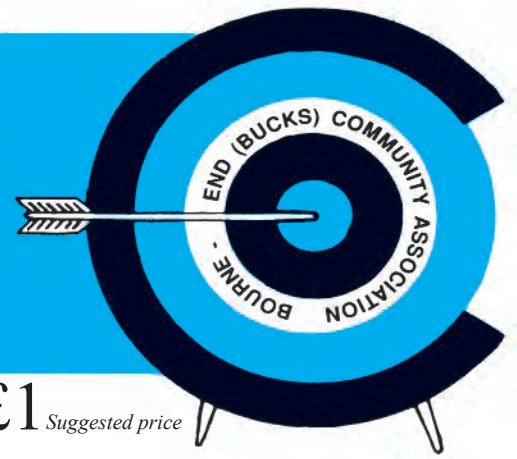


target



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FEBRUARY/MARCH 2026

£1 Suggested price

Green light for Marlow Film Studios

Just days after the last issue of *Target* went to press in November, it was announced that permission for a multi-million pound Marlow Film Studios was being given the go-ahead following a government review of the plans.

The news was been greeted with enthusiasm by some locally, while others expressed their intense disappointment.

In 2024, Buckinghamshire Council rejected the proposed studio plans because of concerns about traffic, biodiversity and harm to the local landscape.

The developers launched an appeal on that decision and it was announced by the government in October 2024 that the case would be reviewed.

That original decision has now been overturned by a planning minister on behalf of Housing Secretary Steve Reed, who believes economic benefits outweigh potential harm.

Robert Laycock, the studio's chief executive, said it was "a real vote of confidence in the UK and in its

creative industries". A council spokesperson said it was "incredibly disappointed".

The council had argued the proposed site, between Bourne End and Marlow close to the Marlow bypass, was green belt land and not appropriate for the development.

A government planning inspector acknowledged potential harm to the landscape and visual character of the area as well as conflicts with local planning policies.

However they concluded that the benefits, such as jobs and investment, outweighed these impacts.

The secretary of state agreed, citing national priorities for creative industries and economic growth.

The studio has said that the £750m development will focus on developing skills as well as providing studio space, but throughout their campaign have promised investment in public

infrastructure to offset some concerns.

Peter Strachan, a Conservative councillor who is the cabinet member for planning, said Buckinghamshire Council was "incredibly disappointed that the significant concerns raised by the council, local communities, and statutory consultees have not been upheld".

He added: "Our original decision was based on a detailed and evidence-led assessment of the application, which identified serious and unresolved issues, including inappropriate development of protected green belt land, concerns around landscape impact, residential amenities, traffic, infrastructure and sustainability."

The studio, which will be built by developer Dido Property Limited, will consist of workshops, offices and 18 sound stages. It will cover an area of 168,718 sqm and include cafes, public areas and 1,117 car parking spaces.

Continued page 14

How a Bourne End choir has inspired James Corden, p22



Want to get fit & have fun? Try salsa says Wendy, p32



Fabulous stamps of 2025

Who knows what 2026 will bring, but 2025 was undoubtedly the 'Year of the Stamp' for *Target*. What started as a cautious experiment ended with a clamour as the last 1st class stamps flew out of the centre office into eagerly outstretched hands. And it was great fun receiving Christmas cards with these easily identifiable stamps.

Huge thanks from *Target* as the experiment produced donations of over £5,000. At the same time

new people came into the community centre in search of 'packs of ten for £10'. Customers phoned to see when a new supply would arrive and the stamps were top of many shopping lists. It has been a magical year and great fun.

Opening their envelope of stamps took buyers on a history tour and reminded them of things forgotten. There were the Beatles on the Abbey Road crossing, space travel and sports achievements, wonders of the world featured along with beaches and countryside. Then there were the movies, popular television and a range of stamps for James Bond films and Harry Potter. Not forgetting Star Wars of course and those wonderful steam engines.

There were 'ooos' and 'aaahs' as envelopes were opened and conversations started. "Please chat over there," the centre manager begged while taking a booking for a hall or dealing with someone paying for a hire. There were some people saying that they would keep the stamps for their interest and historical value, but most would be used up as the special offer was far cheaper than buying postage through Royal Mail.

So goodbye to the year of the stamps, however don't be surprised if there are more stamps for Christmas 2026 and, as you post a letter with a pictorial stamp, remember what a great fundraiser it has been for *Target* and what fun it was to be part of the fundraising.

Volunteer Fair

Saturday 7th February 2026

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bourne End Community Centre
Wakeman Road, SL8 5SX



Discover local volunteering opportunities

Meet community groups, charities and organisations looking for all sorts of volunteers.

For more information please contact
westchilternscb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

- ✓ Free entry
- ✓ Free refreshments
- ✓ Everyone welcome



Make a difference in your community, giving as much or as little time as you can afford.



Community Boards



See more page 6



Target magazine is published by Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association and distributed free to over 5,000 homes in the local area.

Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association

The Centre, Wakeman Road, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5SX
Telephone: 01628 522604
www.bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk
for current information or email
office@bebca.org.uk
Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9am to 4pm
Centre Manager: Paula Riley

The association is a registered charity (No. 300236). It is financed by fundraising, donations and income from the community centre and is managed entirely by volunteers. Bourne End Community Centre offers the local community a wide range of clubs and activities that focus on history, crafts, sports and general interest. Social events take place on a regular basis and there is a well-stocked bar for members and visitors.

All the facilities can be hired. These include the large May Woollerton Hall with a stage and dressing rooms. Stage lighting, a sound system and a large screen are also on offer. Parties and meetings can hire the medium-sized Eghams Room, with a screen and a sound system also available for hirers. Two smaller rooms can also be hired depending on requirements.

Kitchens for light refreshments are available for all facilities.

Why not call in and look around? Our Centre Manager will be happy to help.

Target Editor

Debra Aspinall
Tel: 07881 558027
editor@targetmagazine.org.uk

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advertising@targetmagazine.org.uk
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www.bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk
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www.thamesvalley.police.uk

MP: Joy Morrissey 0207 219 3000
Email: joy.morrissey.mp@parliament.uk

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Wooburn Green 5pm 01628 522939

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Bourne End & Wooburn Green Medical Centre

Hawthornden, Wharf Lane, Bourne End SL8 5RX
The Orchard, Station Road, Bourne End SL8 5QE
Pound House, 8 The Green, Wooburn Green HP10 0EE
www.bewgmc.co.uk 01628 530 997

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High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 2TT 01494 526161
Stoke Mandeville Hospital
Mandeville Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 8AL
www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk 01296 315000
St Mark's Hospital, 112 St Mark's Road,
Maidenhead SL6 6DU 01628 632012

Wexham Park Hospital, Wexham Street,
Slough SL2 4HL
www.heatherwoodandwexham.nhs.uk 0300 614 5000

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Thames Water Supply Emergencies 0800 714614

North Thames Gas Emergency (Slough) 0800 111999

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01628 527024

WYE VALLEY VOLUNTEERS,

Portacabin, Wakeman Road Bourne End SL8 5SX
enquiries@wyevalleyvolunteers.org.uk
01628 521027

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01296 486630 (out of hours emergencies)
Housing emergencies: 0800 999 7677
Social care: 01296 387021 (to report abuse)
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WOOBURN & BOURNE END PARISH COUNCIL

Council Offices, Town Lane,
Wooburn Green HP10 0PS
www.wooburnparish.gov.uk 01628 522827

LITTLE MARLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Community Office, The Pavilion, Church Road, Little
Marlow SL7 3RS
www.littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk 01628 890301

SCHOOLS

Claytons County Combined, Wendover Road,
Bourne End SL8 5NS
www.claytonspcs.org.uk 01628 525277
Little Marlow School, School Lane,
Little Marlow SL7 3SA
www.littlemarlow.bucks.sch.uk 01628 473316
St Paul's School, Stratford Drive,
Wooburn Green HP10 0QH
www.st-pauls.bucks.sch.uk 01628 521553
Wooburn Green Primary School, School Road,
Wooburn Green HP10 0HF
www.wooburngreenprimary.co.uk 01628 521634
Bourne End Academy, New Road,
Bourne End SL8 5BW
www.bea.bucks.sch.uk 01628 819022

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

See our cinema listings here and turn the page for more activities and events at your community centre

Sunday 15th February 14:00

Doors open 13.20 for refreshments

Tickets £6 Members - £7 Non members

online at TheNewRoyalty.org.uk or

from the Centre office 01628 522604



In 1940s South Carolina, mill worker Noah and rich girl Allie are desperately in love, but her parents don't approve. Noah goes off to serve in World War II, but on his return finds Allie on the cusp of marriage. It soon becomes clear their romance is far from over.

