# West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org

#### December 2015

#### **EDITORS**

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5pm on Monday 28th December

# **DIARY**DECEMBER

11<sup>th</sup> Evergreens bingo – West Ilsley
 13<sup>th</sup> All Saints Carol Service
 17th Harrow coffee morning
 23<sup>rd</sup> Harrow quiz night

**THANK YOU** the editors would like to thank those friends and neighbours who regularly print the WIN for those without access to a computer - it is very much appreciated.

#### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

A huge West Ilsley **thank you** to everyone who put their greetings in the WIN and contributed to a

fantastic total of £600 for the Church. It makes the very boring job of collating the greetings well worthwhile!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Mel and Andrea

To all our friends and neighbours in West Ilsley -Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a fabulous 2016. Ralph, Louise and Mark Taylor x (Bakery Mews)

A very merry Christmas to all in West IIsley and best wishes for 2016 from Philip, Amanda, Ellen, Alice and William Knight With our very best wishes to everyone in West Ilsley for Christmas & the New Year Avice & Alan

Wishing
everyone a
very Happy
Christmas and
New Year.
With love from
the Pilditch
family xx

Wishing everyone in West Ilsley a Happy Christmas and jolly New Year with love from Mark, Angela, Storm and Flo at Forge Cottage Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from Mike, Alison, Calum and Drew Farwell

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL WITH LOVE FROM NEIL, CATHY, LUCY AND THOMAS XX

Wishing everyone in West Ilsley a Merry Christmas and our best wishes for 2016 Graham, Rachel, Tegan and Lilly Woods xxxx Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2016 with love from Mandy, Neil, Andrew and Briony Slater

Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy 2016 to all our Friends and Villagers of West Ilsley from Wendy and Alec

Wishing
everyone a
very Happy
Christmas and
a prosperous
and healthy
2016
Clive and
Christine

Kath and Fred wish everyone in West Ilsley a happy Christmas and a Good New Year

Merry Christmas to one and all! Liz, Adrian, Hannah, Matthew and Ben With best wishes to one and all for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year Ian and Kay xx

Carol and Joe Clerking at The Retreat wish all their friends and neighbours a very happy Christmas and good health and happiness for the New Year

> Wishing everyone in our wonderful village a Merry Christmas and **Happy 2016** Love from Ally and John

Wishing all of West Ilsley a very merry, happy Christmas and a fabulous, prosperous New Year!! Lots of love from all of us at The Harrow

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all. Thanks for your donations to the poppy appeal John Verney

> Wishing all of our friends and neighbours an wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. Janice and Colin + our New Zealand family who are joining us this year

Wishing everyone in West Ilsley a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2016 Best wishes from Nigel, Alison, Sophie, Adam, Dilly & Rosie x

We raise a glass to you and yours for a Merry Christmas and Good Health & Happiness in 2016 Alan, Louise, Will & Suzie xx

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy 2016. With love from the Fergusons x

Merry Christmas Bill de Grey (ex postie)

Wishing everyone a

Happy Christmas and have a happy and

Wishing all our friends in West IIsley a very happy and peaceful Christmas Dries, Amanda, Mae & Hugo xxx

healthy 2016 from The Banks family

A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone in West IIslev. With love and best wishes Ed, Anna, Caspar, JJ, Jonty and Peggy Sugden xxx

Wishing evervone a verv **Happy Christmas** and all the best for the New Year. Love Ed, Juliet, Fiona, Holly and James xx

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone. Love Roger, Flick, Hugo and **Emilia Lucas** 

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2016. Love Tony To Ellen Tom and Katie.xx

Best wishes to everyone for a **Happy Christmas** and New Year Love from Rollo and Ros Duckworth

Although we may be spread across the globe Polly, Alan, Tessa, Angus and Ross would like to wish all villagers a very Merry **Christmas and Happy** New Year and hope to see some of you when we return for the festive season

Happy Christmas to all our West Ilsley friends, with love from The **Hanburys** 

Yuletide Greetings to all the merry villagers of West Ilsley. with love from Will, Alexandra, Henry and Charlie Axtell.

