

# WEST ILSLEY NEWS

1 May 1998

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

## PARISH COUNCIL

Notice is given of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Monday 11th May at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. This will be followed by the Annual Parish Assembly at approximately 8pm when organisations from the village will report on their activities over the past year. Special Guest Speaker will be Di Peplar from West Berks Rural Recreation who will update us on all the services it has to offer.

Please come.

**Gail Wilson-North** - Clerk

## WEST ILSLEY STABLES NEWS

Spring, and the start of the 1998 Flat racing season sees us with a few changes in the Yard. Bob Wigham, Michael Hunt and Clarissa Polhill have left us for pastures new, and Sara O'Donovan our new racing secretary is looking forward to her first season at West Ilsley. Tony Parkes has rejoined us after a few years away, and all of us 'oldies' were glad to welcome a familiar face home.

Our 'babies' as I so unprofessionally insist on calling the two year olds, have been making steady progress learning their craft on the gallops, although it will be a little time yet before they make their racecourse debut. We have a very nice bunch this year, and together with some of the then two-year-olds who shone last summer, we are hopeful of a good season.

The apprentice line up for this year is a little changed, with Chris Cogan returned from a profitable three week work experience in America, and looking fit and keen to go! Aimee Cook is now just riding out for us, in order that she may pursue her career as a female jockey more fully – it is a tough haul for a girl to accepted on the same terms as the male jockeys, but Aimee is certainly giving it a good crack of the metaphorical whip. A welcome move in the racing industry has been the introduction of the JETS scheme, which helps jockeys train for alternative careers, in case injury or other circumstances mean they can no longer race ride. Many jockeys have taken the advice that it is never too early to make future plans, and Aimee has taken advantage of a word processing course, passing I believe, with flying colours. Steven Harrison has just been issued with his first apprentice license, and I know is very keen to put his training into practice on the racecourse.

Clem has worked hard this winter organising various activities to keep us all occupied, including quiz nights and darts matches. He and co-captain Campbell Ashby are also looking forward very much to the start of our week-night summer cricket matches. With the emphasis on fun rather than runs, everyone is given a chance to play regardless of ability. They are hoping to organise some matches against other stables, and of course are looking forward to joining forces with their old compatriots from Lambourn.

**Tina Roberts**

## **TENNIS**

The court is now open. The problem of moss on the court surface has been investigated and treated with a specialised moss killer and a general purpose weed killer used around the perimeter fence. The net has been repaired and a new handle installed. The broken paving slab on the steps has also been repaired and some of the brickwork rendered over. New perimeter wire has been obtained and a rewiring programme remains to be started. By the way, when retrieving balls going outside the court please go round to collect them and don't pull the wire up from the bottom! Also, cricketers - no shining up the perimeter fence to recapture lofted balls - a key is always available at the Vet's Surgery.

The court fees remain unchanged from last year. £1 per person per hour and children under 16 - 50 pence per hour. Block bookings (i.e. more than 2 consecutive hours) to be agreed by the Management Committee. Whole day bookings are possible also, with prior agreement at a reduced rate of £35 per day. The booking clerk is Elaine Clemenger on 281344 10am - 10pm daily. The gate key should be returned to the vets immediately after playing.

So, use the court and enjoy it this summer, but remember correct shoes and no heroic slides. The court surface is both fragile and expensive!

**John Clemenger** - Chairman Management Committee

## **EVERGREENS**

Evergreens - Mystery Tour by coach Tuesday 12th May leaving 9.30am at the Church.

Members £4. Non-members welcome £5. Tokens may be used.

June 1st Monday outing to Weymouth by coach leaving at the Church 9.30am

Members £4. Non-members welcome £6. Tokens may be used.

Names to D. Wells, S. Gore, or A. Carlisle.

**Anne Carlisle**

## **ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

Church Services for May:-

*3rd May* -

All Age Service 9.45 am

*10th May* -

Holy Communion 8.00 am

*17th May* -

Family Communion 9.30 am

*24th May -*

Morning Prayer 11.00 am

*31st May -*

Downland Federation Communion

at Brightwalton 10.00 am

David Sims

David, our NSM, is leaving us for pastures new in Blakenall

Heath Team Ministry. He will be team vicar at St. Chad's

and we will miss both Sandie and him. We wish them well

in their future and there will be the opportunity to say a personal farewell at his last service in the Benefice at Peasmore evensong

on 3 May at 6.00 pm.

**Ian Fewtrell-Smith**