

West Ilsley News

NOVEMBER 2023

www.westilsley.org

Editors

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5 pm on Saturday 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

Our aim is to reach every dwelling in the village. Most homes have signed up to receive WIN by email, but for those who haven't, a volunteer kindly prints and delivers paper copies. 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
19th Art exhibition

DECEMBER

1st Georgie Carlisle Village hall Vinyard talk 7 pm
8th Christmas bingo
9th Village Hall Xmas Jumper Party

FULL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

7.30 in the VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday 14th November 2023

Tuesday 20th February 2024

Tuesday 14th May 2024, 7:00pm - Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Tuesday 14th May 2024, 8:15pm - Annual Parish Meeting

UPDATE FROM CLLR CAROLYNE CULVER

Dear Residents

Thames Water and the Environment Agency answered questions from councillors and the public at a special meeting of Scrutiny Commission that I chaired on 11th October. The recording of the meeting is available on West Berkshire Council's page on YouTube. A colourful protest by members of the public happened outside the council offices, followed by nearly three hours of presentations and questions. As a result of the meeting I am following up on several issues with the local flood forums, council officers and with Thames Water.

Scrutiny Commission has a lengthy but very interesting list of topics to consider. Including the educational attainment gap between children who receive free school meals and those who do not, the need for more foster carers, and the council's finances. I have also received a request to look at digital exclusion in West Berkshire (people missing out because they don't have access to the internet or don't know how to use it safely). I am still chairing the 'healthcare on major developments' task and finish group but another councillor kindly agreed to chair the 'lessons learned from covid' task and finish group (I am still a member). Task and finish groups are sub committees of Scrutiny Commission that go off and really dig into the details of a topic.

At Full Council, on 5th October, we updated the council's climate emergency declaration, and pledge to become carbon zero by 2030, to recognise and pledge action to tackle the ecological emergency too. It has been two years since I called for this. Wheels turn slowly. The council also agreed its new five-year strategy and considered two draft Neighbourhood Development Plans from Cold Ash and Hermitage. I spoke on all of the aforementioned agenda items.

I have submitted a bid to WBC for some match funding for windows at West Ilsley village hall. The deadline is 31 October, and we should hear in November whether the bid was successful.

The council's financial situation means we have a number of staff vacancies that might not be filled very quickly, if at all. Our officers work incredibly hard and are a great support to me when I'm trying to help residents with a wide range of issues.

West Berkshire Food Bank provides emergency food to local people.

Please see <https://westberks.foodbank.org.uk/> for more details about how to be referred to the service and collection locations. You can also donate to the food bank. Their phone number is 01635 813390 and their email is info@westberks.foodbank.org.uk

Information about benefits can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits/low-income>

The Citizens' Advice Bureau can also advise you via [01635 516605](tel:01635516605).

Don't forget that you can report problems including fly tipping, unemptied bins, and pot holes via www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem

Alternatively,

email customerservices@westberks.gov.uk or call 01635 551111. If you don't get a satisfactory response let me know. 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 the area.

Best wishes

Councillor Carolyne Culver

Ridgeway ward

West Berkshire Council

carolyne.culver1@westberks.gov.uk

(m) 07976 374146

LOCAL FLOODING EXHIBITION - POSTPONED

Pang valley Flood Forum covers 10 West Berks Parishes: West and East Ilsley, Compton, Hampstead Norreys, Frilsham, Bucklebury, Stanford Dingley, Bradfield, Tidmarsh and Pangbourne.

The Pang Valley Flood Protection Exhibition, which was due to be held on **Saturday 4 November**, has now been postponed.

The exhibition will be rescheduled and further details will be posted once the new date has been confirmed. The Flood Exhibition will be an opportunity to learn more about flooding and what can be done to reduce the risks. There will be stands with flood protection devices and an opportunity to see these in situ in a purpose built mobile demonstration vehicle known as the Floodmobile.

Further information on the rescheduled date when it is released will be announced [here](#) and on our social media channels. Please do follow us if you haven't already!