Starring Ryan Gosling, Rachel McAdams,
James Garner and Gena Rowlands

12A

At Bourne End Community Centre

The New Royalty Cinema is a fundraising event for Bourne End Community Association Charity No. 300236

Wakeman Road, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5SX

Sunday 15th March 14:00

Doors open 13.20 for refreshments

Tickets £6 Members - £7 Non members

online at TheNewRoyalty.org.uk or

from the Centre office 01628 522604



"You never met a pair like the Butch and the Kid.
They're Taking Trains, they're Taking Banks ...
And They're Taking One Piece of Baggage"

Starring Paul Newman, Robert Redford and Katharine Ross

This screening is in tribute to Robert Redford



At Bourne End Community Centre

The New Royalty Cinema is a fundraising event for Bourne End Community Association Charity No. 300236

Wakeman Road, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5SX

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Valentine's Day Concert



starring **andrew bourn** and live band

14TH FEBRUARY 2026
BAR 6.30PM | DOORS 7.15PM | SHOWTIME 8PM
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WAKEMAN ROAD, SL8 5SX

TICKETS £18 MEMBERS | £20 NON MEMBERS
WWW.BOURNEENDCOMMUNITYCENTRE.ORG.UK/
OR FROM THE CENTRE OFFICE 01628 522604

THIS EVENT IS A FUND RAISING ACTIVITY OF BOURNE END (BUCKS) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION A CHARITY REGISTERED IN ENGLAND AND WALES NO. 300236

Bourne End Community Centre

CENTRE ROCK
with
The Bourne Again Shadows



Join Brian, Graham, Eric, Cliff and Chris and enjoy an evening of instrumental music from the 50s, 60s and more.

Live in the Centre Bar

Wakeman Road SL8 5SX

Tuesday 24th February from 19.45

Tickets £7 members/£8 non-members online at bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk, at the centre office, or on the door (subject to availability - book in advance to avoid disappointment).

centreRock is a fund raising activity of Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association a charity registered in England and Wales No. 300236.

Bourne End Community Centre

CABARET NIGHT

A VARIETY OF ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH

SAVE THE DATE ...

DETAILS TO FOLLOW SHORTLY



SMALL CHANGE APPEAL

25 years ago, when the Euro was introduced to supersede many national European currencies like the French franc, Spanish peseta and the Deutschmark, Target

asked everyone to check in their desk drawers and down the back of the sofa to dig out all their left-over banknotes and coins from old trips and to consider donating them to the Community Association. Over the next few years more than £20,000 was raised! (If you still have some you can still donate).

Now, as many people give up using bank notes and coins in favour of debit and credit cards, Apple Pay and other payment methods, do you have unused and unwanted small change which you could use to support your Community Centre?

If so, please bring it to the centre office in Wakeman Road, Bourne End. We will keep you posted on how much we have raised in each edition of Target.

THANK YOU.

Bourne End Community Centre

Centre Bar Quiz

The next Quiz dates are February 5 and March 5. These will be held in the May Woollerton Hall (unless otherwise advised on the evening). Doors open at 7.30; please arrive by 7.45 for an 8pm start. For information call Diane on 07521 656413 or email secretary@bebca.org.uk

Bourne End Community Centre

Charity Number 300236



TEA DANCE



Bourne End Community Centre

Wakeman Road, SL8 5SX

Sunday 1st February 2026

Sunday 1st March 2026

2.00 - 4.15 pm

Dance to inspiring music, meet your friends and make new ones.

Ballroom and Latin Dances

well known Sequence Dances

Both couples and dancers on their own
are welcome

Refreshments served in the break

Tea, coffee, biscuits and cake

Members: £7.00 Non Members: £8.00 Pay cash on the door.



Bourne End Community Centre



OPEN MIC

Thursday 12th

February 2026

8pm - 10.30pm

**And the second
Thursday of every month
Free Entry**

Bourne End Community Centre Bar

Wakeman Road SL8 5SX



**Classes at Bourne End
Community Centre**

Thursday - 11:15am

Contact Bev on 07881914913

Come and give it a try!



Forum Players

On cold winter days we joined Robinson Crusoe and his friends as they went off to seek much needed treasure. Thank you to everyone who came along and joined in the fun. Your shouts almost raised the roof at the community centre.

Year after year we see growing families who love our panto and want to be part of the action.

Thank you so much for your support and we look forward to seeing you again in 2027.

As yet no idea what traditional panto story will be performed – but watch this space.

Acknowledging all our wonderful actors who revel in being part of panto along with the backstage boys and girls, not forgetting the wonderful Mr Fingers and the Pirateers, inspiring dancers who were also the ship's crew, set painters, tea makers many more including the smiley person greeting every audience and guiding them to their seat. Without you it couldn't happen.



Bourne End Community Centre

Coffee Morning

**Join us for tea, coffee and cake
in aid of Bourne End
(Bucks) Twinning Association**



Find out more about the cross-cultural friendship between Bourne End and Octeville-sur-Mer, near Le Havre, and help raise funds for BEBTA to host a visit this year from the Octevillais.

Saturday 7th March

11 am - 1pm - All welcome

Free Entrance, with a donation to BEBTA

Wakeman Road, Bourne End, SL8 5SX

**More community centre news
next page**

Volunteer Fair

Saturday 7th February 2026
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Bourne End Community Centre
Wakeman Road, SL8 5SX

Discover local volunteering opportunities

Meet community groups, charities and organisations looking for all sorts of volunteers.

For more information please contact
westchiltemscb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

- ✓ Free entry
- ✓ Free refreshments
- ✓ Everyone welcome

Make a difference in your community, giving as much or as little time as you can afford.

Community Boards

ANGLING CLUB

Tales from the water's edge

Happy New Year to all my readers. Let's hope it brings good things to you all.

In November we returned to Berkshire Fishery and first was Anthony Colborn with 36lb 14oz, second was Neil Townsend with 22lb 8oz and third was Cliff Edwards with 16lb 8oz. Yours truly was absent as unwell, so big thank you to Chelsea Smith for the weigh-in and all who helped out on the day.

Our Christmas match was at Iwer. We arrived in the dark and it rained all day, but all was not lost.

Only eight turned up to fish and four blanked on the day, but first was Cliff Edwards with 9lb 7oz, I came second with 7lb 14 oz and third was Henry Rimmer with 6lb 1oz of silver fish. Eric Leuzinger caught the largest bream so far this season at 3lb 8oz and also the largest perch this season at 2lb.

We have a break at the beginning of the year as it is just too cold, but will return to the banks in March with light mornings and evenings again.

Before I sign off I wish to mention and thank Dave Worthington for organising a commemoration Christmas lunch in memory of Bob, my hubby.

He died on Boxing Day in 2024 and he was our chairman and a member of the club for over 50 years.

It was a wonderful celebration of his life and Chelsea, his daughter, and I are so touched and privileged by this.

It was decided we would do this each year. It was held at the Spade Oak Hotel and the food was amazing. We were so well looked after by the staff and was a truly happy occasion. Some of the member's wives also came which made it extra special.

It just confirms what a wonderful fishing club we have. Thank you so much Dave for all your hard work organising the lunch. It meant such a lot to me.

If you wish to join our happy club as always we welcome new members. Please contact me at details below.

Until next time, tight lines.

Michele Smith
Secretary BE Anglers
Phone: 07802 711141
Email: Raemichelsmith@yahoo.co.uk

Volunteers are at the heart of thriving communities, and we simply couldn't do without them.

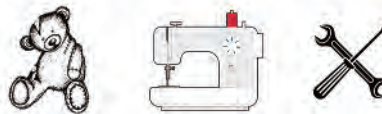
This is your chance to get involved and find a role that fits your interests, skills, and availability.

