

West Ilsley News

JUNE 2024

www.westilsley.org

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5 pm on Tuesday 25th 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 – help to save paper and shoe leather!

What's on in West Ilsley

JULY

5 th	Pre Fete Party
7 th	Fete

FULL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

7.30 in the VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday 10th September 2024 Time 7:30 pm

Tuesday 12th November 2024 7:30 pm

Tuesday 4th February 2025 7:30 pm

Tuesday 20th May 2025

7:00 pm Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

8:15 pm Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes

Minutes of the PC meetings of 18th April and 14th May are on the website – ed having trouble setting up a link at the moment so please look on the website for yourselves!

PC CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

The Parish Council held two meetings on the 14th May, a regular council meeting which was followed by the Annual Parish Meeting.

Since the last Parish Council update in the WIN we have had two councillors leave the council, Clive

Hooker and Alan Muir. I would like to thank both of them for their time helping with village matters. The two vacancies have been filled by Rachel Hudson and Jonny Rayfield who have both been co-opted to the council.

The agenda for first meeting of the year is always focussed on process and procedural related items such as reviewing policies, inventory of assets, subscriptions to external bodies and more. All of these are available on the westilsley.org website.

A few items were discussed which may be of interest. We continue to record the speed of vehicles captured by the mobile speed indicator device which moves between each end of the village every three weeks. Moving forward the speed data will be submitted to West Berkshire Council to see whether there is justification to introduce speed calming measures in the future.

A request has been made to include Bury Lane as a SID location. West Berkshire Council has to approve each location and there is no obvious location which meets the location criteria. This is being investigated in more detail and a request will be made if a suitable site is identified.

We discussed whether the council should create an emergency plan. It was decided a plan which is general in scope was not needed at this time. In the event of an emergency there was a view villagers would pull resource and expertise together as needed. That said, consideration needs to be given to flooding. At the present time the village does not have a flood warden so I will be sending a request for volunteers soon.

The meeting was followed by the Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting is attended by representatives of various village groups. The written reports from each group represented will be uploaded to our website once they are finalised.

Graham Woods - PC Chair

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Dear Residents

Last week (week beginning 13 May) I attended ordinary parish council meetings in Compton and Yattendon, and annual parish council meetings in West Ilsley and Frilsham, to give reports on my work. I attended a training session about adult social care. I also showed a representative of Project Groundwater around East Ilsley, and she spoke to Compton's flood warden Peter Callard. Project Groundwater supports communities to be more resilient to groundwater flooding. It is a six-year programme working with communities in nine high-risk flood areas of the Chiltern Hills and Berkshire Downs. I also attended a meeting in Hampstead Norreys with Thames Water. The village flood warden, parish chairman, residents

and I asked a lot of questions and received some very useful information. I have several pages of notes. When the minutes of the 25th April Scrutiny Commission are published on the WBC website you will be able to see a lengthy report that I gave about flooding and sewage in the district. Newbury Town Councillor Steve Masters requested that WBC issue an 'abatement notice' against Thames Water for the 'statutory nuisance' caused by sewage on the streets. The council then issued a press release to say it was going to look for evidence again (residents, parish councillors and flood wardens have been sending them evidence for months).

It appears that the council will not be issuing an abatement notice. They have said instead that they will ask Thames Water to 'provide details of investment in sewage infrastructure since the floods in 2014' and that 'an action plan be put into place across West Berkshire to urgently resolve the sewage flooding and overflows into our waterways'. It is not clear what this 'action plan' will look like, who will write it, and by when. When Thames Water has come to Scrutiny (last October, and the autumn the previous year) they have told us about their plans. There are a lot of problems including the fact Victorian pipework was deliberately porous to allow groundwater to flush the system, and it is no longer fit for purpose; they can't line pipes and seal manhole covers to stop groundwater inundating the sewers when the groundwater is so high; and they are on the brink of bankruptcy. Meanwhile some roads and pavements are still covered in the scum of dried-up sewage and nobody will come and clean it. I think this issue is going to continue to dominate my work for some time to come...

Report a range of problems (unemptied bins, potholes, abandoned vehicles on public highways etc) by visiting 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

(m) 07976 374146

www.westberks.gov.uk



COUNTRY NOTES

Jackdaws walk across the close-cropped grass of the cricket pitch. One, perhaps an old male, smart in a charcoal grey suit, paler grey nape, greying temples, pale blue eyes, a handsome fellow. Reminds me of George Clooney.

I sit on one of the steps that climb through the herb garden, a favourite step that faces east, that catches the early morning sun. Soak up the sun's warmth, surrounded by rosemary, lovage, oregano and hyssop, inhaling air perfumed by essential oils, indulge in some aroma therapy.

