December 2022



# East Ilsley Communicator EST.2003









## From the Editors...

A warm welcome to this Christmas edition of the East Ilsley Communicator from this issue's guest editors Gina Jones and Paula Rogers. It has been a privilege

to gather the content for this edition and meet those who contribute so much. Paula has only been living in the village 6 months, so it has been a great opportunity to meet new people, and Gina has been badgering old friends and new for magazine content. A sincere thank you to all those who contributed.

As we planned this Christmas edition, we were also planning our own family celebrations. Gina and Sarah have a new baby on the way and Paula is working out where the old decorations will go in the new house - preferably where the setters won't destroy them! With so many events planned for the festive period, it would be great to hear what people got up to in the next edition - please do send in your 'reports' whether they are reviews of the school productions, or photos of your little ones (and not-so-little ones) enjoying the village decorations and the visit from Father Christmas.

You can send your contributions to communicator@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk - we are confident the next issue's editors will be very grateful... which brings us on to our big ask:

Fen has been pulling the Communicator together on her own for far too long, and despite many pleas for someone to take over, no-one else has yet raised a hand. We hope that by guest editing this issue, we inspire others to come forward and volunteer to take an issue on as a project. In a fantastic village full of engaging and creative people, there must be a few individuals or groups who would give it a go. By our calculations, if enough people volunteer for one issue each, it won't be our turn again until September 2056!

Gina, Paula and our families wish all our fellow villagers a joyful festive season and a peaceful and prosperous new year, and we look forward to being outshone in the spring edition!

Merry Christmas!



Gina and Paula in festive knitwear. You too could look this fabulous on the editor's page by volunteering to edit the next issue of the East Ilsley Communicator







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YOUR SPEEL

## Tales from your Parish Clerk

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the EIC! What a thrill to say those words as I was convinced there would not be one this year... absolute hugest and heartfelt thanks go out to Gina and Paula who responded to my plight and took on this bumper challenge!

It has been a busy few months since we last updated you. The external audit was returned from PKF Littlejohn with a big gold star on the front which is always nice (not really, but "no comment" from an external auditor is literally a gold star!  $(\mathbf{O})$ . I've been beavering away on the draft budget which was presented to Full Council on 8th November and I've got some time now to fine tune it before signing it off in January. I'll be paying close attention to the UK Government, in particular our Chancellor, as things they say and do directly affect our carefully controlled budget lines. At the end of the day, I've not got a crystal ball but we'll certainly do our best.

There's exciting news for all those who love the playground. The wooden train & carriages are sadly no longer fit for purpose so it is time to bid farewell to them and hello (hopefully) to a brand new, hurricane swing! If you've not seen (or been on) a hurricane swing before they are pretty cool. We've got Section 106 and Community

Infrastructure money to spend (this type of money is time sensitive, and in our case, the agreement is for it to be spent on playground equipment). We're slightly short on the funds so we've set up a project on the Good Exchange to raise money for the last little gap in the funds. If you can, we'd love a little donation towards this small project. You can app.thegoodexchange.com/project/19799/east-ilsley-parish-council/eastdonate at: ilsley-playground-upgrade-phase-3-2022---2023. The Crown and Horns are putting on a special event on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December to raise the funds we need and more information on that event can be found later in this magazine. Do come and support us on the night.

Coming up early next year we are jointly purchasing a SID (speed indicator device) with Compton Parish Council and we will be sharing it between the two villages. It can be moved to various locations and it logs all the data which generates useful reports. We hope that these reports can support us with any speed limit change requests or assist us with further speed reduction plans as it could well provide the evidence we need.

In May 2023 it is election time for pretty much every council in West Berkshire... do you want to make a difference in your village? Have a think and maybe you can 'make a change' in East Ilsley. More on that later...

From us all at the Council, we wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year! We hope to see you at a meeting in 2023. Enjoy the bumper festive edition. Fen





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## Update from Councillor Carolyne Culver

#### Dear residents

You should all have received my latest printed ward newsletter by now. If not let me know & I will drop one off to you. I hope that you found the information



News from your West Berkshire councillor. Representing West Ilsley, East Ilsley, Compton, Hampstead Norreys, Frilsham & Yattendon

about support with the cost of living useful, particularly if you have a pre-payment meter or you are eligible for the Sustainable Warmth grant for home energy efficiency improvements. If you need to look up the energy performance certificate for your house search for gov.uk/find-energy-certificate & enter your postcode. Contact me if you have any questions. The company running the scheme has told me there have been very few applications from people who use oil heating.

In November I attended a rural business forum organised by WBC & attended by local businesses & landowners. Beeswax Dyson, Betts estate & Yattendon Estates were represented. The forum discussed farming, planning, housing, transport, the cost of living - a wide range of topics. I raised my concern about the pressure on local pubs because of soaring wholesale & energy costs & not being able to find enough staff. Pubs are at the heart of our rural communities, & in urban areas some are being used for community cafes & 'warm spaces' for people whose homes are too cold. I also attended the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary forum of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty where we heard from charities, farmers & academics about how we can protect this landscape for the next 50 years.

There are free buses throughout West Berkshire every Saturday between now & Christmas. They run roughly every two hours between here & Newbury (via Hampstead Norreys & Hermitage). See for the bus timetable on page 51

I have applied to West Berkshire Council for match funding for the East Ilsley playground upgrade. So far since May 2019 I have secured £19,000 in match funding from WBC for community projects in the six villages in this ward.

Remember you can report problems including fly tipping, unemptied bins, & pot holes by visiting for westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem If it's urgent please email customerservices@westberks.gov.uk or call 01635 551111. If you are not happy with the response you receive please contact me.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year! Take care of yourselves.

Councillor Carolyne Culver, Ridgeway Ward, Green Party group leader West Berkshire Council (m) 07976 374146



The Ilsleys

Hello and Merry Christmas from all the staff and pupils at The Ilsleys! We hope you are enjoying the run up to Christmas as much as we are. We are very much looking forward to all of our yearly traditions, such as the Nativity, the Pantomime at The Corn Exchange and our Christmas Carousel Day.

We hope you enjoy reading about what we have been learning in school.

#### **ARCTIC CLASS**

We had so much fun during our forest school session with Mrs Ryder! We began the session by designing our own tree superhero who would help us to save our planet! Some of our tree superheroes included; a super spider, a super mouse and a super worm. We had to think about their super powers and how they would help us to save the planet! After this, we also made our very own dinosaur skeleton using sticks, rocks and twigs we found outside. We even had a fossil excavation which the children loved! Thank you for another super session, Mrs Ryder.





In Literacy, we have moved onto the next part of our story writing process - the 'innovation' stage. Now that we have become experts at re-telling the story of Tyrannosaurus Drip, we have been looking closely at parts of the text and adapting aspects, such as character, setting, the 'problem' as well as solution to write our own versions. We used our story maps to cross out the original character /setting /problem /solution and drawing our adapted one. We then used this as a prompt to help us write our new version of this section of the story.

In Maths this week, Year 1 have been learning about measure, in particular lengths and heights. We discussed the difference between lengths and heights and explored a range of measuring tools. The children used both non-standard units of measure, such as blocks, paper clips and hands as well as standard units of measure, such as rulers and meter sticks. To help us measure accurately, we wrote a list of rules; start measuring from one end to the other, do not leave any gaps, use the same measuring tool and count how many (blocks, paper clips, hands, etc.) long/short/tall your item is that you are measuring. This helped us to measure as accurately as we could. We have learnt lots of new vocabulary to help us when describing the length and height. These include; tall, taller, tallest, short, shorter, shortest and finally long, longer and longest.



Reception have been learning about repeating patterns. We explored lots of patterns in our environment and on animals, such as snakes, chameleons, and zebras. We have learnt about AB, ABC as well as ABB patterns. We used a variety of resources to recognise, describe, copy and extend these repeating patterns. Our knowledge of these patterns helped us to spot these specific patterns on animals and pieces of nature.

The Nativity practise is in full swing! We have spent lots of time practising our lines and songs. Christmas has come early!

#### **PACIFIC CLASS**

We have had a very exciting time in Pacific Class!

In Numeracy, Year 2 have been learning how to sort 2D shapes by counting the number of sides or vertices. Year 3 and 4 have been learning all about angles and how to identify them.

PE has continued to be good fun as we have carried on interpreting Ursula, thinking about how our bodies can move in different ways.

Our trip to the Historic Dockyards in Portsmouth was very exciting. We are all writing an account of our day in Literacy. We started the day quite early and we had a very comfortable coach journey to the dockyard. Our first activity was a workshop called 'Henry's Heroes'. We were able to handle some replica artefacts and try on some costumes. The items and clothes were all divided into things that poor people would have used and things that rich people would have used. We then went into the Mary Rose Museum. We were amazed at how



big the ship was and how many artefacts they have brought up from the sea bed.



