EAST ILSLEY COMMUNICATOR

URLCOME to the Spring Edition of the EIC- Issue 94

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East Ilsley Parish Council News - April 2019

Welcome to Spring - it's time to get busy

We seem to have escaped the worst of winters this year with just a smattering of snow. Huge thanks to the brave souls who helped tow people out of trouble on the hills when the snow did hit. Though it's been quite wet over the winter, it looks like flooding shouldn't be an issue this spring, but we need to keep a watching brief with our changing climate now delivering a months' worth of rain in 24 hours it seems more and more often. Do keep the drains clear if you see them blocked or call West Berkshire Council's Street Care team if they need unblocking – 01635 551 111. Also if you find any fallen trees blocking foot paths or pot holes appearing this is the team to call – and they appear to be quite efficient, having cleared a tree from Fidlers Lane the same day it was reported.

We have agreed the budget for 2019/2020 and with quite a lot of expense on the horizon have put forward a small increase to the village of £650 onto the precept this year. Do check the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting for more details.

If you would like to take a more active part in how the village is administered, we still have one place available on the council. Please contact the Clerk or any of the Parish Councillors if you are interested. As there were not enough nominations to trigger an election, the existing councillors who all put themselves up for election are 'co-opted' back onto the Parish Council for a further five year period before the next election. So your Parish Councillors are Carolyne Culver, Brendan McGrath, Andrew Sharp and Stephen Meadows.

We are sad to report that our Parish Clerk, Moira Cloete is leaving the village with her husband Steve. She has done a sterling job keeping the council compliant and helping us fulfil our various functions for the village. Steve has also worked tirelessly for the village and was a key driver of the marvellous 'Silent Soldiers' that stood as a mark of respect around the village for last year's 100th commemoration of the end of the First World War. They were an incredibly moving sight and we heard that many villages were envious of us having had such a wonderful display. Steve also acted as our flood warden, which is a vital role in East Ilsley with serious floods in the village as recently as 2014. So a huge thanks to Moira and Steve they will be greatly missed and we wish them well. With Moira's help we have recruited a new clerk Fenella Woods, who lives in Hampstead Norreys, and already has a connection with the village as she is the Team Administrator for our local Hermitage Team Ministry, which includes St Marys Church East Ilsley. I'm sure everyone will welcome her and help her get up to speed quickly with the village.

We would like to ask as many of the village as we can to attend our Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for May 28th 7.30pm at the Ilsleys School. It gives you a chance to hear what the various village groups are up to, discuss the Parish Survey results and hear from West Berkshire Council's Adult Social Services about general services and their new CareMatch project, which will operate in East Ilsley. Do come along if you have any questions about care, and it's a good meeting to find out what's going on in the village, all are welcome. The next 'normal' Parish Council meeting is May 14th 7.30pm at The Ilsleys, where we will confirm councillors responsibilities going forward.

On a sadder note since the last communicator we lost a stalwart of the village and Parish Council in February. Robert 'Bob' Moulton had lived in the village with his wife Mo for over 60 years and had served the village as both a District Councillor for this ward, a Parish Councillor, Parish Council Chair and briefly Parish Clerk. He was a driving force behind the Millennium Green being established, The East Ilsley Trust Fund, East Ilsley Local Historical Society, the Community Street Lights scheme and ensured some of our local foot paths were not lost. He truly loved the village, thought community really mattered and will be much missed by all those who knew him. The Parish Council sends its deepest condolences to Mo Moulton, their families and friends.

Your Parish Council – Carolyne, Brendan, Andrew, Stephen and Fenella

Next Parish Council meeting (This is the Annual meeting) is Tuesday 28th May 7:30pm at The Ilsleys School hall.



We don't want to alarm you talking about Christmas before we have had a summer, but we are on the lookout for a cheap shed to use at Xmas. As we are self-funding, we are unfortunately not able to pay too much for it.

This is to replace the Elves Workshop which we build out of pallets, stakes and anything else we can find. It is hard work and does take some time so we would like to replace it with another shed we can decorate and adapt.

If you have one you are getting rid of, or know of anyone who has one which would suit, please could you contact us by email to <u>Erica.smith800@btinternet.com</u> or ring 07763 908351 with the details. We can collect and even dismantle if needed. Many thanks



The Pond Ladies and Chaps.

The Rt Hon Richard Benyon MP

Member of Parliament for Newbury

East Ilsley's biggest employer

The success of Hughie Morrison's Summerdown yard is testament to his and his team's skill and professionalism and this is important for the village. However, many of you, like me, can remember when there were three racing yards in East Ilsley. A report commissioned jointly by the Jockey Club and West Berkshire Council last month on racing will have come as no surprise to anyone living here in the Berkshire Downs. Based on 2017 figures, it confirmed that the racing industry in this area contributes over £22.6m to the economy per annum and that racing is responsible for much local employment in the Berkshire Downs. That's nearly 800 full-time jobs, ranging from trainers and their admin and stable staff, through to all the related subsidiary businesses like veterinary practices, farriers and saddlers, and others in the wider supply chain such as local shops and pubs. The majority of those jobs are, of course, in the Lambourn Valley but East Ilsley and other West Berkshire villages play their part in this important local industry. The report's authors say that these figures are a cautious estimate, with the actual contribution possibly higher as the racing industry here is on an upward curve and there has been a further increase in the number of horses in training in West Berkshire since 2017.

In Lambourn this reflects a really outstanding cooperative effort by Jockey Club Estates, which has put over £2m worth of investment into the Valley since 2006, and West Berkshire Council. The infrastructure needed to support this level of growth has to be generated by the Council and it is good to see West Berks working with the Jockey Club and Newbury Racecourse on this. Racing is as much a part of West Berkshire's incredibly diverse and resilient economy as are our more urban high-tech and manufacturing businesses. It is a world-beating industry that leads the way in its field nationally and internationally and makes an important contribution to the economy of Newbury, West Berkshire and the country as a whole. I am really excited to see what has been achieved so far and hope that this will be the start of new ambitions for the future.

Welcome to Spring Edition of the EIC.

Spring has well and truly arrived! I hope you all enjoyed the blazing hot weather over the Easter bank holiday. It was a real treat to be blessed with such good fortune.



Easter:- The traditional East IIsley Easter egg hunt and races where held at the park on Easter Monday. The Sheep fair committee have a wonderful write up in the following pages.



Park:- The Parish council is looking to secure as much funding as possible for the new park.

It is currently looking for as many schemes as possible for maximum funding, to create the best park they can.

If you know of any more schemes, than the ones on the list, or know of a way for schemes to match each other for funds, please let the

Parish Council know.

