

Notice Board

Village Events and Activities

Next Village Association Meeting: Tuesday 17th June, 7:30pm at the Community Hall (upstairs).

Weight-watchers: Every Tuesday- Contact is Lyn Grimstead ☎: 01373 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 the usual Wednesday coffee and chat. As the name says, just drop in.

Westbury Folk Dancing Club: Eileen Dredge ☎: 822469

Exercise Classes - Monday & Tuesday: 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



Newsletter Number 7 – June 2008

Next Village Association Meeting: Tuesday 17th June, 7:30pm at the Community Hall (upstairs).

Westbury Leigh Village Association Open Day Sunday 13th July 2-4.30pm

Plans are in progress for our first Village Open Day. There will be a 'Garden Gnome Hunt' around the village, and afternoon teas served in the Community Hall, alongside a wide display of plants, local produce, and crafts for sale.

Anyone who would like to have a stall should contact any member of the Village Association listed on the back page. We would hope to make this an annual event for the Village Association, and we need your support to make the day a success.

Come along to the hall and join in on Sunday 13th July between 2 and 4.30 pm.

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Gardening Club

Next meeting 9th June 7:30pm at 120 Westbury Leigh.

Bring any plants you would like to swap – you may get something you've always wanted.

Lynne Sonnet

Community Hall

It's easy to take the Community Hall for granted, but in fact it is unusual - perhaps even unique. The Church of the Holy Saviour was opened in 1877 for the residents of Westbury Leigh, saving them the walk to the churches in Westbury or Old Dilton. By the 1990s the congregation had dwindled and there was a possibility that the building might be sold for housing. A group of residents thought that Westbury Leigh could do better than that, and there was a successful campaign to transform the Church into a Community Hall.

With the help of funding from the Millennium Commission, the conversion was completed in 2001. There is still a "proper" Church, but it is smaller than before and separated from the main part of the building, which is now used for events and classes. It is such a popular venue that the Hall is completely self-financing. The Hall is regularly visited by other resident and church groups from the southwest, as an example of "how to do it". Westbury Leigh is on the map!

Parking restrictions

You've probably noticed that the yellow lines are back along Westbury Leigh, after the resurfacing. West Wiltshire District Council is shortly going to be responsible for enforcing parking restrictions and they will be more rigorous than the police have been. Some of the restrictions along the road are out of date - for instance, did you know that parking is restricted outside the houses opposite Leigh Close because that's where the shop and Post Office used to be? The Village Association is trying to persuade the Council to review the restrictions along the road so that they are appropriate for Westbury Leigh as it is today.

Did you know...

That The Hollies used to be just one of the pubs in Westbury Leigh? There was a Black Horse Inn on the corner of Black Horse Lane, which later became the Phipps Arms (now a private house). 50 Westbury Leigh was The Sun Inn and then a shop before becoming a private house. There was also The Apple Tree Inn, in the part of Westbury Leigh beyond The Spur.

That Courtleigh House was used as an American Officers' Mess during World War II? Compensation of £1,070 was paid for damage to the house!

That the Penknapp Baptist Chapel was built by a "breakaway group" from Westbury Leigh Baptist Church? The Westbury Leigh church was built in 1796 and Penknapp in 1810. They look almost identical.

Old School Green??

The landscaping of land that was part of the original Westbury Leigh Primary School grounds is almost complete. When finished it will have many trees and shrubs and a path running through it.

Residents whose properties abut the area, both in Leigh Park and Westbury Leigh, intend to ensure it is properly cared for in future. We are determined to see it become an attractive feature of our locality.

Would you like to join us?



Should we give the place a name (see suggestion above)?

How else can we preserve memories of times past when the school and its grounds were a key part of Westbury Leigh?

Is anybody out there?