Representatives from a wide range of local organisations will be on hand at this Volunteer Fair, all looking for people who can offer as little or as much time as they're able—whether that's once a week, once a month, or even once a year.

There truly is something everyone can do, and we need you. Join us on February 7, enjoy complimentary hot drinks, cakes and biscuits, and take a tour of the stands to discover what could be your next step in 2026 towards helping make our community even more wonderful.

Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association

Bourne End REPAIR CAFE



**Bourne End Community Centre,
Wakeman Road, SL8 5SX**

BACK 21st FEBRUARY 2026

And then the third Saturday of the month to November.

Also, Flackwell Heath Repair Café is back on 7th February and then the first Saturday of every month to November.

No charge for repairs, but donations are welcome.
Tea and coffee available.

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WOOBURN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

By Caroline Meechan

We hope you had a good Christmas and New Year and are looking forward to all that 2026 brings.

Thank you for the tremendous support we received during 2025, whether by attending an event, coming to a meeting, sponsoring an activity or simply reading our regular articles in *Target* (like you are doing now)

Our events team is working hard on plans for the year's events and activities. Information on all can be found on www.wooburnresidents.org and on our Facebook page – search for Wooburn Residents' Association and you will find us.

Alternatively come to a meeting and you will hear everything 'hot off the press'.

Our very popular bi-monthly free talks will be continuing with Trading Standards coming to talk about *Fraud and Scams* on Thursday February 19 at 8pm in the private room of the Wooburn Club.

Future talks booked already include the RNLI

presenting on the amazing work done on all our waterways and the Fire Service giving information on fire safety.

The annual Wooburn Fête will be held on the Green in the summer – please mark your calendars for June 20, midday to 4pm so you do not miss out.

The Christmas event is funded by the fête and ensures all children locally have a chance to see Santa and enjoy craft activities while parents are entertained with music and a subsidised bar.

The Christmas 2025 event was, as ever, a huge success – thank you to everyone who came along and enjoyed it.

If 2026 is the year that you retire or reduce your working hours and you would like to get involved in the community please come along to a meeting or contact secretary@wooburnresidents.org and let us know that you are available. Whether it is for an hour a year or something more – all help is welcome.

Please note: Our meetings have changed from a Monday to a Thursday evening – 8pm in the private room of the Wooburn Club. Meetings always include members of the parish council as well as representation from our independent councillors.

Come along to one of our meetings and hear

about what is happening in our villages, have a drink and meet some new (we are all friendly) people.

The next meeting is on Thursday March 12 at 8pm in the private room at the back of the Wooburn Club. You are all very welcome.



Phil's calendar success

Local photographer Phil Laybourne produces a stunning calendar every year now to raise funds for Thames Hospice. His 2026 calendar raised a fabulous £13,300.

Phil told *Target*: "From the start of the calendar, way back in February, the response has been just amazing. A huge thank you to Pegasus Homes for sponsorship, Miles Jackson for giving his time to design it, Tee Tree Group, Wessex Road for operating my website and shipping the calendars, and Colourpoint Litho, Bourne End for producing the calendar and donating an extra 100 at no cost.

"The calendar has been sent by local residents to families in North and South America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China and Hong Kong and South Africa. As well as throughout the UK via my website phillaybournephoto.com

"I can't thank everyone enough for buying the calendars and helping me help Thames Hospice. It has been an amazing experience meeting everyone at the markets and even being stopped in the street and given donations. Thank you everyone!"



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BRIDGE PLAYER'S BIDDING QUIZ

Bourne End Bridge Club has compiled some of the best quiz questions which have appeared in *English Bridge*. Try this one set by **Julian Pottage**. You are sitting West. What should you bid on the given auction. Assume love all.

♠AKJ942	W	N	E	S
♥AKQ6	1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
♦65	?			
♣J				

Julian Pottage gives his answer on page 24

English Bridge is published by the English Bridge Union.



AFFILIATED CLUB



Bourne End Bridge Club





CHRISTMAS TREE CHIPPING

The annual Christmas tree chipping recycling service was a success once again this year. We chipped more than 1,400 trees from around the parish, so thank you to anybody who came to drop their tree off or booked in with Child Bereavement UK for a collection.

The chippings will be used around the parish in the coming months.

Going into 2026, we will continue to attend Bourne End Community Market every second Saturday of the month, so please

do come and speak to us.

Alternatively, we welcome anyone who would like to attend our committee meetings – the parish council meeting schedule for the upcoming year is available to view on our website and Facebook.

We'd love to hear your opinions and ideas on all things Wooburn and Bourne End, if you are able to attend any of these informal meetings with your local parish council team we'd be extremely happy to welcome you.

in the swing of things and working on getting the parish ready for hopefully another win.

As many of you will already be aware, subject to planning permission being granted, we will be installing an all-weather path around the perimeter of Wooburn Park (see plan left).

This will aim to give everyone the opportunity to enjoy the entirety of the park, regardless of accessibility or weather restrictions.

We have already seen positive feedback on the outdoor gym equipment that was installed recently – hopefully going into warmer weather will mean more use.

We look forward to another positive year and hope to be able to speak with a lot more of you in 2026!

Please continue to report any issues you see within the parish to us as we can only help if we are made aware.

Either email

clerk@wooburnparish.gov.uk

contact us via our website

www.wooburnparish.gov.uk

call on 01628 522827, or drop into the office inside Wooburn Cemetery. We are happy to help.



It has been agreed that we will be replacing the dead tree outside Costa on The Parade, which we hope will make the street look much nicer and in turn help towards our 2026 Bucks Best Kept Village entry.

The Bucks Best Kept Village Working Party is already



Join us for
our next
events

care UK

**Ridley Manor care home,
Lane End**

Adjusting to a dementia diagnosis

Thursday 19th February, 6pm - 8pm

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COUNCILLORS' UPDATE

This new year may bring us many things, but one thing we can be fairly confident of is that there

will be a variety of planning applications coming our way.

The Buckinghamshire Local Plan is under construction with an expectation of the first insight of proposed sites being announced this springtime.

The last local plan we had for this area was the Wycombe Local Plan, adopted in August 2019. This plan had a five year housing target which has not been met within the five years since its adoption.

What does this mean? It means alongside housing target numbers for the county being at an all time high (95,500 additional homes by 2045, set by central government), we have less protection in place from former policies and developers are taking advantage of the situation.

We have already seen some evidence of this and expect many more applications to come forward.

What can we do to stop this? While we, as your local councillors, cannot stop all development and arguably we have been told the county needs houses, we can assure you that we will respond and examine every major planning application that comes into our ward and uphold our promise to get the best outcome we can with every development that happens.

Important things like infrastructure and medical

facilities will be considered and raised by us and we will listen to each point raised with a fair and balanced view.

Slate Meadow development works are still stalled currently due to ongoing archaeological works.

Keep an eye out in the next *Target* for more on this when we hope to do a more in depth update.

Hollands Farm planning applications (there are three – one for the main section of Hollands Farm and two for the Jackson field area) are with the planning department and expected to go to committee this spring/summer.

Penny.Drayton@Buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Larisa.Townsend@Buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Stuart.Wilson@Buckinghamshire.gov.uk



Volunteers enjoy a laugh

Probably not the best job in the world, but these two volunteers have smiley faces at the kitchen sink on market day.

Finding something that makes them smile can be as simple as doing the washing up after café customers have

enjoyed a hot snack and a cuppa.

What would we do without them? They make a difference as the café at the market provides tasty snacks, hot drinks and somewhere to sit for a chat with friends.

