

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org

June 2011

EDITORS

Andrea Cook
Clock Cottage
☎ 281224

westilsleynews@msn.com

Deadline for the next publication is:

5pm on Tuesday 28th June

Liz Dray
The Malthouse
☎ 281688

lizdray@btinternet.com

DIARY JUNE

5th East Ilsley Sheep Fair

JULY

1st Midsomer Party

3rd West Ilsley Fete

JUNIOR TENNIS COACHING

David Smith, the coach from Wantage Tennis Club, has offered us a week's tennis coaching from Monday 25 – Friday 29 July (in the afternoons) at the court in West Ilsley. Please could you let me know as soon as possible if there are any children who would be interested in attending. The sessions are lots of fun and in the past have been really successful.



There will be 3 sessions (Mini Red 5-7s, Mini Orange 8-9s), Mini Green (10+). The age range given is approximate and the child's ability and experience will also be taken into account. The cost per child for an hour's coaching each day is likely to be £6 per hour but will be confirmed once we have an idea of how many children will be participating.

To express interest or for more information please contact Amanda Knight on 281609 or by email at amandacknight@yahoo.co.uk

Ironing service available
West Ilsley area

Also wanted - old electrical domestic appliances (not fridge/freezers) - will collect
Contact Emma Thomas on 07827 275196.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS.

The village hall have a new committee. Thank you to all our new members.

The committee now consists of

Philip Knight – Chair

Tony Elliott – Vice Chair

Mel Cook – Treasurer

Neil Slater – Secretary 281325

Sue Simmons – Bookings -281460

Maureen Thimbleby and John Verney

The Midsomer Party – Friday, 1st July 2011

A suitably elegant and raucous midsummer celebration is taking place in West Ilsley on 1st July.

The ticket price of £20 per person includes:

- Welcome drink
- Raffle ticket for a Magnum of Champagne
- Hog Roast plus all the trimmings
- Salad, dessert and cheese
- The Advocates – a band led by Martin
- Sounds to groove to by Doug Brown

This event will raise money for all the volunteer organisations that do such great work within and for the village.

Tickets are available from:

- The Harrow
- Hugh Evans on 01635 281763 or hevans17@btinternet.com

WEST ILSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's annual report Sean Ryan

Much of the work of a parish council goes on behind the scenes so it's gratifying that in the past 12 months we've had a hand in a couple of projects that nobody could have failed to notice.

The first was the pond. It hadn't been cleared out for 20 years and had flooded in 2007. West Berkshire Council finally responded to requests

for action and made a terrific job of removing hundreds of tonnes of silt and building a bank at the back and a channel at the front to prevent flooding. So far, so good on that score, although the new system has yet to be tested by any torrential rain. The bill for this work came to £12,000 and we were lucky to be asked for only £400 to cover the cost of clearing the ditch at the bottom of the recreation ground. The credit for overseeing it all goes to Alan Bloor, the only councillor not on holiday when the work was being done!

The second big project in the past year - one for which the parish council claims no credit whatsoever - was the resurfacing of the tennis court. Our role was limited to financial support - a donation and a loan to cover part of the cost - for the tennis committee, which has made a great success of it. The court is now in frequent use. It's one of the most popular places in the village. Congratulations to all concerned and thanks to Jo Scriven for handling the money side for the parish council.

Bollards went up at the Ridgeway car park after concern was expressed at one of our meetings that it was becoming a truck stop. Not everyone likes the look of the bollards - they're supposed to have been painted in a colour more in keeping with the surroundings - but at least there seems to be less rubbish in the car park.

We've also seen the new gateway to the village installed on Bury Lane, the latest in a series of measures to slow traffic speeds.

A survey of speeds showed a slight reduction since this was last carried out three or four years ago. West Berks Council believes we don't have a speeding problem in West Ilsley - there's been 'only' one injury in the past five years - but the parish council strongly disagrees. As we see it, the problem is worst at either end of the village and although we've succeeded in having the 30mph sign moved further up the road to Farnborough, giving drivers more time to slow down before they reach the recreation ground, a similar request for the sign to be moved some way up the hill on the road out to East Ilsley has so far gone unheeded. John Mountford has kept up the pressure all year on speeding and will continue to do so.

The play area remains very popular and in good condition, thanks to Dries Hagen's hard work and his success in acquiring replacement parts when needed at very reasonable cost.

