

# WEST ILSLEY NEWS

1 March 1998

(Editor - Alan Muir Tel - 281647 Fax - 281138)

## PARISH COUNCIL

A petition signed by nearly 100 West Ilsley residents asking that provision be made for a children's playground was received last Autumn. The Parish Council now asks for willing volunteers from the village to form a Playground Management Committee to help raise funds, choose suitable equipment and maintain the site. Anyone interested is invited to the next meeting of the Parish Council, which will be held in the Village Hall on Monday 9th March 1998 at 7.00 pm.

**Gail Wilson-North** - Clerk

## FRIENDS OF THE ILSLEYS COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

On the Sunday afternoon of January 25th a hardy core of men and women set off in the bitterly cold wind, guns at the ready - their objective ..... 'to boldly go' and make money for the school.

We would like to thank all those who braved the elements and took part in the clay pigeon shoot and by doing so helped to raise £640 for the school, however, the event would not have been possible without the hard work and commitment of Richard Gore, Ian Wilson and Sheila and Robin Kidd from the Star - our very grateful thanks to them and also to the many 'trappers' who gave up their Sunday afternoon to help. The money raised will be spent on repairing/replacing the drinking water fountain and updating the I.T. resources.

There were joint winners for the highest score - Gary Fisher and a member of the winning Carlisle team, each received a bottle of whiskey.

The winners of the raffle held in the Star after the shoot were:-

1st prize Bottle of Grouse whiskey John Battersby

2nd prize Bottle of Bells whiskey Dave Rockall

3rd prize Bottle of vintage port Mick Philpots

4th prize Bottle of sherry Roger Huggins

5th prize Porsche T-shirt Keith Evans

6th prize Box of chocolates Gemma Gore

The next event on the school's fund-raising calendar will be the lottery which will be drawn on Friday 6th March. If anyone would like more information on joining the school's own lottery, a 'number' only costs £2, please speak to either Jane Denham or Pat Hardy in West Ilsley or Sheila Kidd in East Ilsley, all of whom will be willing to introduce you to the mysteries of the '100 Club'!!

Did anybody leave a pair of silver framed spectacles at the school after the evening performance of 'Alice in Wonderland'? They are awaiting collection from the school office.

**Sue Tooke**

### **TENNIS**

The Tennis Court at the moment is closed for essential repairs. We are repairing broken wires and damaged fencing; treating the playing surface with a specialist moss killer and the surrounding verges with another general purpose weed killer. The supporting fence posts require wire brushing and painting and a broken paving slab along the pathway needs repair. We are renewing the central net strap and attachments and also the brass handle that operates the net pulley wheel. The bench also will be repainted and the notice board renovated.

The cricket Club have agreed similar terms (£50 per annum) for 1998 for grass maintenance of the plateau and surrounds and we thank them for their work in 1997. Likewise, we thank the Tennis Booking Clerk, Elaine Clemenger, for her work in 1997 and her honorarium of £25 has been paid. We took a total of £326 in booking fees in 1997, including a kind donation of £30 from Lady Oaksey of Farnborough. Our new Treasurer is Jennie Craggs and we welcome Jennie's generous involvement with the court. The Tennis Management's small working Committee is Denis Gilmore, John Verney and myself. We will keep you informed of progress and the opening of the Court in due course.

**John Clemenger** - Chairman

### **FARMING NEWS**

What lovely weather - I can't remember the last time I was working in my shirtsleeves in February! (and I cannot believe I saw the Carlisle's bailing hay in February!! - I know they like to get on but!! - Ed). The crops are beginning to look rather "lush" due to the fertiliser that has been applied coupled with the warm weather. The last field of spring barley has been drilled today, the first ones are just emerging. For farmers and gardeners alike let's hope this forecast spell of hard weather doesn't hang around too long with all the tender shoots and bulbs coming out already.

The ewes have just started lambing, the start is always a bit of a headache but the mums look fit and healthy; all we hope for now is plenty of milk and the lambs will fatten quickly.

