


EAST ILSLEY COMMUNICATOR

EST. 2003

WELCOME to the Christmas Edition of the EIC- **Issue 98**



Matthew Pembroke - Editor
Telephone:- 01635 280565
Mobile:- 07729277191
Email:-mattyshouse@btinternet.com



East Ilsley Parish Council & District Councillor **News - December 2019**



You might have noticed that the ground has been cleared next to the allotments ready for the planting of the community orchard. As soon as we know when planting will begin we will let you know via Facebook.

Thank you to Steve Meadows and Pete Goddard for doing the clearance work. The orchard is being funded from East Ilsley Parish Council, East Ilsley Trust Fund and West Berkshire Council.

West Berkshire Council's environment strategy will be published on 6 January and there will be a public consultation until 21 February. This strategy focuses on how we can tackle climate change locally, and become a carbon neutral district by 2030. The council is discussing whether to have a community investment scheme whereby residents can buy a bond that will be invested in projects to tackle climate change locally. The decision is due to be made after I have submitted this article to the Communicator so I will update you when there is more information.

The council is also proposing to increase pay for the chief executive and senior managers, which I will be opposing. I don't think it's appropriate because it will increase the gap between the highest and lowest paid even further. The CEO is already on a scale of £132,473 - £141,599 plus a car allowance of £5,000. I don't think we should be subsidizing travel for the CEO when most people have to pay their own travel costs to get to work.

I await a new date for the public engagement event about the future of the Institute site in Compton, which was postponed because of the general election. As soon as I know more I will put information on the village Facebook pages.

Remember you can report problems including fly tipping, unemptied bins, and pot holes by searching for 'West Berkshire Report a Problem' on the internet or visiting www.fixmystreet.com If it's urgent please email customerservices@westberks.gov.uk or call 01635 551111.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Best wishes

Councillor Carolyn Culver

Ridgeway ward

Carolyn.culver1@westberks.gov.uk

(m) 07976 374146

Carolyn Culver

Green Party district councillor for Ridgeway ward

Green Party group leader

West Berkshire Council

(m) 07976 374146

Your Parish Council – Brendan, Andrew, Stephen, Tracey, Francesca and Fenella

Next Parish Council meeting is Tuesday 14th January 2020 7:30pm at The Ilsleys School hall.



East Ilsley Parish Council

Tales from your Parish Council – Issue 98

Welcome everybody to this latest edition of the EIC!

Season's Greetings to you all from the Councillor's of East Ilsley Parish. It is lovely to write to you all just before the festivities of the 'big day' gets well under way. It has not been long since our last Parish Council meeting, but things have been bubbling along quite nicely here and we will tell you all about it. The second weekend of December was a busy one in the village so first up, you may have noticed that the area to the side of the allotments (on your right as you drive past) is looking clear and freshly dug up. This is going to be where our new community orchard will be situated, and work has started on getting that all ready. As you may recall, Cllr. Carolyn Culver secured a grant from West Berkshire Council to plant fruit trees and create a community orchard and we are so pleased that it has finally come into fruition (*sorry!*).



Here is Pete doing the digging and showing off the proud results! Thank you to Pete, Carolyn and Stephen for making this all happen.



The area has been fully inspected by West Berkshire Council and Carolyn and they are happy with our plan to plant fruit trees there for us all to share and enjoy. Carolyn is continuing to work with us on this project and helping us choose which fruit trees would grow best here and we hope to have some young ones planted very soon. We will keep you updated of the progress.





Another team of busy bees have been working away down at the pond and we were delighted to be present at the grand switch on of the Christmas lights on Saturday evening.

It was a lovely evening and the team had worked so hard at putting it all together and it looked just like a winter wonderland. Well done to **Alan, Erica, Viv, Dave, Pete** and **Kim** for making it look so lovely this year, a real head turner as you drive around the pond!



As if that wasn't enough excitement for the weekend, we then had the Carols by Candlelight Service in St. Mary's church on Sunday evening. It was a magical service; the candlelight was atmospheric, and the choir sounded beautiful. Well done to all the readers who read out the lessons and it was great to see the church so full.



In other news we have been informed by our insurance company that we can claim back some money for the damaged train and carriages up at the playground. We are just finalising details so hopefully a cheque will be in the post and we can remove the existing dangerous equipment and find something new and exciting to replace it with. Along with that, Cllr. McGrath and the Playground Team are working on writing up bids for grant money to help us fund the playground revamp ready for next summer. It's a long, laborious task and it needs to be done right but we hope for more updates early in the new year.

We only have two more Parish Council Meetings this financial year and they will be on **Tuesday 14th January 2020** and **Tuesday 10th March 2020**. These meetings are open for you all to attend so we look forward to welcoming you all there.

The meeting on the **14th January** will be mainly focused on planning and approving our budget for the 2020/21 financial year but a full agenda will be released 7 days before the meeting.

Finally, as it is coming up to the holiday season, here are the Clerk's working hours:

Day	Date	Hours
Monday	23 rd December 2019	12pm – 2pm
Tuesday	24 th December 2019	12pm to 2pm
Wednesday	25 th December 2019	Closed
Thursday	26 th December 2019	Closed
Friday	27 th December 2019	Closed
Monday	30 th December 2019	Closed
Tuesday	31 st December 2019	Closed
Wednesday	1 st January 2020	Closed
Thursday	2 nd January 2020	Back in the Office!



You can contact the Clerk via email at **clerk@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk** or **07912 565665** or **01635 228104** during working hours. We would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year and thank you for working with us during 2019, we look forward to an exciting 2020 together.



East Ilsley Parish Council

Keep in touch and up to date with all that is going on in the Parish Council in the following ways:



www.eastilsley-pc.gov.uk

East Ilsley Parish Council



@eastilsleypari1

clerk@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk



Future meeting dates: 14th January 2020 and 10th March 2020. All at 7:30pm in The Ilsleys Primary School.





