

SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

January/February 2002

No: 302



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Just before Christmas our county councillor Mrs Brenda Jennings brought good news to the council meeting. The Government has confirmed their contribution towards the Linslade - Stoke Hammond western by-pass with £32.4m over the next four years. This means building will probably start in 2003. Apparently the county transport plan and progress reports received Government praise and secured further funding to upgrade roads, road safety and traffic calming and to improve facilities for cyclists and pedestrians in the county.

The District Councillor's report also highlighted vehicles, but this time it was abandoned ones. In nine months of last year over 1000 vehicles were reported and the council had dealt with more than 800 of them. The cost of this had been obvious and in future budgets would have to be increased to include this

aspect of society's behaviour.

On parish matters the ubiquitous golf ball has again been a cause of concern. Whoever is propelling these balls into the extraordinary situations where they have been found is endangering others, and ought to stop!

The clerk suggested that the village might need another dog bin, although the cost is quite high. The decision was deferred for comment to the next meeting, which will take place 21st January

FLAG FUND

Mr Alf Peacock reported that the amount collected so far is about half of what is needed. Several folk have spoken about the need or reasons for flying a flag, and Alf has given his views to put in.

The replacement flagpole fund has now passed the halfway mark. All flags have histories or mean something but without a pole they cannot be flown. A flag is not just a piece of

linen but a symbol of news – good and bad, past and present. There are many reasons to fly a flag and a flagpole provides a focal point. Flags can give messages, for some people it is a means of expressing pride, and in the past it has been a rallying point in battle. Now often a flag on a church means a saint's day is being celebrated.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

The Soulbury Jubilee Celebration Committee are in the course of preparing a programme which will include:

Sunday 2nd June

- 11 am Open Air Service on Millennium Green
- 7pm Barn Dance and Pig Roast on the Millennium Green

Monday 3rd June

- 2.45pm Children's Tea and Entertainment
- Band Concert
- 4.30pm Tea for Senior Citizens

Both Days

Flower festival in the Church

Distribution of commemorative gift to each child.

The following events are being arranged to raise funds to cover the cost of the celebrations:

Saturday 26th January
Burns Night

Saturday 13th April
Auction of Promises

Feb, Mar and April
Sale of tickets for a Mayday Raffle.

During the next three or four weeks members of the committee will be calling at each house in the parish to ascertain the numbers likely to participate and/or help in any way. It will help if you are ready to answer their questions. They will want to know:

1. The number of children in each house, their names and whether they will be at the tea.
2. The names of Senior Citizens in each house and whether they will be at the tea.
3. Any help that may be available with food, e.g.: cakes, sandwiches, jellies, trifles crisps, biscuits or other items.
4. Any help available by way of gifts for the raffle, the auction, the Flower Festival or cash to finance the events.
5. Any help that may be available for the fund raising events especially the selling of raffle tickets and any help available on the two days of the

Celebrations. In particular anybody with a flair for organising children's games?

BURNS NIGHT

Each year, for the past six years there has been a Burn's Night celebration in the village organised by the Cricket Club, the W.I., The Friends of Soulbury Church or a combination of all three.

None of these organisations has been able to take up the running this year and therefore the Jubilee Celebration Committee has decided to take it on with the promise of considerable help from the management of the Boot. The proceeds will go to help fund the Jubilee Celebrations.

The Burns Supper will be on Saturday 26th January 2002 at 7pm for 7.15pm in the Clubroom. The menu will consist of Cock-a-Leekie soup, Haggis wi'a the Honours and Trifle. The cost will be £8 per head. Tea and coffee with Bannocks and Cheese will be available if ordered in advance at an additional £1 per head. It will be necessary to bring your own drinks and the necessary glasses.

In order to help our friends at the Boot we need to have bookings and cash in by Tuesday 22nd January. Please complete the booking form available from Christine Shepherd, Stan Morris or the Boot and return to Christine Shepherd at 7 The Mead.

MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

There are lots of common birds to be seen on the Green and they are obviously benefiting from the environmental changes we have made and also from the fact that Jane feeds them! Up to ten blackbirds were seen at one time; a small flock of house sparrows, whose numbers have declined nationally, quite dramatically in recent years, are nearly always to be seen flying around, wood peckers, both green and greater spotted ones, are often to be seen on the old dead trees and a delightful flock of a dozen or so long-tailed tits foraging for insects and spiders. Other birds seen include jackdaws, magpies, wood pigeons, collared doves, stock doves, blue tits, gold finches and green finches.

I hate to mention the subject of dog excrement yet again but is such a problem. Dog owners PLEASE pick up your dog's excrement. It is so unfair and extremely unpleasant for other people who might step in it and especially for volunteer workers, grass cutters and weeders who get it on their shoes, and on their hands!!

Some fencing round the biggest tree plantation on the right near the houses has been removed so that people will be able to walk through the trees. It looks good and as the other smaller trees grow more fencing will be removed. As a result of this work, there are posts and chicken wire available to

anyone who might be about to fence a rabbit run or similar. Please phone 270377 or 270545 if you think it might be useful for you.

Don't forget the Quiz and Buffet Evening at the Clubroom on Saturday February 9th at 7.30pm. Tickets are on sale at £5 each from Christine on 270277 or Jane on 270532. Price includes buffet supper, please bring your own drinks. We need lots of people so do please support your lovely Millennium Green and come along.

