

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org

March 2010

EDITORS

Andrea Cook
Clock Cottage
☎ 281224
westilsleynews@msn.com
Deadline for the next publication is:
5pm on Thursday 25th March

Liz Dray
The Malthouse
☎ 281688
lizdray@btinternet.com

DIARY

MARCH
8th Parish Council Meeting
APRIL
30th Mamma Mia night

Domestic Electrical Installation

Building regulation Part P Compliant
installation/inspection/testing/fault finding
and certification
Portable Appliance Testing @ 110/240 VAC
Contact Keith Pentecost
Tel: 01635-281389 (East Ilsley)
Mobile: 07985-797333

CHILDREN'S CHURCH, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Our February service has now been moved to Thursday 4 March at 4pm when we will hear the story of the "Calming of the Storm". Please could any small teddies attend with the children; their participation in acting out the story would be much appreciated!

In March, David and Jane Carlisle have kindly invited us once again to see the lambing at Folly Farm on Thursday 18 March (this will replace our usual service). Please meet either at The Malthouse (Liz Dray) at 4pm to walk up through the fields or at Folly Farm at 4.20pm. We would like to express our thanks to David and Jane by taking a collection on the day for West Berks Mencap.

In April we will be meeting on Thursday 22 April at 4pm in the church and celebrating St George's Day. Once again small dragons would be most welcome to attend with their owners.

Services are aimed at all ages from babies to older ones and last approximately half an hour followed by drinks.

If you would like any further details please do contact any of us on the following numbers:

Denise Brown on 01635 281825

Liz Dray on 01635 281688

Louise Taylor on 01635 280622.

THANK YOU FROM PALS

Blessed with lovely weather the PALS gang arrived in West Ilsley for a busy morning of garden clearing. Our thanks go to Ron and June Cook, Gail Wilson-North (who also provided us with refreshments and doughnuts!) and to James and Lucy Hanbury for allowing us to work in their gardens. The group raised £70 and we all went to the pub afterwards to make plans for our next fundraiser! These activities not only support our fundraising but give the youngsters an opportunity to practice social skills and foster closer friendships within the group. Your support is very much appreciated by myself, the PALS youngsters and their families – 'thankyou'!
Angela Ryan – PALS co-ordinator

Medieval Mayhem 15th/16th May 10 - 4pm

*See, Taste and Touch History;
a fun day out for the whole family!*



Travel back in time and experience Medieval Life, watch jousting, explore the house, medieval craftsmen, join the historic feasting and shoot an arrow...

Free Entry for children Free Car Parking

£6.50 per adult, £5.50 Concessions
(all tickets *only* £5 if bought in advance)



admin@uftoncourt.co.uk
0118 983 2099

www.medievalmayhem.org
Ufton Court, Green Lane,
Ufton Nervet, Reading, RG7 4HD



All profits support the work of Ufton Court Educational Trust

WHAT'S ON AT THE HARROW

MOTHERS DAY

**Dont forget to book your tables
for MothersDay
Sunday 14th March**



GREEK NIGHT

**Our first themed
evening of 2010 will be
a 'Greek Night'
Friday 19th March
Book your tables NOW !!
Special menu and drinks.**

EASTER EGG HUNT

**There will be an Easter egg
hunt in our Pond View garden
on Easter Sunday which is
Sunday 4th April. Bring the
children down for a hunt.
12 noon onwards !!
Don't forget to book your tables NOW for
the Easter weekend !!
Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th April**



A BIG THANK YOU

from Angela and Alison

Alison and I would like to thank the 'New' Village Hall Committee for the lovely flowers that were so kindly dropped in by Mandy earlier this week. We have so enjoyed our time (10 years) on the committee and wish Doug, Mandy and Neil, Audrey, JV, Fred and Maureen all the best to the future success of the hall committee. Please give them all the support you can!

