

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org

November 2014

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5pm on Wednesday 26th November

DIARY

NOVEMBER

5 th	Fireworks and bonfire
7 th	Harrow 9 year anniversary
10 th	Parish council meeting
26 th	Harrow quiz night

DECEMBER

13 th	Church Five Voices concert
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DON'T FORGET those without email (not many and mostly older people). Please don't exclude these people by only using the WIN email rather than putting information in the monthly issue. We can supply a list of households if you need to put a note through their doors.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



Just think – you could save all that writing, paper (rainforests) and delivering of Christmas cards around the village, and save your chums all the hassle of

moving loads of cards to dust..... All it takes is an email or note and some cash in an envelope though one door and the job is done!

Send Christmas greetings to friends and neighbours in the village via the WIN and donate a sum towards Church Funds rather than sending cards - let me have a note of what you want to appear and your donation - any time from now up until 26th November and it will appear in the December edition. Last year we raised £372 – we can do much better this year – perhaps time to add a little inflation to your contribution and for a few more households to decide to make their lives easier?

Andrea Cook 281224 westilsleynews@msn.com



West Ilsley Village Hall Committee Bonfire Night Fireworks

We would like to thank the following for their generous donations for the fireworks WI Fete committee, WI Trust, Mick Channon and Peter at The Harrow

****NEW LOCATION****

**Please gather in the Recreation Field
by the Pavilion**

*All villagers and their friends and families
welcome to join us for a fun evening on*

Wednesday 5th November

BBQ from 6.15pm

Bonfire from 6.30 pm

Fireworks at 7.00pm

BBQ (Hot Dogs and Burgers) and

Refreshments available for sale from 6.15pm

**Please use the yellow buckets to dispose of used
sparklers**

AUTUMN GROUP

The group is going from strength to strength with numbers of regular attendees increasing. We are based at the Wilkins Centre, behind Compton Village Hall and meet every Tuesday from 2pm onwards. The group is open to new members. There is an annual membership fee of £10 per person and payment of £2 per meeting to cover running costs.

We have regular speakers and outings. Recent examples of presentations are: Safety in the Home, Citizens Advice, Benefits, Bee Keeping, Handbag Making, Samaritans, British Legion, Newbury Lions, Flower Arranging and Card Making to name but a few. We were recently taken on a trip around Compton by pony and trap. Our most recent outings have been to Wells and Street, also the Poppy factory and Kingston upon Thames. We had a packed room for two

sessions. The first was an afternoon with our MP Richard Benyon who gave a frank insight into the trials and tribulations of being a Member of Parliament. The second was a surprise when we had a presentation on Cricket umpiring by John Golding which everyone, including the ladies, found fascinating. We will be hosting a lunch on Christmas Day for people on their own. Patricia Burnett 07786 856440

WEST ILSLEY YOUTH CLUB

Are you missing the social at the cricket club on a Friday night? How about meeting up at a youth club in the village? At this stage we just want to know how many teenagers would be interested so if you are year 8 or above please send an email to William c/o the.beaumonts@btinternet.com to register your name and say whether you would want to meet up once or twice a month. Also mention what you would like to do - hang out & chat, play pool or table tennis, watch a movie or do activities. Once we know how many are interested we can arrange a venue.

VILLAGE WALK

As West Ilsley villagers will no doubt be aware, big efforts are being made to rejuvenate our Village Hall to make it a more welcoming and comfortable meeting point for village activities.

To date we have repaired and redecorated the inside and outside of the hall and are keen to improve the lighting and heating in due course. All of this costs money, so we were hugely appreciative of the support shown by the village in turning out for the Community Walk on Sunday 19th October. Over 100 walkers, runners and riders enjoyed fine weather and great company as we took in some of the best views in Berkshire. It was wonderful to have walkers join us from surrounding villages and feedback on the day suggested that we should make this into an annual event, or possibly do something similar more than once a year.

The real benefits of the success of this event are threefold. We managed to raise over £600 for village hall improvements, for which we are hugely grateful. Secondly we hopefully raised awareness of some of the future uses of the Hall, including the launch of a Wine and Cheese Club, Yoga classes, Bridge evenings for experienced players and lessons for those who wish to learn, Dance classes, A Youth Club, Children's parties and much more. Details on all of these ideas and more will soon be listed on the West Ilsley website (www.westilsley.org.uk) under the Leisure tab. And last, but most importantly, we got together as a community and reminded ourselves what a great village West Ilsley is to live in. Hopefully those who joined us from neighbouring villages

will spread the word that the Village Hall is a fun and friendly place to visit and use and we will see it become a popular meeting point for more of us in the months ahead. Thank you all again for your support.