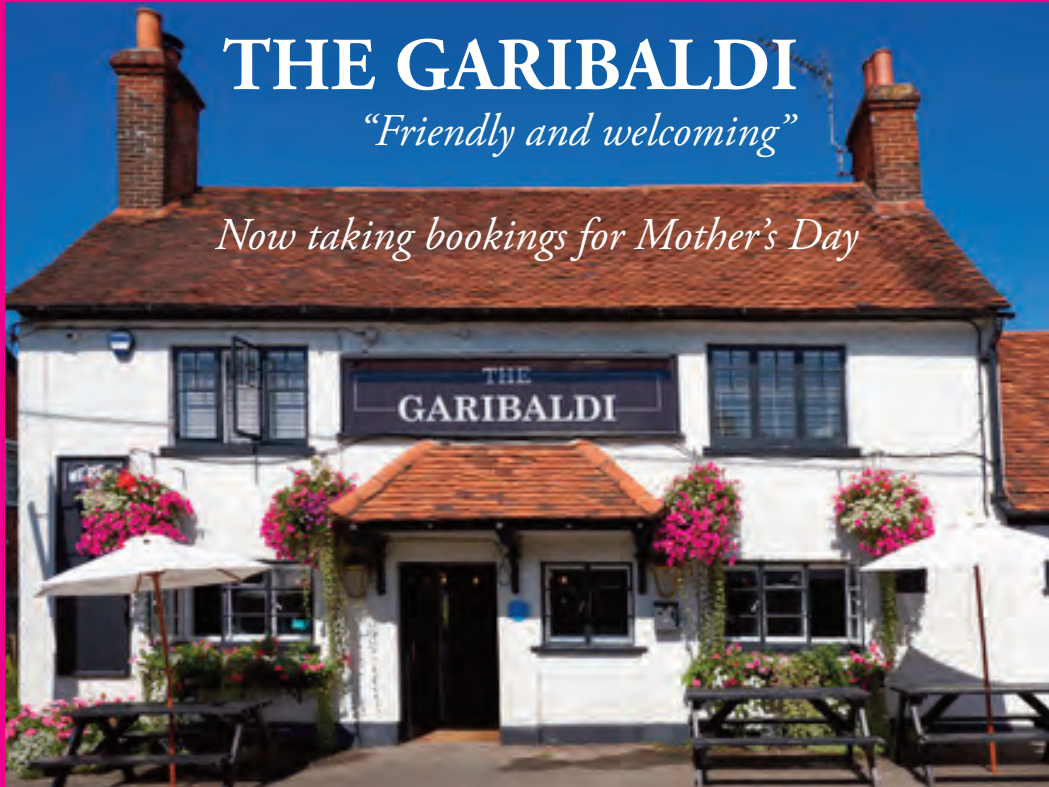
Happy customers outside like to eat and talk knowing that the ladies in the kitchen will wash and dry.

Market day brings so many people together to browse the stalls outside, inside the halls at the community centre and Target room then a visit to the library for more good things on offer.

Not forgetting the butcher, fish man, plants galore and a chance to talk to councillors. Music in the background is an added bonus.

All down to a great team of volunteers who organise, arrange, plan, greet everyone and guide anyone new in the right direction.

That's what volunteers do... and they laugh at the kitchen sink.



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Tim Durant 1955-2025

To those friends and neighbours who do not know, we are so sad to share the passing of our wonderful Uncle, Tim Durant.

Many of you will have known him from his walks round and about Bourne End with his beloved dogs JJ and Molly, and of course with the dogs he and his wife Sheila had before them.

Always happy to pass the time of day with anyone or chat about the weather (which he loved to keep a track of), he loved the longer summer days and being outdoors as much as possible, on walks or in

his beautiful garden, in his shorts and crocs all year round.

Some of you may have known him through his gardening which he enjoyed and was absolutely amazing at. Always on hand with the very best tools, happy to deal with fallen trees or simply hedges that needed to be tamed. His own back garden was a tropical paradise of palms, ferns and bamboo. He would do anything to help, without even being asked.

On our visits in recent months, every time we walked the dogs there were new neighbours and friends asking after him. It was wonderful to see what he meant to people.

Tim's funeral was on Monday December 22, and we were so touched by nearly 50 friends and neighbours, many with their own lovely dogs, who stood in a wonderful tribute outside Tim's home. He would have been overwhelmed.

Please rest assured that both JJ and Molly have wonderful new homes and have both settled very well.

Many of you have reached out to us, sharing your memories of Tim and it has been so lovely for us to hear your stories. There is no doubt that he will be a huge loss to you locally as he obviously will be to us. **RIP**

Submitted by Tim's nieces Kathryn and Mel.

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SMALL BUSINESS MATTERS

with Sylvia Bourhill

MAKING TAX DIGITAL STEP BY STEP

What is Making Tax Digital (MTD)?

Making Tax Digital for Income Tax means:

- keeping digital records, and
- sending regular updates to HMRC using approved software.

Who does MTD for Income Tax apply to?

MTD for Income Tax applies if you are:

- self-employed and/or a landlord, and
- your total gross income from those sources is over:

- £50,000 from April 2026
- £30,000 from April 2027

This is turnover, not profit.

What will change?

Instead of one annual tax return, you'll have:

- Quarterly updates (for business / property income only)
- One Final Declaration after the tax year ends

Important: Quarterly updates are not tax bills.

Step-by-step: how MTD will work

Step 1: Keep digital records

You'll need to record income and expenses digitally, using:

- accounting software, or
- spreadsheets linked to MTD 'bridging' software.

Step 2: Use MTD-compatible software

HMRC will only accept submissions from approved software. This could be:

- Xero
- QuickBooks
- FreeAgent
- or spreadsheets plus bridging software

We can help you choose the most sensible option for your situation.

Step 3: Send quarterly updates

Every three months you'll submit a summary of:

- total income
- total expenses

No adjustments, no tax calculations, no payment required.

Step 4: Submit the Final Declaration

After the tax year ends, you submit one Final Declaration.

- replaces the Self Assessment tax return
- confirms the final figures
- calculates the tax due
- is where everything is pulled together and finalised.

What goes into the Final Declaration?

The Final Declaration includes all taxable income, not just MTD income. It can include:

MTD income (already partly reported)

- self-employment income
 - rental / property income
- All adjusted and finalised at year end.

Other income not subject to MTD during the year

- PAYE employment income
- pensions (state and private)
- dividends
- savings interest
- capital gains
- student loan information
- high income child benefit charge
- any other income that would currently go on a tax return

Common questions

Do I have to tell HMRC that I am over the threshold?

NO! They will write to you as soon as they have received your 2024-2025 tax return to tell you if you are mandated.

Do I have to pay tax every quarter? NO! You pay tax on the same schedule as before. Payments on Account in January and July and balance the following January

(eg Tax due for 2025-2026 is due 31st Jan 2027 together with a 50% payment on account for 2026-2027 plus any balance for 2025-2026)

Can I de-register for MTD like I can for VAT? NO! You will need to be under the threshold for three years before you can drop out.

Do I have to report my salary every quarter? NO!

PAYE income is included once a year in the Final Declaration.

Do dividends and savings go through MTD software?

NO! They're added at the Final Declaration stage.

Is this basically a tax return with a new name? YES! Same purpose, different process.

Do I need an accountant? NO! With the right software you can do this yourself. If, however, you are not confident, then your bookkeeper can do the quarterly submissions before you send everything to your accountant at the year end. OR you can give everything to your accountant to sort out.

What you do vs what we do

You:

- keep records digitally
 - provide information on time
 - don't ignore emails with "MTD" in the subject
- We:

- set up and connect the software
- submit quarterly updates
- review figures
- prepare and submit the Final Declaration
- deal with HMRC and the technical tax bits

What should you do now?

If MTD will apply to you:

- start preparing early
- get used to digital records
- test the system before it becomes mandatory

MTD is a change – but with the right setup, it doesn't need to be painful.

Sylvia Bourhill

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INTRODUCING THE NEW BOURNE END SPORTS CLUB

At Bourne End Junior Sports Club our ethos has always been 'Sport for All'. As part of our drive in 2026 to encourage more community use we have opened new time slots in the hall to launch Bourne End Sports Club (BESC).

If you've been looking for a friendly, flexible, and affordable way to stay active, then why not check out our new club.

As a local charitable community society, our mission is simple: to give local adults an easy, welcoming route into sport—whether you're returning after a break, trying something new, or simply hoping to add more movement into your week.

At Bourne End Sports Club, there's no membership fee and no long-term commitment. Every session is pay-as-you-go, so you can drop into the sports you love whenever it suits you.

We know that time, energy, and confidence can all vary week by week; we want taking part in sport to feel convenient, not like a chore. That's why flexibility is at the heart of everything we offer.

Our weekly programme features a mix of coached sessions and casual, social sporting activities. If you're keen to learn a new sport

we are offering Pickleball coaching, providing supportive instruction in a relaxed environment.

