

# West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org

March 2017

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March

## DIARY

### MARCH

13 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council meeting
16 <sup>th</sup>	Harrow coffee morning
26 <sup>th</sup>	Harrow Mothering Sunday lunch
29 <sup>th</sup>	Harrow quiz night
31 <sup>st</sup>	Harrow kids' club

## COUNTRY NOTES FEBRUARY 2017



On the woodland floor red jewels of fungi peer out of a carpet of bright green moss, little orange bonnets lined with red silk; they are Scarlet Elf Caps, the ultimate in elven headgear; if

Christian Louboutin designed hats, this is what they would look like.

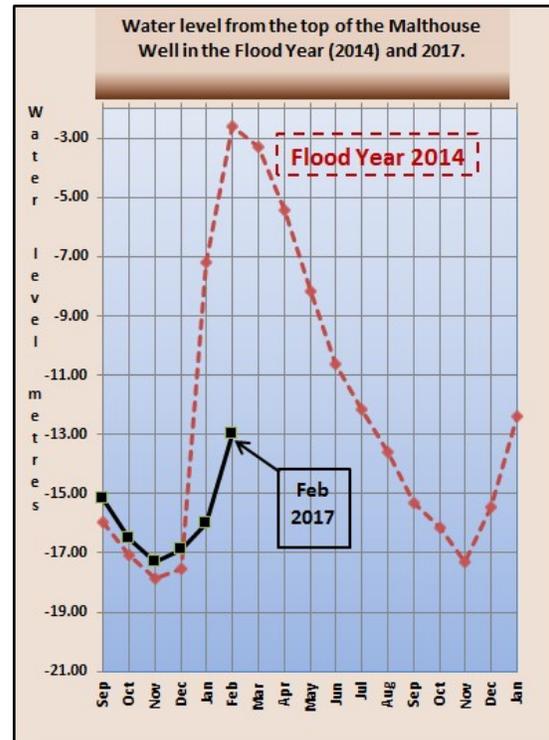
Above, a pair of blue tits climb a sycamore trunk searching cracks in the bark for hidden insects; these are no urban peanut eating garden birds, these are true woodland foragers. They climb just with the strength of their feet, not having the stiff tails of tree creepers to lean back on, it seems effortless; but it helps if you only weigh 10 grams.



Perdix

## MALTHOUSE WELL

December, January and February have been relatively dry months compared to normal and so the Malthouse well's level has continued its gentle increase in February. It has risen by just over 3 metres (~10ft) during February and is about 13 metres (~42ft) below ground level. As the graph below shows, this is about 10 metres below the February 2014 level of about 3 metres.



## ?? WHATS ON AT THE HARROW ??

COFFEE & CAKE MORNING

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March  
10:30am

Pippa will be with us with her selection of Phoenix Cards, always handy to stock up on her lovely cards.

Pop in for a slice of homemade cake, a coffee and a chat.

Raising money for THE AIR AMBULANCE



MOTHERING SUNDAY

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March

Book a table and spoil your lovely mummies this Mothers' Day, complimentary glass of fizz for all mums.

QUIZ NIGHT

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

8pm

Book your teams in now! Teams of up to 6.

Winning team gets a round of drinks on us!!

Raising money for ALL SAINTS CHURCH.



We raised £57.00 at February's quiz night which was donated to HELP FOR HEROES. Thank you to all who came along and thank you to our quiz masters!

#### KIDS CLUB

Friday 31st March

4:30pm - 6pm

Take the stress out of Fridays and bring the kids for tea at The Harrow.

This month's food choices will be fish fingers, chips & peas OR chicken nuggets, chips and peas and a glass of squash for £5 each.

Colouring, games and other activities will be available too.

Please let Hayley know if you would like to book in and let her know your food choices.