Many thanks again – it was very thoughtful of you all... Angela Ryan and Alison Banks

WEST ILSLEY FETE

Could you all save your chipped, cracked and unwanted crockery for the crockery smashing at the fete, which will be held on Sunday 4th July. Potato seeds for the produce show can now be collected from The Harrow. Any age can enter. The seeds have to be grown in a container which then has to be brought along on the day of the fete for judging. If any one would like to contact the fete committee, they are the following - Alan Bloor, Doug Brown, Jo Coles, Katharine Gibbs and Hayley Watling

VILLAGE HALL

Alison Banks and Angela Ryan have now resigned from the Village Hall Committee after 10 Years. The new committee would like to thank them on behalf of the whole village for their tireless effort and commitment to the hall and village events over this time. These include Bonfire Nights and Camp Outs to name a couple. They leave the hall in excellent condition with a new porch and floor.

We would also like to thank Shirley Gore who has been the Church Rep on the committee for the last 25 years and has also resigned this post.

The new committee includes Doug Brown as Chair, Neil Slater as secretary and Audrey Tizzard who continues as Treasurer and Bookings Secretary.

Don't forget the Easter Bingo on April 2nd (see ad). Also if anyone is interested in helping resurrect the Village Nativity please let one of the committee know.

Many thanks

Doug Brown DBrown@cvroxford.com

Neil Slater neil.slater@iname.com

For hire, please call Audrey Tizzard on 281646.

Easter Bingo

Fun For All the Family

Good Friday 2nd April

7.30pm

West Ilsley Village Hall

Loads of EASTER EGGS to win

Bring Your Own Drinks

Raffle prizes/Easter eggs welcome to

Audrey at 5 Fir Tree Cottages

Admission 20p, children 10p

Bingo Books 30p

Proceeds to West Ilsley Village Hall funds

ILSLEY UNDER 5S

We have had a very slow and quiet start to the Ilsley Under 5s year, mainly due to heavy snow days on a Wednesday!!

Unfortunately, this month we said our goodbyes to Vikki and Jodie. We would like to thank Vikki for her support and dedication as an Under 5's committee member and we wish them both much happiness and success in their new home and future ventures. We look forward to welcoming them once again should they have a free Wednesday for an Ilsley Under 5's or 7's visit.

We would like to welcome Rachel Hudson on board the Under 5's committee and thank her for her support.

This term we have been introduced to the Berkshire Toy Library. Once a month a representative will join us. Parents and carers will be able to hire a wide variety of toys, games, books, and outdoor play equipment etc. suitable from birth to 5 years for a small fee from 50p-£2. An annual subscription is £5.

The first IIsley Under 7s this month was a great success. We look forward to holding our next sessions during the Easter Holidays.

The IIsley Under 5's tables, chairs and equipment are available for hire throughout the year for any occasion, all for a donation of £10. Please contact Angelique Ravion on 01635 281327 for more details.

We meet on Wednesday mornings: 10:00 am – 11:30 am in West IIsley Village Hall. Simply pop along and join us. New members are always welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

Caroline Rand Telephone: 01635 281921

ILSLEY EVERGREENS

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the village hall on Monday 8th March at 2pm.

On 25th March there is an outing to New Milton to see the show "The Old Tyne Players", leaving from outside the church at 9am. £15 to pay by 15th March. Names to P Burnett 281131

BIRDS OF PREY AND FALCONRY DISPLAY

On **Easter Saturday**, 3rd April, Ray Prior will be up on **Aldworth recreation field**, with his amazing birds, all morning. Meet and chat with Ray and stay on to watch the Flying Display at 11 a.m.

Aldworth Saturday Market will be in full swing in the village hall with lots of goodies to buy, and tasty refreshments too, from **9 a.m. to 12 noon**.

Please tell your friends and put **3rd April** in your diary now! Entry is FREE, but a collection will be made to help cover costs.

