

# West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org.uk

February 2008

**DIARY**  
**FEBRUARY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> **Burns' Night**  
**MARCH**

## ILSLEY EVERGREENS

The Annual General Meeting of the Ilsley Evergreens will be held at the Village Hall in West Ilsley on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 2 pm.

## FLOOD DEFENSE

I popped in to the exhibition on flood defense at the Northcroft centre the other week, and picked up leaflets from companies offering equipment to help protect homes in the event of flooding. If anyone is interested to have a look please give me a shout – I have information about filling sand bags, an absorbent water protection cushion which only needs to be activated when a flood threatens, and several guards which go across doorways (including garages). I won't be keeping the information hanging around for ever, so please shout within the next couple of months if you're interested. Andrea Cook 281224

## MESSAGES RECEIVED ON THE WEST ILSLEY WEBSITE

Just wanted to wish everyone a belated Happy New Year we finally have the internet sorted its lovely to catch up with all the gossip on the West Ilsley news web site!! Sent from: Carol and Oxo Zoe and Tommy zoe.gilfillan@tesco.net

Looking at the West Ilsley journal brought back many memories. My family (Pridham) lived there,

firstly in number 16 from 1951 and then Coldhabour and lastly (just my parents and sister Janet) in Rose Cottage, Churchway. I now live and work in Germany. I wonder is there any one there that remembers me? My father's motorbike parked by 16 west Ilsley is in one of the pictures. Sent from: Norma Howells [n.howells@dkfz.de](mailto:n.howells@dkfz.de)

## FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

### News from The Ilsleys Primary School

If we look back to the autumn term, we ended with a fantastic show called 'A Rock n Roll Christmas' which featured songs by Slade, Wizzard and more. It included an updated version of 'A Christmas Carol' (with Elvis as Scrooge!) and a traditional Nativity. The school choir sang brilliantly at the annual St. Nicolas' 'Save the Children' carol concert. Last but not least, year six went to see 'Honk' at the Watermill Theatre as part of a project to develop the children's interest and knowledge in the performing arts. All in all it was a busy, but fulfilling end to the term.

The new term has begun brightly. The children all had a great Christmas break and have come back full of energy and ready to focus their attention on learning. I know this is going to be an exciting term and we will build on the great successes of recent years. By providing an exciting and challenging curriculum and ensuring our children are focused and always do their best, the school will go from strength to strength.

Talking of successes, due to us being a small school we do not feature in the school performance tables which are published in December. I thought you might like to be reassured that if you placed our results on the table we come out as second in West Berkshire. I am really proud of this fact and thank all the staff, parents and

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Deadline for the next publication is 5pm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February

Contributions to the WIN can be made by conversation, phone, email, handwritten or typed copy and "word" file, but most importantly, **please do contribute**. Contact details:

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Clock Cottage  
☎ 281224

Email: [westilsleynews@msn.com](mailto:westilsleynews@msn.com)

Liz Dray  
The Malthouse  
☎ 281688

Email: [lizdray@btinternet.com](mailto:lizdray@btinternet.com)

Please direct your feedback to either of the editors.

To join the email distribution list or for new/changed email addresses, please email [westilsleynews@msn.com](mailto:westilsleynews@msn.com)

pupils who work so hard to make the school what it is.

As a forward looking school we never stand still and I am delighted to announce that we have just received two prestigious awards. The first being the 'Healthy Schools Award' which is awarded to schools who reach a high standard in supporting their children in leading a healthy life style through eating healthily, being emotionally literate and doing plenty of exercise. The second being Sport England's 'Active Mark' which is awarded to schools who ensure they have a focus on sport and physical exercise. I would like to thank all staff and children who have made these awards a reality.

As always, if you have any queries concerning the school don't hesitate to contact me on 281225.

Felix Rayner

Headteacher - The Ilsleys Primary School

FOR SALE: £575  
Red Renault Clio  
'N' registered ('96)  
MOT until November '08  
Taxed until end May '08  
Mileage 99,500.  
Currently garaged at Hunter's Ride  
Please telephone Chris on: 07826 213064



The Reading Phoenix Choir, considered one of the finest amateur choirs in the UK, has invited the Willink School to perform with them in a charity concert for the Alzheimer's Society West Berkshire. The Concert will take place on the evening of Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2008 at St Nicolas Church in Newbury, a popular venue that plays host to many classical concerts throughout the year.

Reading Phoenix Choir is a 50 strong, mixed voice choir, directed by Norman Morris. It has members of all backgrounds and ages, with musical experience ranging from music degrees/diplomas to average sight readers, all sharing a love of choral music. Phoenix does not sing the "works" but explores the whole range of a *capella* music, early and contemporary, sacred and secular, serious and light. They are prize winners in all the major choral competitions.

The concert aims to involve the local community to raise funds for the West Berkshire branch of the Alzheimer's Society, especially its "Singing for the Brain" programme. The Reading Phoenix Choir have kindly donated their performance in aid of this cause for which some of its members

volunteer. Conductor Norman Morris leads two Singing for the Brain groups.

