

West Ilsley News

JUNE 2025

www.westilsley.org

Editors

Andrea Cook

☎ 281224

Liz Dray

☎ 07766 413174

Email: westilsleynews@westilsley.org

Deadline for the next publication is:

5 pm on Wednesday 25th June

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

JUNE

8th Café in church
29th United Benefice Service in All Saints


JULY

4th Pre fete party
6th Fete




Sunday 6th July 12 - 4pm

It's nearly fete time and as always we are calling upon the village for help.


 We would love your good quality ladies, men's and children's clothes and accessories for the clothes stall. Please let us know if you would like to donate and we can collect or bring it along on Saturday 5th July to the cricket pavilion. We are also running a bric-a-brac stall, so any home accessories, toys, games etc. we would love to give a new home. On Sunday 22nd June and Sunday 29th June, we will be collecting bottles for the bottle tombola, if you would like to donate any bottles please leave them out for us, we will be round between 3pm


and 6pm. Any bottles, from shampoo to champagne.



If anyone has any crockery they would like to donate for the crockery smashing stall, please let one of us know. 

Remember to decorate your houses ready for the Best Dressed House competition!! There is a prize up for grabs!!

If you were lucky enough to win any silverware at last years fete please could you return them. 

Please let us know if you would like a stall or to help at the fete this year, we always need your help! 

Your 2025 fete committee

Tim Pearey, Katy Morris, Nigel Ryan, Rachel Hudson, Will, Hayley Morricks, Justin Pilditch

Produce Show 2025

This year's show classes have now been announced (see poster within this edition of WIN) and we are very much hoping that there will be a bumper number of entries in each class. There is something for everyone and it's very much the taking part that counts!!

As well as the usual cups and trophies, this year the Tony Elliott Cup will be awarded to the best decorated house in West Ilsley.

So hang out that bunting, get practicing your baking and perfect those pet portraits!



West Isley Summer Fete 2025

Sunday 6th July 2025
12 - 4:30pm Recreation Ground

BBQ & Bar
 Bouncy Castle
 Classic Cars
 Dog Show
 Face Painting
 Ice Cream

Local trade stalls
 Popcorn & Sweets
 Produce Show
 Raffle
 Tea & Cakes
 Tug o' War
 Wellie Wanging
 and much more!



Proceeds go to local charities and organisations

West Isley Produce Show

FLORAL

1. Best single flower
2. Best floral arrangement
3. Best hanging basket

KITCHEN

4. Home made drink (alcoholic or non-alcoholic)
5. Loaf of hand made bread
6. Adult bake: Lemon drizzle cake
7. Children's bake:
 - Six butterfly cakes (age 7 and under)
 - Six cookies (age 14 and under)

PHOTOGRAPHY AND CREATIVE

8. Adult photography: Pet portrait
9. Children's photography: Pet portrait (age 14 and under)
10. Best decorated house in West Isley

Only £1 per adult entry and 50p per child entry

All classes are open age except where marked

Rosettes for winners



All entries to be registered in the marquee by 1:00pm on fete day. Classes 3 and 10 will be judged in the week before fete day.

West Isley Dog Show 2025

£2 per entry

1. **Cutest Puppy (under 1)**
Sponsored by the Axtell and Gilbert families
2. **Best Veteran Dog (over 7)**
Sponsored by the Storton & Duckworth families
3. **Prettiest Bitch**
Sponsored by the Fraser & Banks families
4. **Most Handsome Dog**
Sponsored by the Dray & Hagen families
5. **Best Junior Handler (under 12)**
Sponsored by the Yarnall & Briggs families
6. **Dog That Looks Most Like Owner**
Sponsored by the Sugden family & Janice Sheppard
7. **Best In Show**
Sponsored by the Beaumont and Woods families

Rosettes for winners and a treat for every dog taking part



JUNE AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 1 st	Family Service at 11.00am
Sunday 8 th	Communion at 8.30am
Sunday 15 th	Communion at 9.30am
Sunday 22 nd	No service at All Saints'
Sunday 29 th	United Benefice Eucharist at 9.30am

Please look on the notice board in the lychgate or on the East Downland website:
<https://www.eastdownland.org.uk/news-and-noticees/this-week>

for other services in the benefice during June.