#### MARCH SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

5 <sup>th</sup>	Family Communion	9.30am
12 <sup>th</sup>	BCP Communion	8.30am
19 <sup>th</sup>	*No Service in West Ilsley	
26 <sup>th</sup>	Mothering Sunday Family Service	11.00am

Please see the lych gate notice board for details of other services in the benefice or go online at

[www.eastdownland.org.uk](http://www.eastdownland.org.uk)

#### Café in All Saints' Church

The next café in church will be on Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup>, from 10am to 11am, after the usual 8.30am service. There are crafts for the children, this month for Mothering Sunday, so just drop in during that time for a cup of tea or coffee, cake and a chat. We would love to see you there. There is no charge, but any donations on the day will go to charity.

#### Mexican Winter Warmer



Held recently in the Village Hall, our photo shows the winner of best costume, Andy Carrington, enjoying a mouthful of lime

while some señoritas enjoy a shot of tequila! A great evening full of fun was had by all, with some great costumes and delicious food. Many thanks to all those who kindly did the cooking and to everyone who helped in some way. Just over £500 was raised towards All Saints' new boiler.

#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – Clay Pigeon Shoot

At Bury Lane, West Ilsley (just off the A34 Ridgeway roundabout). First drive starts at 10am. Teams of 6, at £120 per team, with the best team winning a case of claret. Families are welcome, so come and make a day of it. Free bacon butty on arrival and refreshments throughout the day. There will be an instructor from the Royal Berkshire Shooting School on hand for anyone who needs a lesson. Further details and to book a place for your team, email Will on [williamaxtell@me.com](mailto:williamaxtell@me.com) or ring him on 01635 281306.

#### Mothering Sunday – 26<sup>th</sup> March

Don't forget Mothering Sunday - Family Service at 11.00am. Children - bring your Mum (and Dad) along.

#### \*Café Church

This delightful and very popular service continues on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March at St Mary's, Chieveley. The service, which follows a United Benefice Communion Service at 9.30am., starts at 11am, but do come at 10.45am for refreshments beforehand (the cakes are legendary).

#### Date for your diary

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April – All Saints' Annual Parochial Church Meeting in church at 7.45pm. Please put this date in your diaries now and join us on the night. All welcome.

#### Contacts

If you have anyone or anything specific you would like mentioned in church prayers at services throughout the year, do speak to either Ian (281625) or Alexandra (281306). To receive by email a copy of the weekly pew sheet, which contains readings, prayers and notices about church events in the benefice, please contact the East Downland Benefice Office on [eastdownland@btinternet.com](mailto:eastdownland@btinternet.com) or phone 07957 458107 and leave a message. The office is usually open on Thursday and Friday mornings and can be contacted in the first instance for information about baptisms or weddings. For any other reasons, you can contact Revd John Toogood on 01635 247566 or email him at [edownlandrector@gmail.com](mailto:edownlandrector@gmail.com)

*Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith*

#### THE ILSLEY EVERGREENS

The Evergreens held their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2017 in West Ilsley Village Hall. There was an attendance of 27 members.

Tributes and presentations were made to retiring Secretary, Jim Hughes, and to long-serving Committee Member, Avis Dockrill. Avis had served on the Committee since 2001 – a total of 16 years.

The Annual Treasurer's Report received unanimous approval.

The Election of Officers and Committee followed. Julia Rockall and Mary Studart were re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. Tony Elliott would continue as Treasurer. Tony agreed to also take on the post of Secretary and was duly elected accordingly.

Joan Hughes and Jill Collier were elected to the Committee to be joined by last year's members, Margaret Gilmore, Michael Pinfold and Sonia Wilkie. Julia Rockall remains as Outings Organiser.

The meeting agreed to retain Members' Annual Subscriptions at £10.00 per person.

Members present were given the opportunity of making their choices as to where they would like to go on the outings to be arranged for 2017. Their

selections from a provisional list suggested by the Committee featured Westonbirt Arboretum, Wisley Gardens, Wells, Poole, Worcester, Gloucester, Lymington/Lyndhurst, Portsmouth plus a Christmas Market trip to Winchester.

There would be no increase in costs to members or non-members for outings in the coming year. They would remain at £10.00 and £12.50 respectively.