With the support of Wycombe Wanderers Foundation, we are offering Chair Yoga and Walking Football for those that maybe aren't quite as fast and flexible as they used to be.

These are both very popular activities where the foundation are running them already and we expect them to prove popular locally too.

Prefer something more easy-going? Our social sport sessions offer just the right blend of light competition, fun, and community spirit. You can choose from Table Tennis, Badminton or Pickleball.

Recognising how many people now work from home we're also introducing these 'socials' as lunchtime sports sessions - perfect for anyone who wants to break up the working day, clear their mind, stretch their legs, and return to their desk feeling refreshed.

Every activity we run is shaped by the needs and interests of our community. As a local charity, we exist to support you. That's why our current timetable is just the beginning.

As we discover which sports become favourites — and hear from you about what



you'd love to see—we'll continue to grow and refine our offer.

So, if you're ready to get active, meet new people, boost your wellbeing, or simply add a bit of fun to your week, Bourne End Sports Club is here for you — affordable, friendly, flexible, and entirely community-focused.

We can't wait to see you in the sports hall at New Road soon.

NEW!



DAYTIME ACTIVITIES >>>

BADMINTON



CHAIR YOGA



TABLE TENNIS



WALKING FOOTBALL



PICKLEBALL



We are introducing an exciting range of morning activities in our Sports Hall, offering a mix of coached sessions and casual, social sporting activities.

We are also running some lunchtime activities, so why not step away from your desk for an hour and join us?

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more info





FREE ACTIVITIES In Bourne End Library

Tuesday

Storytime
Weekly
10.30am - 11am

**Bourne End
Library
Reading Group**
1st Tuesday on
the month
2.45pm - 3.45pm

Wednesday

Simply Walk
Weekly
10.30am - 12pm

Thursday

Bounce & Rhyme
Weekly
Term time only
10am - 11am

Scrabble Club

Weekly
2pm - 4pm

Afternoon Storytime

Weekly
3.30pm - 4.15pm

NHS Digital Cafe

2nd Thursday of the
month
11am - 12.00pm

Friday

Storytime
Weekly
10.30am - 11am

Lace Making
10am - 12pm

IT help drop-in
12pm - 3pm

**Visually Impaired
Reading Group**
Monthly 10.30am
- 12pm

Knit & Natter
Weekly
2pm - 4pm

Saturday

**Reminiscence
Morning**

**Last Saturday of
the month**
10am - 12pm

LEGO Club

Weekly
10am - 11.30am

and seeing a delightful window.

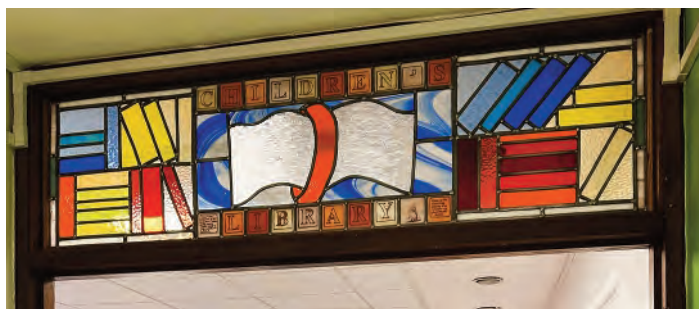
Back to the usual Friends schedule they have invited furniture maker Stewart Linford to talk about the Windsor Chair on Wednesday February 11 at 7pm with prosecco and nibbles being served before the illustrated talk.

Stewart has a long history of furniture making in High Wycombe, having trained at Wycombe College and later setting up his own factory for individual pieces of furniture, with a particular interest in the local Windsor Chair.

With a degree in Wood Science and a distinction for his thesis on Traditional Chair Making Stewart likes to talk about the furniture created in the local area.

New members welcome!

For further information please speak to a member of staff or contact the library team:
lib-boe@buckinghamshire.gov.uk 01296 382415



Friends of Bourne End Library

Look up and see something special as you go into the children's library at Bourne End. Inspired by designs from an earlier workshop, a stained-glass window now tells everyone that this is the Children's

Library. Stained glass designer and creator Jane Vincent was pleased to see it in place in time for Fun Night and the Christmas holiday.

Financed by the Friends this project was something

original for the entrance to the children's library. Creating the design and then making it work in a small space has been a challenge, but the end result looks lovely. Now it's just a case of looking up

There will be time for questions at the end.

Check out the details in the library and come along to support the Friends and learn more about this distinctive chair.

In March the Friends will be hosting their very popular Quiz Night on Friday March 27 from 7pm for a prompt start at 7.30pm. Bring your own refreshments and come as a group of six or join others to make up a six. All the details are in the library.

Our photo shows the lovely stained-glass window in the children's library.

MARLOW STUDIOS GETS THE GO AHEAD

Continued from page 1

Developers hope the studios will create about 2,000 jobs and contribute £249m to the economy annually.

It will also include a Culture and Skills Academy, to develop talent for the future of the UK film industry. It has been publicly supported by Hollywood names including Avatar creator James Cameron, Lord of the Rings actor Andy Serkis and Bond director Sam Mendes.

Critics such as campaign group Save Marlow's Greenbelt argued there was already enough studio space to meet the demand, with plenty in the local area.

A spokesperson for the group said it was "disappointed" with the decision, adding: "We believe the development will cause significant and lasting harm to the environment, the local community and the landscape."

Robert Laycock, MFS chief executive added: "We are grateful for all who have supported us along the route to this decision.

"It places Bucks and its citizens, at the heart of the UK's economic future. This is a powerful vote of confidence in the coming generations. Regenerating a poorly landfilled site to enable new careers and pass on exceptional skills in this world-beating British industry is the right decision.

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Then, looking ahead a job in the ticket office at Bourne End was the final one before retirement.

Customers became friends as he helped regular train users with queries, complaints and how to make a claim for a train that didn't run.

"There were a few of those," Tony laughed, "computers and apps have made it easier to make a claim, but without them the traveller has to resort to a claim form and a list of questions."

With Tony's advice it made things so much easier for the people who liked to buy their ticket at the station and then follow the details for their next train and the one after that.

Retirement day for Tony meant lots of visitors, gifts and good wishes.

RAILWAYMAN TONY RETIRES

Tony Gammond has been the friendly face of the ticket office at Bourne End Station for many years. Tony sold train tickets, but did so much more. He

would work out the best route for a traveller – the cheapest way and detail it as guidance for the occasional train user. He knew so much about train services and his aim was always to get the best deal for people using the railway.

Like so many small boys and someone who used the train Tony's aim was to be a train driver, but then along came options and he settled for railways jobs

He's pictured here with railway friends and family.

Then a welcome bottle of Irish Whiskey was presented to him by the chairman of Marlow Maidenhead Passengers Association, Nigel Phillips.

Of course Tony will still be travelling by train during his retirement and there will be plenty of other travellers who will recognise the 'ticket man from Bourne End'.



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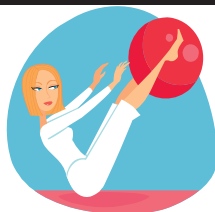


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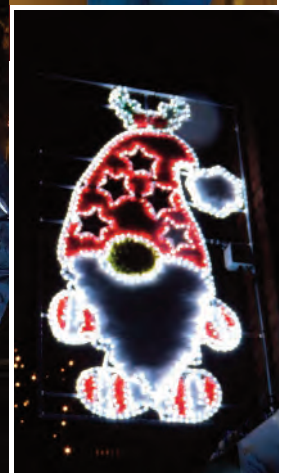
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FUN NIGHT 2025

Bourne End's annual big festive event certainly offered plenty of entertainment. There were smiles all around when friends met. Everything was there from Santa in his grotto with delightful elves to stalls galore offering tasty treats and fun games. And thrills as the fairground ride took you up on high then around and back down to earth — at great speed.

Schoolchildren sang Christmas songs before the big switch-on, then other choirs carried on the tradition of keeping their audience happy. But was it all slightly blurry – well there was a reason for that – precipitation. Enough said. It didn't spoil a great community evening in the centre of the village with lots of glittery lights.

Thanks to everyone involved in the night. From early plans to just being there on the night to help, direct, carry chairs and tables, then wipe everything down before things could be put away. Fabulous for the community, a treat for everyone and here's to Fun Night 2026. That will be on Friday December 4.



