

SOULBURY NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 449 - DECEMBER 2014 / JANUARY 2015

(closing date for next edition - 17th January)

CHURCH NEWS - Philip's Message

Dear friends, The Nativity scene which is such a staple of school and Church Christmas events is a relatively modern innovation. When Francis of Assisi was trying to teach his listeners about God's love for His creation and how we should respect that creation, he looked around and lit upon the rural simplicity of the peasants around him in Italy and related it back to the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem from Nazareth. There, in an inn outhouse/stable/cave, Mary gave birth to the long-promised Son of God, Jesus. Francis realized the strength of this rustic scene to teach people big concepts and so the Nativity was created, as we still visualize it. This was in the 13th century - so, in cosmic terms 'modern'. Before that date of course people knew the story, but it was not given the prominence we have given it of late. Francis had a great love of nature and spoke of planets and stars and animals as his brothers, sisters, friends and so on. He also knew instinctively that we needed to care for and nurture our home 'mother' earth.

As I write, this capsule has landed on a comet in outer space and we await with baited breath to hear what its equipment will tell us, if anything, of the origins of life. People are divided over the utility and expense of such ventures---the knowledge makes it worthwhile. but could not the money and expertise involved be better employed? A good end of year discussion point over the turkey and pud!! Have a great time and don't get indigestion! God Bless, Philip.

On **SATURDAY DECEMBER 13TH** at 12.30pm families and all their children will be meeting in the church for a bring-and- share lunch. **ALL FAMILIES ARE WELCOME.** After lunch, children and helpers will make Christingles for the Service on Sunday December 21st at 4.00pm. Oranges and decorations will be provided. These get-togethers are great fun. Do come along.

On behalf of the P.C.C., I would like to thank the probation boys who last week cleared the ivy off the graves in the churchyard and removed the iron railings from the Robinson family grave on the right hand side - they were a bit of a hazard. They have done a grand job. Thank you. Christine

The **Pulloxhill Singers** entertained a nearly full church recently and the grand sum of £401 was raised for Church Funds. All enjoyed mulled wine and home-made mince pies during the interval.

VILLAGE BREAKFAST - This made a magnificent sum of £425. which is the best ever, covering over 100 breakfasts. The next one is on Sunday 11th January.

NEWSLETTER FUNDS The newsletter is looking for sponsors. If you would like to help in this way, or get together with a friend/neighbour to share the cost of £57 for one month, please contact Mrs.P.Norman on 01525 270483 or email soulburynews@btinternet.com

CRICKET CLUB - AGM NEWS

After the death earlier this year of Club President Wilson Parrott, the position was offered to his son, Ian Parrott who was pleased to accept. The Club was also saddened to hear of the death of a Vice President, Ray Kirk, who played for the Club for many years. Condolences were sent to the family. Soulbury Cricket Club has been accepted to re-join the 4 Counties cricket league next season. All new players welcome.

Club Officers for 2015 are:

Chairman: Brian Mead	Vice-Chairman: Roger Rolls
Captain: Nick Mead	Vice-Captain: David Chamberlain
Secretary: Nick Carter	Treasurer: Mrs Chris Bryant

Fixture Secretary: Kevin Rolls Social Secretary: Martin French

The **STAPLEFORD TRUST** provides Christmas hampers to anyone who has lived in the village for more than a year, and is over 65 and would like to receive one. The Trustees are concerned that they may be unaware of some villagers who, due to their youthful looks, may be missing out. If so, please contact Ian Parrott on 270234.

RAY KIRK - It is with sadness we report the death of Ray Kirk. Ray along with his late wife, lived on the Green since they married in 1949. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

W.I. NEWS The November meeting was our Annual General Meeting. After the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, our secretary, Jean Housley, presented the Annual Report for 2014. This showed that 2014 had provided us with a very varied and interesting programme of speakers and events. The topics ranged from being a Midwife in Cambodia, to an insight into the work of a landscape gardener. Other subjects covered were A History of Pearls, Flower Painting, the flora and fauna of Milton Keynes, and a talk on the Alexander Technique. In July we held an open meeting when Dr. Michael Fopp gave us a most interesting insight into how London transport coped during the Second World War.