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February saw several members attend a Matinee Performance of the production "Sunny Afternoon" at the New Theatre, Oxford. Tony Elliott had arranged this trip and has also made bookings for the following shows at the Oxford Theatre:-

**Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> March** – Matinee Performance of "Evita". Cost: £20.00. + Transport.

**Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March** – Matinee Performance of "Grease". Cost: £19.00 + Transport.

**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> May** – Matinee Performance of "Sister Act". Cost: £28.50 + Transport.

Anyone interested in taking up these opportunities should contact Tony on Telephone Nos.

01635.281997 or Mobile 07780.994297.

Tony's "Prize Bingo Evening" to be held at Compton Village Hall on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> February conflicts with the copy date for this issue of WIN, so more news about the outcome of this event in the coming March edition.

Anyone who would like to join the Evergreens to take advantage of our monthly coach outings, please contact Julia Rockall on 01635. 281597.

Jim Hughes

**PARKINSON'S<sup>UK</sup> CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.**

### Walk for Parkinson's – Welford Park

Join Parkinson's UK on Sunday 9 April 2017 when we will be returning to Welford Park for our sponsored Walk for Parkinson's. There will be two different circular walks available, a 2.5 mile walk and a more challenging 6.5 mile walk around the beautiful Welford Park estate, home of the Great British Bake Off. During the walk you will cross the River Lambourn, climb the hill to see the impressive cricket pitch whilst overlooking the historic Welford Park, explore the wonderful woodland before crossing the fields and taking in the lovely views of the surrounding countryside.

Entry fee is £10 for adults and £5 for under 16s and all walkers will receive a Parkinson's UK t-shirt, plus a medal on completing the walk.

The funds raised from the Walk for Parkinson's – Welford Park will go to Parkinson's UK to support the vital research work taking place to find a cure for Parkinson's and improve the lives of the 127,000 people in the UK who are affected by the condition. We support those living with Parkinson's and their families and friends, so that no one has to face Parkinson's alone.

You can find out more and register at [www.parkinsons.org.uk/walkwelfordpark](http://www.parkinsons.org.uk/walkwelfordpark) or contact the Regional Fundraising Team on 020 7963 3912 or email [fundraising@parkinsons.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@parkinsons.org.uk)

### **FREE Fairtrade Refreshments**

At **Aldworth Saturday Market** we sell a wide range of "Traidcraft" groceries and household items – from teas to toilet rolls!

On **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March** come and see our "Traidcraft" range and enjoy a **FREE** coffee, tea or hot chocolate and a biscuit from the many varieties we sell.

"Traidcraft" is the UK's leading Fair Trade organisation. Established in 1979 as a Christian response to poverty, it builds long-term relationships with producers, supporting people to trade out of poverty and works to bring about trade justice.

Aldworth Saturday Market (ASM) opens EVERY Saturday in Aldworth village hall (RG8 9SE) from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Come along to ASM for your **FREE refreshments** and please consider buying at least ONE "Traidcraft" item during this year's Fairtrade Fortnight. Try a new variety of coffee, rice or pasta or even a pack of kitchen rolls – your purchase will make a difference!

ASM is family friendly and we do have a special children's penny sweet stall! Our lovely playground adjoins our NEW hall, so please visit.

**ASM opens EVERY Saturday morning – the place to meet and make friends.**

ASM has a wide range of stalls from foods to flowers. Occasional crafts, clothes and charity stalls.

**For further details or to book a stall: 01635 578090**  
(No table fee, but donation of 10% of takings appreciated)  
CHARITIES welcome (no charge)

## **West Ilsley Ridgeway Run**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**There will be a 10k & 6k trail run. All finishers will receive a medal and snack from the BBQ.**

**There will also be a fun run for all ages held on the playing field.**

**To enter or for more information please visit:**

[www.mysticpixel.wixsite.com/ridgewayrun](http://www.mysticpixel.wixsite.com/ridgewayrun)

**Or search for West Ilsley Ridgeway Run on Facebook where there will be all the information and updates.**

**10k £18 entry minimum age 16  
6k £12 entry minimum age 14**



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*'Windybottom Dexters and Cluns'*

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RY NEWS

Newbury Weekly News



Dave Morris is appealing for more handybus volunteer drivers to step forward Ref: 04-2317A

**Volunteer drivers needed for rural community's 'lifeline' bus**

MORE volunteer drivers are being sought for the Handybus providing a vital community service to a wide expanse of downland villages.

