

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org

September 2016

EDITORS

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5pm on Monday 26th September

Liz Dray
The Malthouse
☎ 281688

lizdray@btinternet.com

£20 per head

Neil from The Oxford Wine will be here with some fantastic Gins from around the world. Come along and sample a few with some canapés to soak it all up. If you are interested in coming along please let Hayley know.

DIARY

SEPTEMBER

28th Harrow Quiz night

OCTOBER

2nd Church harvest lunch

14th Harrow Gin tasting

THE WEST ILSLEY MATCHFIXERS 2016 - AN INCREDIBLE SUMMER

At times words just aren't enough. At times, even John Verney can't express the emotions we experienced this year as a collective group. I say this because, for the West Ilsley Matchfixers, at no point in their season could JV moan and complain. He was basically a washed up survivor of a shipwreck that he wanted to be a part of – except that the ship didn't sink.

In the summer of 2016, HMS Matchfixer just steamed on and over their opposition. We were brilliant and JV, our Chairman, watched on in amazement as we berthed at Dock 1 of the Red Kite League's harbour as the opposition drowned in the wake of our excellence.

The West Ilsley Matchfixers were only formed last winter and every one of us lives in the village. We had a great team spirit, a tremendous team ethos, a fun outlook and an amazing amount of primadonnas.

The last detail will live long in the memory actually. We won 12 matches out of 12 matches and still we had an amazing volume of spoilt brats when it came to tripping over bottom lips or not getting enough attention. George Storton, Jack Channon and Chris Watling – take a bow lads. Amazing stuff.

We also had a unique blend of youth and experience.

Alan Bloor had a 100% record this season and to say he's seen it all would be apt. That said, the last time West Ilsley were champions at anything took place years prior to half of this year's team being born. Bloody though, as ever, was always there, ever dependable and seldom failed. A top man.

Our Skipper Wes Morricks and our Director of Cricket, Nigel Chubb both deserve huge respect for their endeavours this summer. Chubby in particular rearranged a ridiculous number of rain-spoiled



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WHAT'S ON AT THE HARROW

QUIZ NIGHT

Wednesday 28th September

8pm start

£3 each to enter

Raising money for Macmillan Cancer



We aren't hosting a coffee morning this month because of the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 30th September.

Last month we raised £20 for The Air Ambulance. Thank you to those of you who came along.

On Saturday 10th September we will be closed for the evening, sorry for any inconvenience.

GIN TASTING

Friday 14th October

7:30pm

matches and he stands alone as the bloke that made this happen.

But who wants to hear praise? Not me that for sure.

That said, I've loved every Wednesday night and I just wish we could have had more of them – especially at home. The games, although we were so dominant, were played in the right spirit and the food in the Harrow, thanks to Jaqui and Peter eclipsed anything we tasted on the way to ultimate victory when we were out on the road.

Digger Barnes was a mainstay, as was Tiz who umpired the majority of our fixtures. Both Barnes boys were there throughout, whilst we all looked on in amazement at the much anticipated cricketing comebacks from Neil 'The Sheriff' Marshall and Mick 'The Fuhrer' Channon.

Whilst The Sheriff's performances promised more to come, The Fuhrer's performance (conceding 49 off of four rancid overs – despite taking a wicket) has made me think that JV ought to consider a comeback.

I've gone on for too long.

I'd just like to thank everyone for a great time with so many laughs. On a personal note, to see Peter Carlisle take 4-15 on the opening fixture at Welford was a joy to see (he turned up in flip flops and I lent him my trainers), especially as it made whatever the



twins went on to achieve instantly forgettable.

Also, sharing a cricket field and a team photo with my father and brother will never be repeated – because I hope Jack's behaviour blackballs him from future contests. Of course I joke. I've loved every minute.

The West Ilsley Matchfixers – Champions of 2016.
MJC

COUNTRY NOTES

We missed the country notes in August's WIN, so here they are – hopefully we'll have a more up to date note for October's (oh goodness – we don't like looking forward that far!)

