



# SUBURY NEWSLETTER

## THE NEWSLETTER

Many thanks to all who attended the open meeting about the newsletter and all those who offered to help in any way with production. It was clear that there was a general feeling that the newsletter is a valuable village asset, which should continue to be produced. We now have very healthy rotas of typists and copiers so that we hope no one person will have too heavy a burden in the future. We are also grateful to the Parish Council for awarding us an annual grant of up to £150 to cover emergencies, when we may need to have the newsletter photocopied commercially or for when we have to supply the paper for the copying.

This month we would like to thank Lexia Kerr for typing the newsletter.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the recent council meeting the clerk reported that the survey of the War memorial had revealed the virtual disappearance of the carved names, especially from the First World War, and the work by a stone mason to re-engrave these names would be put in hand very promptly.

On another matter most of the council agreed that the village ought to have a flagpole, and now that the church tower could no longer support one the church council had suggested that the churchyard might be a suitable alternative site. Financing this

was deferred to another meeting. Mrs Brenda Jennings, our County Councillor, gave a report on the by-pass progress. The renewal of planning permission from south Beds District Council was at present being considered. Opposition from the Council for the Preservation of Rural England and concerns from local residents of Linslade were mentioned, but Bucks County Council were hoping to allay these worries and press on ahead.

The Church path exit onto the road where there is a steep step down was agreed to be dangerous by the County Council, so they will install a barrier as soon as finances become available.

Mrs Jennings was also pursuing the possibility of a 20mph speed limit for the village.

For the last eight years Mr Jack Jones has been keeping an eye on the Children's playground in Mount Pleasant, and keeping it tidy. He has finally decided to resign this task and the Parish Council were very keen to express their gratitude to him. Thank you Jack. The job with its small annual payment is vacant for anyone who would like to take it over. The clerk on 370094 or Mr Alf Peacock on 270541 would be pleased heard from anyone who would be prepared to do it.

During the Foot and Mouth epidemic there has obviously been much more use made of the dog bin. There was some talk of possibly installing another bin at

the top of The Green, but as there is a considerable cost involved, the Council felt the decision should be deferred until normality returned to the countryside. Our attention was also drawn to the impending legislation, which from 1<sup>st</sup> May, will introduce fines for dog-fouling on a one witness only record.

Foot and Mouth has also caused a problem with the arrangements for the Church Fete – which will be postponed until 1<sup>st</sup> September.

Stan Morris mentioned that he hoped to increase the number of neighbourhood watch co-ordinators in the village, and this introduced the topic of policing in Soulbury. P.C. Briginshaw and the new sergeant will be attending the next council meeting in May. This meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting and all members of the public are very welcome to attend and air their opinions.

Liz Miller reported on progress on the possibility of a grant to renovate the Fountain. At present she is concentrating on gathering information on the traditions and history of the water trough and its uses during the early part of the century. If anyone has any interesting details on this she would be pleased to hear from them. There must be still people in the village who remember horses and carts travelling from Linslade and Leighton to and from Soulbury. What were they carrying? Where were they going? How important was the Fountain at any time? Please contact Liz on 270545.

Maureen Payne reported on a tour she had taken of the CCTV control room in Aylesbury. Groups of 6 or 7 could be accommodated, if anyone is interested let Maureen know – 270418.

The next council meeting will be 21<sup>st</sup> May at 7.15pm, followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm.



## MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS

At least one of the swales is alive with tadpoles once again and, in general, the site is settling down very nicely, used at times by wide ranges of wildlife, and villagers alike. A wild duck, a mallard, with a brood of 7 to 8 young was present in this same area for a few days, though they now seem to have moved on. Thanks are due to Ian parrot for this occurrence, as he has not only preserved the old willow in which the birds nested, but he also shepherded these vulnerable creatures across the busy Stewkley Road. Pollarded crack willows and black poplars are a particularly valuable wildlife resource. Readers are invited to report their own observations on the Millennium Green or elsewhere in the parish to Jane on 270532, Liz on 270545 or Jon on 270377.

We had a delightful robin's nest in our garden in an old willow stump, but disaster struck in the shape of a cat which ate one fledgling and then (we think it was the rain and cold maybe) the following day the other fledglings were dead in the nest. Why?

Anyone with a garden, from a small back garden to a few acres, who would like to improve its usefulness to wildlife please contact Jon on 270377.

One last appeal if anyone knows of a local site where toads spawn, please let us know. Toads are uncommon hereabouts, but, in spite of the increasingly suitable habitat on the Millennium Green, they are unlikely to colonise, unless introduced as tadpoles, due to their particular habits, always returning to their place of birth to spawn.

In line with the original project plans it seems likely that the part of the site to the west of the ditch,

near Ivy Cottage, will be fenced off and visitors will be asked to keep their dogs out of this area. Some species are very sensitive to disturbance and fencing will allow this area to be more extensively developed as a haven for wildlife.

'100 club' for the Millennium Green. This month's winner for April was Mr Frank Fountain from Stoke Hammond. We apologise for not publishing the February and March winners. They were Mrs Jones (who returned her winnings) and Mrs Pat Catchlove.



## ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS

### *Church Cleaning*

This is due to take place on Saturday 12th May and 16th June from 10am to 12 noon. Help would be appreciated even if only for part of the time.

### *The Annual Parochial Church Meeting*

Took place on 4th April. The PCC for the current year consists of Rev Norman Cotton and Rev Peter Lymbery with churchwardens Harry Ayris and Mr Chris Bryant, Mrs Chris Bryant (secretary), Stan Morris (treasurer), Joyce Kellner (Deanery Synod Rep) and elected members Iris Ayris, Lady Bonsor, June Linney, and Christine Shepherd. It was also understood that Brenda Howell was willing to serve. John Hibbard (Lay Reader) is also a member.

