West Ilsley News

DECEMBER 2021

www.westilsley.org

Editors

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Deadline for the next publication is: 5 pm on Saturday 25th December

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.

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, the Parish Council produces paper copies which are delivered by volunteers. If you have received a paper copy of this newsletter but have access to email, please join the email distribution list by contacting westilsley.org – help to save paper and shoe leather!

What's on in West IIsley

December 10th Bingo – village hall

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The scheduled meetings of West Ilsley Parish Council through to May 2022 are as below. The agenda will be available on the village website 3 clear days before the meeting. You can also read the latest Parish Council Minutes and hear how village matters are being addressed. Visit our village website at www.westilsley.org - all the latest information from our meetings is available under the "Parish Council" tab.

Date of Meeting	Type of Meeting
17 th January 2022	Full Council
15 th March 2022	Full Council
16 th May 2022	Annual Meeting of
	the Parish Council
16 th May 2022	Annual Parish
	Meeting

You can see the draft minutes of the November PC meeting by looking on the website or clicking: here

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Bonfire night was a great success so a big thank you to the Village Hall Committee and especially Tony for all his efforts, much needed funds were raised and a good time was had by all. The annual autumn tidy up of the church and church yard before Remembrance Sunday was well attended as was the service on Sunday. Thank you to all those who helped clear the roads and paths and for the general tidy up after the freak storm at the end of October. We also owe a huge thank you to Jody Reekie as she has been single-handedly inspecting the play area and emptying the bins for over 18 months and we are looking into better signage and bin provision along with a rota to spread the load. The WIPC past and present would like to thank Martin for providing IT support and technical expertise, completely free of charge, for the past 20 years! and he has decided to take a well-earned rest from idiotic queries from PC's (particularly the Chair). Graham Woods has kindly offered to step into Martin's shoes but if anyone can help with the IT please contact Graham. Let's all look forward to an enjoyable Christmas (fingers crossed it stays Covid-free) and remember there is still a vacancy on the PC, so if you interested please email our Clerk at clerk@westIlsley.org or alternatively have a chat with one of the Councillors. Alan Beaumont

DRAINAGE UPDATE

Measures taken by the Parish Council to alleviate flooding in general in the village and reduce sewage discharges on to Main Street have recently been implemented with the cooperation and financial support of West Berkshire Council and two large projects have been undertaken. The first is the construction of several large one cubic meter soakaways with associated grips up the Catmore Road; these are to reduce the volume of water coming down into the pond and with the excavation of an extended ditch from the pond up the road to take the remaining water readily into the pond. Silt samples have been taken from the pond and laboratory analysis has been conducted. The silt is free of pollutants and is cleared for disposal on to agricultural land. The second project is the excavation of the silt from the pond, hopefully weather permitting, work can now commence and we are awaiting a convenient time for the contractor to start. It is estimated that there will be more than 100 tons of silt to be removed. The bund at the rear of the pond will also be repaired and heightened to ensure water is retained in the pond and not discharged into the paddock behind. In addition, to reduce silt entering the pond from the Farnborough end of the village, two silt sumps will be constructed either side of the entrance to the recreation ground opposite The Harrow. The flood alleviation scheme around the Village Hall is now complete and this will divert any flood water from the rising water table underground thus hopefully safeguarding the work carried out by the Village Hall Committee in constructing the new suspended and insulated floor and walls. Other flood related work organised by the Parish Council has been undertaken following lobbying at the Pang Valley Flood Forum, of which West Ilsley Parish Council is a member, and a CCTV survey has been carried out to almost all of our sewer runs to ascertain if there are any breaches in its construction, where at times of the water table rising allow water ingress into the sewer system and forces sewage out onto the gardens and the road. The survey identified areas around West Ilsley House requiring clearing of blockages, but generally the sewer system is sound. And finally, the numerous soakaway chambers up the length of Bury Lane have been inspected for capacity and were found to be sound and all the road drainage sumps have been cleared, again to reduce the amount of water coming down Bury Lane and on to Main Street.

Clive Hooker, Councillor and flood representative

NOTICE FROM THE CLERK

Dear all,

Following the recent advert regarding the vacancy on West Ilsley Parish Council, West Berkshire Council has now confirmed that no election has been called and so the council is able to co-opt.

An advert for this is attached.

The Council is requesting applications until **10**th **January 2022**, with the intention of coopting an individual at the meeting scheduled on 17th January 2022.