James Hanbury

On behalf of the Village Hall Committee.

OCTOBER NATURE NOTES

9th October

On the verge above Stareveall barn a stonechat uses a dried hogweed stem as a perch from which it sallies forth for insects. Is it a winter visitor, or just passing through?

The beeches opposite the barn have shed a bumper crop of mast. These tasty morsels will make a perfect substitute for pine nuts in a salad. Claret stained leaves of elder compete for attention with the hips and haws but they are outshone by a spindle bush, whose candy pink berries are beginning to split to reveal the orange seeds within.

12th October 2014

A few blackberries remain on the brambles, they still look inviting but taste insipid. This is a day after the devil was supposedly kicked out of heaven by the archangel Michael and landed in a bramble bush. In trying to extricate himself (I assume he is male?) he got badly scratched and every year on the 11th of October he spoils the berries by urinating on them.

This was the original date of Michaelmas. In 1752 it was moved to the 29th of September. The Abingdon Michaelmas Fair, the longest street fair in Europe, is still held for three days in October. It was originally a medieval hiring fair and its purpose was to hire farm workers for the coming year. Interestingly this is followed a week later by the much smaller "Runaway Fair", which gave the farm workers an opportunity to "run away" from a bad employer, who had hired them at Michaelmas, and to seek a new job.

Perdix

OCTOBER'S FARMING NEWS

We are now entering a quieter period in our farming diary. All the autumn crops of Winter Wheat, Winter Barley and Winter Oilseed Rape have been planted and are growing well. We are in the middle of spraying the oilseed rape with a mixture of pesticides and nutrients to control the Phoma disease and stimulate root growth. Obviously at present good spraying days are very limited at this time of the year. We have had some slug damage but we are hoping now that the worst is over.

We are loading many lorries at present with Tipple spring barley going to the Coors Brewery at Burton on Trent and the winter wheat, Crusoe and

Solstice, is going to the Warburtons' mills around the south of England. The oilseed rape has all left the farm apart from one load.

The cattle are now in the barns being fed haylage and crushed barley and they are a lot happier tucked away out of the wind and rain.

The rams are out with the ewes and tupping has been very quick this year and has almost drawn to a close so we will wait to see the final result in the Spring.
Peter Carlisle

WHAT'S ON AT THE HARROW ?

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND
TUESDAY NIGHT IS PIE NIGHT
PIE & A DRINK £12

Now the nights are drawing in we are reintroducing the popular Pie Night Every Tuesday evening, pie and a drink £12



BONFIRE NIGHT
WEDNESDAY 5th NOVEMBER
Remember, remember the 5th of November.....

We will be open from 6pm
Food served from 7pm
Mulled wine £3 a glass



THE WATLINGS' 9 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
FRIDAY 7th NOVEMBER 6pm

We have been at The Harrow now for 9 years !!
Please pop in for a celebratory drink (or 2, or 3) & nibbles
We would LOVE to see you all !!

QUIZ NIGHT
WEDNESDAY 26th NOVEMBER 8pm

Food served from 7pm
£3 each to enter, teams of up to 6
Winning team gets a round of drinks on us
Book your teams in NOW !!
Raising money for the village panto



CHRISTMAS MENU
Our Christmas menu is now ready !!
Pop in to have a look and book your works office party, family gathering or just a catch up with friends
£22.50 for two courses
£25.50 for three courses
(One complimentary bottle of wine for tables of 6 or more)



Our CHRISTMAS opening times will be in Decembers WIN

Last month's quiz night was extremely successful with 9 teams entering. Thank you to Ed Ryder for all his hard work as quiz master. We raised a fantastic £125 for the defibrillator fund. Thank you to all of you who came to support this worthwhile cause. We hope to see you this month for the next quiz !!

DOWNLANDS BOWLING CLUB

As Secretary of the above club, I am making an urgent appeal for new members. Our numbers have shrunk to such an extent that it may not be viable to keep the club going for much longer, which makes the remaining 5 members very sad, as we all so much enjoy our bowling.

We meet at the Downland Sports Centre, at Compton, on Thursday evenings at 8pm - 10pm. We play on long mats, and are happy to give tuition to anyone who has never played bowls before. Sets of bowls are available. The only requirement is the wearing of flat shoes. We take our bowling seriously, but not too seriously. Our aim is to have a pleasant sociable evening.