The play area exists in harmony with the cricket club, which in turn has maintained good relations over the last year with its neighbours. The club's new code of practice, drawn up after some of the neighbours aired concerns at a parish council meeting, covers everything from strimming times to the retrieval of balls from gardens. It's made an

enormous difference and reflects goodwill on all sides. One property where several balls used to stray during some matches had fewer than five balls in its garden all season, thanks mainly to playing further upfield where possible. The owners of this property have joined the parish council in thanking the cricket club for its sensitive resolution of a difficult dispute.

The recreation ground also saw one of the social highlights of the year - the royal wedding celebration - supported by a donation from the parish council. It was very well attended, a credit to the organisers who worked so hard to make it a special day.

Other matters: a threat was averted to the prescription service which allows people to collect their medicines in the village rather than drive to the surgery, thanks to Fred Carter and the Elliots; and the parish precept - the bit of the council tax that covers our spending - was frozen for the fifth year in a row in line with our view that we shouldn't be adding to anyone's financial burdens in troubled times.

Warm thanks are due to Dries for his hard work on the play area and the mowing rota, Alan for the pond and other environmental initiatives, Jo for managing our money without a single hitch, John for covering transport so tenaciously and Anna Sugden, who's in charge of the most important project for the year ahead - the parish plan.

Alison Banks is to be applauded for another meticulous year's work as clerk - the person who actually runs the parish council.

Thanks also to all those who come along to our meetings for an hour or so on the second Monday of every other month. It's good to hear a range of voices on the issues that affect all of us in West Ilsley. See you at 7.30pm in the village hall on July 11!
Sean

ILSLEY EVERGREENS

On Thursday 16th June there will be a coach outing Brighton, leaving from outside West Ilsley church at 9.00 am. Members £10, non-members £12.50. Names to Julia Rockall 281597.

The Evergreens are holding a stall at the East Ilsley Sheep Fair on Sunday 5th June. Donations gratefully received. Julia Rockall 281597.

Kind, reliable person needed, to occasionally sit with 2 small dogs for an hour at a time (daytime).
Payment by arrangement.
Tel: 281462.

St Mary's Church, Aldworth

FLOWER FESTIVAL

11th & 12th June 2011

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

(Festival Evensong 6 p.m. Sunday 12th
June

with The Archdeacon of Berkshire)

Cake Stalls

Plants Stalls

Refreshments

St Mary's is home to the "Aldworth Giants",
14th century effigies of the de la Beche family.

Donations would be much appreciated in aid of
"St Mary's Church Restoration Fund".

Further details: 01635 578791

St Mary's is off the B4009 north of Newbury
Postcode: RG8 9RY



East Ilsley Sheep Fair

Sunday, 5th June

12:30pm - 4:30pm

**FREE
ENTRY!**

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

**Craft tent *Kids' zone *Dog show*

**Local charities *Side shows *Farm animals*

**Laser clay pigeon shooting *Grand raffle*

Food & Drink

BIN COLLECTIONS

Normal collection
Thursday 2nd June

Revised Collection
Friday 3rd June

CHILDREN'S CHURCH, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

At the May service the children heard the story of
the "Breakfast on the Beach" and then had their
own version with John Toogood kindly cooking
them sausages outside on a barbecue.

The next service will be in the church at 4pm on
Thursday 16 June when we will hear about "The
Birthday of the Church". 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 us on the following numbers:
Denise Brown on 01635 281825 or Liz Dray on
01635 281688.

Afternoon Teas

At

**St Mary's Church
Aldworth (RG8 9RY)**

Wednesdays

2.30 to 4.30

from 15th June

Please bring friends to enjoy

Afternoon Tea

**in our historic church and
beautiful churchyard.**

Proceeds to:

**St Mary's Church Restoration Fund
Details 01635 578177**

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (RBL) –

news from your local branch May 11 – Compton,
Ilsleys & Norreys Branch

The Officers and members of the local branch of
the Royal British Legion (RBL) – Compton, Ilsleys
and Norreys – thank everyone who organised and
donated to last year's Poppy Appeal. The result
was a record collection from our downland area –
thank you all very much. This generosity, together
with the large turnout at the branch's
Remembrance Sunday parade and service, held
last year at West Ilsley, is testimony to the
presently high profile that the welfare of ex-
servicemen and women has at the present time.