Chris Bryant then presented the financial Report for the year. Our funds were helped by a Barbecue held in the summer so the finances continue to look quite healthy and we hope this happy state of affairs continues. After partaking of refreshments, members were invited to try their hand at making a bracelet under the watchful eye of our jewellery making expert, Gay Henrick. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 2nd December which will be a Social Evening, followed by our Christmas meal on Tuesday 9th December.

WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR READERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

MILLENNIUM GREEN NEWS The Bonfire Night and Fireworks party went off with a great bang! It was well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Thanks are due to Michele Nicholas and her colleague, Georgia for organising the food and cooking on our new barbecue (more of that in a minute); to Elizabeth Caplan for the chili; to Vic Wright and Alan Stevens for safely letting off the fireworks; to Jon Sheppard and Fred Barrett for lighting and supervising the huge bonfire; to Valerie Redbart for rattling a bucket and collecting donations; to everyone who made guys and the marvellous carved pumpkins and brought them along for the competitions; to all those who donated fireworks and donated money for the M. Green. We made about £150 to go towards the upkeep of the Green. Thank you for supporting the event. People will have noticed the new barbecue and the neat, clean splendid stage at the top of the Green. Many, many thanks to Fred Barrett and his daughter Claire for doing all this work. It looks great. Anyone can use the barbecue next summer when the warm weather returns, as long as you clear up rubbish and don't set fire to yourselves or anything else! Since the bonfire someone has taken it upon themselves to prepare for another!! A pile of garden waste or greenery of some kind has suddenly appeared on the site of the bonfire. This is not meant to be a permanent feature!! Please, if you need to get rid of garden waste, we do have bins on the green but please ask first! thank you! I couldn't make this up! I don't suppose the guilty party would be good enough to own up and apologise?

NICOLE'S TREE: On Saturday November 8th at 10 o'clock in the morning we had a lovely ceremony with a good few people in attendance, when a red acer was planted near the stage on the Millennium Green, followed by bacon butties at The Boot. Nicole lives in the village with her fiancé Phil and two young daughters and has recently been diagnosed with a brain tumour for the second time. Nicole is a lovely, extremely brave young woman who has vowed to carry on campaigning to raise awareness of brain tumours. You may have seen the article in the local Leighton Buzzard Observer newspaper about her. Sir Nicholas Bonsor was present and Lady Bonsor planted the tree (kindly donated by Dobbies Garden Centre) and the Rev. Philip Derbyshire blessed it. The plaque on the tree carries Nicole's own motto of "Live Life", a promise that Nicole has dedicated herself to fulfil for as long as she can. Representatives of Brain Tumour Research were present as were her parents and members of her family. "She is an inspiration" said a spokesman and she truly is.

The **100 Club** is reforming in January, so which of you will be the lucky 12 winners in 2015? The Club has an annual membership of 50-80 members (maximum 100) each year and the Trust thanks you for your past support and hope you will take part in the 2015 monthly draw - the more funds we can generate through subscription, the bigger the monthly payout to a lucky winner. The 100 Club is a fun way of raising funds for the Millennium Green's continued upkeep for everyone's enjoyment - walking dogs, enjoying a stroll, peacefully sitting and enjoying the view, Schools' Festival, Bonfire Night, and even for a summer BBQ.

The cost is £12 for the year; each month a number is drawn at the monthly Millennium Green meeting and a cheque is sent to the winner. The first draw will take place in January 2015.

Please return the application form enclosed with the Newsletter to Elizabeth Caplan at 4 The Mead, Soulbury with your subscription payment by the end of December. You can include as many applicants' names as you wish along with correct payment.

