

# West Ilsley News

SEPTEMBER 2025

[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> September

## 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

### SEPTEMBER

27<sup>th</sup> Macmillan coffee morning – village hall

### OCTOBER

10<sup>th</sup> Village hall Sleep Talk

### NOVEMBER

5<sup>th</sup> Bonfire night

14<sup>th</sup> Village hall Quiz night

### DECEMBER

6<sup>th</sup> Village hall Christmas Jumper party

### JANUARY

24<sup>th</sup> Village Hall Burns Night Supper

## FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday 9th September 2025 7:30 pm Full Council

Tuesday 18th November 2025 7:30 pm Full Council

Tuesday 10th February 2026 7:30 pm Full Council

Tuesday 19th May 2026 7:00 pm

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Tuesday 19th May 2026 8:15 pm

Annual Parish Meeting

## UPDATE FROM CLLR CAROLYNE CULVER

Dear Residents

I hope you are having a good summer.

From Monday 22 September 2025, West Berkshire Council will introduce three-weekly black bin collections. The council website says, 'West Berkshire is currently one of the top 10% highest waste-producing areas in England, ranking 25th out of over 300 local authority areas for waste generated per person (Defra, 2023/24). Recent analysis shows that 42% of black bin contents could be recycled using our many kerbside recycling options with 22% of the black bin being food waste alone. This highlights a big opportunity to improve our recycling collected and reduce the amount of waste we throw away'. Recycling will continue to be taken away every fortnight, and food waste every week.

There is a new electrical reuse scheme at both tips – Newtown Road and Padworth. Residents can now drop off used mobile phones, tablets, laptops and desktop computers at dedicated collection points at either site, giving their old devices a new lease of life. Visit [www.westberks.gov.uk](http://www.westberks.gov.uk) and click on 'News' and you will see stories about the black bins and the electrical reuse scheme, and you can read more about the details.

The deadline has passed for feedback on the proposal that West Berkshire, Vale of White Horse District Council, and South Oxfordshire District Council should merge. The aim is to send off a formal proposal to the government in November. There are other proposals for this area too. The most significant one from our perspective is the 'whole Oxfordshire' proposal that Oxfordshire County Council is promoting, because if the government chooses that option it would mean Vale and South Oxfordshire would become part of a new Oxfordshire unitary authority and West Berkshire wouldn't be part of it. We should find out from the government in spring 2026 what they think the best option is. There isn't going to be a referendum on any of this – it's up to central government.

Meanwhile, on 21 July Reading Borough Council voted for a proposal to ask the government to modify the boundary between Reading and West Berkshire, so that areas including Calcot, Tilehurst, Theale, Pangbourne and Purley could potentially come under the umbrella of Reading Borough Council instead. The government is yet to respond.

I am now chair of Resources and Place Scrutiny Committee (the Scrutiny Commission that covered all council services and which I chaired from 2023-25 was split into three committees in May). 'Place' refers to many services including highways, environment, countryside, waste and recycling, housing, economic development, building communities, leisure, sports, and libraries. I am also a member of Governance

Committee which reviews the council's financial statements and provides independent assurance regarding risk management and internal controls at the council. There is significant overlap between governance and scrutiny, and being on both gives me a detailed insight into the council's finances.

Residents can report problems (unemptied bins, broken streetlights, potholes, abandoned vehicles on public highways etc) by visiting

[www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem)

For information about road works (eg utility companies digging up roads) please look at One Network <https://uk.one.network> which contains a map where you can search for details of what is happening in your area.

Best wishes, Carolyne

Cllr Carolyne Culver

Ridgeway Ward (Ilsleys, Compton, Hampstead Norreys, Yattendon and Frilsham)

Chairman, Scrutiny Commission

Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury RG14 5LD

[carolyne.culver1@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:carolyne.culver1@westberks.gov.uk)

(m) 07976 374146

[www.westberks.gov.uk](http://www.westberks.gov.uk)

## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The coffee morning will take place on

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September 10-12 in the Village Hall**

**Coffee and tea, cakes, bacon & sausage rolls**

**Cake stall**

**Please come and join us to raise funds for this worthy cause**

**Any queries/offers of help to Andrea 01635 281224**

**Or email [westilsleynews@westilsley.org](mailto:westilsleynews@westilsley.org)**

## SEPTEMBER AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Pet 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> *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 September.