The full criteria for eligibility for joining the council is given below:

To qualify to become a Parish Councillor a person must be at least 18 years of age and be a British subject or a citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union and

must satisfy at least one of the following conditions:

- Be listed on the current electoral role for the Parish of West Ilsley.
- Have, for the previous 12 months, occupied land or other property in the parish, either as owner or tenant.
- Have, for the previous 12 months, had your principal or only place of work within the parish.
- Have resided in, or within 3 miles of, the parish during the previous 12 months.

If you would like to apply or would like more information about the role or the criteria for eligibility,

please do not hesitate to contact me at Clerk@WestIlsley.org.

Kind regards,

Sarah

Dr. Sarah Marshman PSLCC
Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer
West Ilsley Parish Council
Correspondence address: Wilkins Centre, Burrell
Road, Compton, Newbury, RG20 6NP



NOVEMBER 5TH BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

Having missed out on the bonfire and firework display last year due to Covid it was with trepidation that the Village Hall Committee decided to hold the event this year. Tony Elliott was again tasked with buying the fireworks and the Carlisle family was asked if the bonfire could be placed in the field above the recreation ground.

A total of 200 burgers and sausages were purchased from Vicars Game and the Cricket club agreed to open the bar.

Well, what a great night – it was estimated that there were in excess of 350 people in attendance on a very clear night (some from as far afield as Swindon and Faringdon!). The barbecue was up and running by 5.30pm, the bonfire lit at 6.30pm and Tony commenced with the firework display at 7.00pm.

The barbecue sold out of burgers and hot dogs by 7.00pm; Nigel and Nicole were extremely busy in the Cricket club bar and sold out of everything.

Many thanks to those who kindly donated to the purchase of fireworks – Mick Channon Stables, Denis Coakley Racing, Village Fete Committee, Manor Farm

(Richard Gore), West Ilsley Cricket Club, West Ilsley PC and Tony Elliott's two fund raising events (village bingo and village quiz). Without their generosity it would be difficult to put the event on.

Thanks also to the very efficient barbecue team - Roger, Alex, Nigel, Dewi, Richard and Will, everything was cooked to perfection (Michelin 3star!!!) and to the Cricket Club, in particular Nigel and Nicole who were run off their feet.

Finally, thanks to Peter Carlisle and family for allowing the bonfire on their field and to Tony Elliott for a super firework display.

In total the night raised a total of £1,680 after all expenses. This will go to making further improvements to the Village Hall.

And as a final note, many thanks to all of you who attended and gave so generously to the bucket collection.

My apologies if I have missed anyone.

Alan Bloor on behalf of the Village Hall Committee.

COUNCILLOR CAROLYNE CULVER

RIDGEWAY WARD

Dear residents

I hope all is well with you.

I hope you found my recent newsletter useful. Let me know if you have any feedback.

On Sunday 14 November I was honoured to deliver a reading at the remembrance service at Compton church. Thank you to the organisers for inviting me.

The council is currently running a consultation about adult social care. The council wants to hear the views of service users, staff, partners and other stakeholders. The consultation can be found at https://info.westberks.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=38667 and ends on 3 January.

Healthwatch West Berkshire have asked me help identify places around Ridgeway ward that their assisted Covid testing van could visit. The van also distributes testing kits. Hopefully this will be organised soon.

My colleague Councillor Steve Masters initiated a public petition about sewage in waterways. See https://info.westberks.gov.uk/petitions At the time of writing 1,700 people have signed either the online or paper version of the petition. Steve will be presenting it to the council on 2 December.

Concerns about pot holes, bins that didn't get emptied, fly tipping, something that needs to be replaced, etc can be reported to https://www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem If you are not happy with the response you receive let me know.

As we reach the end of another year I want to thank all the people who volunteer to make our communities stronger—parish councillors, people who

have supported neighbours through the pandemic, those who run activities for the young and the old, those who look after our green spaces. There are so many to mention! Thank you for everything you do.

Stay safe this autumn and let's hope we get to celebrate Christmas properly this year!

Best wishes

Councillor Carolyne Culver

Ridgeway ward

Green Party group leader

West Berkshire Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5LD

(m) 07976 374146

<u>carolyne.culver1@westberks.gov.uk</u> www.westberks.gov.uk

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

December at All Saints' Church

Sunday 5th December Family Service & Baptism at 11am
Sunday 12th December Holy Communion at 8.30am
Sunday 19th December Carol Service at 6.00pm
Saturday 25th December Family Communion at 9.30am
Sunday 26th December No service in 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 December.

Although Government restrictions have been relaxed, you are welcome to wear face masks and you are encouraged to use hand sanitiser in church.