Parish Plan Grants - Greenham Common Trust - Wesk Berkshire Lottery The Big Lottery Fund's Awards for All - Berkshire Community Foundation (BCF) Volunteer Centre West Berkshire - The Wren Organisation Tesco Community Grants - Asda Foundation - Waitrose Community Matters East Ilsley Trust Fund - Country Side Agency Other grant schemes are also available via www.fundingcentral.org.uk



Dog Fouling:- The paths and surrounding area are much improved from the winter. (Still the odd poop here and there) 6-9 months ago, things improved then went bad again. Let's hope its keeps up through the summer and many walks are enjoyed by all, and not ruined by stepping in something undesirable.



Barking :- Let me first say, please, please don't shoot the messenger here. Last year a lot of people complained about the dog barking in the village. A poor lady even had to move in the end, because her neighbour was being so inconsiderate, and this was mainly due to the dog barking all the time.

The recent good weather has highlighted that it has become quite a problem again. When one of the main offenders starts barking, it sets a chain reaction of other dogs round the village

barking and madness ensues.

Some of you will say, it's the country side, rooster's crow, cows moo, sheep bleat, cars rumble through the village, and children scream. I know, I know.

Most dogs can be trained to stop the majority of their barking though. It is rare that they can't. So I would pose the question why wouldn't you? and make the village better for everyone.

I am only mentioning it again as I am agreeing with others who have pointed out that it's quite bad at the moment. I really do feel for the people who are getting woken up by barking. If it does not get pointed out now, I am assuming it will only get worse throughout the summer like it did last year, and that would be a real shame.

Like I have said before, if you are at the end of your tether with it. Dog barking does come under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 as "statutory noise nuisance".



Front Cover: - This Editions front cover is on the Abingdon road just as you come off the A34. I took this today (Monday morning, how last minute am I leaving this issue? (3) as I did not have a cover

photo, as I had been holding out to take some pictures of the new Lambs. I am yet to see any in the village.



Bluebells: - With the Snowdrops gone, the village has even more colour arriving in bloom, with some pretty patches of bluebells, You're going to have to find them though.

Questionnaire: - Please, please do cut out and fill in the questionnaire on the back of the

SURVEY

communicator. You opinion really matters, and hopefully it will set in motion more community facilities for you all to use. An indoor usable space for the village would be of very valuable use. You never know, you might win a dinner for two at The Swan East Ilsley or the Crown of Horns.

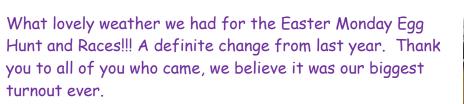
Facebook Discussion: - The EIC publication will be posted, in colour, on the East



Ilsley Freedom of Speech Facebook page. Like before, if anyone would like to start a discussion or post pictures about the relevant events gone by this last few months, I would love to hear from you, or see any media you have accumulated.

Make a Note:- The Next Edition of the East Ilsley Communicator will be out Monday the 24th June 2019 - So I will need all entries for that edition in by 11pm Friday 21st June 2019.





There was a great selection of Easter Bonnets both on children and Adults!! A magnificent turnout and hard to Judge, thanks to Di Sorrell for taking on the onerous task.





Despite the lack of play equipment to hide the eggs on, we managed to spread them far and wide and some good hunting ensued. This was followed by the egg and spoon races and the three-legged races both for children and adults. Some older children beat their parents, but we will keep guiet on this one!

The racing was very competitive and great fun to watch. We ended as usual with the road race to the pubs and it was a teenager who was first over the line closely followed by the rest. A great morning and we already have plans for next year's event!

Now for our grateful thanks and acknowledgement of the people who made this possible. Ian Wilson for cutting the Recreation Ground so the races could take place. Also, to Roger Gent and Bobby Saville of Beedon Egg Producers for once again supplying the trays of eggs and for all the Sheep Fair helpers who gave their time to making the event possible.

We will be back next year on Easter Monday with Hats, Egg Hunts and Races, Fun and Laughter so we look forward to seeing you then.

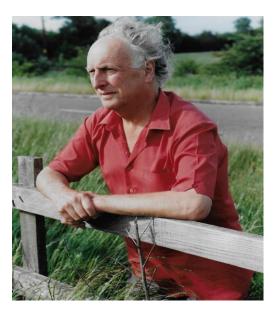


East Ilsley Sheep Fair Committee

<u>Obituary</u> Robert 'Bob' James Moulton 1930 - 2019

Bob was born as the youngest of three children, with two elder sisters, in Cranham, Essex to 'Janey' and George. As a child he enjoyed cycling around the countryside with his friends, revelling in madcap adventures, which demonstrated his early interest in science.

Following his schoolboy escapades exploring (amongst other things) crashed fighter planes, high-voltage pylons and making his own fireworks; he left Sir Anthony Brown's Historic



Grammar School in Brentwood with his Higher School Certificate in physics, pure mathematics and applied mathematics. Following a very happy time working on radar, in the RAF on his National Service, working in its early experimental stages, where he met Paddy Weldon; he joined a family business working in dye-stuffs for carbon papers. This led him to study part-time at the West Ham College of Technology. He gained a Bachelor of Science at the University of London in Chemical Engineering in 1956, and was proud to have been presented his degree by the Queen Mum at The Royal Albert Hall.

It was at this time that David, a mutual friend of Bob and Mo, brought the couple together over a new recording of Carmina Burana. When Bob began working in Harwell in the Chemical Engineering Department, he soon asked Mo to marry him, and they were married on 28th March 1959. The newly weds moved to a flat in Culham, in Oxfordshire. They began house-hunting and found their project for the rest of Bob's life - their home in East Ilsley.



Bob became involved in many different aspects of village life. He was a founder of the East Ilsley Local History Society, which continues today, gathering interesting snippets of data, such as ground-water levels. His interest in everyday life led him to photograph tanks going along the High Street (then the A34), the view from the church tower, floods in the village and various buildings as they changed and developed.

He wrote a short book entitled East Ilsley Parish Council the First 100 Years, and was himself a Parish Councillor for many years. Additionally, he

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was a well-thought of District Councillor, standing as a Liberal-Democrat. He was an active member of a number of village working groups and committees, including working to purchase the much valued Millennium Green Breathing Space and setting up the East Ilsley Trust Fund; his aim always being to create a welcoming and happy village community.

Bob loved his work, particularly towards the end of his career, when he was seconded out to 'the ministry'. He enjoyed the wide variety of work he was involved in, such as surveying using satellites, the use of electrical welders underwater on North Sea oil-rigs, crushing diamonds in South Africa, the desalination of water for the irrigation of the Middle East and the design of solarpowered cabinets for drying fish in Africa.