Thanks were expressed to Mrs Chris Bryant for taking on the duties of secretary and it was to be regretted that John and Doreen Sadler could no longer serve due to business commitments. Mrs Sydney Barnes who died during the year would be sadly missed.

It was pleasing to note that the

accounts for the year 2000 showed a surplus of £3115 after shortfalls of £80 and £211 in the previous two years. Collections had improved, donations (mainly one -off) were also substantially up and we had benefited from a reduction in our payments to the diocese. Churchyard expenses and repairs and maintenance showed increases.

The Annual Report stresses that we are unlikely to repeat the 2000 results and that we cannot rest on our laurels if some contribution is to be made from the PCC funds to the installation of a toilet, light refreshment facilities and, possibly, improved heating.

Satisfaction was expressed at the restoration and rehanging of the bells and that, with the reorganisation of parishes in the Deanery, Soulbury would remain grouped, at least for the time being, with Stewkley and Drayton Parslow.

The PCC agreed that £2000 of the balance in hand should be set aside towards the cost of the projected improvements. They also congratulated John Hibbard who, following a recent selection conference has been accepted by the Bishop to start training for the Ordained Local Ministry.

The Annual Report and Accounts are being distributed with this Newsletter to all homes in the Parish and the Friends of Soulbury Church will be issuing a separate newsletter outlining their future plans and appealing for funds and fund raising ideas.

#### *Church fete*

This has now been postponed to 1st September due to the Foot and Mouth crisis.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Two pieces of Neighbourhood Watch advice -first, now the summer is here be careful not to leave sheds and garages unlocked, even for short periods. Thieves are always on the look out for the opportunity to take bicycles, garden equipment and etc. Secondly, in a neighbouring village elderly residents have been targeted over the telephone by bogus public utility representatives trying to make appointments to visit properties.

### NEW IDEAS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

We would like to include in the newsletter congratulations to any villagers celebrating milestone anniversaries (silver weddings, golden weddings, etc) or special birthdays. Please let us have details of anything appropriate. We would particularly like to wish happy birthday to the children in the village, and for this purpose would ask parents of under 12's to let us know the dates of birth of their children so that we can include them on an annual basis.

We are very grateful to Richard Onslow who has produced wonderful drawings to illustrate the newsletter for a very considerable time. We would also like to encourage others in the village, and especially any children, who would like to provide us with a picture (approx. 20cm by 6cm) for the top of the newsletter. Any appropriate subject will be considered.

### FREELANCE HAIRSTYLIST

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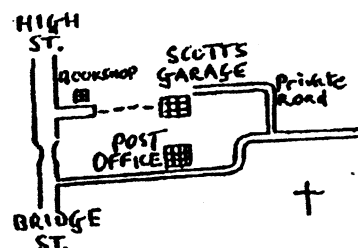
Ring Karen 01525 270552

### GARDEN MACHINERY SERVICE

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### LATE REMINDER

Mr Alf Peacock would be grateful for any contributions for any books and similar items for his May Day stall in aid of Parkinson's Disease. Tel: 270541.



## CRICKET FIXTURES MAY 2000

**Note: Due to the Foot and Mouth Crisis, Soulbury Cricket Ground is inaccessible for all home matches for at least the first part of the season. Arrangements have been made with Stoke Hammond, who has kindly offered use of their ground when vacant.**

<b>Sunday</b>	May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Home	Ebury Strollers
<b>Saturday</b>	May 12 <sup>th</sup>	To Be Advised	Great Brickhill
<b>Sunday</b>	May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Away	Stoke Hammond
<b>Saturday</b>	May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Home	Old Bradwell
<b>Sunday</b>	May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Home	Stewkley
<b>Saturday</b>	May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Away	Little Horwood
<b>Sunday</b>	May 27 <sup>th</sup>	Away	Studham



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR MAY 2001

(In the clubroom unless otherwise stated)

<b>Thursday</b>	May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , May 17 <sup>th</sup> , June 1 <sup>st</sup> (Friday)		A.V.D.C. Waster paper and recycling collection
<b>Thursday</b>	May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> , 31 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Bowls Evening
<b>Tuesday</b>	May 8 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Women's Institute
<b>Monday</b>	May 14 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 - 2.15pm 2.20 - 2.35pm	Mobile Library – Bungalows lay-by, High Road, Stewkley Road Bus Stop
<b>Wednesday</b>	May 16 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Women's Fellowship – meet at The Mead
<b>Monday</b>	May 21 <sup>st</sup>	7.15pm	Parish Council Meeting Followed by Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm



## DIARY DATES

<b>Sunday</b>	June 24 <sup>th</sup>		Millennium Green Summer Happening
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## ALL SAINTS CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

<b>All Sundays in May</b>		11.30am	Sung Communion in Church including Baptism on 27th
<b>Thursday</b>	May 24 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Ascension day – Communion

## METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev. Cowburn, The Manse, Stewkley. – Tel – 240251

<b>Wednesday</b>	May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Circuit Healing Meeting
<b>Sunday</b>	May 6th		No Service
<b>Sunday</b>	May 13 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Mr Ken Gregory
<b>Sunday</b>	May 20 <sup>th</sup>		No Service
<b>Sunday</b>	May 27 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Rev. Cowburn

Items for next issue by 20<sup>th</sup> May 2001 to: Mrs Miller 270545, Mrs Bunyan 270461, Mrs Norman 270483,  
Mrs Fairbairn 270674.

Or email: [debbie@dbegroup.co.uk](mailto:debbie@dbegroup.co.uk)