From the Editor

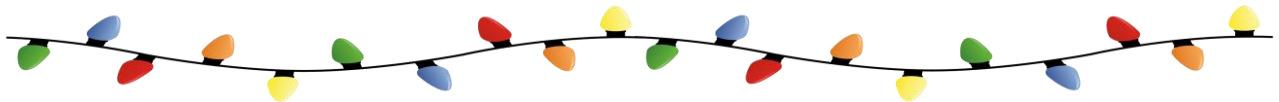
Welcome to the Christmas Edition of the EIC

Seasons greetings fellow villagers!

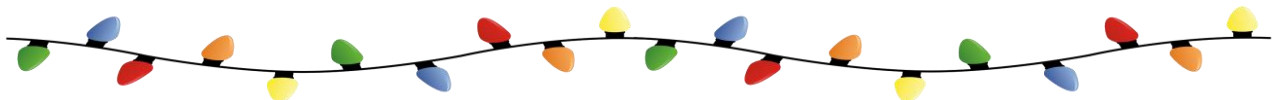
I hope you are starting to get in the festive mood. I myself am almost there; I get called Scrooge Pembroke by my family until the tree gets put up. I do try and profess I like Christmas, it's just I am not a fan of it starting sometime in November, or listening to the same songs I have heard 1000s of times. Apart from that, sign me up for the presents, turkey and the stuffing!

With a new year, and a new decade approaching, my declaration will be to stop the 3 year sulk I have been on and get myself back into shape.

So if you see me out running often, you will know why, I might even stack the pressure on and sign up for a autumn marathon. I do wish you all the very best as we are about to enter into the roaring 2020's.



Christmas Lights on the Pond:- A very special thank you to the team who put up the Christmas lights and decorations at the pond. I know it took a long time to get everything prepared and then put up, and it was very much appreciated.



Dog Fouling:- I did not give an update on the state of the paths last edition. I should this time round, as there have been odd weeks where there has been a lot of fouling, then weeks of nothing. I always find this so strange. Recently though I have seen large piles, so whoever is not cleaning up their dogs mess must have a large dog. There has also been poop I notice on the actual pavements round the village, which is not on, as with the dark mornings and early evenings, there is more chance to step in it.

Also I am informed the field behind Hildesley Court and next to Haydon lane is being used as a giant dog litter. The problem with doing that is sheep do get moved into that field every now and then, and the parasites found in some dog faeces can infect the sheep when they are grazing in the field. This is incredibly difficult to treat once the sheep is contaminated, often this leads to the death of the animal. I guess no one wants to inadvertently kill live stock in the future. A better way to look at it would be setting down poison for a sheep to one day eat, if that makes sense.





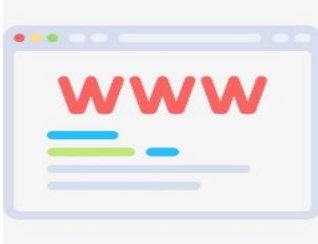
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

A grand total of £1,522.77 was raised in East & West Ilsley for the Poppy Appeal this year.

Many thanks as always to everyone who donated, collected, or hosted a collecting box.

I still have some 2019 enamel poppy pins – nice keepsake for babies born in this year. Ring me on **01635 281274** if you would like one.

Kay Sanderson, Poppy Appeal Organiser for the Ilsleys.



Village Website:- Please add the village website to your favourites or bookmarks, and keep up to date on key village information.

www.eastilsley-pc.gov.uk



Front Cover:- This Editions front cover is of Penn Meadow on a cold and frosty morning this December 2019.

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 2nd March 2020 – So I will need all entries for that edition in by 11pm Friday 28th February 2020.



Future Publication Dates 2020:-

Issue 99	Monday March 2nd 2020
Issue 100	Monday April 27th 2020 – (Special Edition 100)
Issue 101	Monday June 29th 2020
Issue 102	Monday August 31st 2020 – (may change to Tuesday)
Issue 103	Monday October 26th 2020
Issue 104	Monday December 21st 2020



Barry and Karen would like to wish all their friends and neighbours in East Ilsey a wonderful Christmas and a very happy and healthy 2020

This year, we have donated the money saved on cards and Barry's shoe leather to Breast Cancer Research



**We wish everyone a very merry Christmas & a happy & healthy 2020!
We won't be sending cards this year but will instead be making a donation to the British Heart Foundation.
Jon, Tess, Matt & Jamie xxxx**



"Wishing all our friends and family peace, joy, and all the best this wonderful holiday has to offer. May this incredible time of giving and spending time with family bring you the joy that lasts throughout the year".

Christmas Greetings from Mark and Kim Richardson



**To the village and its community, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year – From your Editor
Matthew, Michelle, Jamie, Kacey & William
This year we have donated to Macmillan Cancer Support**



To all our East Ilseys friends, wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a very happy new year, from all of us at Corace House - Brendan, Leah, Orlaith, Maeve, Erin and Bentley our dog.

