West Ilsley News

NOVEMBER 2026

www.westilsley.org

Editors

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Deadline for the next publication is:
5 pm on Wednesday 25th November

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

NOVEMBER

5th Fireworks at the Rec 6pm

DECEMBER

5th Village Hall - Christmas Drinks 7pm

JANUARY

15th Geoff's Nature talk and bar

23rd Village Hall – Burns Night 7pm

FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Date	Time	Meeting
Tuesday 17th November	7:30 pm	Full Council
Tuesday 9th February '27	7:30 pm	Full Council
Tuesday 18th May 2027	7:00 pm	Annual Parish Meeting
Tuesday 18th May 2027	7:45 pm	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS IN THE WIN

It's that time of year again! We are again happy to accept Christmas greetings to appear in the December WIN and to receive donations for the church - here are the arrangements:

- Those not on email: if you would like to put a greeting in WIN, please write out your message and put it in an envelope together with your donation, then post it through Andrea's door (Clock Cottage) or ring 281224 and she will collect.
- If you're on email: please email your greeting to WIN, and either put your donation through Kay's door (Windrush Cottage, Church Way) or ask WIN for the church bank details when you send your message and you can pay it in online.

Deadline for everything - greetings and donation receipt is 25th November. Many thanks.

NOVEMBER AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 1st Communion at 11am
Sunday 8th Remembrance Service at 10.55am
Sunday 15th Communion at 9.30am
Sunday 22nd *No service at All Saints'*
Sunday 29th *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-notices/this-week for other services in the benefice during November. There are other events taking place in the benefice so do have a look on the website for more details.

Harvest Festival

Our thanks go to all those who decorated the church so beautifully and thanks to those who donated food items for the foodbank and gave generously to the collection. We were able to send £125 from the collection to the West Berks Foodbank.

Café in All Saints' Church

There will be no Café in church on Remembrance Sunday. Last month donations came to £115 and were sent to RABI, which provides practical, financial and emotional support to farming people across England and Wales.

Working Party Tidy Up for Remembrance Day

We will be holding our biannual church and churchyard working party on Saturday 7th November. We would be grateful if you could spare a little time to join us from 10.00am to tidy up the churchyard before the Remembrance Day Service the following day. Help with giving the church a good 'spring clean' would also be much appreciated. Please come armed with strimmers, rakes, secateurs, dusters, polish, etc.



Remembrance Day Service – Sunday 8th November

We hope you will join us once more in remembering and giving thanks for those who have fought for this country over the years, many of whom have died in action for us. This year we will be joined by the Royal British Legion who will process from the Harrow to the church around 10.45am. As usual, we will have the Act of Remembrance first by the War Memorial and then move into the church for the rest of the service. Please

try and arrive in the churchyard before 10.55am as the Act of Remembrance will start promptly. The collection will go to the British Legion Poppy Appeal team.

5th Sunday Service – 29th November

At the end of November, we have an extra Sunday when there will be a Downland Group Eucharist at St James', Winterbourne, the time to be confirmed. Everyone is very welcome.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 13th December at 6pm – All Saints' Carol Service

Friday 25th December at 9.30am – Christmas Communion

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

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

On Wednesday 30th September, Atlantic Class went to spend the day at a school called Downe House. We were greeted by being offered apple juice and a cookie. Year 5 and Year 6 then split into groups. Year 6s first activity was Art. They made cards for their family. Year 5s first activity was creating their own app. Then we had a delicious lunch which everyone enjoyed. Year 6s last activity was a nature walk in the woods and Year 5s was Literacy. We had a very enjoyable time at Downe House.

Then on Friday 2nd October, Atlantic Class went on a school trip to Charterhouse in London to learn more about their topic – The Black Death. Charterhouse is a historic site which has lived through The Black Death and The Tudors. On their trip, they saw a burial site. They learnt more about how the disease spread and how people tried to cure it. The children created herb bags with rose, camomile, sage and many other herbs and spices. They even saw the skeleton of a man who had died of the plague. He was well-preserved considering the circumstances, with only his feet missing.

This term the Year 6 Anti-Bullying Ambassadors did a Kindness Workshop with Pacific Class. They talked to them about what they thought kindness meant and played a game called dos and don'ts. We also did some role play acting out a scene where someone was being bullied. The children then shared their solutions with the rest of the class. Then Pacific Class made kindness charters which all looked fantastic.

We recently held a Parent Welcome after school. This is a special time when the children's parents get to come into the classroom and look at all of their children's books.

On Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th September, Ofsted inspectors came to look at our school. They asked the pupils if we felt safe and if we felt it was a kind school. Pupils were more than willing to tell them what a lovely school we are. They learnt about our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and asked us questions about our learning.

We recently joined an online assembly about allergies and how to help people who suffer from allergies, such as not sharing food in case it is not safe for them. It was very interesting.

We are looking forward to our Harvest assembly on the last day of this half term, which will take place in St Mary's Church, East Ilsley.

Please look out for information on our Open Mornings. Our next one is on Thursday 5th November. Our Stay and Play sessions are also taking place. The next one is Monday 23rd November. Please contact the school office on 01635 281225 if you would like to attend.

Written by 3 Year 6s

WEST ILSLEY GENTS CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2026

Don't rest ye Wilsley gentlemen
Lest you more delay
Or miss your choice of festive fare
For good tidings of comfort and joy.....

Christmas is less than 10 weeks away and time is running out to secure your place at the West Ilsley Gents Lunch!

Make sure you keep your diaries clear for the only Christmas event you need to attend! Don't be a shrinking violet, this is not an elite party for the old, senile and doddery - ALL are welcome with no need for a 3 line whip - its such a great way to get to know and enjoy the company of your fellow villagers in the most relaxed and social of settings!

Remember the date: Wednesday the 9th of December (that's less than two months away). You know where: The Harrow (I know you know where that is and if you don't are you for real? 😂). When: Socialising and whatever from 1200hrs to eat at 1330hrs with carriages when you are collected or cannot stand up any longer - you know who you are! PLEASE BOOK AND CHOOSE DIRECTLY with THE HARROW (01635 243891, Social Media or, if you are a telephone and technophobe, contact me by whatever means you feel comfortable with) ASAP or by the 27th of November at the VERY LATEST.
Menu attached to emailed WINs (choose 2 courses for £38 or 3 courses for £44) - Pay as you Drink Bar 🍻 🥂 🍷 Merry Christmas (The decorations are out of the loft 😂)
Alan (Muir) 🎅 🎄 🍾 🍻 07831141406

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 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/qqoHw.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – Carolyne Culver 07976 374146
Carolyne.Culver1@westberks.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL
PC website:
https://www.westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk/
Council members are:
Alan Bloor alan.bloor@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Georgie Carlisle-Smith
georgie.carlislesmith@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Katy Morris katy.morris@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Tim Pearey timothy.pearey@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Rachel Hudson rachel.hudson@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Johnny Rayfield jonny.rayfield@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Sarah Marshman – Clerk
enquiries@westilsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

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.

Book Tennis

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
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-contact#reporting%20outside%20office%20hours