The RBL's mission is to support ex servicemen
and their families. In Berkshire last financial year,
the RBL distributed such support to the value of
just over one million pounds. Beneficiaries,
previously predominantly veterans of the two
world wars, now typically are those younger ex
servicemen who have served in conflicts such as
Aden, Borneo, the Falklands, the Balkans, Iraq
and Afghanistan. Casualty figures being incurred
in this latter campaign are, of course, getting wide
publicity.

May we give notice of three events this year to
which everyone is warmly welcomed - you do not
have to be a member of the RBL to attend any of
these events;

a) **Outing to Bletchley Park Sunday 3 Jul 11**

Bletchley Park in Buckinghamshire is the historic
site of secret British code-breaking activities
during WWII and the birthplace of the modern
computer. Our coach will be leaving our villages at
approx 1030hrs and returning at approx 1630hrs.
Cost is expected to be about £15 per head
inclusive of transport and entry. All you have to do

is bring your own lunch or buy it there. It should be a fun and interesting day

b) Branch Annual lunch on Friday 14 Oct 11

The event, after last year's success, will again be held at the Compton Swan 1215hrs for 1300hrs. We are delighted to announce that Richard Benyon MP, Member of Parliament for Newbury and Minister for the Natural Environment and Fisheries has agreed to attend and speak briefly after lunch about this government's commitment to the Military Covenant. Although the exact cost is to be negotiated, you should budget on £15 per head for a two course meal including table wine and coffee. This is an ideal opportunity to meet your MP

c) Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service 13 Nov 11

This year this event will be held in Compton with the parade forming up at the Compton Swan at 1030hrs to march to the service to be held at Compton Parish Church at 1100hrs

If you would like to attend the Bletchley Park outing or the Branch Annual Lunch please contact one of either

David Norbury 01635 578531

davidnorbury@btinternet.com

Alex Lister 01635 281343

alexplister@btinternet.com

Finally, may we call for new members? You do not have to be an old stager or have been a serving member of our armed forces but just be a believer in the RBL cause – young applicants are particularly welcome and the annual membership fee presently stands at just £11. If you are interested in joining please use the points of contact above.

We look forward to hearing from you.

UPDATE FOR THE COMPTON DAY CENTRE APPEAL , 12TH MAY 2011

Good news about AgeUK Berkshire and their proposed use of the building, see their request below. All those who are more able to go to this club, or have/will volunteer to help, please contact Sheila Craig on the numbers or email address below. She needs to know who is interested to be able to plan the way ahead. This also applies to those who may have contacted me before in any way as not all of you have left contact details. Better to duplicate than lose you !

Thank you for all your replies to me to volunteer to help or go to this centre. We are still hoping to provide day care for those who are more in need, and to continue the use of the excellent facilities at Compton. Finance is the main problem for any new care provider, especially as income from clients from their personal budgets, which are being 'reviewed', and/or personal donations are unknown at present. We are still trying very hard

to resolve this and still have some providers who may be able to finalise a plan.

West Berks Council have stated that they are willing to give the centre to the charity trustees of Compton Village Hall. We have researched costs and the annual non profit running costs for the building will be in the region of £7,200 per year. This means that for example, three users of the building will have to pay £2,400 a year, though with more users, the less they will pay. We as trustees must ensure that this building will be sustainable and not a drain on our charitable resources in the future. If you know of any organisation that would like to use the building please ask them to contact me as soon as possible, as final decisions will have to be made soon.

Thanks again

Dave Morris

Secretary of Compton Village Hall Trustees.

EVERGREENS

Once again we are supporting the Sheep Fair and our own fund raising by running a Bric-A-Brac stall at the East Ilsley Sheep Fair on Sunday 5th June. We will also be having a Tombola on the stall. This is one of our main fundraising events to keep our outings going, so we would like your support in donating items for our stall. Please call to arrange for a local drop off.

West Ilsley.

Julia Rockall, 1 Rowles Paddock.

Telephone 281 597

Thank you in advance for your support.



At last the 2011 season has started. This year we have been blessed with some glorious weather, we all remember last when it was absolutely freezing. Our net sessions went very well as did our pre-season friendly

warm up matches, but then the league started.

Our first team, notoriously slow starters managed to loose two very close games in spite of solid performances from our Captain Amit.

Another of our players, George Storton, started very impressively with a century in both his opening match for our firsts on the OCA league and for our mid week team in the Downlands League. George is a product of our youth coaching scheme, there are several others starting to make their presence felt in our senior teams. No doubt we will be able to report on their success in future issues.