The Countryside March is looming up on us on Sunday with a huge turnout expected to converge on London. Let's hope the government, the anti-field sports activists and anyone else with a grudge or moan about the rural way of life take a good long look at what the rural community is trying to achieve not only for themselves but also for the townsfolk to enjoy as well when they visit the countryside.

**David Carlisle**

**TITTLE - TATTLE**

What a warm late January/February we are experiencing. However I was very perplexed to see the Carlises making what appeared to be hay in "Monty's" field (the field behind the tennis court. We are familiar with them meeting targets early - but hay!! In February?? I had to make the relevant enquiries and was reassured they were simply re-baling last years cut and not making the most of the early grass growth!!

The Village Pond is looking very promising - more so now it has fluid in it. Previous months may have seen torrential downpours (when we needed drought for the contouring), but the past few weeks have seen little rainfall. Grateful thanks to Thames Water for coming to the rescue before the lining cracked and filling the pond. Without their help the oasis would have remained a fatally flawed desert.

Congratulations to Marcus Tregonan and Arabella Wright who are to be wed in the Parish on March the 7th. We wish them lifelong happiness/

**Miss Toffelees**

**EASTER LILIES**

We shall be pleased to accept donations from anyone wishing to contribute money towards buying an Easter Lily as a token of remembrance.

**O Clark and A Carlisle**

**EVERGREENS**

Tuesday 3rd March 1998. There will be a meeting at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall to arrange the events for this year. There will be a raffle - prizes required please - Bingo and Tea. New members welcome.

**Anne Carlisle**

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

Church Services for March:-

1<sup>st</sup> March:-

All Age Service 10.00 am

8<sup>th</sup> March:-

Holy Communion 8.00 am

15<sup>th</sup> March:-

Family Communion 9.30 am

22<sup>nd</sup> March:-

Morning Prayer 9.30 am

29<sup>th</sup> March

United Benefice Communion 10.00 am

in All Saints, West Ilsley

**MONDAY 16 MARCH 1998**

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**8.00 pm in church**

*All are very welcome - please come and let us know what you want of your church in this village*

**The churchyard** is looking well with the rota for helpers now up and running (it must be the persuasive strong arm of the law!) - however, there is always room for more, so if you are able to give a hand, please let Tony Scriven know.

**A black velvet hat** was left in church at the carol service. If you are wondering why your head has been feeling a bit cold this year, that's the reason.

**The Lent course** will run from 3rd March. See me for further details.

**The History and Development of All Saints** has been written about by Tim Cockerill of Poundstock Cottage. It is very interesting and you may borrow the (only) copy from the church, but please return it!

**Vic Pocock** from Beedon is running in the London marathon again. There is a sponsorship form in the church (money to Miriam Dean Trust, the Bible Society and Friends of St. Nicholas, Beedon - see explanatory letter with the form).

**Ian Fewtrell-Smith**

## **VILLAGE HALL BINGO**

There will be a Bingo session held, as usual, on Good Friday April 10th, commencing at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, with proceeds going to Village Hall funds. Please show your continued support as usual.

Donations of prizes are always welcome and help us to raise even more - your generosity is always welcome! Please deliver any donations to Audrey Tizzard at the Post Office.

**Steve Price** - Village Hall Secretary

## **VILLAGE SERVICES**

Mobile Library - Parks in Morlands Close between 4 and 4.45pm on alternate Fridays.

Fishmonger - Parks in Morlands Close at 1730 Hrs every Friday.

Surgery - Telephone for appointments - 248507. Emergencies and General Enquiries - 248251. Prescriptions ordered from the surgery can be delivered to the Post Office.

Newbury District Council Mobile Enquiry Office - Parks outside The Crown and Horns every Tuesday between 1045 Hrs and 1115 Hrs.

Low Flying Helicopter Complaints - (01256) 702134.

Police - (01635) 31000.

Downland Volunteers - (01635) 578394 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings).