

West Ilsley News

OCTOBER 2024

www.westilsley.org

Editors

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5 pm on Friday 25th October

EDITORIAL POLICY

We are editors (though we don't edit unless we have to) – we are not reporters, so we only write something if we want to. We rely on villagers to contribute news and information and welcome updates from groups, committees and businesses to let the village know what is going on in their area of interest. We are always happy to receive feedback about WIN so please get in touch if you have anything to say.

DISTRIBUTION

If you have received a paper copy of this newsletter but have access to email, please join the email distribution list by contacting westilsleynews@westilsley.org – help to save paper and shoe leather!

What's on in West Ilsley

OCTOBER

25th Village hall quiz 7 pm

NOVEMBER

5th West Ilsley Fireworks

17th Art and craft show – village hall

22nd Nature talk from Geoff Wond - village hall

30th Christmas markets – cricket pitch

DECEMBER

7th Lighting of the village hall Christmas Tree and Christmas Jumper Party

JANUARY

11th Nutrition talk from Steve Cole – village hall

FULL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

7.30 in the VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday 12th November 2024 7:30 pm

Tuesday 4th February 2025 7:30 pm

Tuesday 20th May 2025

7:00 pm Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

8:15 pm Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes

Draft minutes of the September PC meeting are on the website – or click [here](#)

UPDATE FROM COUNCILLOR CAROLYN CULVER

On 5th September West Berkshire Council held a special full council meeting to discuss the clawback of funds from local schools. If you are a parent of children at the Downs School you will know all about this saga. At the special full council meeting we were told by the leadership of the council that the clawback is being reviewed and a new proposal will go to the Schools Forum – a statutory body of which schools are members and can vote. If you would like to see the recording of the special full council meeting, please go to YouTube and search for West Berkshire Council. All public meetings are broadcast live on YouTube and the video recordings remain there for posterity.

In the past couple of weeks I have attended the parish councils of Compton, East Ilsley and West Ilsley. I gave apologies and a written report to Frilsham and Yattendon parish council meetings because I was at a local government course, learning about children's services.

On 24th September I will be chairing the Scrutiny Commission. The WBC chief executive and Supt. Andy Penrith (Area Commander for Thames Valley Police) will be making a presentation from the Building Communities Together Partnership about crime and disorder. We will also be looking at the children's social care and adult social care complaints annual reports. The other substantial item is a paper about the High Needs Block deficit. If you have children with special educational needs or disabilities you might be interested to tune in or watch the recording afterwards on YouTube. We will be discussing the scale of the HNB challenge, the trajectory of overspend and the work that is being undertaken during 2024/25 to address this.

Residents can report a range of problems (unemptied bins, potholes, abandoned vehicles on public highways etc) by visiting www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem For information about road works (eg utility companies digging up roads) please look at One Network <https://uk.one.network> which contains a map where you can search for details of what is happening in your area. Latest consultations can be found at www.westberks.gov.uk/consultations

Best wishes

Carolyn - Councillor Carolyn Culver

Ridgeway Ward (Ilsleys, Compton, Hampstead Norreys, Yattendon and Frilsham)

Chairman, Scrutiny Commission

Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury RG14 5LD

carolyn.culver1@westberks.gov.uk

(m) 07976 374146

www.westberks.gov.uk

West Ilsley Fireworks Night

Join us on the recreation ground on
Tuesday November 5th for:

Bar from 5:30pm

BBQ from 6:00pm

Bonfire (subject to weather
conditions) from 6:30pm

Firework display at 7:00pm

Free Entry
Donations greatly appreciated

ILSLEYS EVERGREENS



Dear Everyone

Tony Elliott, who was the secretary for the Ilsleys Evergreens, passed away in July. He put in an enormous amount of

effort on behalf of Ilsleys Evergreens, arranging coach trips, bingo evenings and coffee mornings, for everyone to enjoy. He will be greatly missed.

Ilsleys Evergreens are a group that meet monthly to go on coach trips to various destinations. Most members are based in East Ilsley, West Ilsley and Compton, but there are many from further afield, including Hampstead Norreys, Chilton, Cholsey, Thatcham and Newbury. If you would like to join, please email ilsleys.evergreens@outlook.com - you will be very welcome.

The remaining trips for 2024 are as follows:

Worcester – Thursday 10 October, departs West Ilsley 9.00am, Compton 9.10am, East Ilsley 9.15am, departs Worcester at 4pm

Salisbury Christmas Market – Tuesday 3 December, departs West Ilsley 9.00am, Compton 9.10am, East Ilsley 9.15am, departs Salisbury at 4.00pm.

Please email us for further information and to book your tickets, which are £15 for members and £18 for non-members.

Kind regards, Ilsleys Evergreens

email: ilsleys.evergreens@outlook.com

tel: 01635 578454 before 8pm please

COUNTRY NOTES

The deadline date for October WIN Country Notes is overdue, It's like returning to school, requested to write an essay on "what you did during the summer holidays?" No pressure.

Last weekend a trip to Dartmoor to fish for wild trout in the rivers that tumble off the moor, rivers of clean, clear water tumbling over rock, gliding through oak

wooded valleys. A refreshing change from fishing the sewage polluted River Pang. Trout were caught, and returned unharmed, dippers and grey wagtails spotted, a treat to see species not seen here in West Ilsley.

On the last day a visit to the River Carey near Virginstow, not to fish, but to explore a stretch of unfamiliar river, perhaps a new place to fish on a future trip. And then a surprise. A gnarled tree on the riverbank, half chewed through, fresh wood chips on the ground, the work of a beaver, twenty yards downstream a partially built dam.



On returning home I discovered that this spot is close to the Coombeshead Estate where beavers have been at large since they escaped from a neighbouring farm in 2013. Some 25-30 are estimated to now live in the valley where they have transformed the landscape.

Geoff Wond

THE ILSLEYS NEWSLETTER

Written by three Year 6 pupils

We hope you all had a wonderful summer! We are excited to start sharing all of the things that our school is achieving again this school year.

On Tuesday 23rd July, our school prom took place and all the children were very excited to celebrate their year of learning. Parents helped make this happen so we would like to say thank you to them as well as the school. We all enjoyed the music, barbeque and of course the dancing. We are extremely grateful for all the hard work and effort put into this.

In July, our school were working very hard on a play which was called 'The Pirates of the Curry Bean'. All of the children enjoyed creating a play that we could then share with an audience at the end of the year. Other than just acting, we also made all of the props by hand and the whole school was involved in singing! Wednesday 24th July was our last day of school for the year and at the start of the day we had a Leaver's Assembly to celebrate the time that the Year 6s had spent at our school. The assembly included speeches, songs and dancing. As well as a lot of laughs and tears, the leavers were given hoodies with their name on and they got their school uniform signed by the school.

Over this term, each class collected class certificates from assemblies and then, at the end of each term, they get a class treat that has been chosen by the class.

The class rewards which were chosen were a movie night, a water fight and a teddy bear tea party. All of the children enjoyed this a lot and are already choosing next terms treat.

As it is a new term, each class will all be starting to enjoy a new topic. Their new topics are The Animal Kingdom, The Stone Age and The Black Death. We all hope they will enjoy learning more about their new topic.

Every term, we have a selection of clubs that our students can choose from and, this term, they are Crystal Maze, French, Latin, Games Club, Eco Club, Art Club, Science and Football Club. They are really enjoying these clubs with all of their friends.

Don't forget! Our school hosts a Stay and Play session every fortnight between 10:30 and 11:00 AM. The last session at the Ilsleys was on Monday 16th September and the theme was Animal Kingdom. There is no need for booking or paying, just make sure your child is under the age of 5. This is a great experience to get your child ready for primary school and parents even get free tea and coffee! For more information on this, call tel: 01635 281225 or go to our website: <https://theilsleysprimary.net/>

OCTOBER AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 6th Harvest Festival at 11.00am

Sunday 13th Holy Communion at 8.30am

Sunday 20th Communion at 9.30am

Sunday 27th *No service in All Saints'*

Please look on the notice board in the lychgate or on the East Downland website:

<https://www.eastdownland.org.uk/news-and-notice/this-week> for other services in the benefice during October.

Café in All Saints' Church

Our next monthly cafe will be on Sunday 13th October between 10.00am and 11.00am. Last month's donations of £85 went to West Berks Foodbank. We hope you can come and we look forward to seeing you there for coffee, cake and a chat!

Harvest Festival and Lunch

Our Harvest Festival service is on Sunday 6th October at 11am and will be followed by Harvest Lunch in the village hall. Non-perishable goods can be brought to the Service or to the lunch and we will deliver them to West Berkshire Foodbank. If you are able, please check the West Berks Foodbank website at: <https://westberks.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> for up-to-date urgently needed items. The collection will also be sent there. Hopefully you will have booked your tickets for the Harvest Lunch from Rosanne by now. Do come to the service even if you are unable to join us for lunch or to the lunch if not able to attend the service, but we look forward to seeing you at either or both events.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 9th November from 10am - Church and churchyard tidy up

Sunday 10th November at 10.55am - Remembrance Service.

