

West Ilsley News

AUGUST 2026

www.westilsley.org

Editors

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Deadline for the next publication is:
5 pm on Thursday 25th August

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

SEPTEMBER

8th PC Meeting

25th Show in the Village Hall

OCTOBER

4th Harvest Festival and Harvest lunch

FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Date	Time	Meeting
Tuesday 8 th September	7:30 pm	Full Council
Tuesday 17 th November	7:30 pm	Full Council
Tuesday 9 th February '27	7:30 pm	Full Council
Tuesday 18 th May 2027	7:00 pm	Annual Parish Meeting
Tuesday 18 th May 2027	7:45 pm	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Summer is here...

Afternoon Teas at St. Mary's Church, Aldworth
Will started 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

PRE FETE PARTY

Thank you to everyone who came and supported this year's Masked Ball, it was wonderful to see so many friends and villagers coming together to enjoy the event and we had a bumper attendance this year! The sun shone, the drinks flowed and the sound of the DJ filled the air to kick off the fete weekend in style!

Once again the cricket club provided an impeccable bar service and this year we enjoyed the most wonderful local hams and accompaniments to soak up any excesses! The raffle and auction were a great success and Will & Kristie's jelly shots ensured everyone partied well into the night.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make the pre fete party possible and especially to Giles Wilson-North for donating the delicious hams and Amelia Jonas for the amazing salads to accompany them.

See you all again next year! The Fete Committee

FETE REPORT 🏡🏡🏡

West Ilsley fete is done and dusted for another year. The sun was shining and the weather was glorious. The sound of Michael Junior on the microphone, the smashing of crockery and the smell of burgers on the BBQ, it was all very traditional of West Ilsley.

Here goes.....

The BBQ did a roaring trade and were busy all day feeding the crowds with delicious burgers and hotdogs. Thank you Dewi and his team, Alan Bloor, Nigel Ryan, Alan Beaumont, Justin Gilbert and Roger Sinclair. 100% of the BBQ profit goes back into the village and is the fetes main earner. Your hard work does not go unnoticed !! 🍔🍌

The cricket club bar was open all day and Charlie Axtell did a great job of keeping everyone well hydrated & happy. Thank you to everyone who pulled some pints. 🍺🍷

Louise Beaumont, Alison Banks, Anna Sugden, Henry Farris, Martin Briggs-Watson and Louise Taylor, from the tennis club, were busy selling teas & coffees, as well as delicious homemade cakes. You all did an amazing job, thank you! 🍰🍵

The bric-a-brac was back this year, with lots of interesting items for sale. Thank you Katy and Elin Morris for running it all day and thank you to Carolyn for lending a hand too. ❤️

Sally was on the clothes stall this year, I'm not sure being in the marquee was the best option although it still made almost £100. Thank you so much for all of your hard work. 👗👚👕👖👚

Dan and Henry Hudson were on the entrance gate all day, not an easy job. Well done and thank you so much!! 🚪👥

This year the dog show was judged by Matt Yarnall and Christine Young. Thank you very much! Best In Show went to Red, the labrador, well done! 🌸🏆

A very big thank you to all the families who sponsored the dog show, your donations helped cover the cost of the rosettes, prizes & treats. 🐕🐾🦴

The raffle was very popular, with some pretty impressive prizes up for grabs. Thank you to Donna for helping me all day, I couldn't have done it alone. It raised over £650!! Well done to everyone who won prizes. 🎫

The bottle stall was very busy, raising nearly £200!! Thank you to Ian and Kaye and Rosanne for running the stall on behalf of All Saints Church. 🍷🍹

Kate and Edgar ran a football competition which was popular, thank you. ⚽⚽

FIPS had a bowling game and sweet stall, thank you for your support. The children loved it. 🎳🍬

A very big thank you to The Pearey Family for letting us hijack their paddock as a car park for the day!! 🚗🚗

Michael Junior did a great job as MC and entertained everyone all day. Thank you. It's not an easy job! 🎤🎵