We look forward to seeing you at Aldworth's Village Market any Saturday, but especially at Easter. Details: 01635 578177

FREE HP INKJET CARTRIDGES

We have a 45 HP Black cartridge and a 78 HP Tri-colour – both in their original packaging but a bit long in the tooth – if they fit your printer and you want to give them a go, ring 281224 to arrange collection

A Concert in aid of
St Mary's, Aldworth, rebuilding fund
Friday 26th March
at 7.30 pm

St Mary's Church, Aldworth

Given by

The Dieci Cantabile Choir

Programme includes:

Sacred choral music by Caccini, Byrd and others

Opera by Bellini, Donizetti, Schubert and

Monteverdi

Jazz and Pop

Readings by Richard Ingrams

Tickets £10 include a glass of wine & finger food

Apply by Telephone: 01491 874399

Or Email: michael@soamesonline.com

FARMING UPDATE

We are having one of the coldest winters on record so our primary objectives are to make sure the sheep, that are due to lamb from the beginning of March, are snuggled comfortably in the Folly barns. They are now being fed concentrates and haylage (has a moisture content wetter than hay but drier than silage and, therefore, has to be wrapped in plastic to keep it airtight). This haylage is fed ad lib to build them up in the run up to lambing.

The bought in heifers and steers are housed in the barns at Harcourt, being fed crushed barley, a small amount of soya and wheat straw ad lib, which also doubles up as their bedding. We had a lovely surprise at the beginning of February when one Belgian Blue heifer gave birth to a black and white heifer calf - subsequently named Anne (she arrived on Anne Wond's birthday!). We think the dad was probably a very naughty Friesian bull calf! Both are doing very well.

The Winter Oilseed Rape, Winter Barley and Winter Wheat have had it's first feed of fertiliser for this season and considering the sub-zero temperatures, they are looking relatively well. The pigeons are now beginning to eat the new Oilseed Rape shoots which is why we occasionally hear a banger resounding across the fields. We have recently attempted to start the Spring Malting Barley planting with the help of some relatively hard frosts, however, the weather forecasts for the next week does not look encouraging so we may have to delay a little longer.

Patience is a virtue! Peter Carlisle

Mr A Giglio
Hebron Cottage
West Ilsley
Newbury
Berkshire RG20 7AL

West Berkshire Council Highways and
Transport Council Offices
Faraday Road
Newbury
Berkshire
RG142AF

8th February 2010

Dear Sirs,

I write this letter to express my great disappointment at the bus service offered by the council during the snowy weather. I live in the small village of West Ilsley, which was left cut off from Newbury, during the bad weather, leaving many of us stranded and unable to reach Newbury and its facilities

It should be remembered that in West Ilsley we have no facilities whatsoever, no shops, no post office and on top of that a poor bus service. We rely completely on the shopping facilities provided by Newbury.

Various authorities keep telling the public to use buses in order to reduce pollution; most of us would agree with this, but in order to achieve this, we need a good bus service, especially in rural areas.

I am aware that the buses to East Ilsley were coming normally in spite of the snowy weather and the country road between East Ilsley and West Ilsley was open to all traffic. So why were the buses in West Ilsley cut off from all necessities?

I was rather baffled by this and so I looked at what could have caused this and concluded that at times the bus route from Harwell Business Centre uses Bury Lane descending to West Ilsley. Unfortunately Bury Lane was closed to traffic because of the snowy conditions. However the lower country road between East and West Ilsley stayed open to all traffic and therefore it is my thought that an emergency diversion could have been put in place to help people in West Ilsley.

Who knows when the same bad conditions may occur again? I am not a pessimist but we have been warned. Consequently, if may, I should like to suggest a slight change to the present bus itinerary in order to achieve a very much improved bus service to West Ilsley and at the same time avoid using Bury Lane.

My suggested changes are:

When the 06:53 and 16:15 Bus 6 from Newbury Bus Station reach East Ilsley Broad Street, they should continue 10 West Ilsley church, then turn back towards East Ilsley but exit on the A34. direction Harwell Business Centre. From there return via the A34 to East Ilsley Broad Street. The 06:53 would then continue to Compton High Street etc ... back to Newbury Bus Station. and the 16: 15 would continue to Beedon Triangle etc ... back to Newbury Bus Station.

