

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org

May 2015

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5pm on Wednesday 27th May

DIARY

MAY

7 th	Harrow coffee morning
11 th	PC meeting and Annual Assembly
24 th	Harrow Open mic night
27 th	Harrow Quiz night

JUNE

20 th	Village Camp Out
26 th	Village Hall bingo

JULY

3 rd	Westival pre fete do
5 th	Fete

Parish Council AGM and Parish Assembly

Monday 11th May, 7.30pm, Village Hall
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (7.30pm)

Come and listen to the activities of the Parish Council and we welcome comment and contribution. Future objectives for the village for 2015/6.

PARISH ASSEMBLY (8pm)

The Village Committees

Short presentations from each committee

Come and hear all about the activities of the West Ilsley clubs

Please do attend or forward comments via the Clerk. We look forward to seeing as many as possible at the AGM and Assembly.

GREEN SPACES IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements voted for by the village have now been made:

1. Two benches are in place on the terrace by the tennis court, overlooking the cricket pitch
2. The recreation ground fence has been replaced
3. The Tennis Committee has been reimbursed for the removal of the dead trees around the court - many thanks to the village for supporting this.
4. The mobile rugby/football goals are in place and being well used.

A job identified during the green spaces discussions which required muscles not money was the removal of the accumulated chalk, soil and blackthorn brush in the graveyard. This was done a couple of weeks ago by a magnificent team – an email of thanks has already gone round, with before and after photos – do have a wander up there for a look – it is a sight to behold!

Another job identified for the churchyard was to trim up the hedge on the way up to the graveyard - Giles has now done this too - on behalf of the village, many thanks to him.

TENNIS COURT WIND BREAK

You may have noticed that the wind break purchased for the tennis court has not been as successful as we hoped despite being designed for exposed courts. We now understand that the uprights which hold the perimeter netting are not robust enough for a wind break as well, so we need to re-think.

We are considering all of the options, one of which is to leave the court without a wind break and we are asking players to feed back to us on the occasions when the wind affects the quality of their play during the 2015 season. We will review the feedback at the end of the season and if it suggests that the problem is significant we will look for an alternative solution.

PRIZE BINGO
 WEST ILSLEY VILLAGE HALL
 FRIDAY 26th JUNE
 DOORS OPEN 7:PM for 7:30 START
 TERRIFIC PRIZES ~ SUPER RAFFLE
 REFRESHMENTS
 EVERYONE WELCOME
 proceeds to
 ILSLEY EVERGREENS

If anyone would like to donate a prize for the Bingo on the 26th June, please call at 2 Morland Close, from Wed the 17th June.

The West Ilsley Campout is back!



Sat 20th June 6pm – Sun 21st June 10am
 At Park Wood, West Ilsley by kind permission of the Carlisle Family

Following many years of success the village campout is back! This is an event for all villagers and ex-villagers. For the children an adult and tent are required. You will need to bring all your overnight camping kit and your own food for the BBQ and your breakfast the next morning plus refreshments!

We would love to see as many villagers as possible. It is a great event for the kids but we do ask that you only bring village children as the idea is for them to spend an evening together regardless of age. Adults are welcome to come up for the evening if they like.... It's fun for everyone! A night game is organised at dusk for those who are up for it – bring your torch! The kids are also asked to gather wood for the fires.

The campout is located one mile outside the village. Take the Catmore Road out of the village and Park Wood will be signposted. Cars are kept down the lane so that we are closer to nature than our car! We light a BBQ at 7ish so you might like to bring snacks for younger kids. The fire pit is lit and you may like to bring a chair to sit by the fire. Tents

are pitched around 6ish. First come, first served. A portaloos will be put on site for your comfort! Please DO NOT bring dogs. We do ask for a £10 donation per family to pay for the site preparation and portaloos.

We will go ahead whatever the weather.

If you would like to come please book in with either Angela and Alison and drop your £10 cash through Angela's door with your name on it. Any questions please ask. Please do come and encourage others to join in. Our record is 22 tents!

Please remember all children, regardless of age, must be accompanied overnight by a responsible adult.

Finally, one thing for sure you will return tired, dirty but with happy memories!

