

West Ilsley News

MAY 2025

www.westilsley.org

Editors

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5 pm on Sunday 25th May

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

MAY

20th PC meeting and annual assembly

JUNE

JULY

4th Pre fete party

6th Fete

FULL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Tuesday 20th May 2025

7:00 pm Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

8:15 pm Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes

Draft minutes of the February PC meeting are on the website - click [here](#)

CLLR CAROLYNE CULVER

Dear residents

I have been pressing for a weight limit on Bury Lane for a long time now, to prevent heavy vehicles using the village as a diversion route, and I renewed my efforts after the incident in February when there was a vehicle fire on the A34. The latest response from the councillor responsible for highways is as follows,

'Officers and I are in the process of finalising the network management plan for 2025-26, subjects such as the below [ie Bury Lane] could form part of this, and I am currently in the process of finalising the priority for any schemes. As I said there is a long list of competing priorities requests being worked through'. So unfortunately I don't think we are going to be seeing any action on this for a while, if at all.

In the past I have lobbied WBC and Oxfordshire County Council to include East Ilsley in the X34 bus route, thereby intersecting with route 6, but to no avail. However (assuming the local government minister agrees) WBC will be merging with Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire district councils in the next few years. So the existing local authority boundary between us and Harwell/Didcot will disappear. So let's lobby again! Please scroll down the link below and hit the 'Complete our survey' button. Question 5 asks for other suggestions, so that is where we can make our voices heard about the X34.

[Draft Local Transport Plan \(LTP4\) Strategy Document 2025-2040 and the associated Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment \(SA/SEA\) Report - West Berkshire Council](#)

Residents can report problems (unemptied bins, broken streetlights, potholes, abandoned vehicles on public highways etc) by visiting www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem For information about road works (eg utility companies digging up roads) please look at One Network <https://uk.one.network> which contains a map where you can search for details of what is happening in your area.

Best wishes, Carolynne

CLlr Carolynne Culver

Ridgeway Ward (Ilsleys, Compton, Hampstead

Norreys, Yattendon and Frilsham)

Chairman, Scrutiny Commission

Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury RG14 5LD

carolynne.culver1@westberks.gov.uk

(m) 07976 374146

www.westberks.gov.uk

MAY AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 4th Family Service at 11.00am

Sunday 11th Communion at 8.30am

Sunday 18th Communion at 9.30am

Sunday 25th No service at All Saints'

Please look on the notice board in the lychgate or on the East Downland website: <https://www.eastdownland.org.uk/news-and-notice/this-week> for other services in the benefice during May.

Café in All Saints' Church

Our next monthly cafe will take place on Sunday 11th May between 10.00am and 11.00am. Donations go to

a different charity each month. Last month £120 was raised for Berkshire Mencap. Everyone is very welcome to join us for coffee, cake and a chat!

Lent Group

Following the Easter break, the final two meetings will be on Wednesdays 30th April and 7th May in St Mary's Church, Chieveley at 10.00am. This year the focus is on The Nicene Creed. Everyone is very welcome to join the group.

Easter Church and Churchyard Tidy-up

Thank you to those who kindly gave up a couple of hours on a recent Saturday morning to help with the spring clean, it was very much appreciated. Thank you also to those who decorated the church so beautifully for Easter.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The meeting, to which all are welcome, will be held on Tuesday 6th May at 7.45pm in church. We hope you will come and hear the review of your church over the last year.

Rogation Walk

This will take place on Sunday 18th May after our 9.30am Communion Service. Meet at Downs View at 10.45am for coffee and cake. The walk will take us up the chalk hill onto The Ridgeway and loop



round and back down the cart track. We hope to have a water station at Bury Lane car park, as well as a midway pick up for those who don't wish to walk the whole way. Donations will go to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, the largest farming charity, which provides support to the farming community, especially regarding mental health. So dust off those walking shoes and grab the dog for a pleasant walk in congenial company.

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 – revdjdales@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

THE ILSLEYS NEWSLETTER

Recently, some children have taken part in a club called iRock which helps children create their own rock band from scratch even if they had never picked up an instrument before. As the weeks went on and their bands got even better, they had a concert that showed all the progress they had made with their bandmates. This took place on March 24th. The whole school enjoyed watching them and they are excited to carry on learning about music.

On March 25th, some students took part in a cross country festival at Newbury Showground. They all did really well as there were many competitors and were thankful for the experience. Did you know that it is the largest cross country event in the country?

On March 26th, Pacific Class went on a school trip to Ufton Court which is a Tudor house as their topic was Terrible Tudors. They loved to see all of the old artefacts that were found in the house and one of the students said their favourite part was becoming a Tudor pioneer! They were very grateful that they were able to go on a school trip and were excited to learn more about this part of history.

As some of you may already know, it was recently the month of Ramadan, so we celebrated with a day where we learnt all about Ramadan and why Muslims celebrate it. On this day, the children took part in activities like: lantern making, decorating a poster about the 5 Pillars of Islam and we even had a zoom call with a Muslim to ask questions about his religion. Over the last month, some the Year 5s and 6s have done Bikeability to improve their knowledge of cycling on the roads. They learnt about U turns, how to signal and much more which helped them pass level 1 for Year 5s and level 1 and 2 for Year 6s.

Throughout the last few weeks of last term, all of the classes planned and presented a curriculum assembly for the whole school and their parents about what they had learnt throughout the term and within their topics. Firstly, Atlantic Class shared about 'World War 2' and 'Fantastic Females', then Arctic Class talked about 'Dinosaur Stomp' and 'Dora the Explorer' and finally Pacific Class shared about their topic, 'Terrible Tudors'.

At the end of term, we had an Easter Eggstravaganza after school; this included different games run by the Year 6s and an Easter Egg Hunt for all the different classes. The children played the game by paying £1 which helped the school to raise money. We hope you all had a lovely Easter! We are now looking forward to a busy term!

Written by a Year 5 and a Year 6

Oxford Art Week

Sketch, sip and step into a world of creativity!

Join us for a week of art and inspiration.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH
ART GROUP

Aldworth

SATURDAY 10TH MAY UNTIL SATURDAY 17TH MAY

Explore a beautiful collection of artwork by local artists, with pieces to admire and purchase. Enjoy delicious homemade cake, fresh coffee and tea served all day.

Browse the plant stall.
Join our morning open sketching sessions – paper & charcoal provided! (10.30 - 12.30 daily).

ST MARY'S CHURCH, ALDWORTH, RG8 9SB
FURTHER INFO: 01635 578791 WWW.ARTWEEKS.ORG

Open
10am-5pm

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.



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>