Clumps of chives, planted to soften the steps hard edges, are in flower, their florets a subtle pinkish mauve, their pollen a bright orange. I know it is orange, not because I can see the pollen bearing stamens inside the flowers, but because I can see the orange bundles bulging in the pollen baskets of the bumble bees as they move from blossom to blossom. This giving up of pollen by the chive is not a purely altruistic act, it is one half of a symbiotic relationship between the flower and the bee; most of this protein rich pollen will be taken to feed the bee's young, but some will stick to its fur and will be transferred to other chive flowers, impregnating them, spreading the plant's genes, ensuring their future.

Geoff Wond



Tennis is a wonderful way to stay active and enjoy being outdoors. We have a fantastic tennis court in a beautiful location so why not grab your racquet for some fun, fitness, and friendly competition.

Membership for the season (1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025) is just £45 for a family, £25 for a single adult and £15 for a single junior (under 18).

This gives you access to easy online booking and you can book and play as many times during the year as



you like for no additional fee. Members can make bookings up to 3 months in advance.

"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>



ILSLEY EVERGREENS

Hello everyone. I do hope that the good weather will stay with us for a while longer, although we did have a few showers on our latest trip to Kew Gardens but it didn't spoil the day which was very much enjoyed by all.

Our next coach trip is to The Savill Garden at Windsor on June the 13th. There is also an opportunity to enjoy a 2-hour afternoon boat trip from Runnymede including a cream tea. Please contact me for details.

The following trip is to Bournemouth on July the 18th, a very popular destination with lots to do, including a walk on the pier, a ride on the big wheel and the train or just have a paddle in the sea!!

The remaining trips for this year are; August 22nd ~ New Forest Tour to Lymington & Lyndhurst + cream tea

September 26th ~ Bath

October 10th ~ Worcester

December 3rd ~ Salisbury Christmas Market (Tuesday)

Everyone is welcome to join us on any of our day trips, just call Tony on 07780 994297 or 01635 281997 Please look out for the Posters in Compton Village Shop, Compton Village Hall, the Wilkins Centre and on Notice Boards in your area. Hoping to see you soon!! Kind regards. Tony Elliott ~ Secretary

THE ILSLEYS NEWSLETTER

Hello again from The Ilsleys! We have had such a busy half term! Recently, some of the students participated in a Maths Challenge at Curridge Primary School. The students who went were all Year 4s and they were taught by a very kind man called Mr Hughes. They learnt lots of techniques to solve hard questions; they enjoyed this very much and appreciated the experience.

On 24th of April, our football team played in a friendly match against Bucklebury Primary School and had great fun competing against them. Unfortunately, they won 2-1. The referee was our PE coach - Danny Williams. At the end they were treated to squash and biscuits to celebrate the occasion.

Pacific Class went on a trip to Hampton Court Palace and experienced many different rooms such as the base court and Henry VIII's Great Hall. When we talked to the children who went, they said that their favourite room was the boiler room. All the children enjoyed the experience very much.

Our youngest class, Arctic Class, has recently been to Portsmouth (Sea Life Centre) on a school trip. After asking some children, we discovered that they saw sea creatures such as: clownfish, stingrays, starfish, catfish

and a rainbow of different colours of lobsters. Then, they also attended a workshop in the aquarium where they got to hold real crab shells and also learnt about them.

In the past week, the Year 6s have been working extremely hard on their NCTs - these are the National Curriculum Tests. They had early Breakfast Club to prepare for the following exam. They enjoyed food such as: bagels, croissant, cereal and much more. They also enjoyed a pizza party afterwards on Friday with snacks and fizzy drinks.

On Friday 17th May, it was Anti-Bullying Day; this included lots of fun activities and an assembly hosted by the Year 6s. Foundation and Year 1 were buddied up with a Year 5 or 6 for the morning to enjoy arts and crafts associated with anti-bullying.

Our Year Sixes have been lucky to have the opportunity on the 21st May to visit Open Studios with a local artist, Jill Hobbs. We were lucky enough to meet the artists of some of the paintings and we even acquired their signatures! It was a fantastic experience for our Year 6s to meet them straight after SATs.

On the 22nd May, four members of the fire and rescue service in Newbury kindly came and visited our pupils at our school. They told them what the dangers of fires were and how important it was to have a fire alarm; they also brought in their very own fire engine so we could have a look at their equipment.

Atlantic Class has a fascinating school trip on Friday 24th May. They will be going to the Houses of Parliament. We will do a report of this next month after half term.

Written by 2 Year 6 and a Year 5

JUNE AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 2nd Family Service at 11.00am

Sunday 9th Communion at 8.30am

Sunday 16th Communion at 9.30am

Sunday 23rd *No service in All Saints'*

Sunday 30th *No service at All Saints' (see below)*

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 9th June between 10.00am and 11.00am in All Saints'. Everyone is very welcome. We look forward to seeing you there for coffee, cake and a chat!