A very happy and healthy Christmas blessing to friends, neighbours and villagers, June & Stuart & Charlie X

Wishing all in West Ilsley A Joyous and Merry Christmas And a very healthy, wealthy and **happy 2016 Best wishes** The Coaklevs

The Carringtons would like to wish everyone in West Ilsley a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Wishing all of our friends in West Ilsley a fabulous Christmas and New Year from snowy Calgary. With love, Sue, Hugh, Harry and Gee xxxx

# CHRISTMAS FAMILY PRIZE BINGO AT WEST ILSLEY VILLAGE HALL FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER DOORS OPEN 7:00 EYES DOWN 7:30 TERRIFIC PRIZES & GRAND RAFFLE REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE COME & ENJOY YOURSELF

#### THE ILSLEY EVERGREENS

Our October outing saw us make the short trip to the beautiful Cathedral City of Salisbury, where members were also able to enjoy the attractions of the weekly Tuesday Market. Our final trip in November took us to Hampshire's County Town, Winchester, which also has the attraction of another magnificent Cathedral. The visit coincided with the opening day of the City's Annual Christmas Market.

Several members have booked to go to the New Theatre, Oxford on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December to attend the Matinee Performance of the popular Musical "Annie". Tony Elliott has been instrumental in arranging this opportunity and we much appreciate all his efforts in making this trip possible. Julia has arranged transport for those interested.

Another "Prize Bingo Evening" has been arranged by Tony and this will take place at Compton Village Hall on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November. This date conflicts with the copy date for the next issue of WIN, so more about this event in the January issue.

Members are looking forward to attending our Christmas Lunch which is being held at the Windmill Carvery, Burford on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. Menus were distributed to members on the October trip to enable them to make their choice of meals. Cost to members has been confirmed as being £20.00. per head. There will be no charge for the coach. West

Ilsley members can also contact Mrs Julia Rockall on 281597. Compton and East Ilsley members can contact Mary Studart on 578454

Final preparations are in hand for our now imminent Annual Christmas Bazaar to be held on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November in West Ilsley Village Hall. Again the date conflicts with the copy date of the next issue of WIN, so more news on this in the next edition.

On behalf of the Evergreens, I would like to wish all our members and friends a very Happy Christmas and a Great New Year. Grateful thanks to our Committee and particularly to Julia and Mary for organising our outings, our Christmas Lunch and Christmas Bazaar. Thanks also to Tony for all his hard work in raising funds for the Evergreens by arranging the Bingo Sessions that have been held at West Ilsley and Compton, and for organising the December outing to the New Theatre, Oxford. Many thanks to the West Ilsley Show and Fete Committee for their support. We start again with our AGM in February, 2016.

Jim Hughes Secretary Tel. 01235 834487

#### BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS NIGHT

This year's bonfire night may have been wetter than usual, but eventually the fire got going and the mulled wine and BBQ helped to keep everybody warm. Despite the wet night the turnout was good and as usual much fun was had by all.

Many thanks are due to the Parish Council, Mick Channon, the Harrow, and the Fete Committee who kindly made donations towards the cost of the fireworks, and also to the volunteers who helped with the preparation and activities on the day, and of course many thanks to the Carlisles for letting us have the bonfire and fireworks on their land. In total we raised a much-needed £435 for Village Hall funds.



The Community Council for Berkshire is looking to recruit new Trustees onto our Board and to fill

the vacancy of Honorary Treasurer.

CCB is an independent charity with over 40 years' experience in community development work. CCB is the Rural Community Council for Berkshire and works to strengthen and support local communities throughout Berkshire. Our core mission is to enable communities in Berkshire to thrive by using our knowledge, skills and enterprise. Our vision is to strengthen, promote and empower communities across Berkshire.

Your skills and experience will be put to use to make a lasting difference in the communities in which you work or live. If you have more time on your hands due to retirement or other circumstances this could be the perfect role for you. Alternatively if you have a busy work life there are only a handful of (mostly evening) meetings to attend a year and we would appreciate your comments and input on key decisions.

As we are a small staff team we do rely on volunteers to step in where needed and complete key task and finish jobs. This is an opportunity to enhance your CV and open doors to possible new career paths!

#### **Honorary Treasurer**

Non-remunerated post, however out of pocket expenses are payable. Appointment initially for three years and up to a maximum of six years.

CCB is seeking to appoint an Honorary Treasurer, following the retirement of the current post holder. This is a key voluntary position and the post holder will sit as a Trustee on CCB's Board.