Angela Ryan Forge Cottage 01635-281500

Alison Banks The Poplars 01635-281705

ALL SAINTS CHURCH WEST ILSLEY

May Services at All Saints' Church

3 rd	Family Communion	9.30am
10 th	BCP Communion	8.30am
17 th	*No service in West Ilsley	See Café Church below
24 th	Family Service	11.00am
31 st	United Benefice Holy Communion	9.30am

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

Easter Services

It was lovely to see so many in church enjoying the beautiful flower decorations over Easter. Thank you to everyone who made All Saints' look so stunning.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

This was held recently in All Saints' and once again Ian and Alexandra were elected as Churchwardens. At the meeting the Revd John Toogood welcomed new members to the PCC and showed his appreciation to all who had contributed to All Saints' in so many different ways during the past year, including his colleagues, the Revd Lady (Denise) Brown and the Revd Douglas Dales.

The Downland Ascension Day Service on Thursday 14th May will this year be held in Great Shefford Church, at 7.30pm and will be followed by refreshments. Everyone is invited.

Café Church

The next one will be at St Mary's Church, Chieveley at 11.00am on Sunday 17th May. It is an informal service for everyone, with live music and an emphasis on families with young children.

It has proved to be very popular with all ages, so come along at 10.45am for coffee and cake beforehand.

31st May - Fifth Sunday Communion Service

West Ilsley is hosting a United Benefice Holy Communion service at 9.30am on 31st May. Do try and join us, as friends from other parishes in the benefice will be worshipping with us at this service. It is a great opportunity to meet our neighbours from the rest of the benefice.

Thank you

A belated 'thank you' to all those who kindly helped with the Spring Clean inside and out, before Easter. Also, thanks to all those who worked so hard clearing shrubs, saplings and a great pile of chalk from the upper graveyard recently. It has made such a difference and our thanks must mention Andrea for instigating and seeing it through, as well as providing the refreshments. We would also like to thank Giles who has relaid the gravel path up to the church door which has greatly improved the view of the church from the road. Its narrowness has been mentioned from time to time but it is now possible to walk into the church side by side (handy for Harriett and her bridesmaids), as well as looking better in those all-important wedding photos. Many thanks Giles.

Diary Date

A Pet Service at 11am, followed by a Picnic Lunch in the churchyard, will be held on Sunday 14th June. Put the date in your and your pets' diaries now!

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 ring him on 01635 247566.

Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith

TEAM IS RAISING MONEY FOR THE LYMPHOMA ASSOCIATION - PLEASE SUPPORT THEM ON JUSTGIVING.

The Ladies of the (previous) West Ilsley running team have joined up again to run & raise money . This time we are joining the London 10k on Monday May 25th in memory of Ronnie Cook to support The Lymphoma Association. Information about the charity, plus photos can be found on the Just Giving page. You can help the Team raise

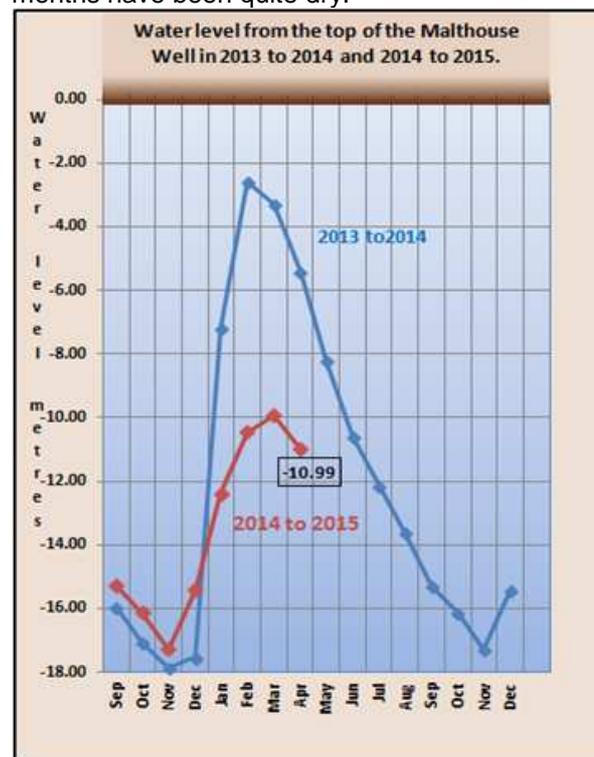
money for this great cause by donating directly to their fundraising page -

http://www.justgiving.com/lymphoma-association-team-WestBerkshire/?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraisingpage&utm_content=lymphoma-association-team-WestBerkshire&utm_campaign=pfp-email.