I was so proud of Pacific Class; their behaviour was exemplary. I will post some examples of their writing on the class blog on our website.





#### **ATLANTIC CLASS**

It has been jam-packed time for Atlantic Class! I continue to be super impressed by their perseverance, resilience and determination to succeed in lessons - learning isn't always easy but we are getting really good at keeping on going!

In Numeracy, the children have been working with Mr Reeson on angles. They have learnt that the sum of interior angles is different for different polygons, that there are different ways of classifying angles and also the names of those angles. We have worked hard to draw 2D shapes accurately using given dimensions and classify regular and irregular shapes. We were looking at volume and using cubes to help us do this. It's sometimes really useful to use practical resources in our Maths work.

In Literacy, we have enjoyed learning about the features of adventure stories and are already looking forward to creating our own based on Spain. The children have created their own adventure story toolkit to help them know what to include – look at all the features we found!

In Science, the children have continued to enjoy learning about Earth and Space. This week, our focus was on how day and night happens. We addressed the fact that it looks like the sun moves and changes position, but actually, the Earth does! Maisie SB said, 'I really enjoyed shining the light on a globe and seeing what would happen to the light on the Earth as we rotated it - it was really fun!'

72 word sentence	s (subject + verb) = suspense!
Varied sentence	on to a superior.
length	Third Emotions
Direct speech	Person - conveyed through
Ad	venture story prestrical
Title Z	Toolkit Varied
EJ	purctuation
Paragraphs/*	Cliff-hargers #
	Je il Fuerda
Fronted	Build Expanded
adverbials	Ellipses / phrases
L)P	ast tense (
PLOT -> TWISTA!	Intriguing
Build up	Setting
() Resolution	description

We were also very lucky last week to have a Cyber Bullying performance for the end of Anti-Bullying Week. It taught us some really important rules, such as:

- Never talk to, or share information with, people we don't know online.
- Never use unkind words as it's just the same as bullying someone face-to-face.
- Always use secure passwords.







## All Hallow's Eve in East Ilsley

The rain came down and the night grew dark, something was stirring from pond to the park; A glistening row of pumpkins afloat, bobbing on water, no sign of a boat. At once it rang out - a blood-curdling scream, did it come from the school or Millennium Green? Perhaps from the Ridgeway... or closer to home? After the scream came a terrible moan. What could have produced those sounds oh-so scary? It was not the bell of the church of St. Mary. The answer emerged from the East Ilsley homes, the frightening costumes and terrible groans; The bay of a wolf and a scurry of feet, an ominous sound coming from the High Street. Up Farriers, down Fidlers and onto Cow Lane, the scariest creatures and critters all came: Witches on Sheepdown and werewolves on Broad Street, cackling and howling at all they would meet; Ghosts by the Crown and Horns, ghouls at The Swan, spiders and vampires all sneaking along. Zombies and dragons, too many to name, on Abingdon Road and around Haydon Lane; Spectres were spotted on Old Stanmore Road, with skeletons haunting The Gallops I'm told; Church Side saw warlocks and Church Hill had spirits, the nerves of the villagers pushed to their limits. The spooks of the village could not be kept out, as children in costumes all wandered about, Across East Ilsley they all came to meet, shrieking and wailing aloud "Trick or Treat!"



### A spooky review

The children of East Ilsley would like to say a big "thank you" to all of the residents who welcomed them to their doors and generously provided treats. Isobel Pickering who is in year 3 at The Ilsley's Primary School told us about her evening:

"At Halloween I did trick or treating with my brother Jacob. Lots of people were doing it and it was very fun. The pond display was amazing. I especially loved the witches in the display and when it was all lit up at night time. For Halloween my brother and I dressed as vampires. Lots of people came trick or treating to our house so we had lots of sweets to give away. When we walked around the village we saw lots of scary costumes including someone dressed as a werewolf." Isobel, age 7



Great news! Once again this year despite his very busy schedule on Christmas Eve, Santa has agreed to tour our village. The route, as in previous years, will be starting about 5.00 p.m. from The Crown & Horns



The route from The Crown & Horns will be as follows Sunrise, Compton Road, The Pond, Hildesley Court, Church Hill, Church Side, top of High Street, Old Stanmore Road, High Street, The Crown & Horns (about 7.00p.m.) The Swan, Abingdon Road, Farriers Lane & Sheepdown

As with last year, no door to door collection, but please donate to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance via this QR code, or at the Crown & Horns, The Swan, on the Sleigh, or via our just giving page www.justgiving.com/fundraising/father-christmas3

This long standing and treasured event is loved by children and adults alike and we look forward to seeing you for what is always a magical evening.

Thank you to all those who have already generously donated.





## House decorating competition 2022

We are looking forward to seeing all your Christmas decorated Houses in East Ilsley again this year. The Pond decorations are going up and we are planning the turn on of the Lights on the Pond on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm with the Mulled Wine and Mince Pies as well Watch Village Facebook pages for more details.

#### The Crown and Horns Pub have kindly donated a £50 voucher for the winning house this year!!! So, get decorating!! You do it so well!!

To judge the Best Decorated House, we will be touring the village with the Independent Judge after dark on the night of Sunday, 18th December to choose the winner, always a very hard thing to do. The Winning House will be announced after the judging and, also on Facebook.





#### Round 1 - Totally General Christmas

- 1, What are the two other most popular names for Santa?
- 2, What Country annually sends a Christmas tree to be displayed in Trafalgar Square?
- 3, What is your star sign if you are born on Christmas day?
- 4, Elvis isn't going to have a white Christmas, instead he's going to have a what?
- 5, What words follow "Silent Night" in the song?
- 6, Which country did eggnog originally come from?

#### **Round 2 - Christmas Riddles**

1, I come in so many colours, so beautiful and bright, I turn so many houses into a beautiful sight. What am I?

- 2, I get chopped, decorated and on one end you'll see wings on top. What am I?
- 3, If the end of the year is the 31st of Dec, then what is the end of Christmas?
- 4, What do you get if you cross a bird with a turtle?
- 5, What phobia do people get when they have seen Santa?
- 6, How do the water globe and snow globe feel during Christmas?

#### Round 3 - Christmas Emoji songs

1, 🖋 🖸 🎄	2, 👁 🍇 🖾 🍈	3, ເຍ⊌€
4, <b>Q</b> 🕲 🏷	5, 举⑦	6, 🖉 🖁

#### Round 4 - GCHQ Round

What comes next in the sequence, 7, 8, 5, 5, 3, 4, 4, 6, 9, 7, 8, \_??

Find the answers on page 37

#### How many did you get right?

- 1-6 You're a Christmas Pudding
- 7 12 You could join the Wise Men
- 12 19 You're the star on top of the tree!



## St Mary's Church, East Ilsley

#### LETTER FROM AN LLM

Christmas is coming!

The Christmas ads have started, and decorations are up in the shops. What sort of Christmas will this be? Can we afford to celebrate in the tradition way?



Many are worrying about the cost of heating. *I wonder if it is cold in a stable?* 

Food prices are high. Did someone bring food to Mary and Joseph or were they hungry?

Can we afford what we need? *Did Mary have clothes and nappies for her baby and how much can you actually carry on a donkey anyway?* 

The NHS is understaffed and struggling. Did Mary have a midwife or did Joseph have to cope?

War in Ukraine has affected all of us; perhaps some reading this are here as refugees. Joseph and Mary were only in Bethlehem because of the command of a foreign ruler whose troops occupied their country.

We will not hear the Queen's Speech on Christmas Day. She has gone and we are in a new age. What will it be like? What will Charles be like as King? *The birth of Jesus was the start of a new age although few realised it until long after. Who saw a king in a homeless baby? Or even God Himself.* 

Yet angels sang "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests." (Luke 2v14 (NIV).

Heaven came to earth that night as God arrived to live with humans in all their worries and hardships. He has never left. Now millions acknowledge Him as Lord and seek His presence in their lives as they pray. Do you?

Happy Christmas and may God bless the year to come for all of us.

#### **Cathy Hawkins**

(Licensed Lay Minister)





Little Angels will be on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January. Come along to Hampstead Norreys Church at 10am for Bible stories, music and play time for under 5's and their parents and carers. Although the heating will be on, please wrap up warm!



m Communion (CW)
Communion (CW)
m
s by Candlelight
am
e Praise Service with Crib Blessing
rvice here
m Crib Service at Compton Church
pm Midnight Communion Service at Compton Church
m Family Christmas Communion (CW)
am Team Service, at Hermitage Church
the only service in the Team today
m Parish Communion (CW)
rvice here
m Parish Communion (CW) at Compton Church
am All Age Praise
rvice here
m Parish Communion (CW) at Compton Church

#### DECEMBER AND JANUARY SERVICES AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, EAST ILSLEY

If you every can't get to a service, or don't want to venture out, Holy Trinity Church in Hermitage host live-streamed services on a regular basis. Anyone can join and the Zoom link stays the same each week. Simply find out what time Hermitage are having their Sunday Service and log in to Zoom. If they are hosting a live-streamed service they will let you in to view and hear the service.