Ideally the post holder will have a professional qualification in accountancy or finance but a sound financial knowledge and experience would suffice.

The post holder will be expected to attend up to 5 Board Meetings per annum. In addition there will be a small number of other meetings including the Annual General Meeting and Board Away Day. The Hon Treasurer will also be a point of contact for our Chief Operations Officer and will need to be available for occasional meetings via telephone or face-to-face.

#### **Trustee**

Non-remunerated post, however out of pocket expenses are payable. Appointment initially for three years and up to a maximum of six years.

CCB is seeking to recruit new Trustees to our Board of Directors. We are looking for people that have experience or knowledge in one or more of the following fields:

Budgeting, Business Planning, Charity Law, Company Law, Fundraising, Governance

Human Resources, Policy Making and Strategic Planning

Trustees need to have an interest and enthusiasm for working to improve community life in Berkshire and the ideal person will also have strong networks or alliances within the county. Post holders will be expected to attend up to 5 Board Meetings per year. In addition there will be a small number of other meetings including the Annual General Meeting and Board Away Day.

For further details please e-mail <a href="mailto:admin@ccberks.org.uk">admin@ccberks.org.uk</a> or to find out more about us please visit our website: <a href="https://www.ccberks.org.uk">www.ccberks.org.uk</a>. To make an appointment for an informal conversation with the Chief Operating Officer please call on the above number 0118 9612000.

#### WHAT'S ON AT THE HARROW

COFFEE & CAKE MORNING
Thursday 17th December
10:30am - 12 noon
Come and sample some
homemade cake and a coffee!
Raising money for
The Air Ambulance.



???

CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT Wednesday 23rd December 8pm

£3 each to enter Teams of up to 6 Raising money for All Saints Church

Come along for a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie and join in the fun!!

We raised a fantastic £60 for The Air Ambulance at November's quiz night. Thank you to Tony Elliott and Justin Pilditch for being quiz masters and thank you to everyone who came along.

We raised £23 from November's coffee & cake morning which we donated to The Air Ambulance. Thank you!!

We will be open on Christmas Day for drinks 12 - 2:30pm. We hope to see you all.

**NEW YEARS EVE** 

Pop in for a glass of fizz and celebrate 2015!!



#### ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

#### **December Services**

6<sup>th</sup> Family Communion 9.30am 13<sup>th</sup> Carol Service 6.00pm

20<sup>th</sup> \*No service in West IIsley

25<sup>th</sup> Family Communion 9.30am

27<sup>th</sup> \*No service in West IIsley

\*Please see the lych gate notice board for details of other services in the benefice or go online at www.eastdownland.org.uk

Christmas Services There will be numerous services around Christmas in all nine parishes of our benefice and you are warmly invited to attend any of these. Very soon the Benefice Christmas card will be dropping through your letterbox with details of all the services.

#### Autumn "Spring" Clean

A <u>big</u> thank you to all those who gave up a Saturday morning to tidy the church and churchyard for Remembrance Sunday the following week.

#### **Remembrance Sunday**

The church was absolutely packed as the British Legion joined us this year, with their piper and bugler, and thanks to the village hall chairs, everyone could have a seat. The parade, which included many young people in uniform from various groups around the area, started at

the Harrow and marched up Main Street to the church, where they were met by a large group of people from West Ilsley and neighbouring villages. The service was ably conducted by RBL chaplain Clive Jones and a number of wreaths were laid by various people from the community.

#### **Shirley Gore**

The church was again packed a couple of days after Remembrance Sunday, at the memorial service of our own Shirley Gore. Her son David, gave an entertaining, but also moving, account of Shirley's life. Having lived in the village for many years and served on many committees, including the Parochial Church Council, she gave her support over many years to a whole variety of village events. Who hasn't bought one of her cakes or dared leave the firework display without throwing a coin or two into the bucket she wielded? Shirley will be deeply missed by many.

Tree of Remembrance. Once again this year, there will be a small tree, in addition to the usual Christmas tree, in church. Write your thoughts and memories of loved ones on the labels provided and attach to the tree, so they can be remembered in our prayers over Christmas.