One last thing. Has anyone got or does anyone know of someone who has a metal detector we could borrow for a short while? We have recently seen an old map of Soulbury and realise that an old road used to go across the Millennium Green, diagonally from the bottom of Dean Farm Lane across to Ivy Cottage. We would like to see if we can discover any interesting archaeological items along this route. Phone 270377 if you could help.

The winner of the 100 club Draw in November was Mrs P Hazell, Dean Farm Lane, and in December was Mr John Day from Battam's Farm.

Another reminder about our website www.soulburymg.org. Do visit it and have a look.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS

The Christmas services were extremely well attended and a great success, especially the Christingle Service and the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. It is a long time since we had a Midnight Mass at All Saints in Soulbury and about 60 people were present, many of whom do not usually attend the Church. There were 38 communicants and about 12 blessings at the altar. Many thanks to the Revs Peter Lymbery and Norman Cotton for all their hard work.

In a short while we hope to have new hymnbooks so that new modern hymns, familiar to children who sing them at school, can be sung, as well as the old favourites.

If anyone, adults or children would like to be confirmed this year, please contact Norman on 240287 or Peter on 371235 for more information. The confirmation ceremony, conducted by the bishop will take place in March and preparation classes to help you understand what it is all about are to start in the very near future.

It would be very nice if we could have a choir in the village church, so if anyone is interested in starting a choir, or joining a choir, please phone Christine on 270377 or Peter on 371235.

Finally, it would also be very nice to have some

servers at our services. If any young person would be prepared to help at the services just on an occasional basis, please contact Peter on 371235 and he will tell you what you have to do.

WELCOME

We would like to welcome to the village Jill Benwell who has come to live on The Green, and Mrs Deirdre Hammond and her sons who have come to live in Chapel Hill.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

The pre Christmas carol singing around the village raised £150 for the Save The Children Fund. Many thanks to all those who contributed and especially to those children in the village who came both evenings and sang and collected with such enthusiasm.

THANK YOU

Mrs Norma Quantrill would like to thank all her friends and neighbours for their kindness during her recent illness. Special thanks to David and Janet Black for all their help over the Christmas period, it was most appreciated. She is now back home and feeling much better.

CHRISTMAS PARCELS

The senior citizens would like to thank the Trustees of the Stapleford Charity for their wonderful parcels that they received at Christmas. Many thanks to Roger Rolls and Ian Parrot for delivering the parcels.

GARDEN MACHINERY SERVICE

Repairs and sales by RGC Machinery, Station Road, Mursley, MK17 0SA. Most leading makes supplied. Free local collection and delivery. Reconditioned mowers usually available. Also suppliers of ATV's & Farm Machinery. Tel. 01296 720066.

FREELANCE HAIRSTYLIST

Freelance Hairstylist in Soulbury.
Hours to suit you.
Cuts, perms, colours, at affordable prices.
OAP Special Rates.
FULLY QUALIFIED
Ring Karen on 270552.

JD ROOFING & GENERAL BUILDING

All types of building work undertaken. For a free estimate, call 270878 or 07958 584655.

PARTYLITE CONSULTANT

Book a PartyLite show in your home and get up to 15% free buying credit of the total sales from your party. My hostesses are averaging £30-£40 credit. Gifts for all occasions. Enjoy the beautiful glow of a demonstration featuring a unique collection of PartyLite brand candles and accessories. To book a show, or for more information, please call Sam Stevens on 270514.

DATES

When making arrangements for meetings or social gatherings, please do try to avoid the regular 2nd Tuesday, 3rd Wednesday, 3rd Monday of each month, so that everyone who would like to attend can do so without missing a monthly commitment.

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY

Person required (min age 13 years) for early morning round. Details please ring Chris Smith 240353

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2002

(In the clubroom unless otherwise stated)

Saturday	January 26 th	7pm	Burns Night
Saturday	February 2 nd	10am – 12 noon	Church Cleaning
Saturday	February 9 th	7.30pm	Millennium Green – Word and Quiz buffet evening
Monday	February 18 th	8pm	Parish Council Meeting
Monday	February 4 th & 18 th	2.00pm - 2.15pm 2.20pm – 2.35pm	Mobile Library – Bungalows Lay-by Stewkley Road Bus Stop
Tuesday	February 12 th	8pm	Women's Institute
Wednesday	February 13 th	2.30pm	Social Circle
Wednesday	February 20 th	7.45pm	Women's Fellowship
Thursday	Jan 24 th , 31 st , Feb 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th	7.30pm	Bowls Evening
Thursday	Jan 24 th Feb 7 th , 21 st		A.V.D.C. Waste Paper & Recycling Collection

ALL SAINTS CHURCH SERVICES

Vicar: Rev. Norman Cotton, The Vicarage, Stewkley - Tel 240287
Curate: Rev. Peter Lymbery, 17 Hartwell Crescent, Leighton Buzzard - Tel 371235

Sunday	January 20 th , 27 th February 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th	11.30am	Sung Communion
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Items for next issue by 19th February 2002 to : Mrs Miller 270545, Mrs Bunyan 270461, Mrs Norman 270483, Mrs Fairbairn 270674, or Debbie@dbegroup.co.uk