As with all things technical, sometimes it goes wrong. It might not be available every week, but we will do our best to provide this service to you as often as we can. To join the service from your computer enter the Meeting ID and Passcode on the Zoom home page.

#### Meeting ID: 974 7616 8103

Passcode: sunday

If you have any technical issues please text or WhatsApp 07950 779957 and assistance will be provided. Alternatively, send an email to bunmi@bunmisowande.com

#### Online Service in the Team on Zoom:

Monday Online House Group @ 19.30 Meeting ID: 848 8503 4498 Passcode: Meeting us02web.zoom.us/j/84885034498?pwd=SHBQNDVSNDZjK1hpd2RmRkNGNjhhQT09 Wednesday Team Pilgrims/Meditation @ 19.30 Meeting ID: 880 2929 0241 Passcode: 106973 us06web.zoom.us/j/88029290241?pwd=NXNKSG0xYnB2RTI1ZWliankrU1VBUT09



Update from our Team Rector, Reverend Wayne Lautenbach:

Greetings to you all. Since I last updated you in September, and by the time you read this I would have finished my radiotherapy treatment!

The only side effects I experienced were fatigue and some strange sleeping patterns. Luckily, I was not in any pain just a little bit of discomfort with a few aches here and there.

Having met with the senior Radiotherapist it seems likely that I will be back with you all on a phased return to work from mid December. I have also met with HR department, the Bishop and the Archdeacon to begin this process and I look forward to taking a service with you again soon.

I would like to thank the Ministry Team, the Churchwardens and Fen for all the work that they are doing to ensure that all services and occasional offices were covered. I am excited to be back! Love and prayers to all and see you soon! Revd. Wayne

Update on Reverend Clive Jones:

You might have known that Reverend Clive went to hospital for an operation at the end of October. We are thrilled to advise that it went very well and Clive was home at the start of November. He now has a time of recovery and we look forward to welcoming him back to us from mid-December!

Keep an eye on our website as changes made are reflected there, there is a special Online Services page here: hermitage-team.org.uk/page/82/online-services which is kept up to date.

We will continue to add recorded services to our YouTube Channel, please subscribe and you will be alerted when a new service has been added. bit.ly/hermitageteam-youtube

If you would like to receive the weekly update email, please visit our website hermitage-team.org.uk and complete the 'Contact Us' form which can be found on the homepage.

#### **Contacts in the Hermitage Team**

#### Team Rector:

The Revd. Wayne Lautenbach, 07825 502309 wayne@hermitage-team.org.uk *Phased return to work, please contact Fenella Woods in the first instance.* Churchwarden: East Ilsley:

John Hibbert Tel: 01635 281885 jwt.hibbert@btinternet.com Team Administrator:

Fenella Woods Tel: 07467 611194 fenella@hermitageteam.org.uk

Working hours: Monday-Thursday 9am—11am Team Website www.hermitage-team.org.uk

Team Facebook Page:@hermteamministry

YouTube Channel: bit.ly/hermitageteam-youtube



Christmas Blessings from the Hermitage Team Ministry







## Church Light Donations

The following people have generously donated to the lighting up of St. Mary' Church - many on a chosen day with a specific person in mind:

Kay Sanderson	All Hallows 2nd Nov	This is the day we remember and pray for those we loved who have passed over
Kay Sanderson	14th Nov	
Andrew Sharp	21-Nov	
Tracey Murray	27th Nov	
Paula Finch	1st Dec	For Betty a much loved Mother and Grandma
Derek Brown	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	My twin son Timothy Stanley Brown whose ashes are in this grave yard
John Hibbert	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	
Francesca Wilkins	4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	For Nigel, Shaun and Tony. With love from your friends in East Ilsley
Richard Vellender	5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	In memory of my Mother, Muriel Vellender and also her Mother, my Gran, Elsie Bebbington whose birthday it is.
Jenny Allcott	6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	In loving memory of all those we have loved and lost. Always missed and never forgotten
Mr and Mrs Jeffs	7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Wishing everyone a Very Merry Christmas
Paula Finch	8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	For Betty a much loved Mother and Grandma
Dom Robertson	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Wishing everyone a Very Merry Christmas
Deborah Ingham and Andrew Sharp	10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Our 16th Wedding Anniversary and in memory of Charlie Dog
Linkie Whitehead	11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Sponsored by Linkie for Reg Whitehead Happy Birthday x
Richard Vellender	12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	In Memory of my Gran, Efriede Vellender and my Father Rex Walter Vellender
Deborah Ingham and Andrew Sharp	13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Happy Christmas Everyone! (then Picture of Bob) under picture Remembering Bob From Mo and Molly Moulton
Helen Pearce	14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	In loving memory of June and Alf Richardson Always in our hearts With love Helen & Family
Angélique Ravion	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to everyone in East Ilsley
The McGrath Family	16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Wishing all our neighbours and fellow villages , a wonderful happy Christmas and very best wishes for the new year From Brendan, Leah, Orlaith, Maeve and Erin @ Corace House
Nick Watkins	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Mother's birthday
Gary Weight	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	In Memory of Neil and Peter Weight Always in our hearts
Angélique Ravion	19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to everyone in East Ilsley



Eric and Liz Saxton	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Sponsored by Eric and Liz Saxton for their 53rd Wedding Anniversary, and in memory of our dear parents.
Debbie Leach	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Sponsored by Kevin, Deborah, James and Molly Leach In loving memory of much missed Fathers, Don Leach and Alan Smith
Mike Lewis	22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Happy Birthday Sue Lewis
Sally Allsop	23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Gordons Birthday
Ali Allen	24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	For Mum & Dad, (Bill & Cecily Rees) I shall look up at the sky tonight as I always do on Christmas Eve and think of you. You are much missed. Janey xx
Mike Pembroke	25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Happy Christmas
Trish Napper	26 <sup>th</sup> Dec	In loving memory of my parents Cyril and Marjorie Hibbert on their Wedding Anniversary
Sheila Kidd	27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Always in our hearts and thoughts love Linda, Robin and Sheila and all the Family xx
Rachel Ward	28 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Everyone in the emergency services working over the Christmas period
John Hartley	29 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Merry Christmas from the Hartley Family
The McGrath Family	30 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Merry Christmas from the McGrath Family
Smiths Churchside	31st Dec	In Memory of Robert and Evelyn Arnold with love from Shona, Isabel, Theresa & Jeremy
Smiths Churchside	1st Jan	In Memory of Doreen & Tom Smith with love from Shona, Isabel, Theresa and Jeremy
Tony and Sandra Savage	2nd Jan	In memory of Sandra's father
Clive Jones	3rd Jan	In loving memory of Diane & our happy years together. Clive
Erica Smith	4th Jan	To my true Friend for most of my life, taken too young, Happy Birthday Jackie RIP
Trish Napper	5th Jan	In loving memory of my parents Cyril and Marjorie Hibbert on their Wedding Anniversary
Camilla Allen	6th Jan	In memory of my husband, Derek Allen
Sheila Kidd	7th Jan	Happy Birthday
Anne Tuite	8th Jan	In Memory of Edwine Wicks
Gareth Jones	9th Jan	From the Jones Family
Tony and Sandra Savage	10th Jan	
Anne Tuite	11th Jan	In Memory of Rhona McFarlane
Smiths Churchside	12th Jan	In memory of Doreen Smith





## St Patrick's Church – Cast Ilsley

#### St Patrick's Catholic Church

A reminder that Sunday Mass is once more being said at St Patrick's Church, Old Stanmore Road, East Ilsley, RG20 7NJ at 11.15am. All are welcome. We suggest parking in East Ilsley High Street to avoid congestion on Old Stanmore Road.

St Patrick's is served from East Hendred. See <u>www.hendredcatholicparish.org.uk</u> Mgr Andrew Burnham is the Parish Priest and can be contacted on 01235 835 038 Or <u>aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</u>

Mass is livestreamed from St Mary's, East Hendred and you can access it at churchservices.tv/easthendred

Masses over the Christmas Period at St Patrick's		
Christmas Day 25th December	11.15am	
New Year's Day 1 <sup>st</sup> January	11.15am	
Masses over Christmas Period at St Mary's Catholic Church, St Marys Road, East Hendred OX12 8LF		
Christmas Eve 24 <sup>th</sup> December	4.00pm Vigil Mass for Families	
	8.00pm Mass of Christmas Night	
Christmas Day	9.30am Mass of the Day	
New Year's Day 1 <sup>st</sup> January	9.30am Mass 6.00pm	





## Remembrance

#### We Remembered Them

Remembrance was once again marked by the coming together of our local villages to remember those who gave their lives in service of our country. Walking around the village in November it was heartening to see so many people wearing their poppy with pride, and to see the silent soldier silhouette take up his position at the village pond.