Olivia and Annabelle painted faces all day. I saw several tigers, butterflies and many more! The queue was never ending! You did a great job, thank you. 🦋

Our circus performer, Storm in a Teacup, was back again this year, she was a great hit. The children enjoyed playing with her stilts, hoola hoops and plate jugglers. The bubbles were epic too! 🎈🎈🎪

The coconut shy was busy all day, we even ran out of coconuts. Thank you to Trish for running it all day. 🥥

Kristie manned the crockery smashing for the day. It wouldn't be a fete without it. Thank you Kristie. ❤️

This year, as it was so hot, the stocks made a come back. Thank you Will for volunteering to get in the stocks as well as running it for the day! 🍷🍷

Juliet Ryder ran a putting competition that was very popular, I think my children were with her most of the day! Thank you Juliet. Well done Justin for beating Sandy Bunker! 🏌️🏌️

Mr. Muddles was great, the children thoroughly enjoyed his magic shows and balloon making. 🎈🎉🎊

How many balloons in a tractor, was won by Matilda Wilson North, with her guess of 75, well done Matilda. Karen manned the stall for the day, thank you so much.

Thank you to Rowles Farm for the loan of the tractor! 🚜🎈

Another huge thank you to Pete Carlisle and his team for ferrying fete kit backwards and forwards from various barns and garages around the village! 🚚

The straw bales were loaned to us by David Carlisle, thank you. They made great climbing frames for the children.

Amongst all the usual fete stalls we had some lovely produce stalls, including, Emma Dweck with her gorgeous towels & crystals, Rata Duo London with some lovely pyjamas and accessories, Katie with her homemade jewellery, Sammie Bakes with some lovely treats, the Downland Volunteer Group, Helen Shilton with jewellery and cards, as well as Project Groundwater to talk about flooding issues in our area. The welly wanging was manned by Tim. I think plenty of wellies were thrown. Thank you very much for all of your help. 🥾

WELLY WANGING RESULTS 🥾

Bigger Boys - Callum Henderson - 44m

Unescorted Girls - Lois - 25m

Boys under 10 - Rory - 25m

Girls under 10 - Amelea - 19m

Boys 11-16 - Ollie - 35m

Girls 11-16 - Mary - 20m

Some great distances thrown!

West Ilsley Produce Show 2026

Thank you to everyone who took the time to enter this year's produce show. We had a huge number of entries, and it was lovely to see everyone's handiwork. The Gentleman's baking cup remains in The Maltings thanks to Dan Hudson and his wonderful Victoria sandwich, whilst Lois wowed with her sour dough loaf! Ted Wilson-North, Jacob and Reuben Nash baked some very tasty flapjacks whilst Elin Morris, Matilda Wilson-North and Henry Hudson baked the most wonderful brownies – well done everyone!

Ralph Taylor took first place for his sloe port, closely followed by Ian Wilson and The Ryders with their delicious homemade drinks.

Harriett Wilson-North made the most beautiful floral arrangement whilst Louise Beaumont's single bloom stunned the judges!

This year saw the return of most pots in pot which was hotly contested and a very close competition. Christine Hooker took first prize with 19 potatoes, winning herself a sack of spuds!

The Tony Elliott cup for the best decorated house was awarded to Marion at The Old Chapel for her wonderfully colourful display and best front garden went to The Clemengers this year.

The full results are detailed below – thanks again to everyone who took part.