Café in All Saints' Church

Our next monthly cafe will take place on Sunday 8th June between 10.00am and 11.00am. Donations go to a different charity each month. Last month £80 was raised for the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. Everyone is always very welcome to join us for coffee, cake and a chat!

Early Rogation Walk

More coffee and cake inspired around 25 people to take an enjoyable walk on the Ridgeway recently. Beautiful weather and a water stop mid walk helped walkers along the final stretch to end at The Harrow. A perfect finishing post! Donations of £180, together with the £80 from the Café, will be sent to the RABl. Many thanks to Alexandra and Will for organising the event.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The meeting which was held recently elected Ian and Alexandra as church wardens once again. Thanks were expressed to all those who have supported All Saints' in any way over the past year.

Date for your Diary

Sunday 7th September – Pet Service at 11am.

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, 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 – revjdales@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

Cromwell Singers Concert

Saturday 5th July 3 00 pm in aid of the Alzheimer Society at St Mary's Church, Chieveley on Saturday 5th July 3 00 pm

Tickets are £10 adults, free for Under 18s Tickets can be ordered from cromwellsingers@gmail.com or from choir members

A retiring collection and raffle will be held

We raise funds for charities, both local and national. Previous concerts have raised funds for Helen Douglas House, Dogs Trust, Talking Books, Christian Aid, Noreen's Kids, at our last concert in March, we raised over £1000 for Swing's Smiles Charity

The Cromwell Singers are a Community Choir established over 40 years ago. From modest beginnings, we have become known throughout Newbury and the surrounding district for the entertaining and musically-diverse concerts we undertake, most of which are subsequently reported positively in the Newbury Weekly News. We also sang for a BBC R4 programme in some years ago.

David Glare Cromwell Singers Concert
Secretary 07557533288

COUNTRY NOTES

A female yellowhammer perches on a fence post at the northern tip of Old Down, nest material in her beak. I watch from thirty yards, she seems a little nervous, dips her tail repeatedly, but finally drops into the edge of a cereal crop. Fifty yards on the male sits in the sun content to leave nest building to his mate. In the herb garden gobbets of Cuckoo spit adorn the rosemary bush. Froghopper nymphs have thrust their "beaks" into new soft green stems, sucked the sap and blown it out of their abdominal breathing ports, creating frothy bubble houses, little biodomes to protect, to conceal them from predators and the heat of the sun.

Geoff Wond



Kick off the Sheep Fair weekend in style on Friday 6 June from 6pm with a lively evening of music, dancing, and beer for the Sheep Fair Friday Night Dance!

-  **Live music from local legends Mash**
 -  **Fully stocked baaaa**
 -  **Food available to purchase**
 -  **Pic 'n' Mix sweets to buy**
 -  **Tickets on the door to include celebratory drink on arrival:**
 - **Adults: £10**
 - **Ages 12–17: £5**
 - **11 & under: FREE!**
- ✨Bring your friends, bring your dancing shoes, and get ready for a fantastic night! ✨**



Ilseys Evergreens

Coach Trip to Wisley Gardens, Surrey

Thursday 19th June 2025

The coach will depart from:

Chilton at 9.00am

West Ilseley at 9.05am

Compton at 9.10am

East Ilseley at 9.15am

Return Trip departing at 4pm

Please send an email to ilseleysevergreens@gmail.com,
Whatsapp or text to 07847 301142, to book your seat.

Evergreens members £15

Non-members £18,

Entrance fee £14.50

RHS Members have free entry for themselves and one guest

Ilseys Evergreens are a group that go on monthly coach trips to various destinations.

*If you are interested in joining us, please send an email to ilseleysevergreens@gmail.com
Membership £10 per annum*

THE ILSLEYS NEWSLETTER

After our two week break for half term, we have already got up to some exciting activities for topics. Pacific Class, which ranges from Y2 to Y4, has the topic of rainforests. Arctic Class, which is Reception and Y1, has the exciting topic of Emergency, Emergency and finally, Atlantic Class' topic is 'Ancient Greece'.