Christmas Services

There will be numerous services around Christmas in all nine churches in our benefice, including All Saints', and you are warmly invited to any of these. The Benefice Christmas card will be dropping through your



letterbox very soon with details of all the services on it. Our Carol Service on 19th December will be followed by

mulled wine and mince pies. The collection this year will go to Berkshire Women's Aid and you are invited to bring items for West Berkshire Food Bank to the service. Nearer the time we will send out a WIN email with details of those items that are particularly needed.

Working Party Tidy Up for Remembrance Day

Thank you to all of you who helped tidy the churchyard and church before Remembrance Sunday, for the beautiful flower arrangements and to those who provided very welcome refreshments.

Remembrance Day Service

Once again there was a good turn out at our service, which this year was ably taken by the Revd William McDowell. Thank you to all those who took part in the

service, including David and Julian for their musical contributions. We received £322.25 in the collection and a cheque for that amount has been sent to the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Private Prayer

All Saints' will now open on Saturdays and Sundays for private prayer between 9.30am and sunset.

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

Associate Priest: Revd William McDowell – rev.w.mcdowell@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

ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION

The Art & Craft Exhibition held in the Village Hall on the 21st of November was a huge success. The recently redecorated hall, with it's new lighting, provided an ideal venue. A steady stream of visitors throughout the afternoon kept the stall holders busy and there is already talk of repeating the event in 2022.

Thanks to all who visited from Katy, Anne, Jill, Victoria, Jody, James & Geoff





WIN CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Thank you to everyone for their greetings and donations. This year we have raised £525 with a few more donations yet to come.

Wishing everyone in and around West
Ilsley a very Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year
With best wishes
Denis, Barbara & Charlie
And all at
Keeper's Stables

Merry Christmas everyone and wishing you all a happy, healthy 2022 Love the Carringtons. Xxx

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year. Love from Kristie, Will, David and Mitzi.

My very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy, healthy New Year to all friends and fellow villagers in West Ilsley. Wendy x

Wishing all the merry villagers of West Ilsley a very Happy Christmas and a wonderful new year with lots of love from Will, Alexandra, Henry and Charlie (Axtell) xxx

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year Andrea and Mel

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to you all.

With best wishes from Tom, Jane,
Adam and Tash

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year! Liz, Adrian, Hannah, Matthew and Ben Dray x

Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and very best wishes for 2022.

With love, Ian & Kay xx

All Saints' churchwardens and PCC would like to thank everyone for all their support during the past year.
Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Christmas greetings to all my lovely friends in West Ilsley. I hope you have a lovely Christmas and healthy New Year. Much love Janice xx

Merry Christmas to everyone in West Ilsley. Have a lovely time and fabu-lous New Year. Love Roger, Flick, Hugo and Emilia Lucas

Carol and Joe Clerkin wish all our friends and neighbours in West Ilsley a happy Christmas and a happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year

Wishing everyone lots of festive fun and a very happy and healthy New Year

Tony, Jo, Ellen, Tom & Katie Scriven x

Wishing all In West Ilsley a very Happy Christmas and wonderful New Year!
With love

Ed, Anna, Caspar, JJ, Jonty and Banter xxx

A very merry Christmas to all in West Ilsley and best wishes for 2022 from Philip, Amanda, Ellen, Alice and Will Knight

We wish everyone in West Ilsley a very happy and healthy Christmas with better days ahead. Kath and Fred Carter.

Wishing all our friends and fellow villagers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year Avice & Alan

To all our Friends and Neighbours in West Ilsley, Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year

Best wishes Nigel, Alison, Sophie,
Adam & Rosie xxx

Happy Christmas and wishing you all a wonderful 2022. Love Ed, Juliet, Fiona, Holly and James Ryder xx

Happy Christmas to all our West Ilsley friends and neighbours, from Dries, Amanda, Mae & Hugo

Wishing all of West Ilsley a very, merry Christmas & a happy, healthy new year. Here's to 2022. From all of us at The Harrow xx

Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and all the best for 2022. With love from The Reekie Family.

Steven, Alison, Mark and Juliet wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year and to a happy and healthy 2022

Wishing everyone a very Merry
Christmas and a Happy and Healthy
New Year. With love from Justin,
Rosanne, Georgia and Honor Pilditch
xx

Wishing you all a covid-free Christmas and Good Health & Happiness for the New Year. Alan, Louise, Will & Suzanna x

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas love Alan, Lauren & Summer Weightman

Seasons Greetings and best wishes for a joyous Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. Tony Elliott

Wishing everyone in West Ilsley a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. With love from Martin, Zu and Kester xxx

West Ilsley Cricket Club would like to wish all villagers a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Thank you to all our patrons who visited & supported the club throughout 2021. Please look out for communications early in the New Year when we plan to re-open for the Six Nations Rugby.