When the 12:00 6A, 13:45 6A and 17:50 6A Buses from Newbury Bus Station arrive at East Ilsley Broad Street at 12:39, 14:24 and 18:29, instead of turning back to Beedon Triangle they should continue to West Ilsley Church and from there return via East Ilsley to Beedon Triangle etc to Newbury Bus Station.

At present the last bus service to East Ilsley is at 15:00 from Newbury Bus Station, which feels like being put to bed a bit too early.

I sincerely hope that when you next review your bus time table and itinerary you will look favourably to the above suggestions as they do not necessitate a great deal of change, but would greatly improve our lifestyle. It would give us more opportunities for getting to Newbury and back and also afford us some cultural activities provided by other centres further afield.

There are many elderly people in West Ilsley and some are without their own transport, an improved Bus Service would be a Godsend.

Yours Faithfully

Mr A Giglio



Introducing Dominic Bartlett PCO

Email: dominic.bartlett@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
Mob – 07855 954425 (However if someone needs to report a crime, they still need to use 999 or the non-emergency number 0845 8 505 505)

My role is as follows –

I am a Police Community Support Officer, PCSO for short, and the area which I cover is the Downlands. The Downlands comprises of a cluster of villages which include West Ilsley. The best way to describe what a PCSO is, is basically a modern day beat bobby the police officer you remember as kid. And we mainly deal with low level crime such as anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, etc. We are sometimes described as the eyes and ears of the police as we are out talking to the community, and visiting community groups. I am more than happy to visit people who would like crime prevention advice or would like to talk to someone about an issue they might be having.

POLICE UPDATE FOR FEBRUARY

Here is the latest neighbourhood update for Downlands from Police Community Support Officer Dominic Bartlett:

The latest crime figures for the Downlands can be viewed at <http://maps.police.uk/view/thames-valley>. The facility allows you to view the crime statistics for various types of crime and also allows you to view the statistics for different areas of the force.

Crime is down by 0.9 per cent across the Downlands area when compared to the same three month period at the end of 2008. Many residents have stated that they have noticed an increased police presence in the area this year and I hope that this is directly linked to the decrease in crime.

There has been a slight increase in reports of anti-social behaviour but this is often linked to an increased awareness of how to report issues to local policing teams as a result of our engagement across the area.

Unfortunately during January we have received a small number of reported burglaries across the Downlands area. We would like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of crime prevention, make sure all your windows and doors are locked, don't leave keys near a front or back door, don't leave valuables in view of a window, and if you have a UPVC door make sure it is locked from the inside. If you see any suspicious activity please report it to us immediately via our 24-hour Police Enquiry Centre on 0845 8 505 505. During January we have noticed an increase in reports of deer stalking and night poaching if you witness such activity please report it. The offenders of this type of crime often travel across

a wide area to carry out these activities and we will continue to collate evidence to link offenders to as many reports as possible. Information can be emailed to PC Easton at simon.easton@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

Our main priority is hare coursing as it is still a problem in the Downlands area along the Ridgeway. The areas which appear to be targeted most are the Ilsleys, Catmore, Brightwalton, Farnborough, and Beedon. We are still actively patrolling these areas throughout the day and night with the view of disrupting and preventing any further coursing.

However if you have any information or witness such activity please contact us. We have further joint operations planned with officers from Hungerford and Wantage, to tackle and disrupt hare coursing. The operation involves hi-visibility patrols by each neighbourhood team whilst working closely with local landowners. Please be vigilant and report any sightings of such activity immediately to increase our chances of catching the offenders before they leave the area.

We are also currently reviewing the issue of speeding on Beedon Hill: we are liaising with other agencies such as Road Safety to ascertain the extent of the issue through the results of previous speeding statistics.

PCSO Bartlett has recently been in contact with most of the parish councils to ascertain when their parish meetings will be held for the forthcoming year. We are hoping to attend more parish meetings, as we hope it will give the public an opportunity to speak to us about any issues they may have. We are working hard to engage with various members of the community, such as businesses, parish councils, residents, local schools, etc. We would very much like to be invited to any meetings, or fetes which you would like us to attend. If you know of any events, please get in touch.