This year instead of sending Christmas cards, we are making a donation to SANDS , a charity very close to our hearts



**Adrian, Vanessa and Rose would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.
This year we will be making a donation to Stand up to Cancer
Thanks Vanessa**





**Ann and Bob wish all their village friends a very happy Christmas.
A donation will be made to the Huntingdon's Disease Association.
Thanks Bob Lewis**



**Sally & Tony would like to wish all our friends
A very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year
We will be donating to the British Heart Foundation rather than sending cards this year
XXXXX**



**Very best wishes to our many friends in East Ilsley for a Happy
Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.
From Geoff & Sue Tooke.
Our chosen charity is Naomi House.**



**A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!**

*To all our Friends, and Neighbours in East Ilsley from
Alan and Erica, Uhuru, Cow Lane
Not forgetting all our doggy friends from Penny and Millie
We will once again be donating to the Salvation Army Homeless
Christmas Appeal in place of cards.*

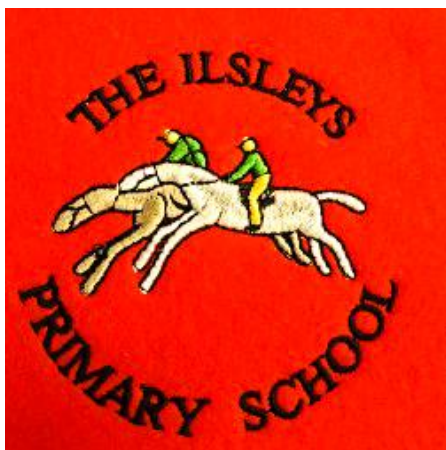
Merry Christmas



**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, starting about 5.00 p.m. on
Christmas Eve. Helpers will collect on the route
for the Air Ambulance.**

**Sunrise, Compton Road, The Pond (5.15),
Hildesley Court, Church Hill, Church side, top of High Street, Old
Stanmore Road, High Street, The Swan, The Crown (about 7.00)
Abingdon Road, Farriers Lane & Sheepdown.**

Brian & Ian (Rudolf)



Hello from all of us here at The Ilsleys

We have continued to work hard this term at The Ilsleys and have very much enjoyed the run up to Christmas, including our nativity – well done to Arctic Class for a great performance - and a trip to the pantomime in Newbury.

The children have continued to enjoy their dance lessons this year with Mr Darvell and Atlantic Class have been having a particularly fun time taking on a bit of Strictly Come Dancing! The children learnt the Waltz, Charleston, Tango, Jive and Contemporary dances. We then held our own 'Strictly Come The Ilsleys' live final where the teachers became the judges! The final decision was down to each pupil at the school and the final was very close, with the winning pair receiving 35 votes in total. The very worthy winners were Laurel and Louis. Well done to them!

The children have continued to enjoy their sessions with an Arsenal WFC coach again this year to help them improve their technical and tactical ability in football. The children really look forward to these sessions and it is great to watch them play. In addition to these sessions, we have continued to take part in different tournaments this year and have enjoyed playing tag rugby games against Bucklebury and Hampstead Norreys as well as a football tournament against Bucklebury. The children always work so hard to play as part of a team and encourage each other.

The whole school has also been to the Corn Exchange to watch this year's pantomime – we all had a fantastic time! It is lovely that members of the public always comment on how well behaved our pupils are. Miss Denham even got picked out by the dame – much to the other teachers' amusement!

We now just have our Christmas Carousel (a real tradition here!) and the end of term assembly to look forward to before finishing for the Christmas break. After such a busy term, I think we all need it!

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



THE DOWNS SCHOOL

East Ilsley Communicator – December

It has been another busy term here at The Downs School, and over the last couple of weeks we have certainly started to feel more festive, particular after Christmas jumper day and our Christmas lunches. Every year our catering team take on the challenge of cooking Christmas lunches for our students, and this year was no exception. The team prepared an incredible 600 Christmas lunches over just three days for our staff and students to enjoy. It really is an enjoyable event, with staff serving the food before everyone sits and eats together in the hall.

Earlier in December we hosted our annual Christmas concert, a musical celebration, showcasing the talented performers we have in school. This year we had performances from our choir, bands, trios and ensembles. The evening ended on a high with the orchestra and choir performing 'We wish you a Merry Christmas.'

Sportswise, our Year 9 girls football team have been crowned District Football champions, and our PE staff have been working in partnership with the FA to help grow the sport amongst females through a training programme. The initiative aims to improve PE for girls and encourage them to be leading football related activity for their friends and classmates.

We held an Apprenticeship evening for Years 9-13 in late November. Attended by approximately 120 students and their parents, there was a talk from Apprenticeship Support of Knowledge (ASK) who spoke about the opportunities available to young people today. Students were then free to talk to the company's represented at the event including the Army, Cisco, Telefonica O2 and Bowmer and Kirkland. It was a very informative evening.

We were incredibly proud to be awarded the re-accreditation of our Careers Quality Mark through Investors in Careers in November. Investors in Careers is a nationally-validated quality mark that is awarded to schools and colleges in recognition of the excellence of their careers work.

Having been assessed against very strict criteria, we were reissued with the accolade, which demonstrates the ongoing commitment of The Downs School to ensure every student receives the best possible Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance to prepare them for their future.

Our final event of the year is to host our Summer 2019 A Level leavers one last time at our annual presentation evening. This event not only gives us the opportunity to catch up with students and find out how they are getting on with the next step of their careers, we can also reflect on their successes whilst awarding various trophies and other prizes.

We return after our Christmas break on January 6. 2020 is an important year for us as we celebrate the school's 60th anniversary and have a number of events planned. All that remains is to say that I wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the new year.

Mr Chris Prosser – Headteacher - The Downs School



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION COMPTON, ILSLEYS & NORREYS BRANCH - AN UPDATE

Poppy Appeal Lunch 2019 – Saturday 2nd November 2019 –

We were delighted to welcome **The Right Honourable Sir Mark Waller**, a former Lord Justice of Appeal and Intelligence Services Commissioner as our guest speaker at our fund raising Poppy Appeal lunch held on Saturday 2nd November. Sir Mark gave an fascinating address entitled “**Oversight of MI5 MI6 and GCHQ – the role of the judiciary**”. 69 members, partners and generous supporters sat down in the Foinavon where we were treated to an excellent lunch provided by landlord Geoff and his staff. With a raffle organised by the local Poppy Appeal Organiser Keith Rathband and a small auction led by Tony Cribb we are proud to say that a total of £1,350 was raised for the Poppy Appeal. The Officers of the branch would like to express their thanks to all those who donated, supported and attended.

Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service 10th November 2019 Aldworth

Our parade and Service this year was held in Aldworth in fine weather. Those parading, RBL members, Youth Groups, local dignitaries and supporters, assembled outside the Bell Inn under the direction of the Parade Marshal and Branch Chairman Steve Allison, a WO2 reservist in the RLC, and then marched to St Mary's Church. This was led by piper Ian Knight and Drummer Mike Conner from the Oxford Caledonian Pipe Band. The RBL branch standard was carried by Mick Crockford. Scouts and Guides provided a Union Flag and individual section standards.

The marchers filed into the grounds of the ancient St Mary's Church where the War Memorial is situated on the outside wall and the Act of Remembrance was led there by branch chaplain Rev Clive Jones. The names of the fallen were read out by Malcolm Greenaway, who had two relatives named on the memorial, one killed in each of the world wars. The Exhortation was read by Branch Secretary David Norbury and Kohima Epitaph by Explorer Scout Robert Davies. The Last Post and Reveille were beautifully played by Aimee Jones. A two minute silence was observed at 11 o'clock and wreaths were then laid on behalf of the RBL branch by Kerry Mason, Church Warden Maurice Allen and by parish councillors from Aldworth, Compton and the Ilsleys. Further wreaths were laid by Scouts and Guides.

The service, attended by a congregation of 250, continued inside the church, during which the Ward Councillor, Carolyne Culver, read the lesson. After the service the parade re-formed to march back to the Bell

Membership

Our small RBL branch is growing 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 steveallison1888@aol.com or David Norbury TD, tel 07770 326128 email davidnorbury@btinternet.com – **thank you.**



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

13th November 1919

POLICE. – At the Police Station, on Friday the 7th November, before Mr. E. J. S. Wasey (chairman) and Mr. J. A. Fairhurst. – Charles White, “Woodside,” Compton was summoned for failure to send his child to school regularly. The evidence of the school attendance officer showed that the boy had only attended 4 full weeks out of 13. Fined 10s.

A schoolboy was summoned for stealing a £1 Treasury note and 3s. 6d. in silver from a bedroom in East Ilsley, on the 13th October. Evidence was given by the boy’s grandmother, whose money it was. F. G. Long, who changed the £1 note, and Sergt. Giles, who stated that the money was spent at the pleasure fair. the Bench decided to bind the boy over in the sum of £10 to come up for judgement if called upon. The father being held responsible for the boy’s good behaviour.

East Ilsley 20 years ago

18th November 1999

East Ilsley residents gathered on a cold and blustery hillside field on Tuesday to celebrate a boost to their fund-raising for a Millennium Green.

The field near the village primary school, is the site of the Millennium Green, and will soon be transformed with a circular footpath, wildlife meadow, benches, sheep motif and stepping stones. Work is progressing well and the Millennium Green committee hopes the purchase of the land will take place by the end of this week.

Soldiers are helping to bring in special stones next week and the official opening of the green is due on Saturday December 11th. Chairman of the Millennium Green Trust, Miss Isobel Smith, is delighted at the progress being made.

“It is really exciting. It has been a long time – we started the whole project in September 1997,” she said.

This week members of the Millennium Green Trust were presented with three cheques. The Countryside Agency and Millennium Commission gave almost £26,000, West Berkshire Council £9,880, and Bass plc £1,000. These are in addition to a £7,000 grant from East Ilsley Council. The grants mean the committee is now well on its way to its £52,000 target.

East Ilsley Millennium Green was officially opened on Saturday 11th of December 1999 by local MP David Rendel.



Autumn Group incorporating the Hobbies Club



Autumn Club News

Recent Events

The members have enjoyed a late Harvest Lunch, and a session when items of seasonal Christmas pottery were painted in preparation for firing.

Rita gave a talk on antiques, and members were invited to bring along their own items for discussion.

Looking Forward

Dec. 25th. Christmas Lunch

Dec. 31st. “ Sing-a-long, and New Year Resolutions!

Jan. 7th. 2020 New Year’s Lunch

Jan . 28th. Lunch at the Foinavon, Compton.

With Every Good Wish for Christmas and the New Year to all readers.

Meetings are in the Wilkins Centre, Compton, on Tuesdays, from 2.00 – 4.00pm.



Aldworth Craft Group **Autumn dates and activities** **Aldworth Village Hall** **2nd & 4th Mondays 10.00 to 12.00**



We are a friendly group of people who like to have a go at different crafts, or revisit ones we have enjoyed so much we want to have another go! Each session costs £2.50.

27th January Quilling

10th February Iris Folding

24th February Glass Painting

9th March Cross stitch/embroidery

23rd March Easter crafts

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Clare Beavis on 07879 565020 or Gill Wilding on 01635 578624. Alternatively, you can email aacg20161@outlook.com



The Handy bus

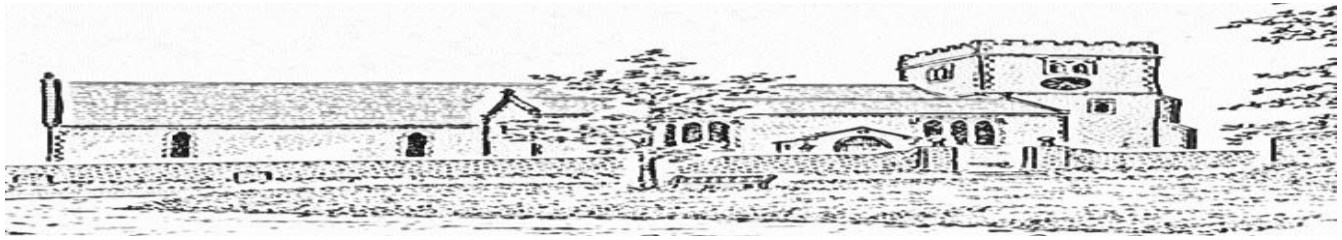


Hopefully you are all aware of the Downland Volunteer Group, the DVG, which has been in existence since the early eighties. It was set up to help residents in the Downland villages who had problems attending appointments at the hospitals in our area, the surgeries and dentists. We have a team of some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



