

SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

On-Line Edition - More Pages!

NUMBER 410 JUNE 2011

PARISH NEWS

The Soulbury breakfast raised £265.00 and was, as ever, most enjoyable. Many thanks to all the contributors, the helpers and to those who came to eat.

The Parish Council meeting took place in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 17 May, followed by the Annual Parish Meeting, where members were elected on to the council. We are pleased to say that six members of the public supported this meeting and it was good to see their participation, especially as they had the opportunity to ask questions of our District Councillor, Neil Blake, regarding issues such as, major planning and the HS2 rail link. Neil attends most of the monthly meetings, is very knowledgeable and has a great source of information. There are two vacant positions on the parish council. Are you interested in your Parish? Perhaps you would like to become a parish councillor? Come along to some of the meetings to get a feel for what goes on or contact John Spires, Clerk to the Council, on 01525 370094 for further information.

Brenda Jennings: Brenda has retired as a Parish Councillor and we would like to thank her for her hard work and valued advice over the years. We hope she has now made a full recovery from her recent operation and wish her all the best for the future.

District Council Elections: We would like to congratulate Neil Blake on holding the seat for the Great Brickhill Ward. He won by an overwhelming majority. Neil would like to thank everybody who supported him. He said that the turn out from Soulbury Parish was good, again for which he thanks you. He has again been appointed Cabinet Member for Resources, and assures you he will continue to work hard in this roll.

You can contact your District Councillor, Neil Blake by phone or email:
Home 01525 261288, Mobile 07899956913 or
Home: nbdomino@btinternet.com Council: nblake@aylesburyvalecd.gov.uk

The Greensand Trust (Rushmere Park & Stockgrove Park): Malcolm Oliver from The Greensand Trust attended the Parish Council meeting to talk about Rushmere Estate. He gave a very interesting and informative talk with an illustrated presentation about the Ouzel Valley project, which includes the Rushmere Estate. The Trust has created a joint landholding of 400-600 acres with the combination of Rushmere Park, Stockgrove Park and Oak Wood. Many people in the parish may have enjoyed Rushmere and/or Stockgrove already. Many people in the parish may not even know they exist or have not visited either area. The Greensand Trust have an opportunity to create an attractive and accessible public open space, zoned in a manner that enables a wide range of leisure and countryside activities, whilst protecting and enhancing sensitive natural and historic environment areas and features and making the most of this unique landscape. We are very lucky to have this huge area of green belt land on our doorstep to enjoy. If you are interested in finding out more or want to attend any of their informative meetings, or are worried about any future development, or want give feedback on their proposals, or have any input to this project, visit their website for contact details. The Greensand Trust actively encourages comments, suggestions, and involvement from the local people. Their website address is: www.greensandtrust.org

Paul Newman New Homes planning appeal: Land at Valley Farm, Soulbury, reference: APP/J0405/A/10/2143343. The date of the public inquiry has changed and now starts on 5 July 2011 at 10.00am at The Oculus, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury HP19 8FF and is scheduled to last approximately eight days. Local residents who have concerns regarding this development are urged to show support by attending the first day of the public inquiry and from then on maintaining enough of a public presence at the inquiry over the eight day period to make the inspector aware of our concern.

TRAFFIC CALMING: Keep your eyes peeled. Soulbury will be installing their own traffic calming, which will be seen around the village shortly.

Stewkley St. Michael's Church: On Sunday June 12th at 5.00pm, there will be a special Bereavement Service for everyone who has suffered the loss of a family member or dear friend and would like to remember them on this occasion. Anyone needing a lift, please contact Christine on 270377 and I will gladly take them.

MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

QUIZ and BUFFET SUPPER EVENING: This will be held in the Parish Hall on SATURDAY JUNE 18TH at 7.30pm. If you would like to come along to this very popular event please phone Elizabeth on 270838 or Christine on 270377 in order to book a place. The cost is £10.00 each for adults. We usually have tables of 4 people, but if you are not a four-some, we will team you up with other participants so there is no need to be concerned. Please bring your own drink and glasses. The food is always excellent and there is always a choice for vegetarians.

The trustees are making a special request to ALL DOG WALKERS who take their pets on to the Millennium Green, to pick up the excrement the dogs leave behind. Having recently acquired a puppy, I have been walking him every day on the Green and to my dismay, I notice that there are a lot of lumps of excrement left by dog owners. If parents let their children exercise their dogs, they must be instructed to pick up what the dogs leave behind – an unpleasant thing to have to do but it is illegal to leave it in a public place, especially where children play or walk. I have been picking up other people's dogs' excrement and feel somewhat resentful that I am obliged to clean up after irresponsible owners. So PLEASE MAKE SURE you do what you should and PICK IT UP. It's no good thinking that if the dog empties itself in the top meadow in the long grass it can't be seen and won't matter. That is where my puppy runs and plays and it's where I find most of the delightful(?) surprises the culprits deposit.

HS2 : High Speed Rail Link (preferred alternative route could pass very near to Soulbury): Our District Councillor has told us that AVDC are opposing HS2 rail link in its entirety ie preferred route and preferred alternative routes, on the grounds that there is no business case for this rail link for the amount of money it is expected to cost. It seems there is growing opposition to this rail link with many people and organisations fighting the case. Here in Soulbury, we cannot sit on our laurels, if you do not agree with it, then please make sure the government know. The government are holding consultation road shows on the HS2 rail scheme in AVDC area now, where there will be maps and information available, including all the documents which were used to develop the proposals and the strategic thinking behind them. There will also be explanatory factsheets on a wide range of issues including local impacts and benefits. Two road shows have past and the remaining two in Aylesbury Vale are:

21 May - Waddesdon Church of England School Car Park
26 May - Calvert Green Community Centre Car Park

www.aylesburyvalecd.gov.uk <http://www.transportforbucks.net/>

Ode to Soulbury

The Soulbury I remember, when I was just a boy, was full of love and kindness, and happiness and joy. The streets were safe for children, you couldn't ask for more, You could even go out shopping, and never lock the door. No road rage, and no muggings, no robber with his gun, We were there for one another, a village all for one.