Details of the run, information about the charity and photos can be seen on the 'Just Giving' page. JustGiving sends your donation straight to The Lymphoma Association and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more. Thank you for your support!
The Team

MALTHOUSE WELL - Mel Cook

The well level has dropped just over 1 metre during April and, as shown on the graph below, the downward trend is now well set to continue into the summer especially as the last couple of months have been quite dry.



Groundwater levels in West Ilsley rise and fall with the seasons normally reaching a peak in the spring following replenishment through the late autumn and winter when losses by water evaporation and plant uptake are low. The Malthouse well is typical in this regard and in fact this year it peaked on 23rd March. Unless we get an exceptional period of rain the groundwater level should continue downwards through the summer and early autumn until the beginning of next winter.

FETE NEWS

Sunday 5th July 12 - 4pm

It's that time of year again where we (the fete committee) start planning this wonderful, annual village event and start calling in lots of favours and beg for sponsorship, raffle prizes and any other ways that villagers can help us! So please help us!!

This years Committee: Hayley Morricks, Dries Hagen, Justin Pilditch, Roger Lucas, Dan Hudson, Ed Ryder, Tony Elliot, Donna Cobrin.

Vintage Clothing Stall

We need all your good quality, unwanted clothes & accessories for the ever popular vintage clothing stall. You can drop your clothes into Hayley at The Harrow or bring them along on the morning of Saturday 4th July to the cricket pavilion.

Bric-A-Brac

Same applies for this popular stall. All your unwanted toys, games, homeware and anything else you can think of, please bring it along on the morning of Saturday 4th July to the cricket pavilion.

This year is no different from any other year and we rely on a gang of helpers to run the stalls on the day. If you are willing to run a stall or would like your own stall please contact one of the committee.

We have lots of new and exciting things going on this year with of course some of the old favourites. We look forward to seeing you all on the day.

The popular Produce Show will be back. A list of classes will be available soon.

Keep tuned for more fete news!!

WHATS ON AT THE HARROW

COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 7th May 10:30am
- 12 noon

Come along for a chat, a slice of homemade cake and a coffee



BANK HOLIDAY BBQ & OPEN MIC NIGHT

Sunday 24th May
Food from 6pm - 8pm
Come down and play some music, sing a song or just come and listen to the talent in West Ilsley



QUIZ NIGHT

Wednesday 27th May 8pm
Food served from 7pm



£3 each to enter

LITTLELIFE SCOOTATHLON 2015

Thank you to everyone kindly supporting our young granddaughter, Lucy, in her endeavour to raise money for WaterAid in a forthcoming Scootathlon. (WIN note circulated Fri, 10 April). The generous response and lovely messages are much appreciated, especially knowing the call upon us all these days to support so many worthwhile causes. The Scootathlon event takes place on 17th May at Dorney Lake (venue of the 2012 Olympic rowing and canoeing) and involves scootering, cycling and running. We will be cheering her on and will let you know how she got on and the amount of money raised in the next issue of the WIN. Avicé & Alan

APRIL'S FARMING NEWS

April has been one of the driest months for many years and we are looking forward to some much needed rain which is forecast. The growth of the newly planted Spring Barley is slow at present due to lack of rain and the chilly nights. The autumn sown Winter Wheat and Winter Oilseed Rape crops seem to be holding their own.

The young lambs are looking well and have enjoyed an excellent start with the warm spring sunshine. They have received at six weeks of age their first dose of Anthelmintic for worm control. The 110 one year old ewe lambs will start lambing in early May at Folly and this should only last for ten days or so.

Dear all,

April now and tis high time I told of money ring fenced in the Parish Council bank account for future creative use. The ring fence was entitled CCTV (Creative/cultural TWITS (the west Ilsley theatrical society -resurgence of the name of the last production company) Village) fund. A total amount of: £812 (I've £20 late arrival cash, in a tin for ultimate accounts transparency!). Think of something bonkers to spend it on :o)... I've already too many ideas, but let's meet up in the early autumn and not let that cash stagnate.

Bestest wishes, as always,

Marnie



Bill, our old postman, helping me hawk the last of the Panto merchandise back in Feb. The gent' and the loonm, bless him. (Spartacus Popty Ping thought it too ridiculous to be considered).