As some of you may already know, our Year 6s have been preparing and doing there SATs assessments this year. To prepare, they have been doing revision in our federation school Hampstead Norreys with Mrs Edwards and Mrs Evans. They had breakfast in school every day of the tests and a pizza lunch to celebrate ate the end of the week!

As you are aware, there was a VE day celebration on the 8th of May and we celebrated with fun activities. We made some of our own VE day bunting and also talked about why VE day was so important and what really happened on that day. We also learnt that it is very important to remember all the people who died in the war instead of just celebrating our victory. The school had a party outside in the afternoon.

On April 28th, some Y5s and Y6s visited the Newbury Museum. They took part in activities such as code cracking, laser maze and even got to see a robotic dog. This was all part of a STEM workshop which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. They really enjoyed this and were amazed at how much they learnt.

This half term, we have added some new but enjoyable clubs which encouraged the children to try more hobbies. These clubs included one more sports

club which is Netball Club and Mindful Club which is about gardening. The pupils are enjoying these activities so far and more and more people are joining. Not too long ago, Arctic Cass had a police car come and visit as their topic is about emergencies. They learnt about what they would have to do if they were a police officer and even got to hear the siren. The children were happy that they could experience something like this and were very thankful.

On May 16th, in the afternoon, all of the children went to the Millennium Green to have a mindfulness walk. The aim of this was to improve everyone's mental health and the children really enjoyed this and had a great time. It was wonderful weather as well so it made everyone grateful. It was the perfect time to do something like this.

A few days ago, there was a Parent Welcome in the school which lets parents look at their child's books. This gave them a chance to look at how they progress and how much they have learnt throughout the term. All of the parents were very impressed and proud of the students. Written by two Atlantic students

BERKSHIRE FLAG Rollo Duckworth

As I am sometimes asked about the flag I fly with a royal stag under an oak tree against a yellow background, I should explain it is the flag of Berkshire, adopted in 2017, endorsed by Jimmy Puxley, then Lord Lieutenant.

Its historical significance is that Michael Drayton, a poet and friend of William Shakespeare's, wrote about the Battle of Agincourt (1415) listing all the groups of Englishmen who marched and fought that day. Drayton lists the colours, arms and ensigns of all participants as they went to battle. In that list we have for "Barkshire, a Stag under an Oake that stood", and so it was the design that was readopted as our flag now 602 years later.

TENNIS COURT UPDATE

As part of a 3-month trial, the West Ilseley Tennis Court is now secured with a combination padlock. The court's open and ready for play – but you'll now need an access code, which is sent automatically in your booking confirmation email (including for Pay & Play bookings at £10/hour).


👉 Book online at:


<https://westilsleytennis.jezzam.com> This change will help us continue looking after the court and help ensure it's safe and fair for everyone to use. Play regularly? Our membership is still incredible value – £45 for families, £25 for adults and £15 for juniors (under 18), with unlimited bookings included. If you'd like to know more about joining, just drop us a line: tennis.bookings@westilsley.org


Thanks for your support, West Ilseley Tennis Committee

COMPTON POP-UP LIBRARY


The Compton pop-up library is here to stay! Thanks to funding from Compton Parish Council, this valued service will continue, bringing books and resources to the community.

 Where: Compton Village Hall

 When: Second Thursday of each month, 10:15–11:45

Next dates:  May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11... and more!

Come along to borrow books, enjoy a welcoming space, and celebrate reading together.

 More info: 01635 519900 library@westberks.gov.uk

BRIGHTWALTON OPEN GARDENS



SUNDAY 8th JUNE 2025

2pm – 5pm

Entry £5.00 per adult, under 16 yrs free

Start at Brightwalton Church to collect your programme



Teas and cakes on sale at the church throughout the afternoon

Plant sale at the church

Stroll along the mowed pathway in the rear churchyard

Take the free Handybus to The Green and The Common to view the gardens

Proceeds will go to the Gardening Club at Brightwalton Primary School and All Saints, Brightwalton

WHO TO CONTACT

DEFIBRILLATOR is outside the village hall - code: C159

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – Carolyn Culver 07976 374146
Carolyn.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.



Book Tennis

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>