If all the existing club members can get one more person to join, then we will double the membership which would enlarge the pay out.

SOCIAL GROUP: The Social Group is having a Christmas Dinner in the Village Hall on December 11th. We have been practising our skills at short mat bowls recently and thanks to Sue Neal from Stewkley are beginning to get the hang of it - slowly! If anyone would like to come along to our meetings, you will be very welcome at our next meeting in January, on Wednesday January 7th at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Come along and see what it's like and then decide if you want to join.

PROPERTY MARKING EVENT This was arranged by the Parish Council as a Property marking day with the aid of the local police. They were outside The Boot at the duly appointed hour and precisely FOUR members of the public turned up. Yes only FOUR! If you realise that two of these were Parish Councillors then I sometimes wonder why we bother! Regards Alan.



The Pilates Workshop

New Beginners Pilates Mat Class
Commencing October 2014
Soulbury Parish Hall

Wednesday 10.30am

Stoke Hammond Community Centre

Sunday 10.30am Improvers/Intermediate
Sunday 11.30am Children's Class (ages 11-16)
Monday 8pm Beginners/Improvers
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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council meeting took place in the Parish Hall on Monday 17th November. We welcomed fifteen members of the public and it proved to be a lively meeting. The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 17th December at 19:30, and all are welcome. Please note the change of day.

Wing North Police Team: Sgt Zoe Hardy introduced herself to the Parish Council meeting. She is new to the area and heading up our local police team. Welcome Zoe.

Christmas Tree for The Green: We are still looking for sponsorship towards the cost of a Christmas Tree for the village. Can you help out with a donation towards the cost of this year's tree? If so, please contact Cllr Vic Wright on 01525 270537. Many thanks.

If you can help to erect and light the tree, please meet on The Green at 10:00am on Sunday 30th November. Please note that the date has changed from Saturday to Sunday as we are unable to collect a tree before Sunday.

SuperFast Broadband: Are you interest in SuperFast Broadband coming to Soulbury? Don't forget to register at:

www.connectedcounties.org/check-availability/register and www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/expression-gen.aspx

Our District Councillor, Neil Blake, is aiming for AVDC to put aside £1.5 million which will be match-funded by BBUK Broadband. He will be taking this to the next Council meeting for approval. Currently broadband coverage is poor in lots of rural areas and it is hoped that massive coverage of SuperFast Broadband can be attained in rural areas.

BBUK Broadband uses ADSL technology provided by BT to convert your normal telephone line into a fast digital line, bringing you all the joys of high-speed Internet access. AVDC are rolling out a pilot project in one rural village and if successful aim to have 91% of Aylesbury Vale rural areas covered.

Council Tax: Our District Councillor advised that AVDC have agreed to hold Council Tax again and there will be no increase this year.

The Mead Building Site: Many will be aware that six houses are scheduled to be built at The Mead, the site currently known as "The Wickets". Three houses are now occupied and the site has been abandoned. It seems that there has been a falling out between the land owner and the building contractor, which leaves the site a danger to existing residents. The situation has been brought to the attention of the Enforcement Team at AVDC.

A separate issue is the excavated soil which has been piled at the corner of The Mead. This was discussed and our District Councillor is asking the Enforcement Team at AVDC to issue a Section 215 for the ground to be cleared.

Paul Newman Homes: Paul Newman Homes' new development proposal for 300 houses at West Linslade certainly caused a stir when it came to public participation. Soulbury Parish Council agreed that the consultation company for the developers should hold a public exhibition in order that residents were able to see and discuss the proposal. This took place in the Parish Hall recently. The Parish Council have also met with the consultation company, Curtin & Co, to look at and discuss the proposal. To date, this is all that has happened. A letter was published in the Leighton Buzzard Observer which misrepresented the context of what was actually said. The Parish Council will be responding to this and requesting that their response is printed.