Best-selling author inspires gardeners

There was absolute delight when Anya Lautenbach said ‘yes’ to the invitation from Bourne End Horticultural Society asking her to visit and talk to members.

Anya is a popular gardening author and on the Sunday Times best-selling list. She is also an ambassador for the Royal Horticultural Society. Her down to earth approach to gardening has inspired both new gardeners and those who have gardened for years.

She learnt about gardening when growing up in Poland, close to the Baltic Sea. There local people were passionate about nature, wildlife and plants.

But Anya felt the need to spread her wings and travel. With her sister they eventually arrived in England.

“I loved it here,” Anya told a rapt audience of gardeners, “and I liked Bourne End. We both stayed.”

But Anya always remembered her mother’s words of wisdom when she told her daughters that you must grow things – it helps you if you plant and grow. So Anya took an allotment in Cookham and she planted flowers while her husband grew vegetables.

Then her great opportunity arrived when the family bought a house surrounded by endless lawns and the creation of a real garden became a possibility.

She remembered all the advice she had received

as a child. She created her own garden on a budget by propagating plants, growing from seed, and always thinking about sustainability. And these ideas have become easy to read best-sellers packed with Anya’s tips, ideas and common-sense gardening.

As her garden grew Anya decided that she should inspire others with her simple message: “We should garden in harmony with nature and listen to the changing of the seasons.

“See your garden as a living organism that sometimes needs a break. Learn to let things be and to create habitats for useful wildlife.”

With great enthusiasm Anya takes this message to gardeners through the pages of her best sellers.



Left: Anya (centre) with Penny Hampson and Margaret Marshall from the horticultural society. Above left: Laughter as a sell-out meeting enjoyed Anya’s talk. Above right: One of Anya’s bestselling books



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Every once in a while — take the scenic route

UPPER THAMES SAILING CLUB

report by Tony Ketley

You don't have to be a sailor to join a sailing club. Upper Thames Sailing Club has social memberships available.

These memberships allow you access to the club and its facilities whenever it is open, except going sailing.

The club has historically had a strong social side, though Covid messed with that for a time, but it's all starting to come back.

The club these days looks more appealing with the recently added larger balcony — a great place to enjoy a summer's evening. Once a month we have a happy hour, often there is an optional two course meal available as well as drinks at rock bottom prices.

Marking the start and finish of the sailing season seems like a good excuse to have a slap-up meal and a few drinks with friends and other members.



Members' guests are welcome too.

The club's major sailing event, 'Bourne End Week' is celebrated several times with meals each night, some relaxed, others more formal. We are not short of excuses, the club often hosts major events for particular classes of dinghy, a dinner would be available during these events too.

When the wet winter evenings are beginning to get you down, perhaps a quiz night might be the catalyst to draw members to the club for a get together?

The club is a self-help club, and members are



asked to help with the running of it. As a social member, the preferred option seems to be to do bar duties. These are more of a social opportunity than a duty. Serving drinks and pulling pints is more fun than you would at first give it credit for (training is given, don't worry).

If you are the type of person who likes to be involved, you would be welcome to join the House Committee, these are folks who get their heads together and organise all of the above and are much respected club members.

For more information go to www.utsc.org.uk

Open Day
Saturday
April 25th
11am to 4pm
Upper Thames Sailing Club

Riverside, Bourne End SL8 5PT
www.utsc.org.uk
Tea by the Thames
from 3pm
Sailing & Social memberships available

Come on a pub crawl

That was the invitation from the Bourne End One Place Study Group back in November and members with friends responded enthusiastically.

Using Ken Townsend's photographic collection of pub photos Dave Foster and Karen Savage started their 'crawl' at Little Marlow and worked their way to Wooburn — stopping off at hostelries along the way... all without anyone leaving their seat in the

May Woollerton Hall.

Admittedly many pubs no longer exist, but Ken's collection had photos dating back to when these inns were part of local life.

And there were cries of recognition from the audience with comments about spending time in that pub or being barred from another. There was laughter as each pub had a memory, especially if the pub now no longer exists, and previous owners introduced ideas to attract custom.



Seated at the front Ken Townsend (in green), with his family, nodded and laughed at the memories. Great to see one of his collections given an airing to an enthusiastic audience — many with memories going back over several decades.

There were some pubs with names but no photos — although someone would say that their dad or granddad used to go there.

Wooburn Green was renowned for the number of pubs around the green and many were just in houses and frequented by mill workers or farm labourers.

Wooburn had a Temperance Hotel with no alcohol and used by men who maintained the mill chimneys where a clear head was an essential.

It was an evening of great memories with lots of laughs. The final mystery? Where was the Scalemakers Arms and who, or what, was a scalemaker? The pub was probably opposite the Black Lion in Well End and Thomas Lunnion was on the 1872 register as the owner.

He was listed as a scalemaker in the 1881 census, but there's no sign of the pub. In the 1891 census Thomas Simmons was listed as a scalemaker living in Well End. So what is a 'scalemaker' and how does that relate to our villages?

The simple answer is a scalemaker is a crafts person who makes weighing scales. From traditional beam balances with pans, right up to modern times.

So why a pub for the scalemaker? Boat building and cargo might be one explanation or farm machinery and crops, maybe weighing paper...or do you know otherwise?

The Bourne End One Place Study Group would like to know.



BOURNE END JUNIOR SPORTS CLUB

Founded in 1970 Bourne End Junior Sports Club is a registered charity run by volunteers to provide sport and recreation for children and young people, with many being highly qualified in their own sport. The New Road Sports Hall was built in 1982 and later extended to include a climbing wall and a club room. The multi-sport centre is used extensively by club members and members of the whole community. Please visit our website for more information www.bejsc.co.uk

DECARBONISATION PROJECT FINISHED

With all the work completed during 2025 our club trustees would like to offer their heartfelt thanks to all those who made it happen.

Our generous funders are:



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CONTRACTORS INVOLVED IN WORKS

External Fire Exit doors: YY Security Limited - located in Hillingdon. Works included the supply and installation of new insulated security steel doors to the fire exits around the building. This was the first element of improvement work we undertook. The team was on time, clean, tidy and worked with the facility to minimise any disruption.

Double glazed windows and doors: Abbey Windows Limited - located in Maidenhead. Works included the supply and installation of a new insulated aluminum entrance door, five new double-glazed external windows to replace the old single-glazed wooden ones and a new internal screen to minimise noise and heat transfer.

The second package of work immediately improved the security and heat loss to the building, the work was done right first time with minimal disruption.

Insulation of Roof: Universal Painters - a specialist and licensed installer of 'Corksol' spray applied insulation to provide much improved thermal properties to the roof space of the building. A logistical operation that relied heavily on the great British weather playing along. Works happened to programme and right first time. This package of work was completed in phases and in close partnership with the solar installation works.

Solar panel installation: Chiltern Solar Limited - a well recognised and respected local installer and maintainer - Chiltern provided us with 72 new solar array panels and associated batteries and equipment. In addition, we now have 2 new EV car chargers to allow members to top up their cars while here.

Extending Heating and Upgrade of Hot Water System: FG Alden Limited - the provision of much needed heating and certain hot water upgrade works, providing a real impact to the comfort

and usability of the hall. In addition, FG Alden provided fantastic work to upgrade the 40+ year electrics to a modern and safe standard.

These were wide ranging and extensive works that were completed while the club remained open to the users minimising downtime.

A highly respected and professional organisation that provided us with exemplary service with a team who fully understood our needs as a charity club and the constraints in which we were working.

New flooring/stairs/entrances/corridors: Meadee Flooring Limited - a fantastic local company providing new hard-wearing and resilient flooring to replace the old worn and torn carpets in the circulation areas. One of the final elements of site work that brings together all the other works.

All the contractors have worked hard to ensure we remain operational and with minimal disruption, and we are grateful to the onsite teams.



THANK YOU TO OUR NEW SUPPORTER

Members of staff from 2HEADS visited the Sports Hall to present their cheque for £7,079.50 to see the benefits the new kitchen their generous donation has funded.

Sara from 2Heads commented: "Walking in and seeing it complete was a truly special moment, and a reminder of what collective effort can achieve. A huge thank you to our sponsors, every hiker who took part, and everyone who donated their time, energy or money."