West Ilsley CC

Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas and Covid free New Year Love from Rollo and Ros

A very jolly and sociable Christmas and New Year to all our friends and neighbours. Love from Sean, Carmel, Alastair, Charlotte, Anna and Ted xxxx

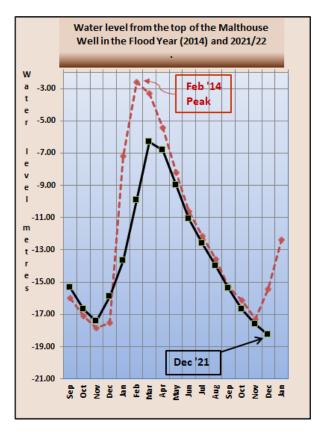
To all our friends and neighbours in West Ilsley, have a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2022. Ralph, Louise and Mark Taylor x

2021 has been another tough year for so many of us Villagers but with the help and love of friends and neighbours it has been made easier and bearable. I will always remember with love and affection the support so many of you gave when my precious Suzy Woozy unexpectedly died January. She was a wonderful little dog and companion and I am so grateful to those of you who encouraged me to find Bunny Delight. Never could a name be more appropriate. Thank you one and all. Have a very happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and may 2022 be the same. Penny Waghorn



MALTHOUSE WELL

The Malthouse well reading has continued to drop during November to about 0.12metres a week at the end of the month, It now stands at approximately 18.26 metres (59.7ft) below ground level and should bottom out during December and begin its inexorable rise as winters comes.





ROYAL BRITISH LEGION COMPTON, ILSLEYS & NORREYS BRANCH

Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service 14th November 2021 Compton – this was a very

well attended and successful event. Over two hundred of you attended and the Branch thanks the community for its support. The parade formed up in the Foinavon car park at 1030am and, led by Pipe Major Ian Knight and side drummer Mike Connor from the Oxford Caledonian Pipe Band, and marched to St Mary and St Nicholas' Church. Royal British Legion members, local councillors and a wonderful turnout of Guides and Scouts paraded. The Act of Remembrance was led by Branch Chaplain Reverend Clive Jones around the War Memorial took place at 11am. The Names of the Fallen were read out by Ian Hickling, the RBL Exhortation by Steve Allison and the Kohima Epitaph by Pat Warn. The

Last Post and Reveille were played by Trumpeter Aimee Jones. Wreaths were laid. The service continued in the Church during which the lesson was read by our Ridgeway Ward Councillor Carolyne Culver. A very generous retiring collection was made for the Poppy Appeal — again thank you to all who contributed.

Blessing of Compton's Book of Remembrance – during this service a book of remembrance, containing biographical details and brief histories of those men whose names from WW2 are inscribed on the war memorial, was blessed and presented to the Church for safekeeping. We were honoured that Tony Carpenter was present – his father Harold Carpenter, who served with the 1st Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment, is named on the war memorial. this nicely presented book is the result of the hard work and dedication of one of our RBL members - Pat Warn. It will be kept near the entrance door to the church, where visitors with an interest in the memorial can refer to it at will.

The Poppy Appeal lunch Friday 29th October – the Branch regrets that this scheduled event was cancelled at short notice because the guest speaker, our MP Laura Farris, was called to Westminster that day. She has kindly agreed that we should ask her again to a future event. Nevertheless, the community has been very generous with its donations to the Poppy Appeal – so thank you all.

Membership - we are a growing organisation and would welcome you as a member. You do not have to be ex services (or a senior citizen!) to join the RBL but only supportive of the charity's objectives of looking after the serving and ex-serving community. The membership annual subscription is small at £18. To join, please contact one of the undersigned. Steve Allison tel 07812 991013 email

<u>steveallison1888@aol.com</u> or David Norbury TD, tel 07770 326128 email <u>davidnorbury@btinternet.com</u> – thank you.



Autumn Group

We would like to invite anybody who wants a bit of company at this special time of year to join us for Christmas Day Lunch in the Wilkins Centre, Compton. Santa will be visiting and joining in the after-lunch games.

There is no charge and transport can be arranged. If you or anyone you know will be on their own and would like to join us, please contact
Patricia on
07786856440 or 01635281131
Please hurry as spaces are limited.



Hello everyone.

