

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org

February 2016

EDITORS

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5pm on Thursday 25th February

Liz Dray

The Malthouse

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DIARY FEBRUARY

6th Rock Choir concert

11th Harrow coffee morning

20th Harrow wine tasting

24th Harrow quiz night

MARCH

6th Harrow Mothering Sunday lunch

ILSLEY UNDER 5'S

Ilsley Under 5's are back and looking forward to a range of exciting events and activities and outings for 2016. Please see our schedule of events for details of weekly activities. We are a friendly parent and toddler group who meet every Wednesday in West Ilsley Village Hall, which provides a great place to play in a friendly, safe atmosphere and fun environment. We meet 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. To find out more take a look at our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Ilsleyunderfives> and join our group

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

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

WHATS ON AT THE HARROW

COFFEE & CAKE MORNING

Thursday 11th February 10:30am -

12 noon

Pop in for a slice of homemade cake, a coffee and a catch up with friends.

Raising money for The Air Ambulance



WINE TASTING

Saturday 20th February 7:30pm

£10 per head

We are holding an informal wine tasting with Neil Gladding from The Oxford Wine Company.

10-12 spaces available. Please let Hayley know if you are interested in joining this special wine tasting



QUIZ NIGHT

Wednesday 24th February

8pm £3 each to enter with proceeds going to The ICU at The Royal Berks Hospital Book your tables with

Hayley!



We raised a fantastic £57 for The Air Ambulance from January's Quiz Night. Ian Fewtrell-Smith and Alan Beaumont did a great job of being quiz masters with some taxing questions!! Thank you to everyone who came along.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Sunday 6th March

12 - 3pm

Don't forget Mothers Day!!

Complimentary glass of prosecco for all the mummy's on booked tables!

COUNTRY NOTES

January

After one of the warmest Decembers on record the temperature dropped to minus five degrees in mid January. This hasn't deterred the mistle thrush. A male is currently proclaiming his territory behind The Harrow hoping to attract a mate. He needs to get on with it as the nest is often built and a clutch of eggs laid as early

as February. His song is loud and similar to that of a blackbird although in shorter bursts. It is often delivered from the top of a tree, even in high winds, which accounts for its local name of stormcock. It also has an aggressive rattling call when agitated and this is often directed at cats, the birds will defend their nests against all comers. This aggressive behaviour is also used in winter to guard a food source, such as the holly tree, driving off rivals to keep the berries for its self. The bird is particularly fond of berries and its liking for mistletoe berries gives it its name. Perdix

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

February Services at All Saints' Church

7 th	Family Communion	9.30am
14 th	BCP Communion	8.30am
21 st	*No service in West Ilsley	See Café Church below
28 th	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

Don't forget to buy your tickets for Rock Choir.



Tickets are limited and time is running out!!

Date: Saturday February 6th 2016

Time: 7:30pm

Location: All Saints Church, West Ilsley

Tickets: £10 for adults and £5 (16s and under) from

June Cook on [01635 281565](tel:01635281565) / [07770 824799](tel:07770824799)

or email: runechia@btinternet.com

Boiler Juice

If you use BoilerJuice to buy your oil you can support All Saints, West Ilsley. BoilerJuice will donate 25p for every 100 litres of heating oil ordered - so for a typical order of 1000 litres that's £2.50. You just need to nominate your support for All Saints' Church, West Ilsley on the Boilerjuice website when you buy your oil. Thank you.



*Café Church

This delightful and very popular service continues on Sunday 21st February at St Mary's, Chieveley. The service starts at 11am, after the United Benefice Communion Service which starts at 9.30am. For Café Church do come at 10.45am for refreshments beforehand. Everyone is welcome at both services

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 eastdownland@btinternet.com

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 edownlandrector@gmail.com or leave a message on 01635 247566.

Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith

THE CHOIR THAT ROCKS

ROCK CHOIR

All Saints Church, West Ilsley
6th February 2016 7:30pm

£5 children
£10 adults

katherinepenn@rockchoir.com or
runechia@btinternet.com

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH EAST ILSLEY

Things have been a bit busy recently at St Patrick's. Now that the new facilities are in place, we are finding – as we hoped – that more are coming on Sunday mornings to the 11.15am Mass. I think the secrets of our modest success are attributable (in no particular order) to: a convenient time; a decent loo; the new St Michael's room, and people's general anxieties about life.

With success come certain problems: Stanmore Road is not the easiest or most convenient place to park. Wanting to be good neighbours, we have asked people, where possible, to park on the main road. Also, a congregation of nearly forty, up to a quarter of whom are infants or toddlers, and nearly as many of primary age, means that people have different agendas and needs at Mass. We are looking into arranging things so that, for the first part of Mass, children can go into the St Michael's Room and learn in an age-appropriate way. Then, in the second part of Mass, where parents are at present having to tiptoe out with noisy toddlers, we hope to arrange close-circuit television, so that no one has to miss the action of the Mass. The other half of the congregation – men and women without family with them – are delighted that our little church is full and lively but they too will benefit if everything is available for everyone in an age-appropriate way. Part of the secret of good church life is to build community, and we are trying to

do that by having coffee and cake after Mass on the first Sunday in the month.

Mgr Andrew Burnham 01235 835038

Email: aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

THE ILSLEY EVERGREENS

The early part of the year tends to be a quiet time for the Evergreens as we begin preparations for our Annual General Meeting, its associated Election of Officers and Committee and the Planning of Outings for the coming year.

Our first Committee meeting of the year was held on 13th January. The meeting agreed to hold our AGM in West Ilsley Village Hall on Wednesday, 24th February, commencing at 2pm.