"You've helped create something meaningful and long lasting for the community."

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Chairman: Matt Todd 01628 528110 (answerphone) Editor: Liz Hutton 01628 478168



James Corden on the left with Laura Ruocco, Ruth Jones, Alex Ruocco, Malcolm and Margaret Corden



BOURNE END CHOIR INSPIRES JAMES CORDEN'S NEW DRAMA

Written by Jane Cottrell

Internationally famous actor and comedian, James Corden, best known as co-writer and star of *Gavin and Stacey* and for his huge success in the States with *The Late Late Show* and his *Carpool Karaoke*, grew up in Hazlemere and still has close family nearby. Here Jane Cottrell explains how a link with a Bourne End choir has inspired his latest collaboration with Ruth Jones...

The Blend Choir was started in January 2013 by my daughter, Laura Ruocco, with the aim of providing an opportunity for those who like to sing but don't necessarily have confidence in their ability.

On that cold winter's evening, there were just 15 people meeting in St Marks Church hall who started learning their first song, *Rolling in the Deep* by Adele.

Now, 13 years later, the choir has around 200 members, with sessions in Uxbridge, Princes Risborough, Maidenhead, Wokingham and, as well as the original Bourne End evening choir, there is now a daytime choir which started last September.

There are no auditions, no need to read music and no pressure to perform at events or concerts, all that is needed is a joy of singing. The choir cover a wide range of musical styles from musical theatre and Disney to Motown and pop/rock favourites both old and current.

Over the years the choir has performed at The Olivier Awards, West End Live, Disneyland Paris, The London A Capella Festival, Bicester Village as well as many other charitable events. The choirs come together twice a year for their summer and Christmas concerts.

One member of the Bourne End choir is Margaret, mother of James Corden. James was in the audience for one of our Christmas concerts and had been moved to see both his mum, and his dad, Malcolm, an accomplished Saxophonist who accompanied us in many of our Christmas songs, clearly having a wonderful time.

We were delighted when he, along with Ruth Jones, his writing partner and 'Nessa' in the show came along to our Christmas concert in 2024 and chatted to the choir and had their photos taken with us all.

When it was announced that their new collaboration is to be called *'The Choir'* and was inspired by his experience and emotions of watching his parents perform with The Blend Choir, we were very excited.

The six-part series will be shown on Apple TV+ and is a mix of comedy and drama about estranged siblings, Ben and Lisa, who reconnect in their small English town and, not surprisingly, a choir is involved.

The Blend Choir meets in Bourne End at St Dunstan's Church hall Mondays and Wednesdays. For more information go to www.theblendchoir.co.uk



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Artwork by Bee Skelton



RIVERS IN THE WINTER - OUR LOCK KEEPERS ON THE RIVER THAMES

Water levels are very important during the winter months when we often have heavy rain.

Lock keepers are not just there to let boats through locks and chat with passers-by, although this is also an important part of their job.

The lock keeper's primary role during the winter will be water level management. There is a decision-making process that must consider both rainfall and groundwater, among other things.

The physical operation of weirs, manually opening and closing sluices to raise or lower the water level is no easy task when it's cold. Removing debris such as fallen branches and items blown into the river is vital as it can block the weirs which then means they cannot function properly. It's not uncommon for one lock keeper to be managing multiple locks which adds to the pressure.

As winters become wetter and warmer, high water levels are becoming a common problem, it's not just flooding that's an issue.

I recently attended the first 'induction day' of the first group of new lock keepers following on from the agreement from the Environment Agency to recruit another 35.

What a lovely group of people, keen to get involved with day-to-day life on the river and becoming a community hub for local river areas.

News is that the lock island at Cookham is likely to be re-opened by the summer, to allow pedestrian access once more... here's hoping.

AVIAN FLU - OUR SWANS

As many are aware Avian Flu is back in birds. Some cases have been reported in Windsor and Oxfordshire, and we are once again under restrictions across the UK.

It's not really in the press this time around.

For all wildlife charities this is a real challenge, Avian Flu is highly

contagious and passed by close contact with bodily fluids.

We cannot bring a swan that might be infected on site as we risk contaminating our site and put the swans already in our care at risk.

Full bio security measures are in place, foot washes, restricted areas and quarantine for any birds rescued from an area we have concerns about.

Swan Lifeline fundraised to build a separate isolation unit last winter; it cost over £6,000.

Any birds rescued now are kept here for a minimum of three weeks, are tended to by only one person with the changing of all boots, clothing etc.

For a charity this is an expensive and very time-consuming exercise but it's the only way we can continue to rescue during Avian Flu outbreaks.

We cannot rescue any birds that look sick, only those with obvious injuries. We have no treatment for Avian Flu; they will either survive or will not and moving infected birds is prohibited by DEFRA.

Wherever possible we treat the swan where we find it, check it over and release to the nearest bit of water.

So, the winter has its challenges, but as we all know, nature has an amazing way of bouncing back in the spring.

Pictures top to bottom show rescued swans, our isolation unit and Marlow Lock.



BRIDGE PLAYER'S BIDDING QUIZ

♠AKJ942 W N E S
♥AKQ6 1♠ Pass 3♠ Pass
♦65 ?
♣J

4♣. You have great playing strength and envisage a slam. There are surely no losers in the majors, so you just need partner to cover two of your three losers in the minors. Lacking a diamond control, it would be wrong to check on aces just yet. Instead first cuebid 4♣ and see whether partner can make a return cuebid of 4♦.

Julian Pottage

English Bridge is published by
the English Bridge Union.



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Bourne End & Cookham Probus Club

By Bill Leftwich

Ours is a club for retired businessmen and we meet every third Wednesday of the month for a few drinks, an extremely enjoyable lunch, and an invited speaker.

On Wednesday November 19 we invited Alan Fitzgerald to talk to us about the *Hidden Rivers of London*.

He began by taking us back 30 million years when the River Thames was a tributary of the River Rhine and explained that today there are 24 rivers in London that are largely unseen because they are underground.

The rivers were often recorded back in Saxon and Roman times and, indeed, many of the current names originate from that time.

As London grew in size and population there were increasing needs to improve the supply of drinking water, improve sanitation and also free up land for building houses. This work began as early as the 13th Century when rivers became conduits.

Later, in the 17th Century, when the Great Fire destroyed many buildings, work began to improve the River Thames, with an improved sewer system and free up even more land.

With maps galore, Alan took us on a trip through the many rivers - Fleet, Tyburn, Walbrook Effra, Westbourne and many more that the audience didn't know and had never seen.

Finally we were given a detailed description of the London Supersewer - 16 miles long, 8 years to build and costing £5 billion. Phew.

A very interesting talk with excellent pictures and graphics that thoroughly entertained an appreciative audience.

On Wednesday December 10 we held our traditional Christmas ladies lunch and 65 members and partners came along to enjoy the fun. We were entertained by the fabulous local guitarist John Dunsterville. John has been a leading UK musician since the 60s and has met and played with many top bands such as Rick Wakeman, Don Everly and Val Doonican.

He played some memorable music and told hilarious stories of his extraordinary life to an enthralled audience. To complete the afternoon we were served a three-course Christmas lunch to send members home full in body and soul.

If you would like to join our excellent, friendly club please contact Roger Gould on 01628 524122 or email bourneendprobus@gmail.com or view us on our website: The Probus Club of Bourne End & Cookham.org

Ladies Probus Group

By Helen Heard

(Maidenhead, Cookham and Bourne End)

We greeted the New Year with a lovely meal and our resolutions for 2026. February sees more light in winter days and we look forward to a talk by John Graystone on the history and fable behind Valentine's Day on February 3 before our AGM in March.

We are a small, diverse group of like-minded women, who enjoy the fellowship of a tasty lunch, good conversation and interesting speakers.

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month for lunch and on the third Tuesday at 11am for coffee. If you would like to know more or think you would like to join us, please contact Helen Heard (chairman) on 07789 504267.

Bourne End WI

By Carolyn Judge

Our regular January meeting fell on New Year's Day, so, to allow us to get over any indulgent celebrations, we met a week later and were delighted to welcome the Operations Manager from Wycombe Womens Aid.

For many years our WI has collected toiletries and necessities for this charity, although many of us didn't know the extent of their activities and help.