Of the frost and snow in winter, us boys were rather fond, of snowball fights, and sledging, and skating on the pond. No tractor work in those days, just the horses gentle tread, In the fields at work with them all day, you were ready for your bed.

Alas, The shop and school are closed now, the post office it has gone, If that's what they call progress, then something must be wrong. Our village homes are sold now, to outsiders in their scores, but when asked to join in village life, they hide behind closed doors. They say, "you can't do this, you can't do that, what e'r your plans we'll stall". I very often wonder why, the b***s ever came at all.

Still, the things I've done, and the things I've seen, it truly does amaze.

Ah yes, it's good to reminisce about those golden bygone days.

The above ode and this month's newsletter were sponsored by the last remaining village dairy farmer, with not enough sense to get out of the business!

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Sunday	5th June	11:30am	Holy Communion	(Baptism Service at 2pm)
Sunday	12th June	11:30am	FAMILY SERVICE	(Bereavement Service at Stewkley at 5pm)
Sunday	19th June	11:30am	Holy Communion	
Sunday	26th June	11:30am	Holy Communion	
Sunday	3rd July	11:30am	FAMILY SERVICE	

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Thursdays 9th & 23rd  AVDC Refuse Collection

Thursday 16th June  AVDC Refuse & Recycling Collection

Tuesday 14th June 8pm W.I. - Buckinghamshire Cookery - Mrs J Dineen

Monday 20th June 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting (Parish Hall)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CRICKET FIXTURES

5th June - Stoke Hammond(H)

12th June - Stewkley (H)

19th June - Chearsley (A)

26th June - Thornborough (H)

If you would like to sponsor an issue, or submit items for publication by 26th June please contact:

Mrs. Bunyan 270461

Mrs. Norman 270483



or email soulburynews@btinternet.com

MAD SUMMER BALL FOR 'CARE FOR CASUALTIES'

THE RIFLES REGIMENT AND THEIR CHARITY

BY JANE MURRELL

OUR small group is now well advanced with the organization of the Mad Summer Ball, with all the entertainment confirmed, contracts signed and many bills paid. Caterers all booked. We have some great donations for the raffle, silent auction, tombola and the main auction. Many different things such as four VIP tickets to see 'Take That' at Wembley on 9th July, and Grand Prix tickets for 10th July. (Yes, that's the weekend after the ball.) For which we are very grateful as without these generous donations the event would not be able to go ahead. We thank all of the companies and individual who have donated.

I would like to give you a little more information about our chosen charities, and will start this month with The Rifles, whose charity is 'Care for Casualties'. The ball will raise funds for them, and also for 'Help for Heros'. The Rifles are the largest infantry regiment in the British Army. Infantry are a body of soldiers who march and fight on foot. They march at 140 paces per minute, faster than any other infantry (who march at 120 paces per minute). The Rifles consist of five regular and two territorial battalions. Their current roles and locations are:

1st battalion - commando infantry, Chepstow

2nd battalion - Northern Ireland

3rd battalion - Edinburgh

4th battalion - mechanized infantry, Bulford

5th battalion - armoured infantry, Paderborn, Germany

6th battalion - Territorial Army, Exeter: South West England

7th battalion - Territorial Army, Reading: Home Counties and London.

Territorial elements of the regiment are spread throughout the South West and Home Counties. They support operations worldwide, and most recently Salonika Company from the 7th Rifles was deployed to Afghanistan. The Rifles cap badge is worn by all army cadets in Buckinghamshire.

The Rifles charity is 'Care for Casualties'. Their mission statement: "Endure the responsibility to safeguard the welfare of the regiment's serving soldiers, its 35,000 veterans and their families through financial and practical support." Since February 2007, Rifles battalions have been deploying almost continually on operations, the intensity and ferocity of which has cost the lives of 50 Rifleman killed in action and more than 290 seriously injured. Many of these injuries are life changing for them and their families. In addition to this it is anticipated that many veterans will suffer from psychological problems at some stage in the future. This will give The Rifles charity a significant increase in the amount of financial benevolence needed to meet those needs.

The support they can give varies from counseling for depression of a close relative after the death of a Rifleman, driving lessons for a triple amputee, funding re-training courses for soldiers invalided out of the army, to providing a stair lift for an elderly veteran. Last year there were 691 individual cases funded by the regiment. The units based at Milton Keynes have had their own share of fatalities. On the 15th November 2009, Rifleman Andy Fentiman (from E Company, 7 Rifles, Milton Keynes) was shot and killed during firefight whilst serving in Sangin, Afghanistan. He was a personal friend to many of the guys based at MK.

At the moment The Rifles charity gives grants of almost £400,000 per year to help those vulnerable members of the regimental family who require assistance. In the coming years it is assessed that the regiment will not be able to sustain its current level of benevolence let alone address any increase without significant extra funds. Our Rifleman are recruited from throughout the country and represent every walk of life. For each casualty the regiment sustains, a family's life is changed forever. We all owe them our enduring support. So please come and meet some for them at the Mad Summer Ball: 2nd July, Upper Wingbury Farm, Wingrave. Enjoy an evening of entertainment while helping these men and women who need our help now and in the future.

I understand that some people have had problems downloading the ticket application form. We are working on this, but please if you have any problems with the website telephone Jane or Nick Murrell on 01296 668190 and we will post a form to you.

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