening
Friday	4 th	8.00pm	Lions Race Night
Saturday	5 th	10.00am	Church Cleaning
Tuesday	8 th	8.00pm	WI – A Talk on Roman History by Mr J Broderick
Wednesday	9 th	2.30pm	Social Circle
Thursday	10 th & 24 th		A.V.D.C. Waste Paper & Recycling Collection
Monday	14 th & 28 th	2.00pm – 2.15pm 2.20pm – 2.35pm	Mobile Library – Bungalows Lay-By
Wednesday	16 th	7.45pm	Women's Fellowship (at the home of Miss D Booth, Chapel Hill)
Monday	21 st	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting



DIARY DATES

MARCH	Saturday 1 st		Church Cleaning
APRIL	Saturday 1 st		Auction of Promises

ALL SAINTS CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

All remaining Sundays in January and all in February except 6th		10.00am	Sunday Club in Chapel
		11.30am	Sung Communion in Church
Sunday	6 th	9.00am	Said Communion in Church
		10.00am	Family Service in Chapel
		4.00pm	Evensong in Church

METHODIST CHURCH

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

Sunday	6 th	10.00am	Mr K Edlington – Family Service
Sunday	13 th	6.00pm	Mrs A Guy
Sunday	20 th	6.00pm	Rev. B Trudgian
Sunday	27 th	6.00pm	Rev. K Salter
All Sundays except first Sunday in the month		10.00am	Sunday Club

Items for next issue by 16th February 2000 to: Mrs Miller 270545, Mrs Bunyan 270461, Mrs Norman 270483, Mrs Fairbairn 270674, Mr Friswell 270918, Mrs Hulston 270349, Miss Wegener 270284 or Mrs Stevens 270514.