After what seems weeks of miserable weather we have been blessed with a few days of sun with temperatures of thirty degrees, perfect for the start of the harvest and for butterflies.

The right hand side of the track leading to the foot of the summer gallops fortunately has not been cut, leaving many wild flowers to bloom and provide food for caterpillars. These include the smoky pink flowers of fumitory, the purples of knapweed and woundwort, and the yellows of agrimony and hawksbit. In the short distance between Calendar House and the gate to Old Down I counted ten species of butterfly which included Gatekeepers, Large Heaths, Meadow Browns, Ringlets, Large skippers, Marbled Whites, Large Whites, a single Green Veined White, Small tortoiseshell and, last but not least, a splendid Red

Admiral. The last two species were laying their eggs on their favoured food plant, a patch of stinging nettles.

Although all of these species are attractive, the most spectacular is the Red Admiral, its name a corruption of the original "The Red Admirable". If we have a mild winter then some may survive as hibernating adults but the majority of those seen are migrants from the Mediterranean which arrive on these shores from March until September.

Finally a word on verge management for those fortunate enough to own land of this type. The best time to cut is from late July to the end of September, this allows plants to flower and most importantly gives time for seed to be set.

Perdix 20th July

THE ILSLEY EVERGREENS

Our July outing saw us enjoy a seaside trip to Southsea/Portsmouth, and then just a few days ago make another visit to the South Coast, travelling to Weymouth. The weather was fine and warm on both occasions, giving us two very pleasant and successful excursions.

The remaining coach outings planned for this year are as follows:-

Thursday, 29th September – Cardiff - 9am – 4pm

Thursday, 27th October – Devizes - 9am – 4pm

Price for trips continue at: Members £10.00. per person

Non-Members: £12.50. per person

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

It has now been confirmed that our Christmas Lunch will be held at "The Hare and Hounds" at Speen, near Newbury on Thursday, 15th December, commencing at 12.30pm. Cost quoted at £21.50 per head including coffee. Baileys Coaches are being approached with a view to providing transport.

Plans for visiting the Christmas Market in Bath, which is envisaged to take place on Thursday, 25th November are still proceeding. Baileys Coaches being contacted accordingly.

Theatre trips to the New Theatre, Oxford – Several members have booked to attend the Matinee Performance of "The Glenn Miller Story" on Wednesday, 31st August. A number of Evergreen members will also be attending the matinee performance of "The Sound of Music" on Thursday, 8th September. Julia has arranged transport for both outings.

A further "Prize Bingo Evening" has again been arranged by Tony Elliott to take place on Friday, 30th September at Compton Village Hall. Much appreciation to Tony for organising these events which are so important to help sustain the viability of our coach outings.

Plans for holding our Christmas Bazaar in association with Compton's Autumn Group are now underway. An initial meeting between ourselves and representatives from the Autumn Group has now taken place. The Bazaar is due to be held on Friday, 25th November at Compton Village Hall between the hours of 4pm – 7pm.

Jim Hughes, Secretary Tel. 01235 834487

'HOW'S YOUR DAD?' A NEW BOOK - BY MICHAEL JOHN CHANNON

Dear All,

On Sunday 18th September from 12pm – whenever the Harrow shuts - there will be a cricket match ahead of a book launch – That's right, I've written a book!

It's called 'How's Your Dad?' – it's the first question I'm ever asked, wherever I go. Of course it's about me, but it's also about how I see the world and I hope it's funny and interesting and, most of all, completely honest.

I started writing it after the reaction I got from my tribute to John Marston in this publication dated May 2014. The reaction I received really helped me to cope with the loss of a really good friend and also made me make some sense of the lunacy of life and I got really stuck in after that.

If you can come along on Sunday 18th it would be great. I'm getting bugger all for plenty of hard hours of pouring me heart out so don't think I'm drumming up support for your hard earned dough – if truth be told, I didn't do it for book sales!