Julia Jones, landlady of the Ibex Inn in Chaddleworth, was recently sentenced at court in relation to theft from the subsidiary Post Office that was located in the pub.

We are still in the process of liaising with local residents, businesses and parish councils with a view to establishing a Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) for the Downlands area. If you are interested in becoming a member or would like more information about what it involves, please contact Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Dominic Bartlett via the 24-hour Police Enquiry Centre on 0845 8 505 505 or email us using the addresses listed.

If you would like to be signed up to the community messaging please email dominic.bartlett@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk and I will arrange a time to visit you to complete the form.

I will be visiting areas across the Downlands that don't currently have a Neighbourhood Watch scheme set up to try and emphasise the effectiveness of such schemes. If your area does not currently have a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, and you would like more information about establishing one, please contact me via the above email address.

For more information about your local neighbourhood team visit www.thamesvalley.police.uk and follow the neighbourhood policing links.

STOP PRESS!

Calling all

MAMMA MIA!



fans!

Film screening and supper

Friday 30 April

Village Hall

All ages welcome

(proceeds to tennis court repairs.)

More details to follow next month)

ALL SAINTS, WEST ILSLEY

Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith

March Church Services

7 th	All Age Communion	9.30 am
14 th	Holy Communion	8.30 am
21 st	All Age Worship	11 am
28 th	* No service at West Ilsley	
30 th	Compline	tbc

* Please see the lych gate notice board for details of other services in the benefice.

N.B. Please note that from March, services on the 2nd Sunday of the month will be at **8.30am** and **not 8am**.

During Holy Week, which is the last week of March, there will be short services of Compline (a quiet meditative service) at various parishes in the benefice. There will be such a service here at All Saints on Tuesday 30th March – time to be confirmed.

Winter Warmer.

It was great to catch up on everyone's news as those who attended came out of hibernation after our seemingly long, icy winter. Mulled wine warmed us as we came in from the cold, and after meeting the Reverend John Toogood, our new

rector, we enjoyed lashings of goulash followed by ice cream and hot chocolate sauce (or cold peach sauce). Those of you who have read the Narnia books will know the significance of the Turkish Delight that finished off the meal! By finding the hidden treasure, Andy and Sue Carrington won whisky and a warm scarf, ready for venturing out again into the cold (!). The village hall was beautifully decorated with white drapes, hanging snow flakes and icicles and fir branches, depicting the snowy forest of Narnia. Thanks should go to Alexandra, Rosanne, Sue and Zoe for their hard work and creativity, as well as Will and Justin, and to all those who provided such delicious food. It is impossible to thank here everyone who helped, (you know who you are) but we hope you all had a good time and will come again next time.

Alexandra Axtell is missing a few table lights from that evening, so if anyone knows about them could they please contact her on 281306.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 27th April – 8pm in church

Please put this date in your diaries now and come on the evening. All are very welcome.

WHO TO CONTACT	
VILLAGE HALL	
Audrey Tizzard - Treasurer and Bookings	281646
Rates: £7.50/hr Villagers £15/hr Non Villagers	
CHURCHWARDENS	
Alexandra Axtell .281306	Ian Fewtrell-Smith 281625
TENNIS COURT	
Membership: Amanda Hagen - amandahagenuk@yahoo.co.uk	
Play without joining - to book: Amanda Knight - 281609	
PARISH COUNCIL	
Clerk:	
Alison Banks - Alison@poplars.org.uk	281705
Chairman:	
Sean Ryan - Sean.ryan@sunday-times.co.uk	281336
Jo Scriven - Jo.clifton@tynan-darcy.com	281405
Dries Hagen - dries.hagen@healthpml.com	281855
Alan Bloor - Alanpeter.bloor@virgin.net	281341
John Mountford - jgmountford@btinternet.com	281703
Fred Carter - fred_kathcarter@btinternet.com	281621