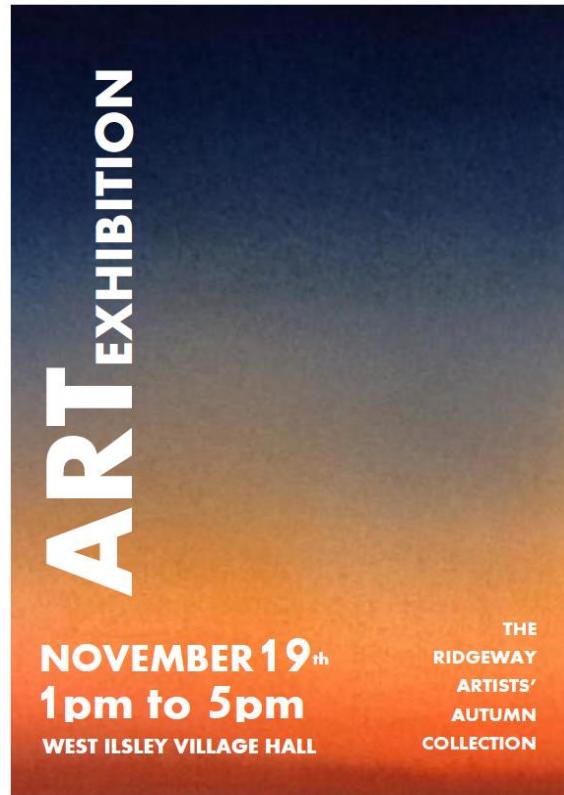
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS IN THE WIN

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.



MACMILLAN UPDATE

Many thanks to all who attended the Macmillan fundraiser on 30th September - due to your generosity I have banked £655. So, to the bakers, donors and workers, very many thanks for your efforts.

People commented that they liked the change of day to Saturday, and the sausage and bacon rolls went down well, so it sounds like it might be a similar set up next year. If anyone would like to make any suggestions as to how we could do it even better, please shout!

Thanks again, Andrea, Louise and Alison

WEST ILSLEY VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGM

Sunday 12th November
4pm, West Ilsley Village Hall

The Annual General Meeting of the West Ilsley Village Hall Management Committee will be held at the West Ilsley Village Hall on Sunday 12th November at 4pm.

Please submit questions for AOB by Sunday 5th November to matt.yarnall@boehringer.com.

THE ILSLEYS NEWS WRITTEN BY TWO YEAR 6s

On Monday 2nd October, two Year 5s were chosen to go to Curridge Primary School and enjoy a fencing lesson. They were picked up and taken to Curridge School to take part in this activity with many other children from other schools. Both the Year 5s had a great time at the fencing activity and had lots of fun. We hope we can do something like this again soon.

As you may already know, it is Black History Month so we, and many other schools, joined a virtual assembly to celebrate it. In this assembly, we were exploring the past behind people from Black heritage. They interviewed famous Black females, as this year's theme is 'Celebrating Our Sisters'. Everybody was fascinated by this truthful assembly and the difficulties Black people have faced in the past.

On Wednesday 11th October, Atlantic Class (which is Year 5 and Year 6) went on an educational, and fantastic, school trip to the British Museum in London. We explored the rooms based around Ancient Mesopotamia. We had booklets to fill in and, later, had lunch in an impressive room. After that, we looked around other rooms based on other ancient civilizations such as Rome, Egypt and Greece. This helped us compare similarities and differences between them. All the children enjoyed this particular trip and would love to go back.

Parent Welcome day was on Tuesday 17th October - this is an opportunity for parents to come into school and view their child's work at the end of the day and have a chat with parents, which everybody enjoys.

It has been a busy half term so it's time for a rest but we are already looking forward to next term!