☀️ PRODUCE SHOW RESULTS ☀️

	1 st place	2 nd place	3 rd place
Best single flower	Louise Beaumont	Harry Wood	Justin Gilbert
Best floral arrangement	Zu Kingdon	Harriett W-N	Tricia Monroe
Best hanging basket	The Harrow	Christine & Clive Hooker	Sean and Carmel Ryan
Most pots in a pot	Christine Hooker	Christine Young & Paulina	Jane Carlisle
Homemade drink	Ralph Taylor	Ian Wilson	The Ryders
Loaf of handmade bread	Lois Jackson	Dan Hudson	Annabelle Hudson
Victoria sandwich	Dan Hudson	Alan Beaumont	Sam Baggs
6 flapjacks (7 and under)	Ted W-N	Jacob Nash	Reuben Nash
6 brownies (14 and under)	Elin Morris	Matilda W-N	Henry Hudson
Adult photography	Rosanne Pilditch	-	-
Best decorated house	Marion at The Old Chapel	-	-
Best front garden	The Clemengers at The Old Vets	Diane at 38 Churchway	The Baggs at Sharon Cottage

The money we raise goes towards various village charities and clubs as well as The Air Ambulance. The fete wouldn't happen without the hard work of the committee and volunteers who help on the day! Thank you to each and everyone of you!

From your 2026 fete committee

Rachel Hudson

Hayley Morrick

Katy Morris

Justin Pilditch

Tim Pearey

Georgie Carlisle-Smith

Nigel Ryan

Jo & Pete Kirkpatrick

Will & Kristie Thomas-Ferrand

Next year's fete will be held on Sunday 4th July, save the date!!!! 📅

If you would like to join next years committee, please let us know. Your fete needs YOU! 🙌





NEWS FROM THE ILSLEYS

Year 6 had a fantastic time at PGL doing many fun activities including the big swing and paddle boarding. They have made lots of memories!

While the Year 6s were on their residential (PGL), the Year 5s worked on a project in Curriculum called 'Anywhere Island'. In this project, they have encountered a previously undiscovered island with many unique flora and fauna. Over the week, they created a species to live on the island, named their newly discovered island and talked about where it was located. They also created an environmental agency to preserve the beauty of the island.

As part of their topic, Pacific Class had a walk round East Ilsley and Mr Saxton came into school to talk to them about the history of East Ilsley.

On Wednesday 8th July, it was Moving Up Day. Every class had different students joining them and they did a variety of activities. It gave everyone a chance to get to know their new class for September.

On Monday 13th July, Atlantic Class went on a school trip to the Houses of Parliament. We were lucky enough to be shown round by Lord John Mann and MP Jo White. They showed us the House of Commons and

the House of Lords. We had lunch on the steps in the Great Hall and also visited the terrace and the chapel which was amazing. They then took us to a committee room where we were able to sit round the table and have a question and answer session. This was a fantastic trip which we all really appreciated.

Year 6 completed their Bikeability over two days recently and have all received their certificates. The school production of 'The Wizard of Oz' was enjoyed by all as was the Leavers' Prom. The Leavers' Assembly on the last day rounded off the year and was so much fun. Although it is sad to say goodbye to Year 6, we know they will do well in their new schools and wish them luck.

We hope you have a lovely summer.

Written by three Year 5 pupils

AUGUST AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 2nd No service at All Saints'

Sunday 9th Communion at 8.30am

Sunday 16th Communion at 9.30am

Sunday 23rd No service at All Saints'

Sunday 30th 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-notice/this-week> for other services in the benefice during August.

Services in All Saints'

Please note that our Family Service on the 2nd August has been cancelled. As August has a fifth Sunday there will be a United Benefice Communion Service, to which all are invited, at 10.30am at St Nicholas' Church, Beedon.

Café in All Saints' Church

Please note that our usual monthly café in All Saints' will not take place in August. Our next monthly café will be on Sunday 13th September at 10am.

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).

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 6th September - Pet Service at 11am.

Sunday 4th October - Harvest Festival at 11am followed by Harvest Lunch at 12. Collections and donations of

food to the West Berks Foodbank. Please put a note in your diary.

Contacts:

Churchwardens: Ian – 01635 281625; Alexandra – 07769 645470

Rector: Revd John Toogood – He will be on sabbatical from 13th July until the beginning of November and will not be available within this period. Please contact Revd Dales or the office during this time with any queries.

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



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/qgoHw>.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – Carolyn Culver 07976 374146
Carolyn.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.carlisle-smith@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.



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-](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)