Run by the Downland Volunteer Group (DVG), the 13-seat Handybus runs door-to-door shopping trips from around 16 villages north of Newbury, at a cost of £3 return.

DVG committee member Barbara Steels said that the Handybus had proved an "invaluable lifeline" for the elderly with mobility problems.

"Many of the passengers do not have access to a computer and cannot order their weekly shopping online for home delivery," she said.

"The DVG desperately needs more volunteer Handybus drivers to maintain this worthy service."

Ronald Varney, aged 61, of West Ilsley, a user of the Handybus for 23 years, said he would not be able to manage without it.

He said: "You can't carry heavy shopping at our age and there are only two buses a day in the village."

He thanked volunteer driver Dave Morris, who helped him load and unload his shopping.

Seventy-nine-year-old Jill Collier of East Ilsley, said she had used the Handybus since her husband died last year, to travel to supermarkets in Wantage and Newbury.

"It's so useful," she said. Volunteers drivers are needed for around two to four hours, not necessarily every week.

Drivers are also needed for the DVG's car service, which takes clients to GP and hospital appointments.

Volunteers need a driving licence, either PCV or Car + Category D1 and will undergo a DBS check.

For more information:  
[www.downlandvolgroup.org](http://www.downlandvolgroup.org)  
Email:  
dvg\_office@btinternet.com  
Phone:  
01635 578394 9.30am - 11.30am  
01635 248300 any time

**WHO TO CONTACT**

**VILLAGE HALL**

Ros Duckworth—Bookings—281471  
rosduckworth@btinternet.com  
Rates: £10.00/hr Villagers £12/hr Non Villagers

**PRESCRIPTIONS**

Prescriptions are delivered from Compton on Tuesdays mornings at 8.30. Please collect yours from 2 Morland Close on Tuesday or Thursday evening between 6.00 and 7.30. Repeat forms can be posted through the letter box anytime before Monday evening for the following week's delivery.

Thank you for your co-operation in keeping to the times listed.

Tony Elliott

**PATIENT REPRESENTATION GROUP**

**Fred Carter**  
fred\_kathcarter@btinternet.com 281621

**CHURCHWARDENS**

Alexandra Axtell 281306  
Ian Fewtrell-Smith 281625

**TENNIS COURT**

Membership: Please email tennis.bookings@westilsley.org  
Play without joining - book and pay via  
westilsleytennis.jezzam.com or the link on westilsley.org

**PARISH COUNCIL**

**Clerk:**  
Inna Fowler - westilsleypc@gmail.com 280501  
Mobile: 07778093931  
**Chairman:** Rollo Duckworth - rolloduckworth@btinternet.com 281471  
Alan Bloor - Alanpeter.bloor@virgin.net 281341  
Alan Beaumont - alan.beaumont@aae-llp.com 07980 875179  
Anna Sugden - annasugden@btconnect.com 281784  
Justin Gilbert - Justin.Gilbert@loudonpartners.com  
Justin Pilditch - justin@pilditch.com  
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**PARISH COUNCIL**

Read the latest Parish Council Minutes and hear how village matters are being addressed. Visit our village website at [www.westilsley.org](http://www.westilsley.org) - all the latest minutes from our meetings are available under the "Parish Council" tab.

**2017 MEETING DATES**

13 March, 15 May, 10 July, 11 Sept, 13 Nov

**DEFIBRILLATOR CODE: C159**

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For enquires and to arrange to see Rachel phone **07879475557**.

[www.rachelchandlerchiropractic.com](http://www.rachelchandlerchiropractic.com)

## DOWNLAND VOLUNTEER GROUP

01635 578394

Office hours 9.30 to 11.30

Monday to Friday

[www.downlandvolgroup.org](http://www.downlandvolgroup.org)





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