All members will be advised accordingly, with the request that they bring to the meeting their completed Application for Membership Form together with subscription payment, which remains at £10.00. per person. A Raffle and Tombola will be held during the afternoon.

Donations for the Raffle would be most welcome.

The subject of outings for 2016 attracted some serious discussion, bearing in mind the fact that numbers going on the trips had reduced considerably during 2015. Despite this concern, it was agreed not to increase costs either to members or non-members. They remain at £10.00. per member and £12.50. per non-member. Members will be asked at the AGM to select their choices of where they would like to go in the coming year, choosing 8 No. locations from a list of 12 No. destinations suggested by the Committee.

The meeting congratulated Tony Elliott on his successful running of 3No. Bingo Evenings during 2015. Our Funds had benefited quite considerably from Tony's efforts. It was agreed to hold a "May Day Bingo" with an approved date of Friday, 29th April.

Mrs. Margaret Gilmore advised the Committee that she will be standing down as Treasurer at the pending AGM. Margaret has held that position for the past five years. She will be sadly missed and will certainly be difficult to replace. We wish her well and thank her so much for all the work she has carried out on our behalf over these past years.

Jim Hughes notified the Committee that he would complete just one more year as Secretary, leaving that position in February, 2017.

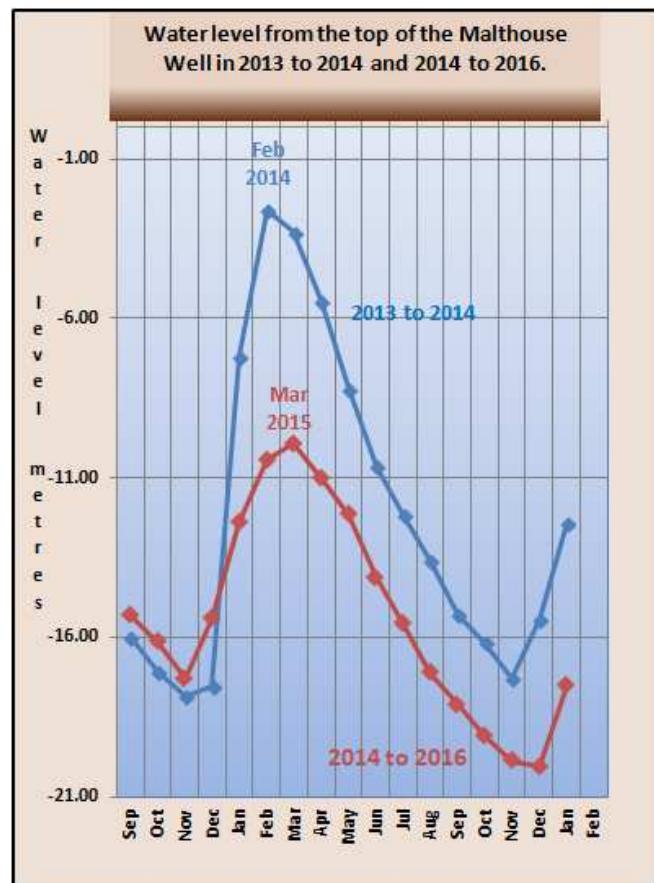
Jim Hughes
Secretary
Tel. 01235 834487

MALTHOUSE WELL

As predicted the Malthouse Well water level started to rise in January. During the month it rose about 2.5 metres (8ft 2ins) from its seasonal low point at the end of December and now stands at approximately 17.5 metres (57ft 5 ins) below ground level. This is about 5.5 metres (18ft) lower than this time last year and is way below the critical level for the village.

Although there has been flooding elsewhere in the country we have escaped its worst effects. We have had an average amount of rain from October to January, thus keeping the groundwater level low. It will continue to rise during February, but unless we get

rain of biblical proportions in February and March we won't have any danger of flooding this Winter.



MOBILE LIBRARY

Stops at fir Tree Paddock 2.15 – 2.35 on the following Tuesdays:
February 2nd and 23rd
March 15th

CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNITY LUNCH, COMPTON

Once again, the Autumn Group hosted a Christmas Day lunch at the Wilkins Centre, Compton for those on their own at Christmas. There were 25 present on the day including a tremendous band of helpers from Compton and surrounding villages as far as Blewbury Goring and Theale.

Patricia Ann Burnett –Crockford, Chairperson of the Autumn Group, managed the events organisation including fund raising. The Reverend Luci Ball led Grace before the meal started. Following the meal Santa arrived with presents for everybody and for those that could move several activities took place including a marathon Pass the Parcel. Those that were unable to join for lunch were invited to drop in for a chat, games, mince pies and a drink anytime during the day.

We were very lucky this year that local chefs Julia & Jeremy O'Gorman volunteered their services and what a fantastic feast they prepared. There were many others who gave up their own Christmas day to help, whether it was serving food and drinks, driving or assisting with the various activities. However, we must not forget the large number of helpers who worked in the background helping with the preparation of the event such as decorating the hall, wrapping presents

and supplying food. Also a special thank you to a Compton resident who supplied and cooked both the turkey and ham. True community spirit.

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.

2016 MEETING DATES

March 14th May 9th July 11th Sept 12th Nov 14th

DEFIBRILLATOR CODE: C159

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, 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

Clerk:

Inna Fowler - westilsleypc@gmail.com

280501

Mobile: 07778093931

Chairman: Rollo Duckworth - rollo.duckworth@btinternet.com

281471

Alan Bloor - alan.peter.bloor@virgin.net

281341

Alan Beaumont - alan.beaumont@aae-ilp.com

07980 875179

Anna Sugden - annasugden@btconnect.com

281784

Justin Gilbert - gilbert@londonpartners.com

Justin Pilditch - justin@pilditch.com

Graham Woods - gwoods@grwc.co.uk

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