

SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 426 NOVEMBER 2012

CHURCH NEWS

On Sunday November 25th our Church is acting host to everyone in the Cottesloe Benefice i.e. people from Stewkley, Aston Abbots, Cublington, Wingrave, Cheddington, Mentmore and Wing so we are expecting a lot of people. It would be nice if we had a good turn - out from our parish to welcome our guests, so do try and come then. Our visitors have been invited to partake of a delicious Soulbury breakfast, (courtesy of The Friends of Soulbury Church) after the Service, for the princely sum of £5.00. I will try to get a rough idea of numbers from the respective parishes nearer the time to help the caterers with provisions.

LETTER FROM PHILIP: Dear all, November for Christians has traditionally started with two major events to do with the deceased: All Saints and All Souls. On the 1st. of November we remember the great characters, heroes and heroines of faith---the famous people as it were. The following day people were encouraged to remember those who had been personally close to them and who had been 'promoted to glory', as an old Salvation Army officer I once worked with so beautifully put it. Promoted to glory isn't a euphemism like 'passed' or 'gone' but a celebration of a life lived for God and others and now earning a deserved rest!

There was nothing mawkish or avoiding about it just a frank recognition of an inevitable fact. These days were sometimes marked with solemn communions and even processions but in our more utilitarian and less colourful days all that has gone. However it's interesting to see how many roadside shrines have now sprung up in a kind of secular spirituality. I guess the death of Princess Diana gave a huge boost to that as a way of expressing grief. The day of her death I was the Chaplain at Holloway Prison and had to break the news to the women at the 10.00 Chapel Service (some of course already knew, having radios). There was the most heartfelt outpouring of sadness and anger the only response to which was really profound silence. Even though Diana was rich and famous and the women I ministered to were mainly poor (and at best a bit infamous), they felt a bond of shared pain and rejection and some of the in-cell shrines were tended for many months.

Grief can often break down barriers as we have seen with the case of little April Jones in central Wales and can lead us to be more gentle with one another. Let us continue to uphold her family in our own prayers and pray for the Police as they endeavour to find her in order to give them some peace of mind. God Bless you all. Philip.

PARISH NEWS

On 15 November, residents across Thames Valley will have the opportunity to vote for their first ever local Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). Each of the police force areas in England and Wales, outside of London, will directly-elect a Commissioner. The Commissioners will be accountable for how crime is tackled in their police force area. PCCs will aim to ensure that the police deliver an effective and efficient service. Poll cards will be issued on 22 October to tell electors the date of the election, the hours of poll and where to find their polling stations. The Commissioner will be elected using the supplementary voting system. This is the system used in mayoral elections. A booklet explaining about the PCC elections and the supplementary vote system will be delivered by the Electoral Commission to every household from 22 October. Other formats will also be available. Polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm. The count of the votes for each candidate will take place on 16 November. The Parish Hall in Soulbury has been booked for the above.

CHURCH NEWS

The Parish Council meeting took place in the Parish Hall on 15th October. It was a quiet meeting in comparison to the September meeting where 18 members of the public attended. The date of the next meeting is Monday 19th November at 19:30, where all are welcome.

A resident of The Green has suggested planting trees on The Green in Soulbury. He has offered to fund and organise the project. The Parish Council thought it best to ask the residents living in that area for their thoughts on the subject. Please jot down your comments to Vic Wright and post through letter box at 14 Chapel Hill. Thank you. Chapel Hill: Bucks CC have been requested to assess the state of the road with a view to resurfacing. We await the outcome.

Childrens playground: The Parish Council received a petition from children where they requested further equipment for the Mount Pleasant playground, giving us a list of their preferences. This is worth keeping on file, so that we can investigate the possibility of further funding. The Parish Council also received a very nice "thank you" letter from the children for the recently installed equipment on the Millennium Green. Work is ongoing for this project to clear the ground in the existing playground, so that the old and new play equipment can be incorporated into one play area. New surfacing can then be laid where appropriate, together with new fencing. A regular group of volunteers are working on this under the guidance of Cllr Alan Stevens. If you can afford some time to benefit the children of the parish, please contact Cllr Stevens on 01525 270213 for the date of the next work group.

Christmas Tree: Last year we ordered a tree to put in the beacon. However, when it arrived it was far too big to attempt, so we erected it on The Green. This was a huge success and many favourable comments were received. Therefore, we are looking to buy a similar size tree this year and have been quoted £80 for the tree and delivery. In previous years we have been fortunate to receive a donation to cover the cost. However, we feel £80 is too much to expect from one sponsor, so we are respectfully asking for several contributions. If you feel that you can help out with a donation towards this year's tree, please contact Cllr Vic Wright on 01525 270537. We aim to erect the Christmas tree on The Green on Saturday 8th December at 10:00am. We do need several helpers. Please contact Vic on the above number to pledge your help.