He loved music and had played many instruments, although he had to give up playing the recorder and Crumhorn with the Downwind early music consort, which he had started maybe fifty years ago.

He was coming up to 60 when he retired - and was able to throw himself into his varied interests, including his old Riley, his wine making and his projects around the house. His building, excavation, plumbing and electrical works remain of interest to visiting tradesmen. However some projects still remain designed... but not yet carried out.

In his later years, he slowed down, but would still always want to be involved with household problem-solving design and engineering projects. However, Bob and Mo spent many happy times travelling around the UK, camping in their car, riding on vintage trains, watching early aeroplanes being put through their paces and enjoying the British waterways. More leisure time also gave Bob the opportunity to demonstrate his collection of unusual instruments - and enabled him to enjoy one of his favourite pastimes of putting the world to right with friends, over a glass or two of wine.



His life-long soul-mate Mo will remember him as loyal, affectionate, tolerant, dependable and good fun. Bob will be sadly missed, by many, with whom his life was interwoven.



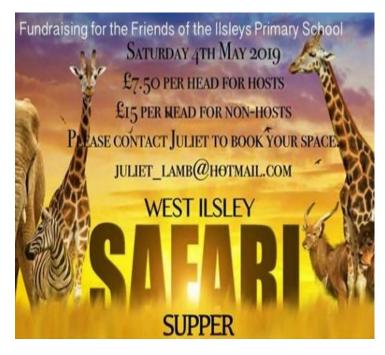
Hello from all of us here at The IIsleys! We have just returned from our Easter break and are all raring to go again now! The children in Year 6 are continuing to be very busy preparing for the National Curriculum Tests, which take place in May, and have made us so proud with how hard they are all working. They are really enjoying their revision sessions with Hampstead Norreys, too.

The children in Arctic Class are continuing with their Food and Farming topic.

Children have continued to look after and plant their beans over the break - we are amazed at how much they have grown. Children will now continue adding writing and diagrams to their bean diaries. We are looking forward to welcoming a visitor to talk about his work with bees. We are also hoping to have a real tractor bought into school for the children to look at as part of their research into how farm machinery has changed over time. In English, we will be making a leaflet about life on a farm. The children will also be making their own miniature farm models.

In Pacific Class, the children's topic will be 'A Race Around the World'. We will start by looking at the countries, counties and cities of the United Kingdom. We will learn about different geographical features and cultures. The children will be leading the learning by choosing different places they would like to find out about. We will be plotting how we could travel between the countries we 'visit'. We will have great fun tasting, creating and investigating different places from around the world as well as trying new activities such as Yoga.

In Atlantic Class, the children are beginning a new topic on 'Governments and Leaders'. During this topic, they will be fortunate enough to visit the Houses of Parliament and not only have a tour but also a 'Laws and Debating' workshop too! This topic will involve the children finding out about their own local councillors but also how laws are made nationally. It will involve discussions about different famous and historical leaders, such as Nelson Mandela and Winston Churchill. There may even be some conversations about more recent political news.



Safari Plan

7pm – G&T bar at the watering hole (formerly known as the village pond) 7:30pm – Drinks & Canapes at 2 host house 8:30pm – Ethiopian pop up restaurant in the village hall 9:45pm – Pudding at 6 host houses BYO for meals

If you want to find out more please get in touch with Juliet



THE DOWNS SCHOOL

East IIsley Communicator – May 2019

Since my last article, I am pleased to be able to announce that for the third year in a row, all our Year 13 students who applied to university have all been offered a place on their preferred course. Indeed, the majority of students have received five offers and will leave us after their summer exams to study subjects ranging from archaeology to zoology! University is not the only destination for our students, many have applied and been successful in gaining modern apprenticeships, whilst others will take a gap year or decide to look for employment. Whichever route they have decided to take, they have been and will continue to be well supported by our UCAS, student support and careers team. We have also received our allocation of year 7 students, who will start at The Downs School in September. I am delighted that once again we will be at full capacity.

Our students enjoyed the two-week Easter break, with some of our Year 9 students heading to Pre Saint Didier in Northern Italy for nine days skiing, and some of our Sixth Form Performing Arts students trip to New York, taking in the Empire State building, watching a show and undertaking a poignant trip to the 9/11 memorial and museum.

Looking back at the end of last term, our school production Les Miserables was a fantastic success. Over the course of three days, over 100 students and teachers came together to put on the show, and the dancing, acting and singing talent was incredible. The last performance ended with a standing ovation from the audience, and I was incredibly proud of the hard work and endless hours of rehearsals that went into making the event a success. We also held our annual Dance Show on the final day of term. Again, there was a huge array of talent on display, covering all dance genres including tap and ballet, with performances from 'Limitless' our boys dance company, the whole school dance company and some individual pieces created as part of the school's involvement in local dance projects. Some of our students had their performances examined for their BTEC Performing Arts Dance studies. This term may be relatively short, but we have a District Athletics championship, a wellbeing event for our Year 12 students and a biology trip to look forward to, all running alongside a myriad of lunchtime and afterschool clubs.

Most importantly for our Year 11 and Year 13 students the countdown begins to the start of the GCSE and A Level examinations. We realise that this is a nerve wracking time for students, but thanks to a strong partnership between our students and their parents, and our dedicated staff running lunchtime and afterschool revision sessions, we are positive that our students are in the best possible place to succeed, and look forward to seeing lots of smiling faces on results day.



Royal British Legion Compton, Ilsleys & Norreys Branch - Update

Poppy Appeal 2018

This is our first update in 2019 and it seems like a long time ago since we were telling you about the wonderfully supported Remembrance Sunday parade and service held in East IIsley on 11th November last year. The Legion thanks the communities in our catchment villages - Compton, W IIsley, E IIsley, Hampstead Norreys and Aldworth – for supporting this event and your contributions to the Poppy Appeal. We are delighted to report that another record total of £6991.57 was raised. An additional £3,300 was paid to the centre for the eleven Silent Soldier Silhouettes that were sponsored in East IIsley for this charity – thank you all very much!

Remembrance Sunday 2019

This year's Remembrance parade and service will be held in Aldworth on Sunday 10th November. Please put this date in your diary

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 £17. 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

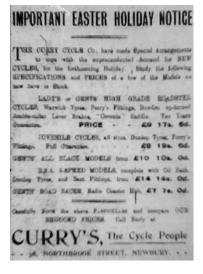


East Ilsley 100 years ago (extracts from Newbury Weekly News)

As there were no written reports concerning activities in East Ilsley during the months of March and April 1919, I substitute some examples of newspaper advertisments of that time.