Fifth Sunday service

This month, the United Benefice Communion service will be held at St James' Church, Winterbourne on Sunday 30th June at 9.30am. Come and chat with people from other parishes over coffee afterwards.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

At the meeting that was held recently in church, Ian and Alexandra were again appointed church wardens, while Rosanne and Kay remained secretary and treasurer respectively. All Saints' continues to provide 3 services each month and to be open on Saturdays and Sundays for private prayer, as well as being available for baptisms, weddings and funerals as and when required. Like so many rural parish churches, the ongoing challenge continues to be small congregations but the hard work and dedication of our clergy, PCC members and village supporters, together with their financial support, help to ensure its continued presence in the village.

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 or would just like to chat, 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)

Date for your Diary

Pet Service - 14th July at 10.00am - Pets will take their owners outside if the weather is fine. Followed by our monthly café.

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

Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith

ALDWORTH ART GROUP EXHIBITION

On **Saturday 22nd June**, from **10.30 to 12 noon**, we would love you to come along to Aldworth village hall and chat with us about how our art group benefits us all.

Aldworth Saturday Market is kindly giving us space to display a varied selection of our artworks. A few of us may have some art or cards for sale, but our main aim is to share with you our enjoyment of being creative within a caring group.

Aldworth Art Group is a friendly and supportive, mixed ability, self-help group. We enjoy all kinds of art activities and chat a lot too!

We meet together in Aldworth village hall twice a month. This is a beautiful and peaceful setting where we feel able to relax, paint and enjoy each other's company.

Art activities can be both relaxing and stimulating. Art can also be gently therapeutic.

We are lucky to have folk amongst us who are happy to share their talents so that we all benefit from our sessions.

The weekly, community-run Saturday Market will be open and we would like to offer you a free slice of cake as a thank you for your kind interest.

Pauline Sheppard 01635 578177

Aldworth Art Group Exhibition

Saturday 22nd June

Aldworth Saturday Market

Village Hall

RG8 9SE

10.30am

-12pm



*Please come along
to view and enjoy
our work*

Afternoon Teas

at St. Mary's Church, Aldworth

Will start on 3rd 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

I NEED YOUR FLOWERS!

I've a dinky flower farm and shop opening mid June, alas not local to here. Maybe later there will be flowers at the end of my garden path for that romantic village feel. :o)

ANYWAY....

Old Somerset pasture land has its challenges, not assisted by wet weather, heavy clay soil, mice eating every single succession of seeds and yesterday finding 13 slugs per dahlia. I'm having a mild panic that I'll have nothing for the shop. If you have a plethora, or need an excuse to grow a plethora of flowers or foliage fit for a flower shop, could I be your excuse to continue as a flower selling woman? This could be year round.

My best email is marnie@movementinmotion.uk

If nothing else, this will give me an opportunity to catch up with the village, and learn the new faces. I've been out of action for far too long and need to chill with m'homies.

Be well, best wishes as always, Marnie

More details about everything next time!

insta: [movementinmotion](https://www.instagram.com/movementinmotion).hascommenced



WEST ILSLEY FETE



It's that time of year again, fete day will soon be upon us, please all save the date, Sunday 7th July, 12-4pm. We will have plenty to do for all the family, the BBQ will be fired up and the bar will be open!!



We will be running a clothes stall again this year so it's time to have a clear out and donate all your good quality clothes you no longer wear. As well as the clothes stall, there will be a bric-a-brac stall. Household items, children's toys, you get the idea. We are not selling books this year though. We will also take any old crockery you no longer want for our crockery smashing stall. The bottle stall, run by The Evergreens, will need your help with bottles too. Anything in a bottle, from shampoo to champagne. We will be round to collect bottles some time in June, date to follow!



And finally, if you would like to help out on fete day please let one of the committee know.

Tim Pearey Georgie Carlisle Martyn

Natasha Tombs Hayley Morrick

Katy Morris Tony Elliott

Nigel Ryan Justin Pilditch

Now all we need to do is pray for some sunshine!



Best Wishes, Hayley Morrick 07947 188069

**ANTIQUES VALUATION DAY AT
ST MARY'S CHURCH EAST
ILSLEY**

**Monday 17th June
10am-3pm**

£5-£10 suggested donation in aid of church funds.
In association with JS Fine Art of Banbury

Location: St Mary's Church, Church Hill, East Ilsley RG20 7LP

George and Simon will be here to value all areas of antiques, curios and collectables!




GEORGE ARCHDALE
ANTIQUES ROADSHOW
EXPERT



SIMON DAVIES
SENIOR VALUER

www.westilsley.org

WHO TO CONTACT

DEFIBRILLATOR is outside the village hall - code: C159

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

PARISH COUNCIL

Council members are:

Alan Bloor alan.bloor@westilsley.org

Katy Morris katy.morris@westilsley.org

Tim Pearey timothy.pearey@westilsley.org

Graham Woods graham.woods@westilsley.org

07905 558884

Rachel Hudson rachel.hudson@westilsley.org

Johnny Rayfield jonny.rayfield@westilsley.org

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/>

Any booking enquiries please contact Louise by email:
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>