Musing from the Team Vicar's Desk – December 2019

Even in this oh so secular age, it remains true that Christmas still draws the crowds to church – particularly when compared to other church festivals! Anyone who has ever watched a school nativity play will have glimpsed why. Watching our young children grow, change and explore their world; being rightly proud of new skills learned, new experiences shared - isn't that what life is about? My husband and I now have three young grandchildren. Watching Jim, Cameron and Kira begin to make sense of their individual worlds has been extraordinary for us to witness. They are simply small (and wonderfully exhausting) bundles of unfolding potential. Isn't that what we see and what excites us about every child? Isn't it this that we see implicitly in the child of Bethlehem also - His potential and maybe even our own?

But potential for what? Every parent secretly or otherwise harbours the hope that their child will be someone special, a bit brighter than the average, or faster, or more beautiful than other children around. It's natural to want the best for our offspring. But even if they are all those things, and maybe more importantly if they are not, what is it all for? The world is clear on that question: a good job, wealth, status, power – these are the things we are encouraged to aim for and attain. Perhaps it's little wonder that so many of us have poor self-esteem.




And even if we do achieve these things, there's still this nagging reality that one day, despite it all, well, we are going to die, and none of our worldly achievements will count for anything then. We all want Christmas, few are willing to face Easter.

What the Christ-child offers us I believe is *potential* on a much bigger scale. A potential to grow, not just the worldly parts of ourselves; our intellect, social skills, sporting or musical talent....but all of us, mind, body and spirit. We wouldn't get far in this world without the first two, but without our spiritual growth, we are lopsided at best, disabled at worst. I believe our true potential rests in our ability to look through the eyes of the Christ child to see our importance for eternity, and not just for our lifetime. We may well be tiny specks of dust on a tiny blue-green planet, lost in a vast galaxy amongst vast numbers of other galaxies in this universe, but look into the eyes of a new born baby, and the whole Universe looks back.

The child born so long ago in Bethlehem continues to draw us because he speaks not to our intellect where we tend to want to process everything but to our spirits, to our emotions and to our hearts. We want to know we are here for a reason, that whatever befalls us in this earthly life, our potential is recognised, nurtured and matters. The cross of Calvary might seem a million miles away but it was a destiny this Bethlehem baby chose so that, in his resurrection, we might all see the bigger picture: every child counts, now and forever, and that means you and me too.

I wish you a holy and fun-filled Christmas time!

Revd Sue Webster - Team Vicar – Hermitage Team Ministry - December 2019

Date	Compton	East Ilsley
Tuesday 24 th December 2019 Christmas Eve 	3.00pm: Crib Service 11.15pm: Midnight Communion	No Service here today
Wednesday 25 th December 2019 Christmas Day 	11.00am: Christmas Family Communion (CW)	9.30am: Christmas Family Communion (CW)
29 th December 2019 Christmas 1 / Low Sunday 	10.00am: Team Service at Yattendon Church This is the only service in the team today	
5 th January 2020 Epiphany / Christmas 1	8.00am: Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am: Family Service	9.30am: Parish Communion (CW)
12 th January 2020 Baptism of Christ	9.30am: Parish Communion (CW)	No Service here today
19 th January 2020 Epiphany 2	9.30am: Parish Communion (CW) 6.00pm: Time with God	11.00am: Morning Worship
26 th January 2020 Epiphany 3	9.30am: Parish Communion (CW)	No Service here today

Hildesley Court Home Communion – Information

The monthly home communion at 11am at Hildesley Court will take place on the 2nd Monday of the month. Next service, Monday 13th January 2020.

Save the Date:

Thursday 16th January 2020

Downland Filling Station – 7.30pm – Hampstead Norreys Village Hall

Caroline Whitehead - 'Naturally Supernatural'

With a strong desire to see the un-reached corners of the world transformed by the Gospel, Caroline studied at The Theological Centre for Asia, then joined missions around the world including Youth with a Mission in Asia & Australia. She received a distinction from London's International Bible Institute. She and her husband Philip are now pastors at KCC in Newbury.



**May the joy of the angels and the peace
of the Christ child be yours this Christmas**

**from the churches of St Mary, East Ilsley
and St Mary & St Nicholas, Compton**

**The churches in East Ilsley and Compton are
part of the Hermitage Team Ministry**



The Hermitage Team Ministry would like to wish you all a Christ filled Christmas and peaceful new year and we look forward to worshipping with you in 2020.

www.hermitage-team.org.uk

The Hermitage Team of Churches website covers all services and events from Compton and East Ilsley Church, along with Hampstead Norreys, Yattendon, Frilsham, Hermitage and Cold Ash. It is regularly updated so please visit and have a look at what is going on. If you would like to get married in one of our beautiful churches, or to be Baptised please visit the site and click on 'Life Events' and select the correct application forms. The Team Administrator will be in touch with you.

@hermteamministry

The Hermitage Team of Churches are now on Facebook! Like our page to receive all services and events from East Ilsley Church, along with Compton, Hampstead Norreys, Yattendon, Frilsham, Hermitage and Cold Ash. If you would like anything posting to the Team page please get in touch with the Team Administrator.



Ilsley Under Fives

Make New Friends

We are a small and friendly toddlers group run completely by parents in East and West Ilsely and surrounding villages.