One could purchase a Titan Tractor from **Toomers** for £385. This may not seem too expensive until you find that a row of four very small cottages and gardens were sold later that year for £150, and a single cottage for £100. Bicycles and motor cycles ranged from £12 10s.(£12.50p) to £14. Children's prams ranged from £3 17s. 6d (£3.87p) to £16 16s.(£16.80p).



'Curry's' of 38 Northbrook Street offered a price list for cycles in anticipation of demand during the forthcoming holiday period. Ladies and Gents High Grade Cycles £9 17s 6d (£9.87p). Juvenile (Children's) Cycles £6 19s. 6d.(£6.87p). Gent's All Black Models from £10 10s. (£10.50p).
B. S. A. 3-Speed Models from £14 14s.(£14.76p). Gent's Road Racer £7 7s.(£7.35p).

You could also purchase one lb (nearly half a kilo) of tea from 2 shillings (10p.).

This is put into perpective when the average minimum wage for labourers, was under £2 per week.





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Activities will include: – Bug hunting activities – A local guide and forest kitchen Donation please on the day – Please support the village hall and funds raised will go to its continual improvement.

Fun for the kids at Park Wood

West Ilsley Bluebell Outdoor

Fun

Bank Holiday Monday 6th May 2019 Starts from **10am** at the village hall

Please come and collect your map/family activity and have a bacon roll & hot drink.

our Patron Saint. Looking Forward

The Club is embarking on its 10th year, so watch this space for the Celebration later in the year. In the next few weeks there will be the following talks and activities.

Talk on Recycling, Plant Swop, Bingo, Poetry Day, Edinburgh Woollen Mill Fashion Show, and always time to chat and have tea.

The AGM was held on April 23rd. Pat reported on a successful year, and John reaffirmed that after some financial adjustments, the Club is covering its costs.

Autumn Group

Hobbies Club

incorporating the

Margaret Maggs resigned as Secretary, having served diligently for four years. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers as a small 'thank you' for all her hard work. The Club is very fortunate to welcome Valerie Jackson as her replacement. The rest of the Committee remains the same.

As it was St. George's Day, Sharon had devised a (non-competitive) guiz on facts relating to

Please get in touch with **Juliet** to book your place if you would like to join the family activities. Juliet lamb@hotmail.com







Autumn Club News



Sunday June 2nd 2019 Church Meadow - 12.30- 5pm

Plans are well under way for the Sheep Fair and thank you to all those who have already volunteered to help out for a while on the day. That's the good thing, we are not expecting you to spend the whole time on any one thing, you can dip in and out and do your bit!

The bunting will start going up in the village w/c 6^{th} May and we will be running the usual competitions of **'Best Decorated House'**- 1st & runner-up prizes & **'Best Bunting'** - 1st & runner up prizes. **This year the** *theme is 'Nursery Rhymes'* so dust off last year's scarecrow and see what you can come up with or you can use the sheep theme.

Talking of competitions, there will be the Produce and floral categories again in the tent.

Floral

- 1) A Single Bloom
- 2) Garden Posy arrangement in a Jam Jar
- 3) A Country Floral arrangement
- 4) Children's Floral arrangement

Homemade Produce

- 1) A jar of any Preserve or Chutney
- 2) A Homemade Drink /Liqueur/Sloe Gin
- 3) Children's Bake 3 decorated cupcakes
- 4) Sheep Fair 'Showstopper' could be sheep theme /Nursery Rhyme- let your imagination go wild!

Please bring your entries along on the morning from 10.30- 11.30am to the tent.

Tess will be running her Tea Tent again and would be grateful for any donations of cakes, muffins, scones etc to be delivered on the morning to the meadow. If you need anything collecting, please contact her on 280638.

Erica & Janet are planning the categories for the annual Dog Show, there will be races, Tug of War and lots of stalls to spend your money at.....



Friday 31st May – Sheep Fair Disco- boogie on down....

Prior to all this happening, on Friday 31^{st} May, there will be a Disco, kids first 6.30-8pm and then the adults till 11pm. Children are very welcome to stay for the duration of the evening, they don't need to disappear. Chilli & Tacos available with Hot dogs for the kids. Under 18's free and over 18's - £5. There will be a charge for food and of course the bar will be open for business with West Berkshire



Brewery's beer, Prosecco and Wine, soft drinks for the kids.

Keep an eye out for posters appearing around the village, look at the FB pages and a flyer will be popping in your letterbox as a reminder in the coming weeks.

Alan Harris, Paula Finch, Hayley Starr & Ali Allan

Sheep Fair Committee

Wanted – Your Unwanted Books!

Got any books you've finished with, but that somebody else might like to read? I'll be running the bookstall again at this year's Sheep Fair, and will be happy to accept your "pre-read" books in good condition. DVDs and CDs will be welcome too (but no videos, please). All proceeds will go into the Sheep Fair kitty as usual.



Please bring your contributions to 1 Meadow View, Cow Lane (the cottage beside the footpath to Haydon Lane). Come round to the back as I don't have a front door! If there's nobody around, please leave them in the red storage box. Ring or text me on 281274 or 07444 529395 if you need me to collect them.

I would really appreciate having them **<u>before</u>** the day of the Sheep Fair, as this gives me a chance to sort and pack them ready for display. Thank you. Kay Sanderson

We hope you will join us and make this a memorable event.

Alan Harris, Paula Finch, Hayley Starr & Ali Allan **Sheep Fair Committee**





Hopefully you are all aware of the Downland Volunteer Group, the DVG, which has been in existence since the early eighties. It was set up to help residents in the Downland villages who had problems attending appointments at the hospitals in our area, the surgeries and dentists. We have a team of some 40 volunteer drivers using their own cars to drive the patients to their appointments.

In recent years we have also managed the day to day running of the Handy bus service by recruiting volunteer drivers for this vehicle and scheduling trips mainly to the Newbury shops but also to Wantage. The Handy bus was owned and maintained by the West Berks Council. As part of their re-structuring and cost saving plans they have requested that the local charities, like the DVG, take over full control of the Handy bus service. From the beginning of April the DVG will be fully responsible for the servicing, maintenance, safety checks plus tax and insurance of the vehicle. It will become our property and we are expected to fulfil our obligations to the Community Transport Services.

This twelve seater Mercedes bus makes schedule trips on certain days from the main villages in the area. Whilst it is ideal for older residents, anyone can travel on the Handy bus, although it is not equipped to carry children. It is particularly useful for anyone temporarily incapacitated and unable to drive or carry shopping. For just £3.00 return the passengers are driven to Newbury, either Sainsbury's or Tesco's, the driver will load up their shopping and will even carry it to their front door. The difference between the Handy bus and a normal bus service is that you would need to book yourself on to it in advance- a bit like a taxi service! Bus passes cannot be used on the Handy bus.

