

West Ilsley News

NOVEMBER 2025

www.westilsley.org

Editors

Andrea Cook
☎ 281224

Liz Dray
☎ 07766 413174

Email: westilsleynews@westilsley.org

Deadline for the next publication is:
5 pm on Tuesday 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 Bonfire night
14th Village hall Quiz night
18th PC meeting

DECEMBER

6th Village hall Christmas Jumper party

JANUARY

24th Village Hall Burns Night Supper

FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

PETITION

Petition to implement a formal weight restriction on Bury Lane, West Ilsley, to prevent large goods vehicles from diverting through the village during closures or incidents on the A34.

<https://decisionmaking.westberks.gov.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?id=143>

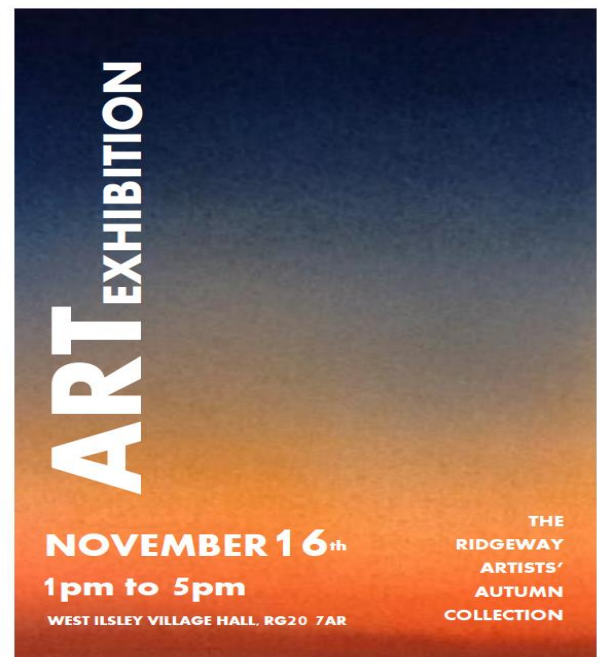
Dear All

The above petition has only received 43 signatures online. I know some have had issues logging-in or registering on-line but please can I encourage people to keep trying - deadline 12th Nov.

There is also a hard copy at the Pub, which is gaining signatures and I will be circulating this during bonfire night.

The more signatures the better! And remember you don't have to be a resident of the village to sign - anyone who lives, works or studies in West Berkshire is eligible, so please do share with others.

With thanks Tim



MACMILLAN FUNDRAISER

Many thanks again to everyone who contributed, we raised £666 this year.

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 2 nd	Family Service at 11.00am
Sunday 9 th	Remembrance Service at 10.55am
Sunday 16 th	Communion at 9.30am
Sunday 23 rd	No service at All Saints'
Sunday 30 th	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-noticeboards/this-week> for other services in the benefice during November.

Harvest Festival and Lunch

It was good to see so many in church at the Harvest Festival 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. Thanks also to those who donated food items for West Berks Foodbank.

All Souls' Service

This year we will be holding our Downland All Souls' Service on Sunday 2nd November at 4pm in St James' Church, Leckhampstead. All are welcome to this special service of remembrance and thanksgiving, but especially those who have recently lost a loved one.

Café in All Saints' Church

There won't be our monthly cafe on Sunday 9th November due to the Remembrance Service. Last month's donations came to £150 and were sent to Eight Bells for Mental Health in Newbury. Thank you to all who contributed.

Working Party Tidy Up for Remembrance Day

We will be holding our biannual church and churchyard working party on Saturday 8th 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 9th 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 over the years, many of whom have died in action for us. 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 starts promptly. As always, we will be sending a donation to the Royal British Legion.

5th Sunday Service – 30th November

At the end of November, we have an extra Sunday when there will be a Group Eucharist at St Andrew's, Boxford at 9.30am. Everyone is very welcome.

The Downland Advent Carol Service is also on the 30th November. This year it is at St James' Church, Leckhampstead at 10.30am, and everyone is invited to this lovely candlelit Carol Service which starts the run up to Christmas.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 14th December at 6pm - Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Thursday 25th December at 9.30am – Christmas Family Communion Service.

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

In Years 5 and 6, we've been continuing our learning about Ancient Egypt. On October 1st, Atlantic Class went on a school trip to Ufton Court to discover more amazing facts about this fascinating civilisation. We found out how the Ancient Egyptians mummified pharaohs and got them ready for the afterlife. It was a bit gross, but super interesting - and we really enjoyed learning about it!

We also took part in an exciting roleplay where we acted as people in an ancient Egyptian police court. It was great fun pretending to be part of their justice system. After all the exciting activities, the day was sadly over.

This month is Black History Month, and the whole school joined in a special assembly to learn about some amazing people who helped make the world a

better place. Every class created colourful and creative posters about Rosa Parks. Arctic Class even made one about Mary Seacole, who helped people during the Crimean war. They were all fantastic!

Our school also had some very exciting news — we were ranked the **7th best primary school in the whole country** by the Daily Telegraph! To celebrate, we had our photos taken for the Newbury Weekly News, which is our local newspaper. Everyone in school was really happy and proud. We're not surprised though - we already knew our school is amazing!

On October 16th, Arctic Class (Reception and Year 1) went on a trip to the Oxford Story Museum. They took part in a fun workshop where they made up their own space stories using their imagination. They also did lots of other exciting activities linked to famous books. It looked like such a fun day!

As you know, half term is nearly here. Our next 'Stay and Play' session will be in the new half term, on **Monday 1st December**. We'd love to see you there!

We also have some Open Mornings coming up in November and December for new families thinking about joining our school – the dates are as follows:

The Ilsleys – 19th November at 10am and 9th December at 10am.

Hampstead Norreys – 18th November at 10am and 8th December at 10am.

Please do join us and see our amazing federation in action!

We are all really looking forward to our Halloween Disco after school on Wednesday 23rd October. It's always one of the best events of the year and such a fun way to end the half term!

We hope everyone has a lovely and restful half term break!

Written by a Year 6 and a Year 5

West Isley Fireworks Night

Join us on West Ilsley Recreation Ground on Wednesday November 5th for:
BBQ, toffee apples and bar from 6pm

Fireworks at 7pm

Free entry
Donations for fireworks are greatly appreciated

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

PARISH COUNCIL

Council members are:

Alan Bloor alan.bloor@westilsley.org

Georgie Carlisle-Smith georgie.carlisesmith@westilsley.org

Katy Morris katy.morris@westilsley.org

Tim Pearey timothy.pearey@westilsley.org

Rachel Hudson rachel.hudson@westilsley.org

Johnny Rayfield jonny.rayfield@westilsley.org

Sarah Marshman – Clerk clerk@westilsley.org

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 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>

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)