#### **All Saints' Carol Service**

We invite you to come and sing your hearts out at our Carol Service, which this year is on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm in All Saints' Church. A donation will be made to two local charities. Preferably new, unwrapped, toys for any age group, brought to the Carol Service will be given to children in care in West Berkshire. At the Carol Service this year all children are invited to dress up as angels, shepherds or sheep, and to participate in the Shepherds' Visit reading, by either speaking or processing in their costumes. After the service we hope you will stay in the church for mince pies and mulled wine and cider.

#### Date for your diary

Rock Choir comes to West IIsley - an event not to



#### be missed!

Singers from this popular choir group, will be lifting your post-Christmas spirits through a performance of contemporary songs. You might even spot some faces

from West IIsley and Farnborough! Date: Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup> 2016

Time: 7:30pm

Location: All Saints Church, West IIsley

Tickets to include the performance and refreshments will be on sale in the next edition of WIN.

#### **Contacts**

If you have anyone or anything specific you would like mentioned in church prayers at services throughout the year, do speak to either lan (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 <a href="mailto:eastdownland@btinternet.com">eastdownland@btinternet.com</a>

If you would like to organise a baptism, wedding or funeral or would like to talk to a member of the clergy for any other reason, email Revd John Toogood at <a href="mailto:edownlandrector@gmail.com">edownlandrector@gmail.com</a> or leave a message on 01635 247566. Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith

#### TEA AND TOAST AT CHIEVELEY CHURCH

This event takes place on Friday morning, term time only, from 8.45-10.30am in the church. It is purely a social event to encourage people to come into the church. A lovely lady called Linda ably assisted by her kind husband provides a scrummy breakfast for both adults and the small children that accompany their mums on the way back from the school drop off. It's a 'non' religious get together and although the clergy are there its very casual. There are no prayers, hymns etc. If you are passing or fancy a lovely cup of coffee, slice of cake or a hot crumpet then do come along. There is no cost and it's suitable for anyone aged 0 – 99 years old. Last week an older chap who lives by himself from the village came and he seemed to enjoy being with the children and spending a few hours with some warm company. Veronica, from West Ilsley, is also involved so do ask her if you would like more information. I could offer a lift to the church as I take Flo most Fridays but often go on from the event to something else so don't come back to our village. The children can play with a good selection of toys and enjoy a selection of fruit, snacks and Flo's favourite, popcorn! Best wishes Angela and Flo Ryan (tel no 281500)

### Aldworth's Saturday Market moves into

**NEW Village Hall!** 

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS** to all our visitors and customers! **THANK YOU** for supporting our community-run village market at St Mary's Church, while our NEW hall was being built.

Our beautiful NEW hall is ready this December! It is on the same site – Aldworth's lovely recreational field next to The Bell Inn.

We <u>hope</u> to be in the NEW hall on 5<sup>th</sup> December from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon, but if not you will find us at St Mary's. Please keep an eye on the website <u>www.aldworthvillage.org</u> for up-to-date news and events.

If you ever wish to have a STALL at our market, please contact Kathy on 01635 578090. Very best wishes for 2016 from all the volunteers and stall holders at Aldworth Saturday Market.

#### **COUNTRY NOTES**

November was a windy month. The Meteorological Office believes that naming storms will raise the awareness of severe weather before it strikes. The first of these, Abigail, arrived in mid-month causing a great deal of damage in the north of the country, but with strong enough winds locally to strip the leaves from most of the trees. The exception to this were the oak trees, these hang on to their leaves long after most are stripped bare. The familiar fruit of the oak, the acorn, provides an essential food supply for a number of animals including deer, wood pigeons and squirrels. They form the staple food of the jay in the autumn, the birds collect the acorns and bury them in the ground for use during the winter. It has been recorded that a single jay can cache between three and five thousand acorns. Not surprisingly they cannot remember where they buried all of them and some will germinate to form oak saplings. I recall reading somewhere that up to 40% of English oaks were planted by these birds. The

association between jays and oak trees has been known for centuries, in 1758 Linnaeus gave the bird it's latin name, Garrulus glandarius, garrulous meaning talkative and glandarius meaning acorn. The talkative acorn eater, most appropriate. Perdix

#### **AUTUMN GROUP**

The Autumn Group is based at the Wilkins Centre, behind Compton Village Hall and meet every Tuesday from 2pm onwards. The group is open to new members. There is an annual membership fee of £10 per person and a payment of £2 per meeting to cover running costs.

