

Notice Board

Village Events and Activities

Weight-Watchers: Every Tuesday- Contact is Lyn Grimstead ☎: 474761

Drop in Market: 10 a.m till 12 noon on the first Wednesday of every month except January (when there's no market). A wide range of local produce, crafts and other wares as well as coffee and chat. As the name says, just drop in.

Westbury Folk Dancing Club: Eileen Dredge ☎: 822469

Exercise Classes: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: Alison Jacobs ☎: 07748 407753

Westbury Playford (Country Dancing): Susan Swann ☎: 01985 212556

Bingo (Popular sessions – First Friday of the Month): Beryl Drake ☎: 823971

Yoga Classes: Allan Oakman (Tuesday evenings) ☎: 859313
Fiona Fallen (Wednesday evenings) ☎: 01985 846133

French and Spanish Classes: Sara Starbuck ☎: 825959

Village Association Contacts

Brian Osborne: ☎: 858121 ✉: osborne100@clara.co.uk

Ian and Sue: ☎: 822659 ✉: iansuetaylor@googlemail.com

John and Angela: ☎: 303941 ✉: jandagraham-leigh@blueyonder.co.uk

Websites

Community Hall Website:

www.westbury-leigh-community-hall.org.uk

Westbury Leigh Village Association Website:

www.westbury-leigh.co.uk

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Are you interested in joining?

Would like to find out more?

Ring Mary Kneen
01373 865785

Advertise your business here for just

£10

This newsletter is distributed to well over
300 households in Westbury Leigh.

✉ edwardcoleman@ba13.co.uk



Newsletter Number 11 – May 2009

Next Village Association Meeting: Wednesday 13th May, 7:30pm at the Community Hall (upstairs).

Our Open Day - 14 June, 2pm

The great day is looming closer and preparations are well under way. This is a great chance to come out and meet all of your neighbours, listen to their stories about what they've been up to, and see how much their children have grown. You don't have to chat to other people if you don't want to! Just come along on the day, browse the displays and various stalls, have the odd cup of tea and cupcake, enter one (or more) of the competitions, and then wander home with your purchases.

Tea & cakes – always a popular event. We need lots of cakes to sell and lots of help on the day.

Book Stall – dig out all those paperbacks you've read since last summer. Donate them to us, and then come and buy another bagful to see you through the next twelve months. A bit like recycling really!

Plant stall – we'll have lots of plants from the Fairfield Opportunity Farm at Dilton Marsh, but could always use more. You get an awful lot of lettuce plants from one packet of seed, so here's your chance to donate some to a good cause.

Raffle – find that picture frame you were given by Auntie Elsie, or the jigsaw from cousin Jack. Maybe you don't want them, but someone out there will.

Other Stalls – we still have room for two or three other stalls. If you were thinking of having a stall on the day you need to contact us very soon, otherwise you'll be too late.

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Children's games room – this one is for big children as well as little children. We will be using the upper hall to host a variety of activities and competitions. This will require lots of volunteers to monitor and record the details.

On the day – could you spare half an hour to set up the tables and chairs in the morning or clear away at the end?

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Open Gardens - If anyone is interested in opening their garden to the public please contact Lynne Sonnet on 827728. More are needed to make it worthwhile so don't be shy!

Whatever you can donate and whatever time you can give will be an enormous help. Come along to the next meeting or just contact any of the numbers on the back page

Westbury Country Market

If you're free on a Friday morning, do go along to the WI Country Market. It's held every Friday from 9.30am – 11.30am in the Church Hall, Church Lane. (That's the Westbury Church Lane, not the Westbury Leigh one).

As you'd expect from the WI, they offer a variety of good fresh homemade foods and crafts, to buy on the day or to order, including:

- Home-baked pies and savouries
- Home-baked cakes and fancies
- Local eggs, honey and preserves
- Handmade cards, gifts and jewellery
- Flowers, plants, fruit and vegetables.

You can even sample the home-baking when you're there, as refreshments are on sale.

The WI is a valued supporter of Westbury Leigh and our Community Hall. WI members provide the refreshments at the Wednesday monthly markets at the Hall and will have a cake stall at our Open Day on 14 June. New members are always welcome – if you'd like to find out more about the WI or the Country Market, just ring Mary Kneen on 01373 865785.

Did you know?

That Westbury Leigh was flooded 50 years ago? The river Biss (at The Spur end of Westbury Leigh) overflowed in May 1959 and the residents of Millstream cottages were forced upstairs to escape the floodwater. Bridge House had 29 inches of water. There was a similar flood in 1992.

That before the present Leighton House was built in 1800 there were two houses, one called Leigh House, in the grounds of what is now Leighton House? They were owned by the Phipps family, who were prominent local landowners in the 18th and 19th centuries. The site of Leigh House and its grounds were developed in the 1960s as the Leighton Park estate.

That Courtleigh House was for sale for £3250 in 1947? It had been used as an American Officers' Mess during World War II, so was probably not in good condition.

Well-kept secrets

Now that spring is definitely here, have you walked about Westbury Leigh recently? Try walking up the old lanes: Sparrick Lane, Sun Lane and Sandhole Lane. Old School Green, at the bottom of Church Lane, is looking pretty with the trees in new leaf and the Becks Mill pond and Willow Carr walk are delightful. The residents have cleared the litter from the open space and the stream, the long-out-of-date company sign has gone, and the ducklings are happily swimming about.

Go out and make the most of Westbury Leigh's "secret" places when the sun shines. But don't feed the ducks too much bread – they're getting fat!



Becks Mill pond during February's snow. (Provided by Fer Pidden)

Parking Restrictions

We have received some comments regarding the result of the parking restrictions now in Laverton Road. The loss of parking is not the main issue as most residents have parking on drives, but the speed of traffic now appears to be the concern. The impression is that the road is used as a 'ratrun' and the 30mph limit tends to be ignored, and problems can be caused with large vehicles (exceeding the weight limit?) especially when two meet, when one may have to mount the pavement to be able to pass.

It is felt that, with the increase in speed of traffic, gaining access to the road from properties is difficult and dangerous without any safety features to slow traffic. Wiltshire Council has been written to, outlining these points and requesting installation of safety features, as in Oldfield Road, the other link road to Leigh Park. No response has been forthcoming.

We would welcome comments from local residents regarding this and any similar issues that are of concern. Have Laverton Road and the junction at Elkins garage become more dangerous in your experience? Come along to the next Village Association meeting and let us know.