EVERGREENS

On Thursday 21st May there will be a coach outing to Devizes and Marlborough. The coach will leave from outside West Ilsley church at 9.00 am. Members £10, non-members £12.50. Names to Julia rockall on 281597.

MOBILE & AT HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

The library will call at Fir Tree Paddock between 2.15 pm and 2.35 pm on the following Tuesdays:
 May 5th and 26th
 June 16th
 July 7th and 28th
 August 18th
 September 8th and 29th

THE DOWNS SCHOOL - HOW CAN WE SUPPORT THE WIDER COMMUNITY?

The Downs School is proud to provide education for students across the Downlands area. We would like to find out if the school could help the wider community, either by offering its buildings for use by local groups, or by putting on events and services that people can't already get locally.

If you have suggestions about how the school could provide such support then we would like to hear from you.

Contact us by post, email or telephone.

The Downs School

contact@thedownsschool.org 01635 270000

Compton, Newbury, Berks RG20 6AD

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.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2015

May 11th AGM and Assembly, July 13th, Sept 14th and Nov 9th.

WHO TO CONTACT

VILLAGE HALL

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

PRESCRIPTIONS

Prescriptions are now being delivered on Tuesday mornings only and can be collected from Liz Elliott at 2 Morland Close Mon~Thurs 10 till 6. Should you wish to collect outside the above hours, please telephone 281997 to ask if it's convenient.

PATIENT REPRESENTATION GROUP

Fred Carter fred_kathcarter@btinternet.com 281621

CHURCHWARDENS

Alexandra Axtell 281306 Ian Fewtrell-Smith 281625

TENNIS COURT

Membership: Liz Dray - lizdray@btinternet.com 281688
 Play without joining - to book: Amanda Knight - 281609

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk:

Alison Banks - Alison@poplars.org.uk 281705

Chairman:

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

Alan Beaumont - alan.beaumont@aae-llp.com 07980 875179

Anna Sugden - annasugden@btconnect.com 281784

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ILSLEY UNDER FIVES

Date	Time	Session	Set up Rota
Wednesday 22 nd April	9:45am – 11:15am	Usual under 5's session – baking club Muffins	Robyn and Fozia
Wednesday 29 th April	10:00am onwards	Trip – tea and cake (or a bacon buttie!) at Saddleback Farm Shop.	Robyn
Wednesday 6 th May	9:45am – 11:15am	Fozia's Kitchen – learn to cook delicious food with our celebrity chef. Venue TBC	Flick and Fozia
Wednesday 13 th May	9.45am-11.15am	Usual under 5's session – Bookstart session	Rachel and Gabie
Wednesday 20 th May	9.45am-11.45am	Outdoor Woodland Adventure	Angela
Friday 29 th May	11am-1pm	HALF TERM PICNIC Play Area West Ilsley	Juliet
Wednesday 3 rd June	9:45am start	Snelsmore Common Teddy Bear tea party	Juliet
Wednesday 10 th June	9:45am – 10:45am	Yogabellies session with Leah at the Village Hall	Leah
Wednesday 17 th June	9.45am-11.15am	Usual under 5's session – baking club Jam Tarts	Flick and Inna
Monday 22 nd June	4pm-6pm	Afterschool tea party – Pizza Hut	Robyn
Wednesday 1 st July	9:45am – 11:15am	Messy Play – West Ilsley Cricket Club	Robyn
Wednesday 8 th July	9:45am – 11:15am	Usual under 5's session – baking club fruit modelling!	Rachel
Wednesday 15 th July	9.45am start	Trip – West Ilsley Play Area	Flick
Wednesday 22 nd July	9.45am start	Summer Outing – Bucklebury Farm Park	Rachel

New members are always very welcome to join us – just turn up or contact Juliet_lamb@hotmail.com

For trips – please confirm your attendance by midday on the day before to the person on set up (email above). Weather and alternative arrangements can then be confirmed.

At the end of term, we are planning a trip to Bucklebury Farm Park. Everyone is welcome to join us. As a thank you for continued support to Ilsley Under Fives, we will fund free entry for this trip, to those who have attended at least 5 sessions over the Summer term.

On trips please can you bring your own drink and snacks.

You can find out more on our facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/ilsleyunderfives/