If you are interested, and are able to help the club survive, please contact me on 281255 or 07926081049, or speak to our Chairman, Andy Bannister, on 578313. Mrs Jean Wells, Under Ridge, East Ilsley

ALL SAINTS WEST ILSLEY

November Services at All Saints' Church

2 nd	Family Communion	9.30am
9 th	Remembrance Day Service	10.55am
16 th	*No service in West Ilsley	
23 rd	Family Service	11.00am
30 th	*No service in West Ilsley	

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

All Souls' Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

For those who have recently lost a loved one, a service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving will be held on Sunday 2nd November at 4pm in St James', Winterbourne, for everyone in the Downland area.

Harvest Festival

The beautifully decorated church was, as always, greatly appreciated by all who came to All Saints' Harvest Festival at the end of September. The fruit and vegetables, together with the assortment of harvest fare brought up to the altar during the service, were taken afterwards to Willows Edge Nursing Home in Newbury. Thank you to everyone involved.

Harvest Lunch

After the service, many of the congregation, joined by others from the village, assembled in the village hall for our annual Harvest Lunch. As always, we feasted on cottage pies, fruit crumbles and cheeses, all produced by a number of generous folk. This scrumptious meal was followed by a raffle and conker competition and lots of chat over a glass or two of wine – a very enjoyable way to spend a Sunday afternoon! Many thanks must go to everyone who contributed in any way.

“Spring” Clean

If you have a little time to spare, please join us on Saturday 8th November from 10.00am to tidy up the churchyard for the Remembrance Day service. Help with the church cleaning would also be appreciated. Please bring rakes, secateurs, dusters, polish, etc.

Downland Advent Carol Service

This lovely Carol Service which starts the run up to Christmas is held this year at Leckhampstead church on Sunday 30th November at 6pm.

United Benefice Café Church in Chieveley

Café Church continues on Sunday 16th November at 11am in St Mary’s Church Chieveley, after the United Benefice Communion Service at 9.30am. Come at 10.45am for coffee and cake before the service. Everyone is welcome to both services.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 13th December in the evening – Five Voices Concert in church. This will be a Christmas Extravaganza not to be missed, so put the date in your diary **now!** Further details will be out soon.

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*



Update from the Royal British Legion – Compton, Ilsleys and Norreys Branch

For those readers who don’t already know, it is with great sadness that this update must start by reporting the recent death of our longstanding Branch Chairman, Alex Lister of East Ilsley. He had been the leader of local RBL activities for over thirty years. The RBL owes him a great debt of gratitude and we, the members left behind, are determined to meet the challenge we have inherited – to continue the growth of our branch’s activities that Alex oversaw.

Testament to this is, at a recent branch meeting, the election of Steve Allison of Compton as Branch Chairman – thus introducing a new younger generation of branch officer to carry us into the future. We are also delighted to announce that Julian Jeffs QC of East Ilsley has agreed to become the President of the branch, thus

completing the new look officer team. Peter Whitworth, Mel Sitch and David Norbury continue in their roles of Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

In our last posted update, we asked for volunteer Poppy Appeal Organisers (PAOs) to fill some of the gaps we had within this vital structure around our catchment villages. I am delighted to write that the response has been wonderfully supportive and we now have the following team, reporting directly into the RBL County Fundraiser, in place; Ashhampstead – Patricia Mountain (long established)

Aldworth – Mel Sitch (new)

Compton – Peter Whitworth (new)

Hampstead Norreys – Lyn Davies (new)

The Ilsleys – Kay Sanderson (new)

We are really grateful to these PAOs. They already have some helper volunteers to assist them but will always welcome further support. If any reader feels able to devote some time to Poppy distribution and Appeal collection, please contact your PAO directly or the RBL County Fundraiser – Annie Duffin aduffin@britishlegion.org.uk tel 07776 227768 – the latter will be pleased to introduce you to your village PAO if you don’t already know him/her.

Our branch was pleased to support the Service of Remembrance and Commemoration held in the Coronation Hall Compton on 3rd August to honour, on the 100th anniversary of the start of WW1, those 29 villagers named on Compton’s war memorial. To hear some detail about those who paid the ultimate sacrifice – family connections and addresses – was very moving. If readers would like a copy of this research information please contact the undersigned.

It is Aldworth’s turn to host this year’s Remembrance Parade & Service which will take place at St Mary’s Church on Sunday 9th November. The service will start around the war memorial situated on the outside wall of the church and then continue inside. **Those parading – and all are welcome – should please be outside the Bell Inn in time to march off at 1030hrs.** Those attending are asked to make use of the Bell’s parking facilities which will be open – thus avoiding congestion on the narrow road to the church.