The event will include musical pieces from the Jazz Band and Choir made up of students attending the Willink School in Burghfield Common. Gavin Hurley, the Willink's Head of Creative Arts, has initiated great improvements to the standard of music taught at the school. The School's successful performance of the Little Shop of Horrors and most recently, Grease, revealed enormous talents in the pupils.

Chreanne Montgomery-Smith, Alzheimer's Support and Development worker for West Berkshire, is passionate about the use of singing and its effect on people with dementia and carers. The Singing for the Brain founded by Chreanne has seen amazing benefits in participants and the number of groups running has been steadily increasing over the past few years. "We are so grateful to the Phoenix Choir and to Willink School for donating their time and expertise to us. Raising money through a musical event is incredibly relevant to the work we do; helping people with dementia and their families have an enjoyable and stimulating life through social therapeutic activity." Tickets will be available from The Corn Exchange Newbury 01635 522733 or [www.cornexchangenew.com](http://www.cornexchangenew.com)

Book now for Valentines at The Harrow Thursday  
February 14th, special menu  
Quiz Night Wednesday 13th February 8pm (ish)  
Vegetable Lasagne, Chilli or Fish Pie £9, £2 each to enter  
Date for your diaries.  
Saturday 15th March, Live Irish Band to celebrate  
St.Patricks Day

### WEST ILSLEY FETE 2008

Before we know it, July and the fete will be upon us. The date for this year is Sunday 6th July. It is time to start planning and as usual your help is needed. If you have suggestions or advice please get in touch with any of the committee. Better still, if you would like to join the committee please contact me on the number below. In addition to the committee members we rely on a large group of volunteers to help before, and on the day of the fete. Please offer a few hours of your time for this worthy fundraising event for our village.

#### Fete Dance

The fete committee would like to invite applications to host this years dance. This is a fantastic opportunity to raise money for your local cause and it is always one of the best social events of the year in the village. Please contact Sue Simmons to apply or for further information. Tel. [281460/suesimmons@toucansurf.com](mailto:281460/suesimmons@toucansurf.com).

**Closing date for applications is Friday 7th March 2008.**

**Domestic Electrical Installation**

Building regulation Part P Compliant installation/inspection/testing/fault finding and certification  
Portable Appliance Testing @ 110/240 VAC  
Contact Keith Pentecost  
Tel: 01635-281389 (East Ilsley)  
Mobile: 07985-797333



**FREE ANTIQUE VALUATION DAY**

Bonhams, the International Fine Arts and Antiques Auctioneers, will be holding free Antiques Valuation days at the West Ilsley Village Hall, Main Street, West Ilsley on Friday, 29 February 2008 between 10am and 12noon, also on Friday 28 March and Friday 25 April. Our expert would be delighted to appraise items including silver, ceramics, pictures, clocks and furniture with a view to sale. To make an appointment or for further information about our other services please contact the local Henley on Thames office on 01491 413636 or email: [henley@bonhams.com](mailto:henley@bonhams.com). Bonhams, The Coach House, 66 Northfield End, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 2JN

**We are looking to buy a house in West Ilsley (or immediate surrounding villages).**

Min 3 bedrooms, Garden, Parking.  
Up to £600k. We are both actively involved with the village and would love to be a bit closer! If you are considering selling your property or know someone who is, then please do give us a call. Russ: 07782 325826 Pippa: 07887 574112

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

Rosanne Pilditch

**Church Services for February**

|                  |                      |       |
|------------------|----------------------|-------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | All Age Communion    | 10 am |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Holy Communion – BCP | 8 am  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | All Age Worship      | 11 am |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | No Service           |       |

There are now two services each month – **first** and **third Sundays** – which will be appropriate for children so please do come and join us.

**Burns Night Dinner – 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2008 – West Ilsley Village Hall**

Looking forward to seeing you all next Saturday wearing your Scottish drinking shoes!

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH, ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

**Afterschool Service**

In January the children enjoyed making and eating their Christingle oranges. We will be helping to act out the "Exodus from Egypt" at our next service which will be on:

**Thursday 28 February**

Our Afterschool services are held at 4pm in the church and are very informal with songs to well-known tunes, participation from the children and a simple story to listen to. The children have the opportunity to become more familiar with the church and learn about prayer, religious festivals and other topics in a relaxed atmosphere. The services are aimed at all ages from babies to older ones. The services are well supported but we would love to see new faces or friends from outside the village. Do come and join us if you have a free half an hour.

If you would like any further details please do contact us on the following numbers:

Denise Brown on 01635 281825

Liz Dray on 01635 281688.

**WEST ILSLEY YOUTH CLUB**

The youth club is open to children of West Ilsley and Farnborough between the ages of 8-15 years old. As a general rule the dates for Youth Club are the first and last Thursdays of the month.

Dates for February are Thursday 7 February and Thursday 28 February from 6.30pm-8pm at the Cricket Club.

If you have any queries please contact Paul Willis on 281185.

**DESIGN A WEST ILSLEY YOUTH CLUB LOGO**

Thursday 31 January and 7 February

Youth members are invited to design their unique logo for the Youth Club on a T-shirt. All materials will be supplied, just bring along your ideas!

**WEST ILSLEY YOUTH CLUB A.G.M**

Tuesday 26 February

6.30-7.30pm

Cricket Club

It would be good to see as many parents as are able to come along!