Fun Activity

Wednesday during term time
from 9:45am to 11:45 at
West Ilsley village Hall

We run different activities each week from crafts and games to exciting trips out and would love to welcome some new parents/carers and little ones to join us.

Please email Jillian.hobbs@outlook.com for more information
or find us on Facebook at "Ilsley Under fives"

The flyer features a cartoon illustration of a girl with brown hair, a red shirt, and blue skirt, holding a torch and waving. It also includes several photographs of children participating in various activities: playing in the snow, working with sticks in a garden, and playing with a ball. Decorative elements include musical notes, a starburst, and a guitar.



WI report November 2019

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS W.I.

At the November meeting we were treated to a talk on the history of Christmas customs by Mike Hurst. One of the big surprises of the night was to learn that turkeys were eaten at Christmas in the sixteenth century and it is claimed that

Henry VIII was the first person of note to eat turkey for his Christmas dinner. Christmas trees, popularised by Prince Albert, used to be lit by candles. (Health and Safety eat your heart out!!!) and Father Christmas does not wear red because of the Coca-Cola advert. He wears it because it is the colour of the vestments of St. Nicholas. The talk was illustrated by a slide show and the images evoked memories of our childhood Christmases. After the speaker left, we spent a long time reminiscing about family traditions and childhood toys. Then it was time to leave, start to plan our festivities and look forward to our annual celebration at the next meeting in December.

WI report for December 2019

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS WI

Hampstead Norreys WI is currently making bags for patients in our local hospitals who are having cancer treatment. The attached photo shows some committee members displaying some of the bags. They are used to carry pumps and/or drains needed during the treatment. Different sized bags are being made for men, women and children. This collection will be sent to the Breast Reconstruction Unit at The John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford.

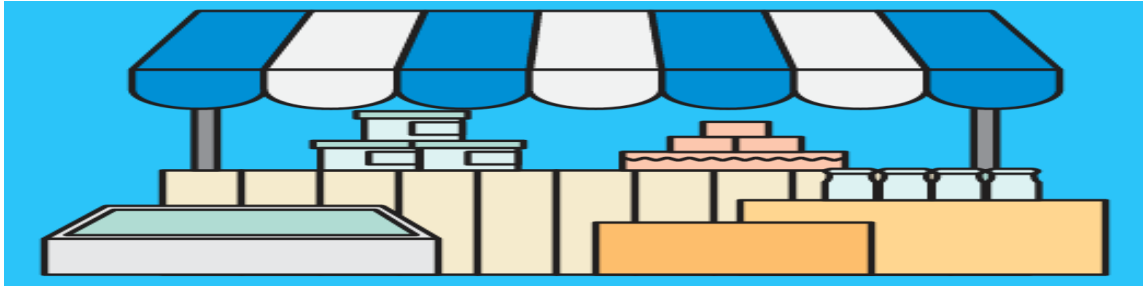


On Tuesday 7th. January Hampstead Norreys
W.I. would like to invite you to join us at our
meeting to hear James Dawson talk about
BEESWAX DYSON FARMING
in Hampstead Norreys Village Hall at 7.30pm
.....and for coffee afterwards.



This meeting is open to everyone. You do not need to be a member of the WI. Men are welcome to attend, and we think this subject will be of interest to all ages. We look forward to seeing you there.

*(For more information please contact 01189842559
or 01635 578717)*



Aldworth Saturday Market

**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





ILSLEY EVERGREENS

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER ~ 2019

The Evergreens had their last coach of the year and that was to Salisbury Christmas Market on the **3rd of December**. This trip was great despite the cold weather

We will once again had our members Christmas lunch at the Swan Hotel, East Ilsley on **Saturday the 14th December at 1pm**. Thank you for a great meal.

We would like to thank all the members who came along to our special pre-Christmas Afternoon Tea and for their support through the year and hope you enjoyed the trips and fundraising events.

The Evergreens would like to wish you all a very festive Christmas and a joyous New Year.

Theatre Trips

Seats have been reserved for the following shows in 2020.

Wednesday ~ 4th March at 2:30pm.

We Will Rock You. Featuring 24 of Queens biggest hits and Ben Elton's hilarious comedy writing combined, comes a smash hit musical spectacle that marked the bands legendary live performances. Tickets at £30 plus £10 transport.

Wednesday ~ 8th April at 2:30pm.

Priscilla Queen of the Desert. This iconic musical stars Strictly Come Dancing Winner Joe McFadden in the hilarious adventure of three friends who hop on a battered bus for a heart-warming journey of self-discovery, featuring glittering costumes, fabulous feathers and a non-stop parade of dance floor classics. Tickets at £30 plus £10 transport.

Please come along and see these shows. Book your tickets with me on 281997 or 07780 994297

Thank you for supporting the Ilsley Evergreens.

Tony Elliott ~ Secretary

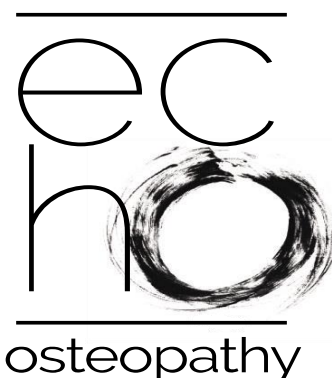


Emma Robinson M.Ost

call
07767 710360

email
emma@echo-osteopathy.com

book online
swanatstreatley.com



Swan at Streatley
Streatley-on-Thames



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.



Multifunction 12 metre Chasing Rope Light, 240V.