VAHT: Our District Councillor, Neil Blake, walked around the villages with a representative of the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust recently and it was commented how good the outside of the Trust properties looked, especially gardens. Well done to Trust residents.

By popular request the Christmas Sing-a-long is being held on Saturday 15th December. Tickets will be £12 and include a Fish & Chip, or Chicken & Chip supper. Please book early to avoid disappointment. Call Alan Stevens on 270213.

SOULBURY ENDOWED SCHOOL TRUST

The trustees will meet in December to consider the applications for a grant and any child in Soulbury aged between 14 and 18 years on the 31st December can apply for a grant towards any items that will help their education. An application form can be found on www.soulbury.org and should be submitted before the end of November.

A whole month of **Christmas Shopping in Leighton Buzzard** starts with a festival weekend on 30th November - 2nd December. Shops will be open **7 days a week** until Christmas Day. Why not take full advantage and browse the interesting and varied shops in the town to find the right gift, or just make your home even more beautiful. Remember - car parking is free on Sundays so don't hurry back to the car, stay and try out one of the many lovely cafes!

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MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS : On Saturday October 13th the Millennium Green Trust held a very successful Quiz and Supper Evening in the Parish Hall. There were about 50 people who enjoyed racking their brains! and eating good food amongst cheerful company. Many thanks to Bob Beaumont, quiz master, and Dave Miller, scorer, for devising the quiz and keeping a running total of how the contestants were doing. Special thanks to everyone who cooked and provided delicious dishes of chilli, chicken casserole, vegetable stews, lasagne and quiche and for the desserts and for all those who came along to support the event. The sum of approximately £500 was made for the trust. Recently a few of the trustees have been to visit other Millennium Greens in the area. We went to Southgate in London and Silsoe and Shefford in Bedfordshire which are the nearest ones to us. It was very interesting to see what other trusts have done with their patches of land, all quite different but with some common features, such as short grass areas for community events, long grass meadow bits for wildlife, artistic features like mosaic flooring and elaborate wrought iron gateways and wetland or ponds. We are making links with these other Greens and hoping to support one another by visiting when there is a special community event or a work party. Details to follow when there is more news.

A Little Bit of History: It is now almost 15 years since the first plans for Millennium Greens were set up in 1997/98. There are approximately 245 Greens in the country, only one in Buckinghamshire, here in Soulbury. It is thanks to Luther Brazier who lives in Stockgrove and Alf Peacock, who was Chairman of the Parish Council here for many years that we have our M.G. These two men did all the hard work of organising the grants and buying the land. The money came from the Lottery via the Countryside Agency (now called Natural England). The grant was specifically designated for establishing Millennium Greens and could not be used for any other project, however worthy. We are, I am sure, very grateful to Luther and Alf, together with their loyal group of helpers, for giving us such a lovely area of natural beauty, safe and peaceful for all, children and dogs.

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Team Vicar : Rev. Derek Witchell, 27b Wing Road, Wing. Tel 01296 682320
Team Vicar : Rev. Robert Wright, Cheddington



Sunday	4th November	11:30am	Morning Worship - Andrew & Lesley Berry
Sunday	11th November	10:45am	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - Rev. Philip Derbyshire (note time)
Sunday	18th November	11:30am	Parish Communion - Rev. Derek Witchell
Sunday	25th November	10:00am	Team Eucharist - Rev. Philip Derbyshire (note time)
Sunday	2nd December	11:30am	Morning Worship - Andrew & Lesley Berry

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesdays	7th & 21st	11:15am- 11:35am	Mobile Library - Stewkley Road Bus Stop
Mondays	12th & 26th		Garden Waste Collection (Brown Bin)
Tuesdays	13th & 27th		Food Bin & General Waste (Green Lid)
Tuesdays	6th & 20th		Food Bin & Recycling (Blue Lid)
Wednesdays	7th & 21st	2:30pm	Social Club
Tuesday	13th November	8pm	W.I. - Annual General Meeting
Monday	19th November	7:30pm	Parish Council Meeting (Parish hall)
Sunday	25th November	9:30am	Soulbury Breakfast (Parish Hall)
Saturday	15th December		Christmas Sing-a-long



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This month's newsletter was paid for from funds.

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

Mrs. Bunyan 270461

Mrs. Norman 270483

soulburynews@btinternet.com



STEWKLEY PLAYERS

Present their 108th production

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THURSDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2012 at 8pm

FRIDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2012 at 8pm

SATURDAY 24th NOVEMBER 2012 at 8pm

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