

# West Ilsley News

JUNE 2026

[www.westilsley.org](http://www.westilsley.org)

Editors

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Deadline for the next publication is:  
5 pm on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June

## 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](mailto:westilsleynews@westilsley.org) – help to save paper and shoe leather!

## What's on in West Ilsley

### JULY

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pre fete Ball
5 <sup>th</sup>	West Ilsley Fete

## JUNE AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Family Service at 11.00am
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Communion at 8.30am
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Communion at 9.30am
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	<i>No service at All Saints'</i>

Please look on the notice board in the lychgate or on the East Downland website:

<https://www.eastdownland.org.uk/news-and-notices/this-week> for other services in the benefice during June.

## Café in All Saints' Church

Our next monthly cafe will be on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 10am. There is no charge for refreshments, but each month donations are sent to a different charity. Everyone is invited for coffee, cake and a chat, so do come along!

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The meeting which was held recently elected Ian and Alexandra as church wardens once again. Thanks were

expressed to all those who have supported All Saints in any way over the past year.

## 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 – 07769 645470

Rector: Revd John Toogood – 01635 247566 or 07748 822336 - [edownlandrector@gmail.com](mailto:edownlandrector@gmail.com)

Associate Priest: Revd Douglas Dales – 01635 247404 – [revdjdales@gmail.com](mailto:revdjdales@gmail.com)

East Downland Benefice Office: 07957 458107 - [eastdownland@btinternet.com](mailto:eastdownland@btinternet.com) – Usually manned on Thursday & Friday mornings between 9am and 1pm.

Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith



## THE ILSLEYS NEWSLETTER

It has been a busy month for all those at The Ilsleys. On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April, the Year 5s took part in Bikeability Level 1 at school. Their instructor taught them a variety of skills such as: how to signal, U turns, braking and zigzag. He also showed them the right way to do things and how to keep safe on the roads. It was a very interesting morning.

This month the whole school had an Art Day which was based on nature. Everyone went on a walk so that the children could collect leaves and sticks to use on their art pieces. They had a range of activities and, after a lot of hard work, there turned out to be some amazing creations. Overall, this was a lot of fun and all of the children would love to do it again.

Recently, the Year 6s had their NCTs which went on from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May. They had a mix of tests to do such as: Reading, SPaG, Maths Reasoning and Arithmetic. All of them were definitely ready for it because of all of the help the teachers gave them over the weeks of preparation and coming in early for breakfast every day! Everyone did a fantastic job and, as a reward, they had a pizza party on Friday and a whole afternoon of golden time.

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May, it was National Numeracy Day. We started with a huge assembly online and then talked about how we use maths every day. We then planned a picnic for our family where we only had £10 to spend. After that, we drew pictures on a sheet of paper showing people doing maths in the community, such as with horses, planning the Sheep Fair and in shops.

Arctic and Atlantic were lucky to have a visit from Newbury Fire Service this week. They got to look at the fire engine and Atlantic had an informative talk about fire safety.

We are looking forward to our end of term disco – more about this next time – and to our half term holiday!

Written by a Year 5 and 2 Year 6s



**FETE 2026**  
Sunday 5th July  
12-4pm

The fete is looming and we are all busy organising a great day for the village!

We are having a clothing stall as well as a bric-a-brac stall this year, so we need your good quality clothes, shoes and home wares. Please bring them along to the pavilion on Saturday 4th July at around 10am.

If you would like to donate a bottle or bottles to the bottle stall this year, we will come and collect them on Sunday 14th June and Sunday 21st June. Any bottles from shampoo to champagne, just leave them on your

door steps and we will collect them. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! 🍷 🍹

As always we need some help with stalls, if you are willing to help out, please let one of the committee know. Also, if you would like a stall please just ask one of us.

Tim Pearey

Katy Morris

Hayley Morricks

Rachel Hudson

George Carlisle

Kristie Thomas- Ferrand

Nigel Ryan

Justin Pilditch

Jo & Pete

Don't forget to decorate your houses, prize for the best dressed house!! 🌻

# West Ilsley Produce Show

**FLORAL**

1. Best Single Flower
2. Best Floral Arrangement
3. Best Hanging Basket
4. Most Pots in a Pot  
(official seed potatoes in the Harrow)

**KITCHEN**

5. Home made drink  
(alcoholic or non-alcoholic)
6. Loaf of Hand Made Bread  
Rosettes for winners
7. \* Adult bake: Victoria Sandwich
8. Children's Bake  
Aged 7 & under: 6 Flapjacks  
Aged 14 & under: 6 Brownies

**PHOTOGRAPHY AND CREATIVE**

9. Adult photography: Sporting
10. Child photography: Wildlife  
(Aged 14 & under)
11. Best Decorated House in West Ilsley

**Entries:**  
Adult: £1  
Child: 50p

All classes are open age & sex except where marked

\* The prestigious Russ Brown Trophy (Gentlemen's Baking) will be awarded to the highest placed 'Gentleman'

All entries to be registered in the marquee by 1:00pm on fête day.  
Classes 3 & 10 will be judged in the week before fête day

Summer is nearly here...

Afternoon Teas at St. Mary's Church,  
Aldworth

Will start on 1st July and then every Wednesday  
in July, August & September  
2.30 – 4.30 p.m.