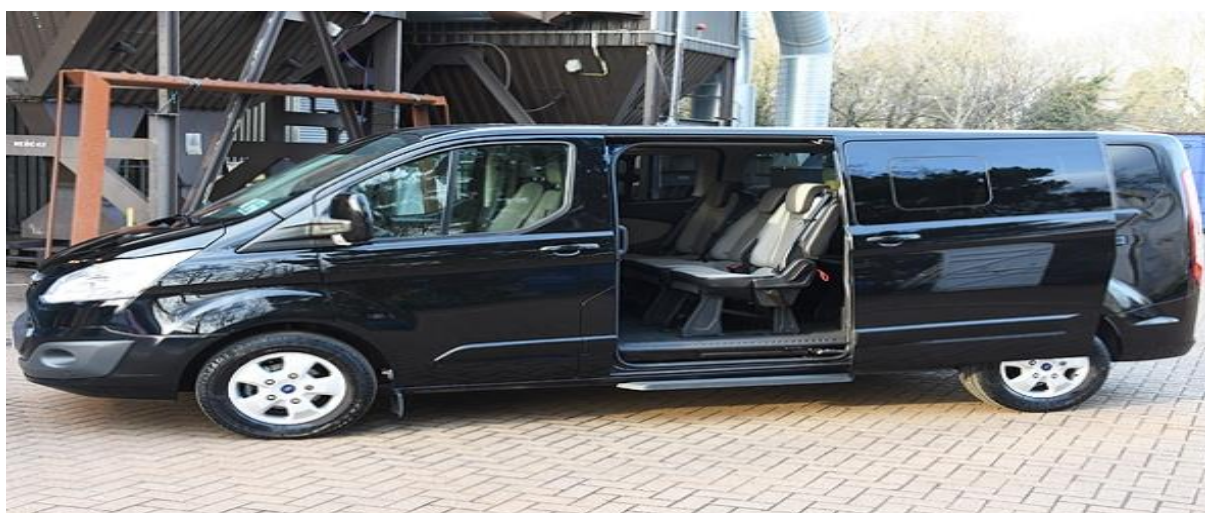
Extension cable 110 and 240 Volt, 16 Amp, 20 and 25 metre lengths.

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 Ilsley)

www.klp-electrical.co.uk <http://www.electricalsafetyregister.com/>

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



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

Office: 01635 281375 | Mobile: 07836 600372

Email: mark@penmartransport.co.uk

INTERIOR FLOORING

call 01635 30869 email sales@interior-flooring.co.uk

Based in Newbury, Interior Flooring offers the complete solution to all your flooring requirements.

With over 30 years of experience we have the industry credentials to complete the job professionally each and every time.

Supply and lay of carpets, Amtico, Vinyl Tiles & Safety Flooring.

The pride in our workmanship is second to none so call us now on 01635 30869 or 0787 9243439 for a quotation – visit www.interior-flooring.co.uk

Back for 2019

A local, reliable, hard-working gardening service



Beds & Borders
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Regular visits

Composting
Weeding
Seasonal Planning

Pruning
Soil improvement
One-off tidy jobs!

Lawn Care
Plant Selection
Plant & seed DIY advice

Call The GardenFella on 07775 708374

Email: info@gardenfella.co.uk



Hildesley Court
East Ilsley

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A LOCAL PART TIME JOB?
Do you live within 10 minutes of East Ilsley?

*We require an additional Relief Manager at Hildesley Court Estate in East Ilsley.
The main duties of the Relief Managers are to cover the Estate Managers' days off
which include some weekends.*

*This is a varied role, involving monitoring and responding to emergency call alarm system, dealing with
matters raised by residents, some minor administration and ensuring that the site is clean and tidy.*

*The posts will suite a person who is reliable, trustworthy and practical. No medical care or nursing is
involved, but a practical and flexible attitude together with a good sense of humour, is essential.
Training will be given.*

For more information please call the Estate Managers on:
01635 281302 or 07384 112891



Compton Guides & Rainbows need you



Compton Guides: We are looking for volunteers to help at meetings, events and activities for girls aged **10 to 14**



Compton Rainbows: We are looking for volunteers to help at meetings, events and activities for girls aged **5 to 7**

Contact Geraldine Johnson (geraldine.johnson6@icloud.com)
for further details

Discover more about volunteering at
https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved.aspx

9th May 2020

On Saturday 9th May 2020, The Millennium Green Trustees, invite you to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Millennium Green Open Space in East Ilsley.

This space is run as a charity and is widely used by the community for various events and recreation.

Help us celebrate in style, save the date!



Save the Date!

AFTER SCHOOL GROUP

SPANISH SUPPORT FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

With a friendly, experienced native
teacher

WEDNESDAYS AT 4:30PM IN
CHADDLEWORTH

Only 5 spaces available
£17 per one hour lesson
Cristina García del Valle
gdv.cristina@gmail.com
07551958760
www.cristinagarciadelvalle.com



The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) launched a video 'Don't Disappear' to raise awareness of relationship abuse. This is following our 'Know this isn't Love' coercive control campaign from earlier in the year. It has been launched under the branding of Victims First. Victims First supports victims and witnesses of crime across the Thames Valley and is managed by the OPCC.

'Don't Disappear' tells the story of Jamie and Emma; from the seemingly loving early stages of their relationship, to the development of coercive and controlling behaviours such as jealousy and possessiveness, control, love bombing and isolation.

While anyone of any age can be a victim of coercive control, we are particularly keen to promote this to younger people who may have less relationship experience and people who are at the beginning of a relationship. The aim of the video is to raise awareness of the red flags – the early signs of coercive control which at the time, may be missed or misinterpreted as acceptable behaviour in a relationship.

We hope the video will help people who may be in controlling relationships to identify with it and potentially seek help.

Your support

We would appreciate your support in promoting the video to your local community through your digital channels including newsletters, websites and social media.

The video can be found at <https://youtu.be/d6rt8w5HBWw> and a press release with more information about the campaign and coercive control is attached.

I've also included some suggested social media posts for you to use or amend as necessary on your channels.