The branch’s annual charity lunch in aid of the Poppy Appeal will be held on Friday 21st November. Our guest speaker this year is Major Tikendra Dewan from the British Ghurkha Welfare Society. This event is scheduled to be held at the Compton Swan 1200hrs for 1245hrs. Tickets will be £15 per head for a two course lunch served with table wine.

Finally, our small branch is always looking for new members. You do not have to be ex services to, only supportive of the charity’s objective - that

being to support the serving and ex serving communities. To join, please contact the undersigned.

David Norbury TD, tel 07770 326128 email davidnorbury@btinternet.com

DEFIBRILLATOR FUND

A huge THANK YOU to all those who have donated to the village defibrillator fund. TEAM WEST ILSLEY (Adele, Barbara, Clare, June, Louise & Mel) all completed the 10k run at Blenheim Palace, with four of us finishing in under an hour! Well done to June who came 2nd overall in her gender/age category which is fantastic. The total amount raised is now well over £1,500 which is tremendous. The application to BHF for the defibrillator has been sent in and we will keep you all informed of progress and dates for basic training.

Please note any money left over will be 'ring fenced' for future expenditure.

Turkey & Tinsel

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 22nd November

9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

in Aldworth Village Hall

FREE Walter's Turkey Tasting

FREE Mulled Wine

Craft & Gift Stalls

Christmas Wreaths & Decorations to buy/order

Foods, Cakes and Fresh Produce

Refreshments

R.N.L.I. Christmas Cards & Gifts

Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Gift

Stall

FATHER CHRISTMAS AT 1 1.30 A.M.

Details: 01635 578090

EVERGREENS

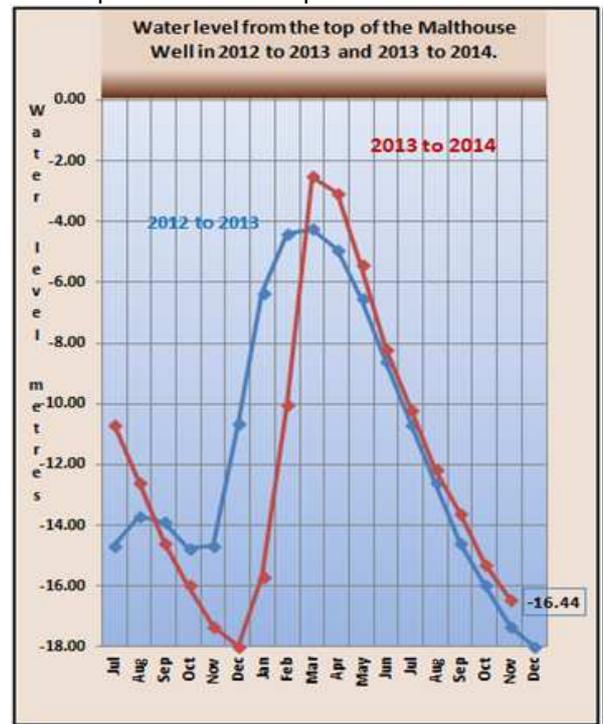
COFFEE MORNING



Saturday 29th November
tea, coffee, mince pies, biscuits
raffle and rumbola

WELL READING

During October the Malthouse well level has dropped 1.15 metres (3ft 9in) to 16.44 metres. Hopefully this drop will continue during November and help us to avoid a repeat of last winter...



Locally grown Christmas trees for sale
Nordman blue spruce non-drop variety



Sizes and prices:

5-6ft-£32 6-7ft-£37 7ft+-£42

As in previous years I shall be sending a donation to charity for every tree sold.

Trees will be in stock from Saturday 7th December
To order or make an enquiry please either phone or email

Phone: 01635281500

Email: mark.balloon@btinternet.com

or call in to see me at Forge Cottage, Main Street, West Ilsley, Berks, RG20 7AJ

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.

2014 Parish Council Meetings:
Nov 10th

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 - rolلودuckworth@btinternet.com	281471
Alan Beaumont - alan.beaumont@aae-llp.com	07980 875179
Anna Sugden - annasugden@btconnect.com	281784

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Chieveley Pre-School



Open Day

Tuesday 11th November 2014
10 – 11.30am at Chieveley Village Hall



Parents and carers are invited to come along and see our wonderful Pre-School in action. You can see our resources, chat to our staff and see how we give our children the best start to the Early Years Foundation Stage and school life.

10 - 10.30am - Come and enjoy an outdoor learning session with us (reading the Stick Man story, an outdoor art activity and a ladybird cupcake)

Tel: 07511 098 720
E-mail chieveleypreschool@gmail.com
Website www.mychieveley.co.uk/info/chieveleypreschool
Registered Charity No. 1048094. PLA No. 15843.



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