Remembrance Sunday this year saw the turn of Hamstead Norreys to host our join commemorations as young and old gathered to pay their respects and mark the sacrifice of local people who have died in two world wars and conflicts since, and those of our family members from across the UK and the globe who also paid the ultimate price for our freedoms.

In fine autumnal weather. the Compton, llslevs and Norreys Branch of the Royal British Legion paraded alongside local dignitaries and supporters, with some 80 scouts and quides providing a Union Flag and individual section standards. Under the direction of the Parade Marshal and RBL Chairman Branch Steve Allison - a WO1 reservist in



the Army's Royal Logistics Corps, the parade was led by Pipe Major Ian Knight from the





Oxford Caledonian Pipe Band. The RBL branch standard was carried by Mick Crockford, and the Act of Remembrance was led by the Reverend Renee Coulson.

The assembled crowd fell silent in their own moment of reflection as Aimee Jones played the Last Post and Reveille, with Ian Hickling reading the names of the fallen, including those from East Ilsley:

WWI: Frank Brown, Gavin Caldwell, William Deacon, Edwin Gardener, Victor Gibbens, Allen Jones, Walter Jones, George Lailey, Benjamin Matthews, Oliver Merrell, Edward Mills, Alfred Minchin, Harry Naylor, William Prior, Arthur Speke, Ralph Thorn, Harry Warren, Reginald Wells, Edward Whitlock, Albert Williams, Frank Woods

WWII: Leslie Carter, Maurice Gauntlet, John Goodwin, Alan Hall, Benjamin Jones, Nicholas Mount, George Risien

It was wonderful to see such a great turnout. Next year sees the turn of Yattendon, and we hope to see new faces and old come together then.





Photography courtesy of Tom Thomasson and Nick Watkins

#### Support for veterans

If you know of anyone who served in the military, even for one day, they could be entitled to support, including financial support, through the military benevolence funds. Contact the Royal British Legion or SSAFA for more information. If you are a veteran, make sure that your GP knows this, and remember that our local RBL branch offers camaraderie to all former serving personnel. For information about veteran's services, visit veteransgateway.org.uk.





## What's on

#### Christmas Fair

If you are looking for locally made, unique and creative festive gifts then the Christmas Fair at Shaw House is not to be missed!

With over 65 stalls offering local craft, food and drink, artwork, jewellery, clothing and more you will be sure to find bespoke wares not available on the high street.

Enjoy a day of festivities set to a soundtrack of vintage tunes from Gramofun, along with hot food, mulled wine, Newbury's Living Advent Calendar and an outdoor trail for children. In a world where you can shop anywhere, shop local!

Sunday 4 December | Shaw House | 11am – 3pm | £2 adults, £1 child (3yrs and under free) | Pay on the door

#### Workshop: Christmas Wreath Making



Come along and join in the festive fun creating your own bespoke Christmas wreath. You will learn how to master the technique of mossing your own wreath and then add seasonal foliage.

To decorate there will be a selection of dried fruits and cinnamon sticks, fur cones, baubles and ribbons. Kim Harrison and her Lavenders Floristry Team will be on hand to guide you through and demonstrate techniques to help you create your unique design.

Tickets available for Thursday 8 December, 10am | Shaw House | £50





#### Concert: Midwinter Revels



Spanning several centuries, GreenMatthews' Midwinter Revels is a celebration of Yuletide Past guaranteed to warm the cockles of the most Scrooge-like heart. Featuring Christmas carols, winter folk songs, toe-tapping tunes and a plethora of weird and wonderful instruments, the show is brought to life with GreenMatthews' trademark wit and humour.

Tuesday 20 December | Doors 7pm | Shaw House | Adult £12, Child £5



#### Movig in the Hall: Arthur Christmas

Santa's clumsy son Arthur sets out on a mission with Grandsanta to give out a present they misplaced to a young girl in less than two hours.

The café will be open serving cinema sweets and treats.

Thursday 22 December | 10am | Shaw House | Adults £5 Child £3





## Christmas Messages

Barry and Karen would like to wish all their friends and neighbours in East Ilsley a wonderful Christmas and a very happy and healthy 2023 We shall be making various charity donations in the UK and Cape Verde in lieu of cards.

Penny, Mark and Sadie would like to wish all our friends and neighbours a very happy Christmas and a healthy prosperous 2023. We have made a donation to the cat protection

Wishing everyone in East Ilsley a Very Merry Christmas and a Great New Year From Erica and Alan (Uhuru Compton Road) Not forgetting Penny, Nina and Eski (Dogs) We will be making our usual donation to the Salvation Army Homeless Shelter at Christmas & Hillside Animal Shelter in place of sending cards to everyone.

## Cight Bells



#### Give the gift of time this season & sign up as a Community Navigator Volunteer You can make a difference in someone's life!

With your help, we will reduce social isolation by encouraging people to take part in community activities and events.

If you have a friendly nature, the ability to chat with people easily, good listening skills, and knowledge of your local area then we'd like to hear from you.

#### Are you or someone you know feeling lonely or isolated this season?

**We're here to help!** We will help you to find and take part in community activities and events where you can get out and about to make new friends.

To find out more, call 07985 404302 or email cs@eightbellsnewbury.co.uk



## Crown and Horns

#### Saturday 10th December:

9:30am Breakfast with Santa. £10per head. Limited spaces left, Book Now 7pm Christmas Bingo, raising money for East Ilsley parish council, towards phase 3 of the playground a festive night not to be missed, Book Now

#### Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December:

Join us from 5pm for a community gathering as we wave goodbye to Santa as he begins his tour of the village

#### Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup> December:

We will be open from 11am for drinks and Christmas day lunch being served from 12pm-4pm. Limited tables available Book Now

#### New Year's Eve 31<sup>st</sup> December :

A night not to be missed. Join us for a celebration with live music and party in 2023!

Don't forget our festive menu and Christmas Day menu our out now (pre-order required). Gather the friends and family and enjoy the festivities with us.

On behalf of all the team at the Crown and Horns, we would like to say a big thank you for the continued support and wish you and your families a very merry and Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. We look forward to seeing you over the next few weeks! Merry Christmas









Millets Farm

Fabulous Festive Food and Fun

If you're looking for a great place to do your Christmas shopping or amuse the family over Christmas, Millets Farm is a wonderful venue just 20 minutes up the A34

A family-owned destination set in 150 acres of countryside just over the Oxfordshire border, Millets Farm is truly homegrown and has been run by The Carter family since 1952.



With farm shop, Webbs garden centre, restaurants, leisure attractions and much more, it's a great day out already known to many East Ilsley residents. If you've not been yet, why not jump in the car and take a look.



The annual Christmas extension of the farm shop has plenty of great gift ideas and delicious food to ensure a special seasonal spread, or visit the magical Christmas displays inside the garden centre for decorations and yuletide inspiration. Plus there are special Christmas workshops, performances, and of course Santa's Grotto - book these in advance to avoid disappointment: milletsfarmcentre.com.

For the children (including the big kids!) there's plenty to do all year long. Enjoy a round of tee-rrific fun with the new 18-hole farm-themed adventure golf course or explore the award winning 4-tier indoor soft play. See the animals up close on Pettigoat Lane and visit the falconry centre. Bring your wellies for a wonderful walk around Phoebe Wood – one of the 27 special woodlands planted as part of the Woodland Trust's Trafalgar Woods Project.



Inside the farm shop you'll find handmade, homegrown, local, fresh, unusual, and delicious fare. Millets Farm Shop has been offering customers a mouth-watering variety of temptation for 40 years, with the freshest fruit and vegetables straight from their own fields or sourced from local suppliers. The best local meats, a huge selection of cheeses, home baked bread and handmade cakes, as well as much much more... all under one roof!

And if reading all that leaves you feeling rather peckish, The Farmhouse Kitchen Restaurant

located next to the farm shop serves delicious home-cooked meals, using their own produce and other local ingredients.

If you don't manage to make it over this Christmas, you'll be assured of a warm welcome all year round, with a seasonal PYO and a calendar of events throughout the year, including your chance to negotiate your way out of the maize maze.

Paula and Gina are big fans, visiting with their families and popping in for great food, so why not give it a try this Christmas.







The Autumn Group



## Autumn Group incorporating the Hobbies Club



The period leading up to Christmas is always busy and especially so for several of our members who are organising the annual Christmas Lunch as advertised elsewhere in this edition of the Compilations. It is so rewarding to the everyone sit down together and talk.