We believe many more people could benefit from the Handy bus service. We need to increase passenger numbers and we will not raise the £3.00 fare this year and hope that with grants and sponsorship the Handy bus service will be a non-profit but self-financing operation in the near future. To book yourself a trip simply phone the Handy bus coordinator on 07437 543 098 to find out when we are in your village, at what time you will be collected and what time you can expect to be home.

Green Party

We are planning a big event, provisionally called GreenFest, on Saturday 7th September. This event will promote environmentally friendly services and products, with lots of fun and interesting activities for all ages. Although it will be held in various locations in Hampstead Norreys, it is designed to be an event that brings together all our villages and nearby towns. Please come along to an open meeting at the White Hart in Hampstead Norreys on 16th May, at 8pm, to help shape this exciting event.

If you would like to get in touch please contact <u>carolyneculver@hotmail.com</u>



Best wishes Alisdair Cunningham (Compton resident) and **Carolyne Culver** (East Ilsley parish councillor)

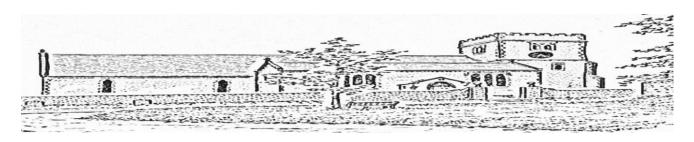
<u>Ridgeway Green Group.</u>

This year, like-minded individuals from across the Ridgeway ward (Isleys, Compton and Hampstead Norreys) have set up a new group called the Ridgeway Green Group. Our aim: to promote and support environmental and sustainable practices within the local communities of the Ridgeway ward. This will be through information sharing and hosting of local events.

If you care about the local natural environment, and want to make a difference, please get in touch with us via our Facebook page (search for "Ridgeway Green Group") or email address (ridgewaygreengroup@gmail.com). We are looking for volunteers to help collate and share information about local schemes, and assist with events such as our planned Summer Green Fair which would include a repair cafe, competitions, local produce, eco-sellers and more. Together, we can make a difference to the local environment and beyond!

Kind regards, Alisdair Cunningham and Carolyne Culver

Carolyne Culver Chair, West Berkshire Green Party carolyneculver@hotmail.com (m) 07976 374146



St Mary's Church

Friday, 3rd: 10.00am - Little Angels) - H. Norreys

5th: Easter 3 8.00am - Holy Communion (BCP) at Compton Church

9.30am - Parish Communion (CW)

11.00am - Family Service at Compton Church

<u>12th: Easter 4 NO SERVICE HERE TODAY</u> 9.30am - Parish Communion (CW) at Compton Church

<u> 19th: Easter 5</u>

9.30am - Morning Worship

6.00pm - Time with God at Compton Church

<u>26th: Easter 6 NO SERVICE HERE TODAY</u> 9.30am - Parish Communion (CW) at Compton Church

<u>St Mary's Church</u> <u>Restored and Reordered</u>

As previously mentioned, St Mary's church needs some major restoration works, just to maintain its fabric. Furthermore, there is an opportunity to consider St Mary's for Re-Ordering.

St Mary's is not along in facing the issue of diminishing Sunday congregations, and so many churches are undergoing a process known as Re-Ordering. Re-Ordering sees the church combining a more restricted place for worship, with a place for wider community use of a non-worshiping variety. It has proved to be very successful, highly popular and most of all, an important source of funds that allows the building to be maintained in good order.

The supporting questionnaire has been designed to help determine if the East Ilsley village community would actively support a programme of Reordering at St Marys.

!!!(Please cut out and fill in the Questionnaire which is on the back page - thank you)!!!

Musings from the Vicar's Desk - Revd Wayne Lautenbach

It is with great pleasure that I can now write to you are your new Team Rector, having been through the interview process and been offered the position. My formal Collation, Induction and Installation was on the 21 March at St Mark's Cold Ash, which was a wonderful occasion. I am really looking forward to journeying with you all over the coming years as we seek to find how, as Christians, we can bring about peace and stability in this part of our country. I can also say that the interview process for the position of Team Vicar has

taken place and that an appointment has been made. The Revd Susan (Sue) Webster will be joining us on 1 September as the new Team Vicar. She and her husband will live in Hermitage Rectory and she will work across all the parishes as well. I will be using the Compton Vicarage as a base for me from April this year but will continue to work across the parishes.

God has brought us all together for a purpose and I believe that together, we will grow closer to him and each other as we continue to remain faithful to him and discern his will and direction for us all.

The Oxford Diocesan Vision is "Called to be Christlike" and to be more "Contemplative, Compassionate and Courageous". This is something that I am hoping we can focus on as a Team this year as together we discern God's will for us.

We have just completed the Churches season of Lent. The word 'Lent' (the 'lengthening' of the days) is an old English word meaning Spring. In the life of the early Church this season was used by those who were preparing for their Baptism at Easter. Later the 40 days of Lent were identified with the 40 days when Jesus was tested in the wilderness. It is an opportunity for Christians to re-examine their lives and through prayer, study and self-denial, to renew their love for God.

An aspect regarding the symbolism of Lent is the ashes we use on Ash Wednesday. Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence where people would seek repentance and restitution for the wrongs they had done by putting on course sackcloth and pouring ash over their heads. The church took this, together with the words from the Old Testament Book of the Prophet Joel chapter 2 verse 13 and have developed the service of the Imposition of Ashes that we use today. *'Return to the Lord with all your heart; leave the past in ashes and turn to God with tears and fasting, for he is slow to anger and ready to forgive.'* (*Joel 2.13*) These ashes are made from the Palm Crosses we received the previous Palm Sunday, which we celebrated on 14 April, which are then burned and crushed the following year.