The Ilsley Evergreens have enjoyed two outings this year. Our first trip of the year on September the 22nd was a Mystery Trip. We called in at Longstock Park Farm Shop and Café for a refreshment break on our way to Highcliffe where we stopped at the picnic site overlooking the beach and a view of the Needles on the Isle of Wight. We enjoyed great weather and stopped off at Peggy May's Café in Lyndhurst for a very nice cream tea on the way home.

The second trip on the 20th of October was to the picturesque village of Broadway in the Cotswolds, after a short stop in Burford for refreshments, which included a lovely scenic steam train ride to Cheltenham Racecourse Station.

We have held a couple of Coffee Mornings at the Wilkins Centre and two Prize Bingo nights in Compton Village Hall. All of these events have been well attended and have raised valuable funds towards the cost of the coaches for our outings. The members are looking forward to their Christmas lunch on the 9th of December.

A sincere thank you to all of you who support the Evergreens and we would welcome anyone 60 or over to join us as a member of this long-established group. We will be holding our Annual General Meeting at the Wilkins Centre Compton on Wednesday the 23rd of February 2022 at 2:30pm where all members and prospective members are welcome to attend, when the list of proposed outings for next year and other important decisions will be voted on.

We look forward to meeting you all.

In the meantime, please enjoy a very Merry Christmas and let's look forward to a Happy and Healthy 2022. Best Wishes Tony Elliott ~ Secretary

THE PRELOVED CLOTHES BOUTIQUE - 11TH NOVEMBER

Thank you to everyone who helped set up and run the Boutique, everyone who donated clothes and those who shopped. It was fantastic and we have raised over £700 for the Ilsleys Primary School. We are already looking forward to reopening the Boutique in the Spring.

Thanks FIPS (Friends of the Ilsleys Primary School)



Autumn Group incorporating the Hobbies Club



We started meeting again at the end of September in the Wilkins Centre, Compton albeit with a few minor restrictions with quite a heavy schedule.

We have been entertained by four wonderful speakers.

The first was Shelley Bowdery who overawed us with the amount of work put in by the village during the peak of the pandemic to combat the loneliness of those in isolation, support for the less abled etc. It left many of us feeling quite humbled.

The second speaker, Olivier Hubert, gave an interesting talk on his time in the Antarctic helping the moving of the British Survey Station, Halley. Plus, other aspects of life in what can only be described as a harsh environment.

Jolie Beattie a local Podiatrist from Cloud Nine Podiatry enthralled everyone about feet. Can you believe it?

An extremely interesting session and I think we all took something away from it. There is more to Podiatry than just cutting toenails.

As a surprise speaker Paul Richardson talked about his experience when he and his daughter took part on the TV programme Bargain Hunt – amazing. We have lined up several equally interesting speakers and entertainers. We try to keep everyone updated via our Facebook page or our members. Sharon is working hard at expanding the activities of the Hobbies Club.

As well as the regular art sessions we have managed to run a mini whist and a very successful flower session. We have just introduced a brand-new skill of glass painting amazing what can be achieved.

If anyone has any other ideas just contact Sharon or Patricia.

Just to remind everyone that we are open to all just not residents of Compton. We already have members from surrounding villages and would be pleased to see more.

Don't forget please feel free to bring a friend along. Patricia, Chairman 07786 856 440

WHO TO CONTACT

DEFIBRILLATOR is outside the village hall - code: C159

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – Carolyne Culver 07976 374146

PARISH COUNCIL

Council members are:

Alan Beaumont chair@westilsley.org

07980 875179

Alan Bloor alan.bloor@westilsley.org

Justin Gilbert justin.gilbert@westilsley.org Clive Hooker clive.hooker@westilsley.org Alan Muir alan.muir@westilsley.org Graham Woods graham.woods@westilsley.org

07905 558884

Sarah Marshman – Clerk clerk@westilsley.org

PATIENT REPRESENTATION GROUP rep is Fred Carter on 281621 or fred_kathcarter@btinternet.com

PRESCRIPTIONS are delivered from Compton on Tuesdays mornings at 8.30. Please collect yours from Ann Barnes, 3 Morland Close on Tuesday or Thursday between 2.30 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. Please note the revised winter collection times above.

TENNIS COURT membership and enquiries email tennis.bookings@westilsley.org Book and play without joining via westilsleytennis.jezzam.com

VILLAGE HALL bookings and enquiries, go to the village hall page on the website, or contact Ros Duckworth on 281471 or rosduckworth@btinternet.com. Rates: £10.00/hour for villagers and £12/hour non villagers.