You can also share posts from our Facebook page @victimsfirstTV and on Twitter @TV_PCC. If you would like a downloadable version please contact me.

Anyone who is concerned they may be experiencing this can contact Victims First for support on 0300 1234 148. You can find further information about Victims First at www.victims-first.org.uk

Social Media posts

- Watch Jamie and Emma's story. Signs of coercive and controlling behaviour can be there in the early stages of a relationship. Look out for the red flags. #DontDisappear
- Relationships based on power and control are not healthy relationships. Whether you're male or female, in a heterosexual or same sex relationship, if you can identify with Jamie and Emma's story and need support, please contact Victims First on 03001234148 #DontDisappear
- It's not a love story, or 'normal' behaviour in a relationship. It's relationship abuse. If you can identify with Jamie and Emma's story and need support, please contact Victims First on 03001234148
- Early declarations of love, emotional abuse, jealousy and isolation from friends and family are all red flags in a relationship. Watch Jamie and Emma's story to understand the signs of relationship abuse #DontDisappear
- Both men and women can be victims or perpetrators of coercive control which can take place in heterosexual and same sex relationships. If you can identify with Jamie and Emma's story please contact Victims First www.victims-first.org.uk
- Relationship abuse is not solely physical abuse but emotional and controlling abusive behaviours. If you or someone you know is experiencing this in their relationship, contact Victims First on 0300 1234 148

NEWBURY THE WHARF - SHAW - HERMITAGE - HAMPSTEAD NORREYS - COMPTON - THE ILSLEYS

**Connect
SERVICE**

6

6a

MONDAYS - SATURDAYS

SERVICE No.	6a	6a	6	6	6	6	6
NEWBURY Station [T] ➡	.....	0842	1022	1222	1422	.....	1807
Newbury The Wharf [D]	0650	0850	1030	1230	1430	1615	1815
Newbury - Park Way [P]	0652	0852	1032	1232	1432	1617	1817
Donnington, The Castle Inn	0657	0857	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shaw Cemetery	.....	.....	1040	1240	1440	1625	1825
Chieveley, East Lane	0707	0907	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Beedon, Coach PH	0711	0911	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hermitage Post Office	.....	.....	1050	1250	1450	1635	1835
Hampstead Norreys, Water Street	.....	.....	1057	1257	1457	1642	1842
Compton, High St, opp The Swan	.....	.....	1105	1305	1505	1650	1850
East Ilsley, Broad Street	.....	.....	1109	1309	1509	1654	1854
WEST ILSLEY, The Harrow PH	0721	0925	1115	1315	1515	1700	.....

MONDAYS - SATURDAYS

SERVICE No.	6	6	6	6	6	6a	6a
WEST ILSLEY, The Harrow PH	0722	0930	1117	1317	1517	1702	.....
East Ilsley, Broad Street	0728	0936	1123	1323	1523	1708	1854
Compton, The Swan	0732	0941	1128	1328	1528	.....	.....
Hampstead Norrey, Water Street	0741	0950	1137	1337	1537	.....	.....
Hermitage Post Office	0748	0958	1145	1345	1545	.....	.....
Beedon, Coach & Horses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1721	1901
Chieveley, East Lane	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1725	1905
Donnington, The Castle Inn	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1729	1914
Shaw Cemetery	0756	1006	1153	1353	1553	.....	.....
Newbury, Park Way [Q]	0805	1012	1159	1359	1559	1733	1918
Newbury The Wharf [H]	0806	1013	1200	1400	1600	1735	1919
Newbury Station ➡	.....	1018	1205	1405	.....	.....	1922R
The Oaks	0816	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NEWBURY College	0818	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tesco The Triangle	0818	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Park House School, Monk's Lane	0821	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wash Common, Glendale Avenue	0825	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

No service on Sundays or Public Holidays. For additional journeys between Chieveley and Newbury, see Service 5c. Tickets are inter-available.

Notes:

— Served when the College is in session

— Served when the College is not in session

➡ — Rail station nearby

R — Continues to the Rail Station if requested by passengers



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*These services are
operated under
contract to West
Berkshire Council*



Service operated by



Contacts:

District Councillor

Carolyn Culver Tel: 07976374146 email:-Carolyn.culver1@westberks.gov.uk
District councillor for Ridgeway ward - West Berkshire Council

East Ilsley Parish Council

Cllr. Andrew Sharp	Vice Chairman	Tel: 07778 800 024	email:- Andrew@geckocomms.co.uk
Cllr. Brendan McGrath		Tel: 07875091410	email:- bmg81@me.com
Cllr. Stephen Meadows			email:- stephen.meadows88@gmail.com
Cllr. Tracey Murray			email:- muzzagang@aol.com
Cllr. Francesca Wilkins			email:- c_sidoli@hotmail.com
Mrs Fenella Woods	Parish Clerk	Tel: 07467611194	email:- clerk@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk

Hospital & GP Surgeries

West Berkshire Community Hospital	01635 273300
Royal Berkshire Hospital	0118 3225111
Radcliffe Infirmary	01865 311188
John Radcliffe	01865 741166
Downland Practice Chieveley	01635 248251

Police

Thames Valley Police	01865 841148
Non Emergency	101
Crime Stoppers	0800 555111

Schools

The Ilsleys Primary School	01635 281225
Ilsley Under Fives	01635 281327
The Downs Comprehensive School	01635 27000

Utilities

British Telecommunications	Faults 151	General 0118 957 5877
Southern Water	Emergency 0845 7708090	
Thames Water	Emergency 0845 9200800	
Southern Electricity	Emergency 08000727282 or 105	

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 www.adviceguide.org.uk.

Downlands Area Handy Bus

Handybus Coordinator - Call: 07437 543 098 or 01635 578149

Email - dvg.handybus@gmail.com