On Easter day we rejoice with the ageless acclamation: -Alleluia. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia. As we now begin the Easter celebrations which follow the penitential season of Lent, I pray that we would all be open to hearing and responding to God's call on our lives and be able to respond with the assurance of our faith that He is risen. Alleluia

With love and prayers in Jesus, - Wayne









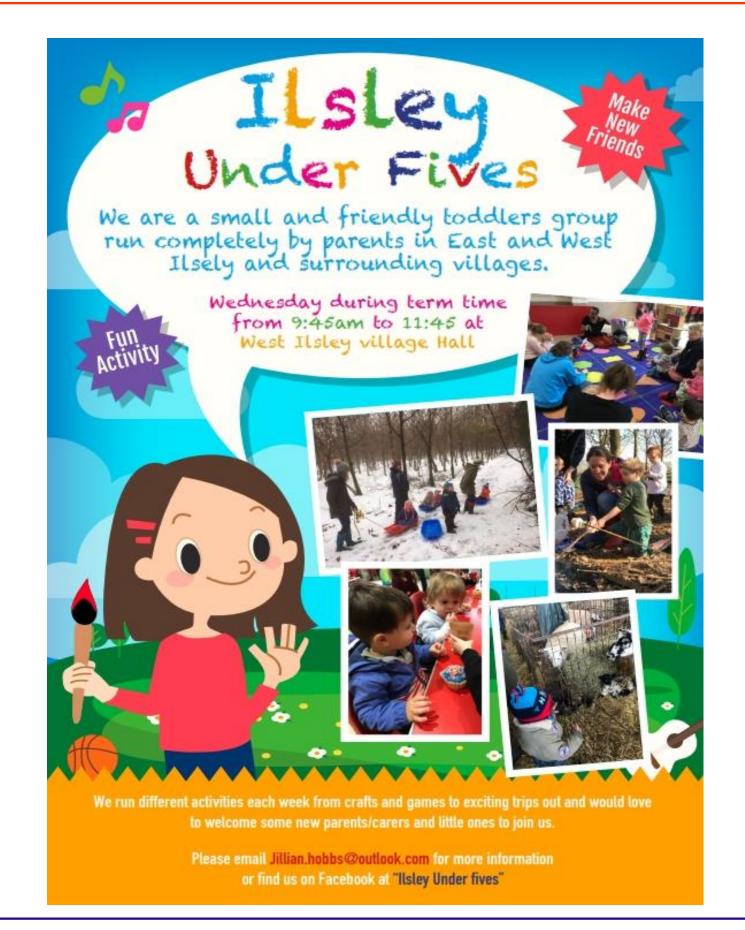
HAVE YOU noticed what a mess the shops make of our festivals and seasons? Take Easter, for example. Hot Cross Buns – as the Cross shows – are a form of plain bun, just right for marking out Good Friday, the day when they are traditionally eaten. Easter Eggs give us chocolate again, after the rigours of Lent, when we cut right back on food and drink. We notice that not only Christmas has changed from Twelve Days of feasting after a very restrained Advent but the month of December has become one long party. Once we hit January, the Easter Eggs are in the shops. Advertising and the persistence of small children persuade the rest of us not to wait until Easter before the chocolate binge starts.

I used to be much more worried about the collapse of Christian than I am now. Does it matter if we cheer ourselves up during the months of darkness – especially November and December, when we are heading for shorter days and colder nights? Does it matter if we get Easter wrong – changing the Easter Hare into the Easter Bunny, the Egg – the symbol of the New Life of the Resurrection – into a chocolate extravaganza? I think there is a balance to be struck. Holy days have become holidays, and, for many, the Christmas and Easter breaks are great leisure opportunities. As of course is 'the weekend', which has developed in recent times from joining the last day of the week – the Jewish Sabbath – and the first day of the week – the Christian day of the Resurrection.

Let's keep the holidays special – remembering their 'holy day' origin – and let's enjoy the festivals and seasons, not forgetting their origin and the significance of their food, drink, and decorations.

At St Patrick's , we keep Sunday special by celebrating Mass every Sunday at 11.15am. All are welcome, as also to our own local festivities. We are having a summer BBQ on Sunday 14th July after Mass and a Michaelmas Feast on Michaelmas Day, Sunday 29th September. Why St Michael? Nothing to do with M & S: St Michael is the secondary feast of our church and our church meeting room is dedicated to him. Any excuse for a party....

Fr Andrew





WI report March 2019

The March Meeting of the WI was the AGM. A committee was elected, and previous committee members were thanked for their hard work in making Hampstead Norreys WI an interesting and vibrant organisation.

Two members shared their experiences of the activities they had undertaken as a result of receiving bursaries. One member had attended a writing course at Denman. Not only is she now writing her life story for her children but has been inspired to start a course for local friends. The other bursary was used to attend a cookery course at Woodspeen Cookery School. As well as being an enjoyable day the family may well benefit from lessons learned. Not only did the members enjoy the courses they met some delightful people.

Future trips were discussed. Ideas included a trip to the Royal Albert Hall for a morning backstage tour and the opportunity to spend the afternoon in London; a tour of the television studios and free time in Bristol; a visit to Jane Austin's house in Chawton and a trip to Salisbury to visit the cathedral and Ted Heath's house.

The Easter card competition was judged and the evening finished with pancakes and lots of chat and laughter.

This year's programme was distributed to the members and we thought it might be something that you would all like to share. If anything appeals to you, please come along to Hampstead Norreys Village Hall and join us. We hope there is something for everyone to enjoy and we also hope that the programme reflects the fact that we are quite a lively bunch. Not the 'Jam and Jerusalem Brigade'!!

The programme topics include...

2nd. April-- Remap Charity, 7th May—An embarrassing illness, 4th -- June Knitting History 2nd July—National Animal Welfare Trust; 2nd Sept.—Bagels and Bacon;

1st Oct. The Great Train Robbery—This will be an Open Meeting,(which means everyone is welcome to attend including husbands, partners, family, friends and villagers) 5th Nov--. History of Christmas Customs; Jan7th –Beeswax Dyson Farming; 4th Feb—The Square Piano

We also have walks, pub meals, support local events and a lot more.

Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month at Hampstead Norreys Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. We look forward to meeting you.

WI report for April 2019

At the April meeting Sue Hatton gave an excellent talk entitled 'An embarrassing illness'. Sue has spoken to many groups including nurses who had no idea what a stoma or a colostomy bag looked like. She started giving talks after attending a meeting of the WI she belonged to in Cornwall. At this meeting members were asked to talk about the most unusual thing they had in their handbag. Sue produced a colostomy bag.... And never looked back!!

Sue had bowel cancer in 1997 and following chemo and radiotherapy had a colostomy in 1998. She became Area Organiser for Cornwall for the British Colostomy Association. In

2005 when Macmillan withdrew its funding, she was a founder member of the Colostomy Association and became their Chief Executive and a Trustee. They provide support and information for people living with a colostomy. In 2012 she had more major surgery. This time she had pre-cancerous polyps removed resulting in an ileostomy. She is passionate in her belief that life with a stoma can be as full as you can make it. She is living proof of that!! She also does all she can to be there for anyone living with a stoma, listens to their experiences, encourages them and helps them to be grateful for what they have endured and finding the strength to survive life with a stoma. Sue's dedication and hard work was recognised when she was invited to Buckingham Palace to meet the queen. A very proud moment for her (and indeed her husband Neil.)