Distraction Burglary: Most people who call at your home will be genuine but sometimes someone may turn up unannounced, with the intention of tricking their way into your home.

If someone calls at your door:

LOCK Keep your front and back doors locked, even when you are at home.

STOP Before you answer, stop and think if you are expecting anyone. Check that you have locked the back door and taken the key out. Look through a spy hole or window to see who it is.

CHECK Even if they have a pre-arranged appointment, check their identity card carefully. Close the door while you do this. If you are still unsure, look up a phone number in the phone book and ring to verify their identity. Do not use a phone number on the identity card, as this may be fake!

Bogus callers may be smartly dressed and claim to be from the council, police or utility companies. They can also turn up as builders or gardeners and try to trick you into paying for unnecessary work. You should never agree to have work done by someone who is just passing by. If you think work needs to be done, get at least two quotes from trusted companies. If you think a bogus caller has called on you report it to the police immediately via 101. *If you have any doubts, keep them out!*

Parish Council contact numbers:

Chairman - Victor Wright 270537; Vice Chairman - Maurice Cross 270503

Councillors - Alan Stevens 270213; Margaret Rowe 270355; Ian Culley 07787 784750; David Kempster 270080; Valerie Redbart 270246

SOULBURY MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST – 100 CLUB

Registered Charity No: 1070738

The 100 Club is reforming in January, so which of you will be the lucky 12 winners in 2015? The Club has an annual membership of 50-80 members (maximum 100) each year and the Trustees thank you for your past support and hope you will take part in the 2015 monthly draw - **the more funds we can generate through subscription, the bigger the monthly payout to a lucky winner.** The 100 Club is a fun way of raising funds for the Millennium Green's continued upkeep for everyone's enjoyment - walking dogs, enjoying a stroll, peacefully sitting and enjoying the view, Schools' Festival, Bonfire Night, and even for a summer BBQ.

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Here's the list of the 2013-14 winners:

April	32	Ginny Skeels
May	57	Hilary Ashburner
June	73	Claire Perry
July	72	Vicky Day
August	27	Christine Carter
September	21	Phil d'Souza
October	72	Vicky Day
November	23	Abigail d'Souza
December	07	Brenda Jones
January	03	Pat Jones
February	68	Carla Donatelli Bennet
March	33	Michael Lally

APPLICATION FORM for the 100 Club, **SOULBURY MILLENNIUM GREEN** (Registered Charity No: 1070738)

NAME/s

.....

ADDRESS

.....

.....

Tel

Email (optional but helpful)

Cheque NoCheque amount £.....

Please make cheques payable to **SOULBURY MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST**

Date2014

Signature

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Team Vicar : Rev. Gill Rowell, Cheddington. Tel 01296 708680



Sun. 7th Dec - 11:00am	FAMILY WORSHIP	Sun. 28th Dec - 11:30am	Holy Communion
Sun. 14th Dec - 11:30am	Parish Communion	Sun. 4th Jan - 11:00am	FAMILY WORSHIP
Sun. 21st Dec - 4pm	CHRISTINGLE	Sun. 11th Jan - 11:30am	Parish Communion
Wed. 24th Dec - 10pm	Midnight Mass	Sun. 18th Jan - 11:30am	Parish Communion
Thu. 25th Dec - 11:30am	Holy Communion	Sun. 25th Jan - 11:30am	Parish Communion

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesdays	2,16,30,13,27	Food Bin & Recycling (Blue Lid)
Tuesdays	9,23,6,20	Food Bin & General Waste (Green Lid)
Saturday	6 Dec	10am Millennium Green Work Party
Saturday	6 Dec	7pm Soulbury Sing-a-Long
Sunday	11 Jan	09:30 Soulbury Breakfast
	11 Dec, 7 Jan	Social Group
	17 Dec, 19 Jan	7:30pm Parish Council Meeting

No Brown Bins for Garden Rubbish in December & January - collections resume in February.



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Mrs. Norman 270483

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