Our youth training sessions are in full swing and full details can be found on our web site. We are



in need of players for our Under 15 section.

Our Under 12 Girls competed in the first tournament of the year and achieved a

respectable 3rd place. The three group stage matches were played against Falkland, Henley and a combined Thatcham and Wokingham team.

In the 3rd/4th-place play off game at the end of the morning West Ilsley beat Falkland to achieve 3rd place

We know we keep on about it but the club is in desperate need for umpires and scorers. For each team in the OCA we need to supply an umpire for each Saturday to officiate in a neutral match plus a scorer to be with our team. If we cannot supply an actual umpire then we usually supply one of our players which in turn weakens our team selection.

So ex-players, parents or spectators, male or female why not think about it, PLEASE. Talk to us, give it a go. It is very rewarding, training will be given, match and training expenses are paid.

There must be someone, somewhere who would enjoy this role.

Please contact any committee member or our chairman chairman@westilsleycricket.net or drop us a note via our web site www.westilsleycricket.net John Golding

ALL SAINTS CHURCH WEST ILSLEY Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith

June Church Services in All Saints, West Ilsley

5 th	Family Communion	9.30am
12 th	Holy Communion	8.30am
19 th	Family Service	11.00am
26 th	* No service in West Ilsley	

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

There is a **Downland Ascension Day Service** at 7.30pm on Thursday 2nd June at Shefford Woodlands. All welcome.

The Stacey's Farewell

As many of you will already know, Kate and Graham Stacey, our Assistant Curates, will be leaving us for pastures new at the beginning of August. Their final service will be the United Benefice Communion Service at 10.00am in St Mary's Church, Chieveley on Sunday 31st July. Kate has accepted the position of Vicar of Shipton-Under-Wychwood with Milton-Under-

Wychwood, Fifield and Idbury in north Oxfordshire. Both Kate and Graham will be greatly missed and to show our thanks and appreciation for all they have done in the 3 years they have worked for our benefice, a collection has been started for a leaving present. Any donations can be sent to us at Windrush Cottage, Churchway, West Ilsley RG20 7AH or alternatively to the Vicarage, Church Lane, Chieveley RG20 8UT, clearly marked 'Stacey's Farewell Present'. All cheques should be payable to "All Saints' Church, West Ilsley".

New Benefice Website: Although still under construction, there is a new benefice website at <http://tinyurl.com/east-downland>.



AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY IN THE DOWNLANDS

In September Age UK – Berkshire will be opening an Active Retirement Club in Compton to which you are cordially invited. It will open, initially, one day a week from 10.30am until 2.30pm and will offer a variety of activities and lunch.

The centre will be managed by a supervisor, helped by a band of volunteers and membership will be by monthly subscription

If you are 60+, like meeting people and would enjoy a day doing something different please send for further details, and application form, by ringing 07786 435122 or 0118 959 4242 or email sheilac@ageukberkshire.org.

ILSLEY UNDER FIVES

Ilsley Under 5's is an established parent and carer run playgroup in partnership with Sure Start offering a great space to play in a friendly and safe environment. It is a great opportunity to get together with other local families and chat, play, go on picnics, trips, learn together or just have fun. Every week we provide a creative activity such as painting, play dough and sticking, and special themed events throughout the year.

We provide drinks and snacks for the children, and tea and coffee for the adults and every session ends with circle time sing song.

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

If you're planning a birthday party or any other event, remember that the Ilsley Under 5's small tables and chairs as well as our toys are available

for hire throughout the year. All for a donation of £10. Please contact me for more details.

We are very much looking forward to the Sheepfair once again. The novelty for us this year is that we will be sharing a stand with the Friends of The Ilsleys Primary School. We are forging stronger links with each other as groups for the benefit of the village children so we decided to combine forces for this big village event. We will hold the traditional Cake Stall with scrummy cakes provided by the parents from our group and the school. In addition there will also be a Craft Activity Table for children of all ages.

Come and see us on the day!
Angélique Ravion 01635 281 327

WHO TO CONTACT

VILLAGE HALL

Sue Simmons - Bookings 281460 9 am - 3 pm, Monday to Friday)
or suesimmons@toucansurf.com

Fred Carter - fred_kathcarter@btinternet.com 281621

Rates: £7.50/hr Villagers £15/hr Non Villagers

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:

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

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