Sue told her story with frankness, humility and her wicked sense of humour shone through it all. Her husband, Neil, has been with her every step of the way and Sue feels that he has suffered too. The carers of people with cancer, with a stoma and any serious disease can feel empathy, but also at times, a sense of total helplessness. He answered questions with Sue at the end of the evening. By the time they left we all had immense respect for them and their ability to share their experiences with us. Who would have thought that such a topic could have provided such an entertaining evening?

Future Events

On Tuesday May 7th Kimble Earl will talk to the WI in Hampstead Norreys Village Hall at 7.30 about the charity REMAP.

Remap is a UK charity with skilled volunteers who custom make equipment for disabled people, helping them to achieve independence and a better quality of life.

Why not come along to Hampstead Norreys Village Hall at 7.30 to hear him speak? You will be very welcome.

You will also be very welcome to come along to our plant sale in the car park of The White Hart Hampstead Norreys, on Saturday May 18th between 10 and 12. As well as plants there will be a cake stall and a children's table.

Would you like a day out to Chawton House?

Chawton House is the home of Jane Austen's brother in whose grounds she lived.

Wednesday 12 June

Tea/coffee and biscuits on arrival - £3.00pp Guided House Tour - £10.00pp (Groups of 10+)



Options for the afternoon Self-led garden walks with map- free Walled garden guided tour taking 45 minutes approximately - £6 (Groups of 10+)

Jane Austin Museum – self-led tour - £9 adults (£8 concessions). The museum is a short walk from Chawton House through the village and is housed in Jane Austen's former home. Payment to be made at the museum on the day.

Chawton House has a tea room and there are two tea rooms in the village. Picnics can be taken in the grounds of Chawton.

Outgoing Barnes coach departure from Hampstead Norreys Village Hall car park 9.30am Return departure from Chawton 4.00pm

Cost:

Coffee on arrival + House Tour + Coach travel = \pounds 31 (Based on 25 travellers) Option of additional Walled Garden Guided Tour = \pounds 37 If you would like to come along contact Jenny 01635 200180 for payment method and any queries you may have.

Organised by Hampstead Norreys WI

Would you like a day out to SS Great Britain and The Brunel Museum?

Wednesday 24 July

Option to take a guided tour of the **BBC Studios, Bristol,** in the morning, joining the main group at the SS Great Britain afterwards.



Outgoing departure from Hampstead Norreys Village Hall car park. Barnes coach departs 8.15am to arrive at the Studios for 9.45am then moving on to the SS Great Britain for those not taking the studio tour.

Return departure from SS Great Britain 4.00pm

Cost:

SS Great Britain + coach = Concessions £29.35 / Non Concessions £30.85 (30 travellers) Option for the Studio Tour £11.00 (£10.25 for concessions) Total=£41.85 (£39.60)

If you would like to join us contact Jenny 01635 200180 for further details and payment method.

Organised by Hampstead Norreys WI



<u>Aldworth Saturday Market</u> Come to chat and enjoy refreshment with friends. Table tennis and children's playground freely available. ASM welcomes you EVERY Saturday from 9.30 to 12 noon *Market details: 01635 578090*

Aldworth events mailing list

Would you like to be notified of events taking place in Aldworth? Either at the church or at the village hall?(We won't share your email addresses with anyone else). If you'd like to be emailed a handful of times a year when we're advertising a one-off event such as a barn dance, comedy night, race night; or an event at the church such as a concert, please do the following:

1. Please email events@aldworthvillage.org with EVENTS YES PLEASE

2. We are also on Facebook, so you can like / follow our Facebook page @aldworthevents

Thank you for your support with events we run in our village to keep our treasured facilities maintained to a good standard. – Ali





Afternoon Teas



St. Mary's Church, Aldworth Start 5th June and then every Wednesday in June, July & August 2.30 – 4.30 p.m.

Delicious homemade cakes in the company of The Aldworth Giants For further details and to book groups contact: Gill Wilding 01635 578624 or <u>gillwilding@hotmail.com</u>



See if you can pay less for your energy bills by signing up to the West Berkshire Energy Switch

The West Berkshire Energy Switch is a free to join scheme which gives residents the chance to see if they can make savings on their fuel bills.

Since 2016, over 560 households have switched supplier through the scheme, saving over \pounds 130,800 between them. The recent February auction saw switchers saving an average of \pounds 210 on their annual bill.

A one day reverse auction will be held in May; with suppliers competing with their best offers, and the winning supplier/s then sending registrants their personalised offer for consideration. Auctions are held each year in February, May and October.

There is no obligation to switch. Sign up and see if you can save; to register or find out more, visit www.westberks.gov.uk/communityswitch

You will need to have your latest energy bill to hand, as you'll need the details during the registration process.

Registration and acceptance is open until 2nd July, and offers will begin to go out from 3rd June.

West Berkshire residents without internet access should contact West Berkshire Council on 01635 503267 by 21st June to register. Remember to have your energy bill or annual statement to hand when you call.

East Ilsley Communicator – Issue 94





Swan at Streatley Streatley-on-Thames



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

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

East Ilsley Communicator - Issue 94

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Passenger Transport Services

Our Passenger transport service offers a 17 seat minibus and an 8 seat vehicle all supplied with a driver to take you and your friends or family to any location or event throughout the UK. Ideal for airport transfers, Royal Ascot etc

CAKES & PLANTS SALE PLUS CHIDREN'S TABLE SATURDAY 18th MAY 10 a.m. - 12 noon WHITE HART CAR PARK HAMPSTEAD NORREYS

Look forward to seeing you there.

Profits to Hampstead Norreys WI



Max Fane with musicians from the New Generation Festival

Max Fane - Tenor Laure Chan – Violin Will Raftery - Cello George Todica – Piano



A Spring Celebration

With some refreshment

Sunday 19th of May 7.00pm St Mary's Church Aldworth RG8 9SB

Tickets (£15.00) available from 01635 578936 or, 01635 578239, & *allenmaurice5@gmail.com*

Cheques payable to Aldworth PCC or via BACS (details will be sent)

In aid of Aldworth Church

FAMILY PRIZE BING AND RAFFLE					
COMPTON VILLAGE HALL					
FRIDAY 10th MAY					
Doors open: 7:00PM Starts at: 7:30PM					
Generous prizes					
Come along and enjoy the best of Bingo!					
Refreshments available Organised by the Evergreens					



NEWSLETTER APRIL 2019

The Evergreens started their 2019 Coach trips with a visit to Tewkesbury on **April the 24th** where we had to try and dodge the April Showers.