Sunday 15th December at 6pm - Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Sunday 2nd February 2025 at 11am - Christingle Service
Put these dates in your diary and come and join us!

Private Prayer

All Saints' will continue to open on Saturdays and Sundays for private prayer between 9.30am and 6pm.

Pastoral

If you would like prayer (or other support) for you or someone else, please get in touch. We are happy to be contacted by phone or email using the details of contacts shown below.

If anyone needs help or would just like to chat, do contact the wardens or clergy who will do their best to help.

To subscribe to the weekly pew sheet, which contains readings, prayers and notices about church events in the benefice, please go to the East Downland website (see above)

Contacts:

Churchwardens: Ian – 01635 281625; Alexandra – 01635 281306

Rector: Revd John Toogood – 01635 247566 or 07748 822336 - edownlandrector@gmail.com







Associate Priest: Revd Douglas Dales – 01635 247404 – revdjdales@gmail.com

East Downland Benefice Office: 07957 458107 - eastdownland@btinternet.com – Usually manned on Thursday & Friday mornings between 9am and 1pm.

Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith

VILLAGE HALL BOOK LIBRARY

We have inherited a collection of books which belonged to Tony (Elliott). His family asked if we could make use of them in the village so we are going to give this idea a trial run. Christine kindly helped me set them out today in the porch of the village hall (thank you 🙏) The idea is that I will unlock the porch door on Saturdays & Sundays (11-4pm). Feel free to pop in and see if anything takes your fancy - there's lots of books on antiques (which was clearly a favourite of Tony's), gardening plus lots of novels by authors such as Susan Sallis, not to mention numerous books on quizzes!!

All we ask is that you write down the title of the book you are borrowing and the date - just so we can see if the books are being used or not (you don't need to leave your name).    Happy Reading   

Something new is happening in West Ilsley for 2024.

Join us for our first ever Christmas markets on Saturday 30th November from 3pm at West Ilsley cricket pitch. There will be plenty for everyone from tasty food and drink stalls to crafty stalls. All money raised will be going directly to the village groups, hopefully we will raise a good amount.



We are looking for stall traders for a Christmas market event over in West Ilsley Berkshire on Saturday 30th November from 3pm-10pm. The event will take place on the cricket pitch, the full address is West Ilsley cricket club RG20 7AT. Stall holders can arrive for set up from 12pm. We can supply lights and we have live entertainment. For more information or to book, email info@gigaevents.co.uk or contact 07506976974. £20 per stall pay on arrival.



WHO TO CONTACT

DEFIBRILLATOR is outside the village hall - code: C159

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – Carolyne Culver 07976 374146
Carolyne.Culver1@westberks.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL

Council members are:

Alan Bloor alan.bloor@westilsley.org

Katy Morris katy.morris@westilsley.org

Tim Pearey timothy.pearey@westilsley.org

Graham Woods graham.woods@westilsley.org

07905 558884

Rachel Hudson rachel.hudson@westilsley.org

Johnny Rayfield jonny.rayfield@westilsley.org

Sarah Marshman – Clerk clerk@westilsley.org

PATIENT REPRESENTATION GROUP rep is Joe Clerkin
(01635) 281150 or joeclerkin@georgeweb.co.uk

PRESCRIPTIONS are delivered from Compton on Tuesday mornings at 8.30. Please collect yours from Ann Barnes, 3 Morland Close on **Tuesdays only between 2 pm and 4.30 pm**. Repeat forms can be posted through the letter box at any time before Monday evening for the following week's delivery.



TENNIS COURT "Pay & Play" is available to non-members for £10 per hour. Non-members can book up to 24 hours in advance. To book the court please use <https://westilsleytennis.jezzam.com> or scan the QR code!
For all enquiries, please contact the

Tennis Committee via
<https://westilsleytennis.jezzam.com/contact>

VILLAGE HALL

Bookings & enquiries:

Any new bookings should now be done via the village

Website: <https://www.westilsley.org/>

Any booking enquiries please contact Louise by email:
village.hall@westilsley.org

Anyone without access to the internet can leave a message on: 01635 281762

Rates: £12/hour for villagers and £15/hour non villagers.

WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL – REPORT A PROBLEM:

<https://westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem>

WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL – REPORT SPEEDING:

<https://www.westberks.gov.uk/speedingtraffic>

WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL – REPORT DOG FOULING:

<https://www.westberks.gov.uk/article/36781/Report-Dog-Fouling>