WEST ILSLEY

**INVITES YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL
BONFIRE & FIREWORKS**
AT THE
RECREATION GROUND
SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 5TH
BAR OPENS AT 5:30PM
BBQ AT 6:00PM
BONFIRE AT 6:30PM
FIREWORK DISPLAY AT 7:00PM
FREE ADMISSION
DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

November Services at All Saints' Church

Sunday 5th Family Service at 11.00am
Sunday 12th Remembrance Service at 10.55am
Sunday 19th Communion at 9.30am
Sunday 26th *No service in West Ilsley*

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

Working Party Tidy Up for Remembrance Day

We will be holding our usual church and churchyard working party on Saturday 11th 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 12th November at 10.55am



We hope you will join us once more in remembering and giving thanks for those who have fought for this country, many of whom have died in action for us, over the years. As usual, we will have the Act of Remembrance 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 starts promptly. As always, we will be sending a donation to the Royal British Legion.

Café in All Saints' Church

Our monthly church cafe will not take place on Sunday 12th November due to the Remembrance Service.

Harvest Festival and Lunch

It was good to see so many of you in church at Harvest and after at the lunch. Our thanks go to all those who decorated the church so beautifully, those who helped prepare food for lunch and those who helped in any way to make it such a lovely occasion.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 10th December at 6pm – All Saints' Carol Service, followed by mulled wine & mince pies.

Sunday 7th January 2024 – Christingle

Saturday 3rd February – Winter Warmer

Put all these dates in your diary now and come and join us!

Private Prayer

All Saints' continues 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 or would just like to chat, do contact the wardens or clergy who will do their best to help.

Contacts:

Churchwardens: Ian – 01635 281625; Alexandra – 01635 281306

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 open on Thursday & Friday mornings between 9am and 1pm.

Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith



Hello everyone.

Just to let you know that Julia Rockall is improving in health and is attending our regular Monday morning get together at the Harrow.

Our latest trip to Gloucester was well supported and we enjoyed surprisingly lovely weather with blue skies and sunshine. There is so much to see there and everyone was very pleased with their day out.

There will be a Prize Bingo Evening on the 10th of November at 7pm in Compton Village Hall and a Coffee Morning on Saturday the 11th at 10am in the Wilkins Centre Compton. Please come along and support these events

This year's Christmas Market trip is to Winchester on Thursday the 30th of November and has a few seats available, please book yours asap.

Contact Tony on 07780 994297 or 01635 281997

This year's Members Christmas Lunch will be at The Harrow in West Ilsley on Wednesday the 13th of December.

Tony Elliott ~ Secretary/Trips Officer

 **COACH TRIP**
to
WINCHESTER
CHRISTMAS
MARKET
ON
THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 30TH

The coach will depart from:
West Ilsley bus stop at 9:00am
Compton bus stop at 9:10am
East Ilsley bus stop at 9:15am
Departing destination at 4:00pm

Call **TONY** on **07780 994297/01635 281997**
to book your seat for only **£18**.

Arranged by
ILSLEY EVERGREENS

CHRISTMAS
FAMILY PRIZE BINGO
AT
WEST ILSLEY
VILLAGE HALL
FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER
DOORS OPEN 7:00
EYES DOWN 7:30
TERRIFIC PRIZES
&
GRAND RAFFLE
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE
COME & ENJOY YOURSELF

WHO TO CONTACT

DEFIBRILLATOR is outside the village hall - code: C159

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

PARISH COUNCIL

Council members are:

Alan Bloor alan.bloor@westilsley.org

Clive Hooker clive.hooker@westilsley.org

Katy Morris katy.morris@westilsley.org

Alan Muir alan.muir@westilsley.org

Tim Pearey timothy.pearey@westilsley.org

Graham Woods graham.woods@westilsley.org

07905 558884

Sarah Marshman – Clerk clerk@westilsley.org

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT – Laura Farris

laura.farris.mp@parliament.uk 01635-551070

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 membership and enquiries email -

tennis.bookings@westilsley.org

Book and play without joining via

westilsleytennis.jezzam.com

VILLAGE HALL

Bookings & enquiries:

Any new bookings should now be done via the village

Website: <https://www.westilsley.org/>

Or by email to: village.hall@westilsley.org

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

Rates: £10.00/hour for villagers and £12/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>