The recent work by the Compton Village Hall Committee in tidying up the Wilkins Centre and surrounding area has been transformative. So much so that when we ran the Tea and Cake stall in support of the Circus we actually managed to set up some table and chairs outside.

We are also extremely grateful to the Compton Parish Council who have awarded us a grant that will enable us to purchase some light weight selfassembled tables making it easier to set ourselves up for various events.

The Cost of Living crisis is causing us all concern. We hope that our financial position is strong enough that we can hold our membership fees & internal prices for the immediate future though we are expecting some costs to rise.

Since the last time of writing we had a wide range of activities that our member enjoyed including a very messy cake decorating afternoon and the aptly named autumn flower arranging session. The latter coincided with one of our members birthday so no prizes for guessing there was an attempt to decorate a hat.

Some of our members went on a very informative visit to the Dogs Trust. It was very thought provoking on the amount of care and tome that the volunteers put into looking after our canine friends.





#### Amanda Povey from West Berks Council (WBDC) visited

us. Amanda is researching into what WBDC can offer local communities. The objective of the meeting was to seek our views as a group. This interactive session really stimulated our members and Amanda must have left with a large to do list.

Later in the month we had a visit from Mick (Squirrel) Johnson one of our popular local musicians who lives in Drayton. Mike entertained us with an afternoon of popular music and some sing along sessions.







As mentioned in previous editions that for the benefit of all our members and anyone else that cares to pop in we are running a "jigsaw library" where we have a growing stock that they can borrow a puzzle.

This library is always open during normal club hours on a Tuesday.

Again, to remind you that we as a group are open to all of any age, not just residents of Compton and currently have members and guests from many of the surrounding villages and would be pleased to see many more. Please feel free to pop in and bring a friend along.

We have a very full programme for the month leading up to Christmas.

6 <sup>th</sup> December	An afternoon at the movies	Complete with Hot Dogs
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Family Fortunes	Our ever popular version of the game show
20th December	Bingo	A Christmas Bingo spectacular

Patricia, Chairman 07786 856 440 chairman@autumngroup.org

Joan, Vice Chairman 07818 292 322 joan@autumngroup.org



Autumn Group incorporating the Hobbies Club



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 07786 856 440 or Joan 07818 292 322



#### Your village needs you!

Do you care about East Ilsley? Do you want to help ensure our village remains a great place to live?

You should be a Parish Councillor!

Find out more on page 35





Berkshire Vision

# Can you help us to reduce isolation during the dark winter months?



Being visually impaired makes someone far more likely to be socially isolated and we hate the idea of anyone feeling lonely! Our telephone befriending service matches our members with a volunteer who calls them each week to make sure they have someone to talk to.

This is one of our most popular services and benefits our members greatly. Members like Yvonne: "Suzanne calls me once a week and we always have such a great chat. She phones me on Monday and Thursday every week and we talk about everything! It's the contact that means so much to me and by her ringing, it means I get someone to talk to and I always look forward to her ringing." As winter approaches, our members struggle to get out as much and our befriending service becomes more important. We need more volunteers to support this service and so we would love to hear from you if you can give an hour each week to make a phone call that will really make a difference. If you would like to find out about this rewarding volunteer opportunity call 0118 987 2803 or email volunteering@berkshirevision.org.uk.

Berkshire Vision provides vital practical and friendly support, befriending, sport and activities to visually impaired children and adults, and their families in Berkshire. Helping to develop confidence and live independent lives safely. berkshirevision.org.uk

## Cholsey Repair Cafe

#### The first **Cholsey Repair Café** of 2023 will take place on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January** at **The Cholsey Pavilion**, from **11.00 to 13.45**.

As usual, talented volunteers will be on hand to try to help you fix all manner of broken household items, toys, clothing, bikes etc. Subject to availability of specialists, there is also a sharpening service for knives and tools. The underlying aim is to teach repair skills that reduce demands on the world's reserves of energy and materials — and perhaps save you needless expense.

More information can be found at cholseyrepaircafe.com.





## Cast Ilsley Local History Society

If you haven't yet visited the Society's updated website, what are you waiting for?

## eastilsleyhistory.com

Since the last edition of the EIC in September, we have continued to add more content, making it easier to track down ancestors using our large collection of sources. Several lists of surnames can now be examined. All the surnames which appear in East Ilsley's Parish Registers of



births/marriages/deaths, names of people mentioned in 300 years of East Ilsley wills, and names from the poor books.

We have also obtained a full copy of the recently released 1921 census of East Ilsley, which has been transcribed and clearly presented. We hope to put this onto the website very soon. By the time you read this it may already be there.

Check out who was living in your house 100 years ago. If your house isn't that old, what was there before it was built?

<u>CHRISTMAS</u> <u>FAMILY PRIZE BINGO</u> <u>AT</u> <u>WEST ILSLEY VILLAGE HALL</u> <u>FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER</u> <u>DOORS OPEN 7:00, EYES DOWN 7:30</u> <u>TERRIFIC PRIZES & GRAND RAFFLE</u> <u>REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE</u> <u>COME & ENJOY YOURSELF</u>



llsley Evergreens

# **EVERGREENS** NEWSLETTER ~ DECEMBER 2022

Hello everyone.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of November a few of the Evergreens enjoyed a visit to the New Theatre in Oxford to see a 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour production of Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap". The cast included Todd Carty (Martin Fowler), John Altman (Nasty Nick Cotton) - both from Eastenders and Gwyneth Strong (Cassandra) from Only Fools and Horses. At the end of a very professional and entertaining performance the audience were asked never to reveal <u>"who done it !!"</u>

We are holding a Christmas Coffee Morning at the Wilkins Centre, Compton on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 10am. Come and enjoy a tea/coffee and Christmas treats. Only £1.

#### This year's Christmas lunch will be at The Dog House Hotel, Frilford Heath on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Although these events and coach trips are arranged by our group, everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a really good day out at a very reasonable cost. <u>LOOK OUT FOR DETAILS ON OUR POSTERS</u> Contact either: Julia - 01635 281597 or Tony - 07780 994297 to book your seat.

The management committee of the Ilsley Evergreens wish to thank you for your continued support and are looking forward to an exciting and entertaining 2023. We welcome any new members to join us. In the meantime, keep safe and warm and we hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. Thank You. Tony Elliott ~ Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*

Would you like to guest edit this magazine?

The East IIsley Communicator needs people who will take on just one issue, writing features and gathering news. If Gina and Paula can do it – anyone can!

For more information, please get in touch: communicator@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk



## Can you help?



The Trussell Trust, who manage the West Berks Food Bank, have said on their webpage about their need for Emergency help this winter for people living in these challenging times, The Food Bank is coping with an unprecedented demand on their services.

Thank you East Ilsley for your outstanding effort last year in giving to the Food Bank. This year we have The Crown and also The Swan joining in this year as they are open again, Collection boxes will be placed in each Pub. Below is the current list of their needs just now from their web page; more information can be found on the Food Bank website info@westberks.foodbank.org.uki . There is always a need for staple item too such as cereals, tea bags, washing up liquid, etc, things we take for granted.

Thank you in advance for your donations.

TINNED MEAT/MEAT MEALS

#### Latest Update from The Food Banks Web Page

#### URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS

SHAMPOO

MALE DEODERENT

LUI		WONSTOCK
		TINNED SOUP
		SPONGE PUDDINGS (NOT CHILLED) RAZORS AND SHAVING FOAM
		TOILET ROLLS
		LONG-LIFE UHT MILK

TINNED TOMATOES

LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE

\* • • WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF: PASTA - ALL TYPES PASTA SAUCE POT NOODLES BAKED BEANS/TINNED SPAGHETTI

CONFECTIONARY - EG SWEETS, CHOCOLATE BARS, TREATS NAPTES NO REQUIREMENT FOR DOG AND CAT FOOD

IF YOU NEED ANY FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT THE FOOD BANK WEBSITE info@westberks.foodbank.org.uk





th Annual West Berkshire Toy Appeal, s in loving memory of our friend Purton, is more important than ever. this wonderful area is widely ed as affluent, such perceptions only he shadow darker for the 10% of Perkshire residents who now live in poverty.

et up <u>The Toy Appeal</u> to support the g number of families who are forced ear to make the choice between Christmas presents and paying their

Iv we drive this appeal for donations , unwrapped, gifts for boys and gifts ne age of 19. We then coordinate the ition of vouchers with social support s, family support workers, school officers, NHS practitioners and GPs or es. All of these professionals can help sure vouchers are issued to families ange for the donated gifts. Each and rear since 2006, the generosity of this unity has produced hundreds of gifts ake a real difference to the lives of irvileged children and young people;

vrivileged children and young people; rally **Deliver Christmas to Hundreds of Local Children** 

None of us needs reminding that 2022 has been a very difficult year. The depressing statistics speak for themselves:

- 3 million more people live in absolute poverty than in 2021.
- Food bank usage has increased by 50%, while donations have fallen by 72%.
  Domestic gas bills have risen by 96%,
- Domestic gas bits have risen by go%, and electricity costs have soared by 57%.