### **Pet Service – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 11am**

Bring your pets to what is usually a lively and popular service, enjoyed by all that attend. Weather permitting this will be held outdoors in the churchyard. The collection will go to the National Animal Welfare Trust at Trindledown Farm.

### **Café in All Saints' Church**

Our next monthly cafe is on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September between 10.00am and 11.00am. No charge but donations go to a different charity each month. Last

month donations amounted to £150 and were sent to West Berks Foodbank. Everyone is always very welcome to join us for coffee (or tea!), cake and a chat!

### **Ride+Stride – 13<sup>th</sup> September**

The annual nationwide church-crawl takes place this year on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September between 10am and 6pm. You can walk, run, cycle, ride or even drive to as many of our beautiful churches as you would like. Sponsor forms and other details can be found on the Berkshire Historic Churches Trust website at: <https://www.berkschurchestrust.org.uk/ride-and-stride-2/> or you can donate via their GoodHub page at: [Berkshire Historic Churches Trust](http://Berkshire Historic Churches Trust) All Saints' will be open and there will be a signing in form for participants to add their names. Half the money you raise will go to the church you have chosen, so don't forget to nominate All Saints', West Ilsley when you donate.

### **Harvest Festival followed by Harvest Lunch**



This will be on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October – The Harvest Festival service will be at 11am in church followed by Harvest Lunch in the Village Hall. Further details will be sent out soon on how to book a place for lunch, so put the date in your diary and come and enjoy a pleasant time with friends (new and not so new!) over a delicious meal and a drink or two.

### **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 – 01635 281306

**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

## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Whilst the nights are now drawing in here's 6 good reasons to get out!

### Village Hall Events

Fri 10th Oct 7pm - Steve's Sleep Talk. Following his very successful talk on nutrition, Steve Cole's will be imparting his wisdom on how to get a good nights sleep! Plus VH bar!

Wed 5th Nov - Fireworks Night on the Village Rec

Fri 14th Nov 7pm - VH Quiz Night and bar

Sat 6th Dec 7pm - Xmas Jumper Party

Sat 24th Jan 7pm - Burns Night Supper and Dance in association with Juliet Ryder.

Feb (date tbc) - Geoff's Nature Talk

Further details to follow on all events

Also just to make you aware that the village hall roof will be undergoing repairs which will involve scaffolding going up on Monday 1st September. Works to start Thursday 4th. Thank you for your understanding.



<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rabi1/1615492>

## WHO TO CONTACT

**DEFIBRILLATOR** is outside the village hall - code: C159

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

### PARISH COUNCIL

Council members are:

**Alan Bloor** [alan.bloor@westilsley.org](mailto:alan.bloor@westilsley.org)

**Georgie Carlisle-Smith** [georgie.carlisesmith@westilsley.org](mailto:georgie.carlisesmith@westilsley.org)

**Katy Morris** [katy.morris@westilsley.org](mailto:katy.morris@westilsley.org)

**Tim Pearey** [timothy.pearey@westilsley.org](mailto:timothy.pearey@westilsley.org)

**Rachel Hudson** [rachel.hudson@westilsley.org](mailto:rachel.hudson@westilsley.org)

**Johnny Rayfield** [jonny.rayfield@westilsley.org](mailto:jonny.rayfield@westilsley.org)

**Sarah Marshman – Clerk** [clerk@westilsley.org](mailto:clerk@westilsley.org)

**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 Louise by email: [village.hall@westilsley.org](mailto:village.hall@westilsley.org)

Anyone without access to the internet can leave a message on: 01635 281762

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)