A bit more about the book 'How's Your Dad?':

Framed within the tribulations of a turbulent year in a racing yard, How's Your Dad? examines the relationship between a father and son. The father, Michael Channon Snr, an arthritic workaholic and "a grumpy old bastard", played football at the highest level for over twenty years, scoring crucial goals for the likes of Southampton, Norwich City and most famously, England. Almost uniquely, he followed up this sporting career with another, ultimately scaling the heights of the Racing game.

With such an illustrious Father, Michael Channon Jr had plenty to live up to and though he enjoyed the many benefits of such a connection he felt that pressure, as well as the relative anonymity of always being "Mick's son".

Vividly and often humorously told, this story is balanced with deeply atmospheric, sometimes darkly dramatic, flashbacks to a youth often misspent. As a small boy Michael Junior is led out on to the pitch at Wembley on Cup Final Day, as a student he finds himself in intensive care after succumbing to his drunken state and the dangers of sleeping on the roof. His promising career as a TV producer is hampered by an untimely fire in the workplace as well as a loss of direction, a direction that once found leads back to where he began, at his Father's side.

Rigidly old fashioned and phenomenally short tempered, Michael Senior fosters a love/hate relationship but in caring for his father in the aftermath of a horrendous car crash, Michael Junior poignantly uncovers the hidden feelings every son has for their Dad.

About the author:

Michael John Channon has achieved many failures in his life.

A dismal career as a TV sports reporter followed an even worse attempt at becoming a footballer and along the way he has collected a catalogue of disasters, ranging from setting fire to his place of work to hitting a crossbar from three yards against Bognor Regis.

They, coupled with an often taut relationship with his dad in horse racing, have led to his finest book yet.

This is his first book.

His dad has written two.



The Ilsleys Primary School

Open Day: 7th October 2016

The Headteacher and Governors would like to invite prospective parents and pupils to our open day on 7th October from 9-11am.

We are a small, very friendly school which has excellent academic outcomes and forms the focus of our community. We look forward to showing you our children's achievements and introducing you to our fantastic staff.



At The Ilsleys we pride ourselves as having:

- Academic success: 80% Key Stage 2 students attained expected standards in all subjects (the second highest score in the Downs catchment)
- Small class sizes: Average class size of 20-25 meaning more attention for your child
- A strong community: A link to the local community through our school and events
- Happy children!

To welcome prospective new parents we will be holding an open day at the school on 7th October. The open day will give you the chance to...

- Meet the Head and other teachers
- Meet school governors
- Learn more about the school
- Have any questions you have answered

If you would like to attend please send an email to:

office@ilsleys.w-berks.sch.uk

We are a small and friendly school. If you cannot make this day please also get in touch and we will try and find you an alternative (another advantage of a smaller school).

Alternatively you can learn more on our website:

<http://www.theilsleys.westberks.dbprimary.com/westberks/primary/theilsleys>

HOW TO DEAL WITH A GLUT OF COURGETTES!

Fred's Courgette Loaf Cake.

Ingredients:

- 2 large eggs
- 125ml vegetable oil
- 85g soft brown sugar
- 350g courgettes, coarsely grated
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 300g plain flour
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- ½ tsp nutmeg
- ½ tsp bicarb
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 85g walnuts, roughly chopped
- 140g sultanas

Method

Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas4.

Butter and line a 2lb loaf tin with baking parchment.

In a large bowl, whisk the eggs, oil and sugar, then add the courgettes and vanilla.
 In another bowl, combine the remaining ingredients with a pinch of salt.
 Stir the dry ingredients into the wet mixture, then spoon into the tin.
 Bake for 1 hour, or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.
 Leave to cool, then serve or freeze up to 1 month
It is delicious spread with butter

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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

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Tuesday 30th, September 20th

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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 - all the latest minutes from our meetings are available under the "Parish Council" tab.

2016 MEETING DATES

Sept 12th Nov 14th

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