More locally. The Newbury Community Furniture Project, whose support is essential to The Toy Appeal's success, have seen a 50% rise in demand for their Essential Household Goods Scheme, while donations have stayed at a similar level.

In other words, there are more people in need of help than ever before, and fewer people in a position to provide it. This is deeply concerning to everyone involved in the Appeal. Historically, we have relied on the generosity of local residents, yet we must be prepared for the fact that no matter how desperate the need\_many people will not be in a position to donate this year.

Rising costs, falling donations and increased demand combine to mean that we need to broaden the scope of our appeal. That's why this year we are appealing to local businesses to support The Toy Appeal. We are asking local companies to replace 'Secret Santa' with donations to The West Berkshire Toy Appeal.



CHILTON village hall desperately needs a local handyman for different jobs, if anyone is interested could they please ring Margaret on 01235 861350

There is always someone nearby who needs a hand or some company. Please check in with your neighbours over the Christmas period, and offer your time when you can. You can make a real difference.



## The Downland Practice

## Patient Info Sheet Issue No: 022 (Nov 2022)



Welcome to the Downland Practice patient info sheet, we have the following updates:

- 1. Abuse of NHS staff
- 2. Autumn Flu and Covid-19 Clinics
- 3. Change GP Requests
- 4. Staff Changes
- 5. Pharmacy Services
- 6. Facebook Page
- 7. Practice Appointments
- 8. Feature Article Paramedic



#### Abuse of NHS staff

Sadly, this is an issue that does not appear to go away, several patients have been behaving in an inappropriate manner towards the staff whilst using the practice, both on the telephone and in the practice. Behaving in an inappropriate manner towards our staff is not to be tolerated. We have now placed up NHS posters across both sites to remind patients to behave when using NHS services at the downland practice. Patients who misbehave towards any of our staff will be given a warning letter, and where appropriate then the Police will be informed. Patients who are reported to the Police may end up receiving a Public Order Offence and being removed from the Downland Practice List. The patient will then be offered a practice in Newbury/Didcot or Wantage to access GP services.

#### Autumn Flu and Covid-19 Clinics

This year's Autumn Flu and Covid-19 vaccination clinics have gone well. The uptake has been exceptional from our patients who have been offered this service. The Downland Practice have had to order extra Flu vaccines to meet the demand for this service. The practice has mainly been running these clinics at the weekend, but we have also offered weekday appointments at the surgery. Our last weekend clinic will be on the 12 November 2022. Thank you for your support, the Flu and Covid clinics provide much needed income for the surgery.

#### Change GP Requests

We are getting several change GP requests; this is where the patient's named GP is requested to be changed for another GP. Please be aware that if the GP you request already has a full list of patients, then you will be allocated to a GP who has gaps in their patient list. We do try and action GP change requests in a four-week period, this can at times be longer depending on other demands on the practice and GP holidays.

#### Staff Changes

Dr Victoria Ashall has now taken over from Dr Curtis, Dr Ashall was a GP partner at another GP practice and is an experienced GP. There have been some changes for some patients recently as the practice have been redoing GP patient personal lists. All of Dr Curtis patient's will have received a household letter explaining that they will be looked after by another GP on a temporary basis until Dr Ashall arrives.



#### Pharmacy Services

Sometimes when patient rings up the surgery for an appointment, they may be asked to see the Pharmacist first, this all depends on what the condition is and if the patient is eligible for some of these pharmacy services. This is not new but has been suspended whilst we have had temporary pharmacist covering the Downland Pharmacy. Sherry will be offering BP checks, new medicine reviews and some on the day needs for patients.

#### Facebook Page

The Downland Practice Facebook page is getting some good numbers on terms of the users of this facility. We are using this facility to keep patients informed of developments at the surgery and of any coming changes to services. We still have the Practice Website for patient information. This is proving to be a well-used and looked at page across the practice population.

#### **Practice Appointments**

As you are aware, the NHS currently has 7 million patients waiting for hospital appointments, this is hugely increasing demand across all GP surgeries in England. All GPs are seeing more patients and demand for appointments has increased as a result of patients not being seen at hospital. We have had Locum GP cover over the summer, and this has helped to reduce the wait times for patients registered at the Downland Practice. Now that Dr S Ashall is in post, we no longer have the locum assistance. This coming winter will be very harsh for the NHS in general. Patients are reminded that if they are unable to attend any booked appointment at the Downland Practice then please do contact us as soon as possible to cancel. This appointment will then be given to other patients and not go to waste during this period of high demand for NHS services.

#### Feature Article – Paramedic, on the day demand

Many of you may have attended the practice for an on the day appointment and been seen by our Paramedic, this is a relatively new post for General Practice and is still in the development stage. Mike the Paramedic previously has worked on the 999-ambulance response team for over 20 years and has also worked in Minor Injuries & Illness department in the hospital environment and in other GP Practices. Traditionally in the GP practice, patients ringing up on the day for urgent primary care needs have been seen by a Duty GP. The Duty GP not only sees patients, but they also deal with all of the urgent results and hospital letters for the practice. The Duty Doctor shift is 08.00–18.30, a very long day, which can often end at 21.00 or later. This is an unsustainable way of working for anyone and can be seen as unsafe for someone who has the responsibility to provide for the care of patients.

Having the paramedic in post frees up the GP to deal with the cases that the Paramedic is unable to deal with. When the Paramedic is on annual leave the GP then takes on the Duty GP role in full but having the Paramedic is reducing GP Fatigue and is protecting the patient facing workforce.

Patients who need to be seen on the day should ring the practice before 12.00, patients who contact the practice after 12.00 or on exceptionally busy days for one the day appointments may be asked to contact 111. 111 can then offer patients a triage service for their condition and advise on the appropriate care pathway. 111 can book a GP appointment at the practice as there are protected appointments for this once these are full then 111 may contact the practice. If 111 contact the practice, then they will send over a report to the practice so the GP can assess the need of the patient. The GP may then phone the patient of ask them to come into the surgery to be seen. Patients who are seen by the Duty GP with a chronic long-term condition are likely to be informed to book a routine GP appointment with their own GP. The patients own GP will be aware of the patient's health and be best placed to deal with their condition.



The Paramedic does offer appointments at 07.30 / 07.45 / 08.00 and 08.15 Tue – Fri, these appointments will be offered to patients who ring in late in the day and can be seen the next day. The GP may also book these appointments for some 111 patients. Patients who ring up for on the day appointments are informed that they will see the Paramedic who works with the duty team. The Paramedic is making a difference to the GP's working day, the patients are also being seen in a timely manner. The practice has had lots of positive responses about the Paramedic and the clinical team at the Downland Practice are pleased to have Mike in their ranks. We hope all our valued patients registered at the feel the same way.

#### Website Links – Please click on the below links to the practice website for other news.

Dr James Cave- https://www.downlandpractice.nhs.uk/practice\_news/dr-cave-senior-gp-partner/

Practice Survey - <u>https://www.downlandpractice.nhs.uk/practice\_news/patient-survey-downland-practice/</u>

Ask the GP a question - https://www.downlandpractice.nhs.uk/practice\_news/ask-the-gp-a-question/

Could you be entitled to Pension Credit?
Over a quarter of pensioners eligible for Pension Credit do not receive it
If you're eligible, you could get an average of £3,300 of extra support per year.
Pension Credit is separate from the State Pension. It tops up your income to £182.60 per week if you live alone, or £278.70 per week if you have a partner.
You can get Pension Credit even if you have other income, savings or own your own home.
All you need to apply is your national insurance number, bank details, and information about your savings.
E You can call 0800 99 1234 to apply or apply online at www.gov.uk/pension-credit
Laura Farris MP Member of Parliament for Newbury C 01635 551070 Slaura.farris.mp@parliament.uk

Sign up to my newsletter at: www.laurafarris.org.uk

Helpful Resources

#### For members of the public

#### **Health Advice**

- <u>NHS How to stay well in winter</u>
- Get the latest <u>NHS information and advice about coronavirus</u> (<u>COVID-19</u>). COVID-19 information is available in British Sign Language via the <u>SignHealth</u> website
- <u>NHS information on the Flu Vaccine</u>

#### **Other Support and Advice**

- Register for support from the NHS Volunteer Responders To arrange support for yourself or someone you know, call: 0808 196 3646 (8am to 8pm, 7 days a week)
- AgeUK: Keep well this winter
- <u>Citizens Advice</u> offers free and confidential advice online, over the phone and in person
- For additional support, check if you're eligible to register on your energy company's Priority Service Register. For more information visit the <u>Ofgem website</u>

#### For professionals

- Access the Cold Weather Plan for England and allied resources
- Subscribe to the Cold Weather Alerting system for England via <u>GovDelivery</u>
- Read NICE Guideline 6: <u>'Excess winter deaths and illness and the</u> health risks associated with cold homes'
- Take the <u>Helping People Living in Cold Homes</u> e-learning module
- Use the <u>Cold Homes Toolkits</u>



## Parish Council

Future Meeting Dates of the Parish Council			
Date	Time	Location	
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	7.30pm	School Hall	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	7.30pm	School Hall	
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	7.30pm	School Hall	

Occasional Planning Meetings will be held should an application arrive that needs to be commented on in between meetings. These will be advertised on the noticeboard by the bus stop and on our website and social media pages. We do still have the temporary Scheme of Delegation in place so some meetings can still be held on Zoom if required.