We have arranged the following trips for this year; July 24th ~ Swanage September 25th ~ Cardiff December 3rd ~ Salisbury Christmas Market (Tuesday). Please contact Julia on 281597 to book your seat.

Theatre Trips

Seats have been reserved for the following shows in 2019. Tuesday ~ 29th October at 7:30pm.

Sixties Gold. Re-live the magic of the 60's with music from that memorable decade. Featuring; Herman's Hermits, The Merseybeats, Wayne Fontana and The Mindbenders, The Marmalade and Love Affair's Steve Ellis. A Night of Nostalgia! Tickets £36.25 plus £10 transport.

Wednesday ~ 18th December at 2:30pm.

Motown the Musical. Tells the thrilling tale of Berry Gordy who fought against the odds and made the music that made history. Featuring hits from; Diana Ross, The Jacksons, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Smokey Robinson, The Temptations and many more..... Tickets £35 plus £10 transport. Please come along and see these shows. Book your tickets with me on 281997 or 07780 994297

There will be a Prize Bingo on **Friday 10th May** at Compton Village Hall starting at 7:30pm with great prizes and raffle.

Then an Afternoon Tea on **Saturday the 11th** at the Wilkins Centre Compton between 2pm and 4pm. Come and enjoy Tea or Coffee with cake or scone with jam and cream.

Thank you for supporting the IIsley Evergreens. - Tony Elliott ~ Secretary

Contacts:

East IIsley Parish Council							
Cllr. Andrew Sharp	Vice Chairman	n Tel:07778 800	024	email:- Andrew@geckocomms.co.uk			
Cllr. Brendan McGrath Cllr. Carolyn Culver Cllr. Fenella Woods	n Parish Clerk	Tel: 07875091410 Tel: 07976374146 Tel: 07467611194	email:-	bmg81@me.com carolyneculver@hotmail.com fenella@hermitage-team.org.uk			
Hospital & GP Surgeries							
West Berkshire Commu	unity Hospital	01635 273300					
Royal Berkshire Hospita	al	0118 3225111					
Radcliffe Infirmary		01865 311188					
John Radcliffe		01865 741166					
Downland Practice Chie	evely	01635 248251					
Police							
Thames Valley Police	01865 841148						
Non Emergency	101						
Crime Stoppers	0800 555111						
<u>Schools</u>							
The Ilsleys Primary Sch	nool	01635 281225					
IlsleyUnder Fives		01635 281327					
The Downs Compreher	nsive School	01635 27000					
<u>Utilities</u>							
British Telecommunicat	tions Faults ?	151 General 0118 9	57 5877	7			
Southern Water	Emerge	ency 0845 7708090					
Thames Water Southern Electricity	•	ency 0845 9200800 ency 08000727282 or 1	05				

Village Agent Service - direct line 01635 581001

West Berkshire Citizens Advice Bureau

CAB helpline 0300 222 5941 To access the National Citizens Advice website for initial information, visit <u>www.adviceguide.org.uk</u>.

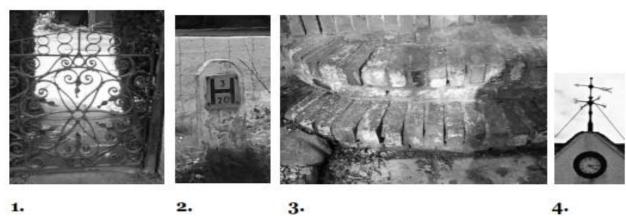
Downlands Area Handy Bus

Handybus Coordinator - Call: 07437 543 098 or 01635 578149

Email - dvg.handybus@gmail.com

East Ilsley Local History Society – Quiz

'How well do you know your village?'





5.

6.



7.



8.

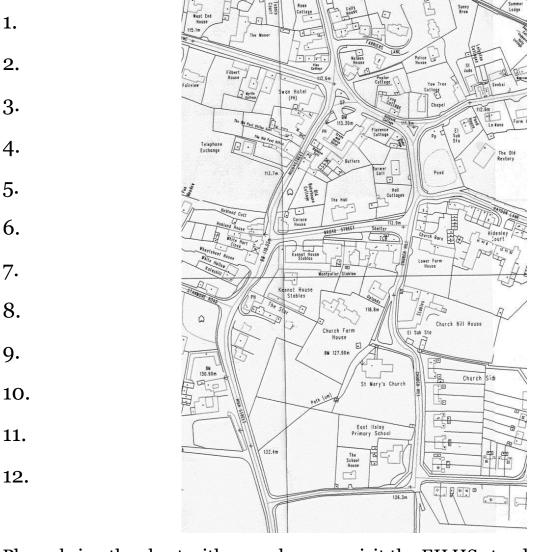
9.

Give your solutions on the Quiz Answer Sheet

Local History Quiz Answer Sheet

Can you identify the whereabouts of the images of places which can be easily seen on a walk around the village? The answers will be announced at the Sheep Fair on June 2nd.

Indicate your answers by drawing a line from the number of the picture to a point on the map where you think it occurs.



Please bring the sheet with you when you visit the EILHS stand and display at the Sheep Fair.

Prizes, including the Society's booklet '*Walks around East Ilsley*', will be awarded for the most accurate answers for both Adults and Children.



Community Survey on the Future of St Mary's Church East Ilsley Questionnaire

Is the continued presence of the church building an important feature within the village yes / no East Ilsley has been without a community centre for some considerable time. Do you feel that a community centre would be of benefit to the village? yes / no

If it were possible to create a community centre within a Re-Ordered church where a range of activities could be hosted, would any of the following be of potential interest?

•	Fitness classes / yoga / Pilates etc	yes / no
•	After Hours Youth Centre	yes / no
•	Village Associations i.e. Evergreens, History Society	yes / no
•	Concerts / Cinema Club / Barn Dance etc	yes / no
•	Farmers / Produce Market	yes / no
•	Additional school class rooms	yes / no
•	Other	-

To achieve the above significant funds will need to be raised or identified via grants. As part of a village fundraising initiative, do you think you would support some of the following ideas?

٠	Car Boot Sale	yes / no
•	Auction of Promises	yes / no
•	Organised Community Activities (i.e. walk, run, cycle)	yes / no
•	Beer Festival	yes / no
٠	Flower Festival	yes / no
٠	Dinner with celebrity speaker	yes / no
•	Other	

Thank you for taking time to complete this questionnaire and for your valued contributions. Arrangements will be made to collect the completed questionnaires from each home during the week beginning 20^{th} May 2019.

All successfully completed and submitted questionnaires will be entered into a lucky draw where there will be two winners, winning dinner for two at The Swan East Ilsley or the Crown of Horns.