We have members from Compton, East and West Ilsley, Chilton and other surrounding villages.

We have regular speakers and outings. Recent examples of presentations are: Pilates, Cat Protection, Hording Disorders, Guide Dogs and Age UK.

Our most recent outings included visits to Bicester, the New Forest as well as a delightful barge trip on the Kennet and Avon Canal.

We recently ran a coffee morning and successfully raised £152 for the Macmillan Cancer Support Organisation. During May, we started a Hobbies Club which meets in the same venue every Monday Afternoon. This gives everyone the chance to come along and share their hobbies with other members. We are hoping that some 6<sup>th</sup> Formers from the Downs School will join us to improve our basic computers skills as part of their enrichment activities.

To help with the running costs we are extremely grateful to have received generous donations from the East Ilsley Sheep Fair, Compton Parish Council and a local company.

Our main project now is to repeat the very successful lunch on Christmas Day for people on their own that we held last year. To finance the lunch we are running a Bazaar in Compton Village Hall on 20<sup>th</sup> November and have also received some donations. What we need now are some more helpers to join the team on Christmas Day.

If you would like to help us in any way or join the Group or Hobbies Club, please contact me.

Patricia Burnett, 07786856440

#### **ILSLEY UNDER 5'S**

We are a friendly parent and toddler group who meet every Wednesday in West Ilsley Village Hall. This term we have continued with lots of exciting events and activities including baking club, yoga for mums and toddlers, and a range of activities and outings.

To find out more about our schedule of events take a look at our Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/llsleyunderfives

and join our group

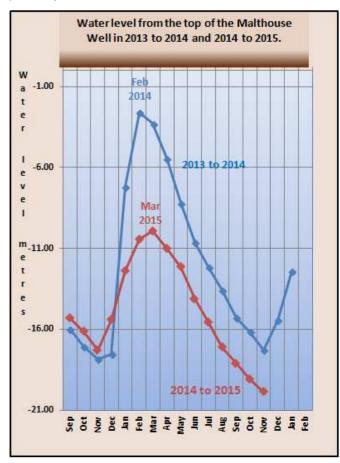
https://www.facebook.com/groups/ilsleyunderfives/

Ilsley under 5's is a well established parent and carer play group which provides a great place to play in a friendly, safe atmosphere and fun environment. We are based in the West Ilsley Village Hall between 9.45 and 11.15am on Wednesdays (running most weeks of the year). Every week we offer activities alongside the regular toys. The children have a snack and a drink mid session, with hot drinks available for mums, dads and carers. We finish the session with a group sing along or

dancing session! It's a fantastic way to meet other local families and get together for some valuable play time. If you are planning a party or event remember the small tables and chairs as well as our indoor and outdoor toys are available for hire throughout the year for a donation of £10. Please contact Juliet Ryder for more information - tel: 281555

#### MALTHOUSE WELL

The Malthouse well reading dropped a further 0.8 metres during November and this means that is has dropped a total of about 10 metres from its peak last March. At the end of November it now stands at 19.88 metres below ground level, but the rate of decrease is now slowing and judging by previous years it will probably start its seasonal rise sometime in December.



MOBILE LIBRARY

Stops at fir Tree Paddock 2.15 – 2.35 on the following Tuesdays:

December 1<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>

January 12<sup>th</sup>

February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>

March 15th

#### PARISH COUNCIL

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

**DEFIBRILLATOR CODE: C159** 

#### WHO TO CONTACT

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

Wednesday 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

280501 Inna Fowler - westilsleypc@gmail.com

Mobile: 07778093931

Dries Hagen - dries.hagen@circlepartnership.co.uk 281855 Sean Ryan - Sean.ryan@sunday-times.co.uk 281336 Jo Scriven - Jo.clifton@tynan-darcy.com 281405 Alan Bloor - Alanpeter.bloor@virgin.net 281341 John Mountford - jgmountford@btinternet.com 281703 Rollo Duckworth - rolloduckworth@btinternet.com 281471 07980 875179 Alan Beaumont - alan beaumont@age-llp.com Anna Sugden - annasugden@btconnect.com 281784

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> Contact Lynette on 07780 451751 or lynette@petstay.net www.petstay.net

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