#### How to contact the Parish Council:

Phone:	01635 228104 or 07912 565665
Email:	<u>clerk@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk</u>
Post:	Swimbrels, Newbury Hill, Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, RG18 0TR
Facebook:	@eiparishcouncil
Twitter:	@eastilsleypari1
Instagram:	@eastilsleypc
YouTube:	youtube.com/channel/UC8ba375kx9qqSeeEpPgyCLw/
Website:	eastilsley-pc.gov.uk

#### East Ilsley Parish Council Member Responsibilities as of September 2022:

Chairman:	Cllr. Mike Pembroke
Vice Chairman:	Cllr. Andrew Sharp
Allotment Officer:	Cllr. Stephen Meadows
Common Land Officer:	Cllr. Stephen Meadows
Playground Officer:	Cllr. Mike Pembroke
Footpaths Officer:	Cllr. Mike Pembroke
Pond Officer:	Cllr. Nick Watkins
Traffic & Highways Officer:	Cllr. Mark Browne
Engagement Officers:	Cllr. Nick Watkins and Cllr. Andrew Sharp
Infrastructure Officer:	Cllr. Dominic Robertson & Cllr. Mark Browne

Contact details for all Councillors can be found inside the back page in the 'Directory'





## We are backing the national campaign urging residents to become a councillor to make a change!

East Ilsley Parish Council is supporting the national campaign encouraging residents to stand in the local (parish and town) council elections.

The Make A Change campaign by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) calls on people from all backgrounds and experiences who are passionate about their local area to put themselves forward.

East Ilsley Parish Council is urging enthusiastic & engaged members of the community who want to make a longlasting change, have innovative ideas or have concerns



about a specific issue to stand as councillors for the opportunity to make a real difference.



The work East IIsley Parish Council does is exciting and rewarding. An integral part of a councillor's role is engaging with local people, groups, and businesses to determine their needs, making decisions on the services and projects the council should take forward, and getting involved to ensure services meet the community's needs.

Find out more about the local elections and how to become a councillor visit nalc.gov.uk/makeachange

#### WHAT DO LOCAL COUNCILS DO?

Your local (parish and town) council has overall responsibility for the wellbeing of your local community. Their work falls into three main categories:

- Delivery of services
- Improve quality of life for residents
- Give communities a democratic voice










Local councils run numerous services, depending on the size of the council. Many you will see day-to-day, but some are less known. These include working to introduce solar panels, set up dementia-friendly groups, organise community buses,

manage allotments and open spaces, create neighbourhood plans, implement suitable housing, establish youth projects, and maintain footpaths, public seating and litter bins.



### **BECOMING A LOCAL COUNCILLOR**

As a local councillor you can become a voice for your community and make real change. Local councillors are the champions of their community who invest time in local projects and issues to the benefit of residents and the neighbourhood. Local councillor responsibilities fall into three main categories:

#### **Decision-making**

#### Monitoring

#### **Getting involved locally**



Local councillors attend to local needs of residents, local groups and businesses, make decisions on local services, collaborate with district and borough councils to adhere to local needs, and progress vital projects to invest in the future of the community.



#### **CAN I STAND FOR ELECTION?**

To stand for election to a local council you must be:

- A UK or Commonwealth citizen; or be a citizen of the Republic of Ireland; or be a citizen of another Member State of the European Union
- At least 18 years old
- An elector of the local council; or in the past 12 months occupied land or other premises in the area the local council serves (as owner or tenant); or work in the area local council serves (as your principal or only place of work); or live within three miles of the local council boundary

#### FIND OUT MORE AT: nalc.gov.uk/makeachange





# Quiz Answers

#### **Round 1 - Totally General Christmas**

1, What are the two other most popular names for Santa? - Father Christmas and Saint Nick

2, What Country annually sends a Christmas tree to be displayed in Trafalgar Square? - Norway

3, What is your star sign if you are born on Christmas day? - Capricorn

4, Elvis isn't going to have a white Christmas, instead he's going to have a what? - Blue Christmas

5, What words follow "Silent Night" in the song? - Holy Night

6, Which country did eggnog originally come from? - England

#### **Round 2 - Christmas Riddles**

1, I come in so many colours, so beautiful and bright, I turn so many houses into a beautiful sight. What am I? - Christmas Lights

2, I get chopped, decorated and on one end you'll see wings on top. What am I? - Christmas Tree

3, If the end of the year is the 31st of Dec, then what is the end of Christmas? - The letter S

4, What do you get if you cross a bird with a turtle? - A Turtle Dove

5, What phobia do people get when they have seen Santa? - Claustrophobia

6, How do the water globe and snow globe feel during Christmas? - they both feel a little shaken

#### Round 3 - Christmas Emoji songs



#### Round 4 - GCHQ Round

What comes next in the sequence, 7, 8, 5, 5, 3, 4, 4, 6, 9, 7, 8, \_?? -= 8: 7 = January, 8 = February, 5 = March, 5 = April, 3 = May, 4 = June,

4 = July, 6 = August, 9 = September, 7 = October, 8 = November, 8 = December





# Useful Information





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# **GETTING SUPPORT DURING THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS**

Your West Berkshire Councillor Carolyne Culver, and village volunteer co-ordinators who supported residents during the pandemic, understand the challenges facing residents as food, energy and housing costs increase. If you or people you know need support in these tough times there are local organisations that offer advice and assistance. Carolyne and the village volunteer co-ordinators hope you find this information useful. If they find any other useful information they will add it to the local village Facebook pages.

## HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

A government fund administered by West Berkshire Council for residents experiencing hardship. The fund provides one-off payments to those most in need, to help with energy bills, food, clothing and housing costs. Visit <u>www.westberks.gov.uk/householdsupportfund</u> to check whether you are eligible.

foodbank

## WEST BERKSHIRE Foodbank

Part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK. Call 01635 813390, email <u>info@westberks.foodbank.org.uk</u> or visit <u>www.westberks.foodbank.org.uk</u>

## COMMUNITY CAFE

A weekly 'pop up' café, held at the Starting Gate Pub on Brummell Road, Speen.

The café is hosted by local residents every Wednesday from 2-5pm.

speencommunitycafe@gmail.com

# LOOSE ENDS

Loose Ends is a drop-centre in Newbury serving food to the homeless and vulnerable. www.looseendsnewbury.org



admin@looseendsnewbury.org Newbury Cricket Club, Northcroft Lane, Newbury RG14 1RS

# CHRISTIANS AGAINST Poverty

If you are overwhelmed with growing debt CAP's Newbury branch might be able to help. <u>www.capuk.org</u> www.capuk.org/contact-us

# SOUP KITCHEN

The Soup Kitchen is open for a take away food and outreach service on Thursdays 6-7pm and outreach on Tuesdays 2-4pm at the Salvation Army Hall in Northcroft Lane, Newbury. They also provide a limited offering on Wedn

""

christians

against poverty



also provide a limited offering on Wednesdays 5.45-6.45pm and Saturdays 5-6pm at the Newbury Wharf. Visit <u>www.newburysoupkitchen.org.uk</u> or email enquire@newburysoupkitchen.org.uk

# COMMUNITY LARDERS

This membership scheme provides healthy, affordable food to the West Berkshire community which would otherwise be sent to landfill.

The nearest larder to Ridgeway ward is at the Waterside Centre, Waldegrave Place, Newbury RG14 1DS

# 8 BELLS FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Eight Bells is a friendly, member-led, voluntary group, providing friendship, support, and a listening ear to people experiencing mental health issues in Newbury, Thatcham, and surrounding areas. Email <u>coordinator@eightbellsnewbury.co.uk</u> or visit <u>www.eightbellsnewbury.co.uk</u> 8 Bells social events happen at Friends Meeting House, 1 Highfield Avenue, Newbury, RG14 5DS

Contact your West Berkshire Councillor Carolyne Culver via 07976 374146 or email <u>carolyne.culver1@westberks.gov.uk</u> if you need support from WBC. She can also put you in contact with your village's volunteer coordinator.