Delicious homemade cakes in the company of  
The Aldworth Giants

For further details and to book groups contact:

Gill Wilding 01635 578624 or

[gillwilding@hotmail.com](mailto:gillwilding@hotmail.com)



**REPORT TO THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY  
Downland Volunteer Group**

Volunteer Health Transport

The last year has been another busy one for the Downland Volunteer Group. In the last financial year

ending in March this year we made 1293 trips for Downland residents to attend their medical appointments of which 98 were for West Ilsley residents.

In January this year we celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the DVG. Most of the village news sheets and the Newbury Weekly News carried the story. We also held a buffet lunch to celebrate attended by District Councillors, Doctors from the Downland Practice, who are very supportive of our work, West Berks Council personnel and the first Chairperson and co-founder of the DVG. We also had representatives from the Downs School who in 1984 in a social studies class identified the need for transport to help residents attend their medical appointments. Because the Downland villages are spread out it is difficult to provide adequate public transport.

When reading Minutes of meetings held 40 years ago the two main problems mentioned were the need for more volunteer drivers and problems parking at the main hospitals in the area. Move forward 40 years and these problems remain.

We continue to promote our service with new people moving into the area and our constant challenge to attract more volunteer car drivers. We attended the West Ilsley Summer Fete last year and found another driver. This village supports the DVG with a committee member, three car drivers and a HandeBus driver. We would welcome more volunteers as demand continues and we lose some older drivers because of their age or for health reasons. Driving a resident to the surgery would normally take no more than 2 hours out of your day and trips to the surgery account for 25% of our total trips. If you know of anyone that could help or wants to escape their laptop for a few hours, driving for the DVG is rewarding for both passenger and driver and your mileage claim is paid tax free.

Finally, you will have seen the HandeBus, our electric community transport vehicle which residents use to go shopping in the company of their neighbours. We recently drove 11 West Ilsley residents for their Spring covid booster jab saving a number of car journeys.

Last year DVG volunteers gave a total of 3352 hours of their time for free to support the Downland community

**ALDWORTH ART GROUP EXHIBITION – 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026**

Please come to Aldworth village hall (RG8 9SE) from 10.30 to 12.00 on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June. We'd love you to view and chat with us about our enjoyment of art and our Exhibition.

The Community-run Saturday Market is kindly giving us half the hall to show off our art. There will also be

some art, cards and books on sale. Entrance is free, but CASH is preferred if shopping please.

Refreshments will be available: freshly brewed tea/coffee & a biscuit just 50p. We will offer visitors a free slice of cake as a Thank You for coming!

Parking is, via the field gate next to The Bell Inn, up by the hall. Enjoy our art, our market and the recreation ground and children's playground behind the hall.

Ours is a friendly, supportive, mixed ability group. We look forward to meeting you.

Information: [artgroupaldworth@outlook.com](mailto:artgroupaldworth@outlook.com)

# Aldworth Art Group Exhibition

**Saturday 27th June**

**Aldworth Saturday Market**

**Village Hall**

**RG8 9SE**

**10.30am**

**-12pm**



*Please come  
along to view  
and enjoy our  
work*

**email: [artgroupaldworth@outlook.com](mailto:artgroupaldworth@outlook.com)**

## WHO TO CONTACT

**DEFIBRILLATOR** is outside the village hall. In an emergency call 999 who will alert the emergency services that are needed and they will also give you the code for the defib. The danger of people knowing the code up front is that they don't call 999 so an ambulance doesn't turn up.

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT** Olivia Bailey MP

If you want to get in touch with me or book a surgery appointment you can email me at [olivia.bailey.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:olivia.bailey.mp@parliament.uk) or write to me at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. If you want to keep up to date with what I am doing in Parliament and in the constituency, I send out a weekly email newsletter to constituents. If you would like to receive it, you can sign up at <https://shorturl.at/gqoHw>.

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR** – Carolyn Culver 07976 374146  
[Carolyn.Culver1@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:Carolyn.Culver1@westberks.gov.uk)

## PARISH COUNCIL

Council members are:

Alan Bloor [alan.bloor@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:alan.bloor@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Georgie Carlisle-Smith

[georgie.carlisle-smith@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:georgie.carlisle-smith@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Katy Morris [katy.morris@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:katy.morris@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Tim Pearey [timothy.pearey@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:timothy.pearey@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Rachel Hudson [rachel.hudson@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.hudson@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Johnny Rayfield [jonny.rayfield@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jonny.rayfield@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Sarah Marshman – Clerk

[enquiries@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**PATIENT REPRESENTATION GROUP** rep is Joe Clerkin

(01635) 281150 or [joeclerkin@georgeweb.co.uk](mailto: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 Jo by email: [village.hall@westilsley.org](mailto:village.hall@westilsley.org)

Anyone without access to the internet can leave a message on: 07958 239891

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>

**HOW TO CONTACT WEST BERKS COUNCIL REGARDING**

**EMERGENCIES** 01635 551111

[https://westberks.gov.uk/emergency-](https://westberks.gov.uk/emergency-contact#reporting%20outside%20office%20hours)

[contact#reporting%20outside%20office%20hours](https://westberks.gov.uk/emergency-contact#reporting%20outside%20office%20hours)