# Emma Robinson M.Ost

call 07767 710360 email emma@echo-osteopathy.com book online swanatstreatley.com



Swan at Streatley Streatley-on-Thames Your Local Picture Framing Studio is Now taking your commissions!



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Would you like to see your business or event advertised in this magazine? The East Ilsley Communicator is delivered to every household in the village. E-mail communicator@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk to be included in the next issue.







# **Domestic Electrical Installations**

For all your electrical Design/Installation Fault rectifying, Periodic Inspection & 110/230Vac Portable Appliance Testing requirements ELECSA & ECA approved electrical installer Not VAT register LIGHTING FOR MOST OCCASIONS



Festoon 20 and 100 metre cable lengths with white or coloured lamps at either 240/110 incoming voltages.

vollages.

Multifunction 12 metre Chasing Rope Light, 240V. Extension cable 110 and 240 Volt, 16 Amp, 20 and 25 metre lengths.

All donations received for the equipment hiring will go too either Sheep Fair and/or Bonfire committee funds.

Contact Keith Pentecost Tel: 07985-797333 & 01635-281389 (East IIsley)

www.klp-electrical.co.ukhttp://www.electricalsafetyregister.com/

Electrical Safety Council Product recall online link :www.esc.org.uk/reall



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The Studio will be open at 2 Sunrise Cottages East Ilsley for one day only. Pop along or get in touch at jillhobbsart@outlook.com

Open Day at Sunrise Studio 16<sup>th</sup> of December 10am - 8pm

Commissions Original artwork Mounted giclee prints Workshops for all 1:1 Sessions Floating Frames Gift Vouchers Everything at 10% discount for December!



# Helping Hands Newbury is delivering care in your area now

With over 30 years' experience in caring for people within their own homes, and a commitment to using only directly employed carers, we have the expertise to provide the best care possible from **30 minutes** to **full-time**, **live-in care**.

For more information, or to arrange a meeting with our Newbury team please call: 01635 959 145 or visit helpinghands.co.uk



Rainbows - have recently completed a Strictly Come Guiding badge and learnt about dances from countries and costumes. More recently they enjoyed smores around the campfire. The rest of this term we will be doing Reflect Stage 2 Rainbows Guiding badge and will end with a Promise ceremony, Christmas activities and party.

Guides - we have recently run some catch up sessions to finish some badge work. We did Bring a Friend to Guides to try and increase our numbers, we are working on a photography badge for the rest of the term. Recently they enjoyed making dampers and cooking them around the campfire, we are also doing some Christmas crafts that the Guides can gift and will have a party and still be crafting for the last meeting.





# 6 & 6a Bus Timetable

West Ilsley - Newbury						via Hermitage					Newbury - Wo	Newbury - West Ilsley			via Donnington - Chi				
	Monday to Friday										Monday to Friday								
	D: Serv		Sch 6	NSch 6	6	6	6	6	6A	6A	Service	6A am	6A am	6 am	6 pm	6 pm	6 pm	6 pm	
			am	am	am	am	pm	pm	pm	pm	Newbury Rail Station [T]	$\nabla$	8.42	10.22	12.22	2.22	$\nabla$	6.07	
	The Harrow, West Ilsley		7.22	7.22	9.30	11.16	1.16	3.16	5.01	$\nabla$	Newbury Wharf [D] (Arr)	$\nabla$	8.46	10.25	12.25	2.25	$\nabla$	6.10	
	Church Hill, East Ilsley		7.27	7.27	9.37	11.23	1.23	3.23	5.07	6.51	Newbury Wharf [D] (Dep)	6.50	8.50	10.30	12.30	2.30	4.15	6.15	
	The Swan, Compton		7.33	7.33	9.42	11.28	1.28	3.28	•	•	Newbury Park Way [P]	6.52	8.52	10.32	12.32	2.32	4.17	6.17	
	Water Street		7.42	7.42	9.49	11.35	1.35	3.35	•	•	Shaw Cemetery	•	•	10.39	12.39	2.39	4.24	6.23	
	Hermitage PO	7	7.50	7.50	9.56	11.42	1.42	3.42	•	•	Castle Inn	6.56	8.57	•	•	•	•	•	
	Stanmore Road		•	•	•	•	•	•	5.11	6.55	East Lane, Chieveley	7.06	9.06			•		•	
	East Lane, Chieveley		•	•	•	•		•	5.19	7.01	Hermitage PO		•	10.48	12.48	2.48	4.33	6.31	
	Castle Inn		•	•	•	•	•	•	5.28	7.09	Water Street, Hampstead Norreys			10.56	12.56	2.56	4.41	6.39	
	Shaw Cemetery		8.00	8.00	10.03	11.49	1.49	3.49	•	•	The Swan, Compton	<b>•</b>	¥.	11.04	1.04	3.04	4.49	6.46	
	Newbury Park Way [Q]		8.06	8.06	10.09	11.55	1.55	3.55	5.33	7.13	Church Hill, East Ilsley	÷.	÷.	11.09	1.09	3.09	4.54	6.51	
	Newbury Wharf [H]	8	8.08	8.08	10.10	11.56	1.56		•	•	Stanmore Road	7.12	9.13	<b>V</b>	-		<b>V</b>	$\nabla$	
	Newbury Wharf		<u> </u>					3.56	5.35	•	The Harrow, West Ilsley	7.20	9.21	11.14	1.14	3.14	4.59	$\overline{\nabla}$	
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	Newbury Rail Station [T]		•	<u> </u>	10.15	12.01	2.01	$\nabla$	$\nabla$	7.17									
	Newbury College		B.17	•															
	Tesco, The Triangle		•	8.17															
	Park House School Rear Entra		8.20	8.20															
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Shaw Cemetery	7.	55 10	.03 11	1.49	1.49	3.49		•		Hermitage PO	•	•	10.48	12.48	2.48	4.33	6.31	
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Newbury Wharf [H]	8	02 10	10 11	1.56	1.56	•	•	•		The Swan, Compton	•		11.04	1.04	3.04	4.49	6.46	
Newbury Wharf [H]		<b>•</b> • •	<b>,</b> ,	•	•	3.56	5.35	<b>•</b>		Church Hill, East Ilsley	•	•	11.09	1.09	3.09	4.54	6.51	
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Holborne Close	8	19	7	$\bigtriangledown$	$\triangleleft$	$\triangleleft$	$\bigtriangledown$	$\bigtriangledown$										

r Request Stop Only





# Directory

District Councillor:	T   0707/07////	
Cllr. Carolyne Culver	Tel: 07976 374146	Email: Carolyne.Culver1@westberks.gov.uk
Ridgeway Ward		
East Ilsley Parish Council:		
Cllr. Mike Pembroke	Tel: 07813 442798	Email: mikep@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk
(Chairman)	Tel: 07013 442770	Email: mikep@eastisiey-pc.gov.uk
Cllr. Andrew Sharp	Tel: 07778 800024	Email: andrew@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk
(Vice Chair)	Tel. 07778 800024	Email: and ew@eastisley-pc.gov.uk
	Tel: 07584 125737	Email: stephen@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk
Cllr. Stephen Meadows Cllr. Nick Watkins	Tel: 07584 125757 Tel: 07720 294905	
		Email: nick@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk
Cllr. Mark Browne	Tel: 07779 785522	Email: mark@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk
Cllr. Dominic Robertson	Tel: 07836 633311	Email: dom@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk
Fenella Woods	Tel: 07912 565665	Email: clerk@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk
(Clerk)		
Website: www.eastilsley-pc.gov.uk		
Hospitals & GP Surgeries		
West Berkshire Community Hospit		
Royal Berkshire Hospital	0118 3225111	
Radcliffe Infirmary	01865 311188	
John Radcliffe Hospital	01865 741166	
Downland Practice Chieveley	01635 248251	
Police		
Thames Valley Police	01865 841148	
Emergency	999	
Non-Emergency	101	
Crime Stoppers	0800 555111	
Schools		
Ilsley Under 5's	01635 281327	
The Ilsleys Primary School	01635 281225	
The Downs School Compton	01635 27000	
	01000 27000	
Utilities		
BT Faults	151	
BT General Enquiries	0118 957 5877	
Southern Water		(arganaiaa)
	0845 7708090 (Em	
Thames Water	0845 9200900 (Em	
Southern Electric (SSE)	105 or 0800 07272	(Emergencies)
Handes Dee		
Handy Bus		
DVG Co-ordinator	07437 543098	dvg.handybus@gmail.com
Citizense Ashridan D	0200 222 5044	
Citizens Advice Bureau	0300 222 5941	
Hermitage Team of Churches		
Reverend Wayne Lautenbach	07467 611194	<u>fenella@hermitage-team.org.uk</u>