It was really worthwhile to hear what support they gave, but how sad in this day and age, that this is needed.

The New Year also involved us in some decision making. Each WI annually votes for the Resolution they want put forward for national consideration.

We had four to choose from - accessible public toilet facilities to promote dignity, health and social inclusion, action on women's homelessness, every child needs a friend or Love your Vulva (self checking is your best defence against vulva cancer).

Later in the year, a further vote is held at the Annual Meeting to decide which Resolution all WIs will concentrate on and work towards over the following months.

In February we will look forward to welcoming Sara Selby telling us about her 10 years working in a prison. As this report is written before the event, we can only imagine what insights she will be able to give us.

We continue to socialise outside our monthly meetings, with members enjoying various activities, whether they be active or educational. The one thing they have in common is that they are friendly and fun.

We have been very pleased to welcome several visitors over the last few months and many of them have decided to join us permanently. If you feel you would like to have more information about us, please email bourneendwi@yahoo.com

Little Marlow & Well End WI

By Veronica Kay

Mike Dewey took members on a trip down memory lane at the November meeting. He shared old Wycombe photographs with us, showing the development of High Wycombe in the 1950s, 60s and 70s.

The first superstore was opened by Diana Dors in 1956, the Duchess of Kent opened the Octagon in 1970 and Tesco opened in 1975.

Murrays, a well remembered department store that employed 300 staff, was known as a 'walk around store' and copied many American marketing ideas, eg inviting celebrities to attend events and to open new departments.

Due to the cancellation of our outing to Toad Hall Garden Centre a flower arranging demonstration with a Christmas theme was organised.

Liz Payne gave an inspiring demonstration of Christmas arrangements including a Tree of Life, a red, green and gold design and a pumpkin, filled with white roses and pink gypsophila.

Liz emphasised that oasis has been banned from use in flower arranging. All the exhibits were raffled at the end of the meeting.

Judith Forster (WI Adviser) joined members for their December meeting. The speaker, Ray Isted, described to members how Bob Gerhardt, who was partially sighted, founded the Wycombe Talking Newspaper (with the support of the Wycombe Lions Club) 40 years ago.

At first it contained local news (mainly from the Bucks Free Press) but has now expanded to include not just local news, but also quizzes and

magazine articles and due to its wider coverage, is now known as South Bucks Talking News.

There is a campaign underway to make the resource more widely known and to encourage anyone who is unable to read for any reason to sign up to the service which is completely free.

Our president reminded members that there would be a Craft and Chat and Rummikub meeting in January.

It was announced that a newly - formed book group will meet in January.

Judith Forster told members that she was always happy to visit our WI and appreciated her warm welcome.

Bourne End and Cookham Rotary Club

by John Dunsterville

Our president, Ian Fraser, will be standing down in July 2026 and another worthy will take over the many tasks in organising the direction for our busy club.

Ian is a stalwart and his business skills have enabled us to make best use of the charitable funds we have raised in the past year.

The Christmas collection, helped by Santa and the elves, raised over £4,500 which goes to Thames Valley Air Ambulance and Thomas Ball Children's Cancer Trust.

We currently meet at the King's Head in Little Marlow on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, to catch up with the news both here and abroad.

We invite interesting speakers to keep the evening entertaining and informative, but either way we insist that our relaxed and informal approach is upheld - long gone are the days of dressing up and obeying old fashioned protocols.

If you are wishing to be helpful in the community, why don't you give me a call, or better still come and visit us and find out first hand, how you can help us in all these great projects. Maybe you know of a charity that could warrant a helping hand, we would be pleased to hear about it.

Contact me, John Dunsterville, on 07811 702853 and once again, thank you for your continued support. www.beac-rotary.org.uk

Rotary Club of Cookham Bridge.

By Peter Osborn

The club has a full programme of activities each Wednesday evening. We regularly have guest speakers. Recently we enjoyed an insight into the Profumo and Christine Keeler affair, initiated at Cliveden house. The ramifications of which brought down the Macmillan conservative government in 1963.

On Friday November 18 we held our annual quiz night at Pinder Hall; which raised over £2000. All proceeds in aid of the Princes Day Centre in Bourne End and Elizabeth House in Cookham.

In late December we ran a very successful fundraising concert at the Wycombe Abbey School theatre. It starred the well-known local singer Andrew Bourne and his band. The main beneficiaries were Thames Hospice care

Our next charity events will be a Bridge Night on March 13 at Pinder Hall and on May 17 the Cookham Run.

Cookham Bridge Rotary club draws its members from both sides of the river. Our weekly meetings are on a Wednesday at the Odney Club 6.45 for 7.15pm for a meal.

We are always keen to welcome new prospective members. If you wish to see what we are all about please contact membership@cookhamrotary.co.uk

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Unwanted, medical supplies and equipment

Dear Editor

When my husband passed away, I found a number of unused medical supplies. I felt sad that if I had taken them to the local pharmacy, the equipment would be thrown away.

I remembered a while ago I had seen a programme about a charity who took such medical equipment and distributed it abroad. Hooray! I found Meditech Trust.

The trust was the brainchild of local businessman Bob Lewis and Consultant Urologist Graham Watson, and they have donated medical equipment worth many millions to UK and overseas hospitals since its formation in 2002.

The trust accepts such things as Catheter supplies, stoma supplies, bandages, dressings – as well as larger items like Zimmer frames, walking sticks, crutches,

leg braces and wheelchairs.

They do not accept any medicines as these have to be returned to the issuing pharmacy.

I thought other Target readers might be interested in this amazing service.

Their contact details are Meditech Trust, Unit 6, Swan Barn Business Centre, Swan Barn Road, Hailsham, BN27 2BY. Phone: 01323 442211. Email: enquires@meditechtrust.org Website: www.meditechtrust.org

Susan Gibson

Wycombe Lane, Wooburn Green



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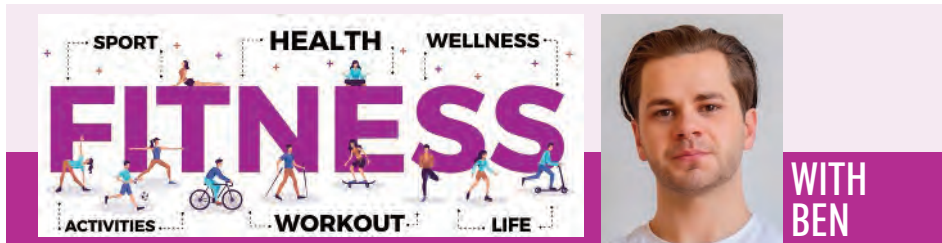
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Advertise in Target... See page 2 for contacts



Ben Broadhead is a Bourne End-based personal trainer and he specialises in working with seniors both in care settings and privately.

Q: Can exercise help with memory and brain health as we age?

A: In short, yes! Regular physical activity increases blood flow to the brain, which delivers oxygen, glucose, amino acids, and various other essential nutrients.

This supports brain function, focus, mood and memory.

Cardiovascular exercises such as walking, swimming, and cycling are particularly effective in boosting mood and improving memory and learning speed.

However, strength training has unique benefits in improving mental focus.

For the full spectrum of cognitive benefits, try to engage in both cardio and strength training, aiming to exercise at least three times per week.

benbroadheadpt.co.uk

Tel: 07900 204001

Email: info@benbroadheadpt.co.uk

Little Marlow Parish Council

By Cllr Kath Acres

We were very disappointed that the Secretary of State finally approved planning permission for Marlow Film Studios. We now wait to see when (or if) it happens and what impact it will have on our neighbourhood.

We were very sad to learn that it is proposed to close Little Marlow Infant School in August 2026 due to lack of children attending. More about this in due course*.

We seem to have been plagued by roadworks over recent months and we have requested that Cadent properly repair the road surfaces they have damaged. We have also succeeded (with the help of our Bucks Councillor Mark Turner) in persuading Bucks Council to take out a Section 215 Notice to enforce the breach of Permitted Development Rights on land beside Upper Thames Way in Bourne End.

On a more cheerful note the council is considering taking over the telephone box in Little Marlow as a community resource.

If you have any suggestions for its use (we are thinking book swap or similar) please contact our clerk, Jennie Phenix. We are also hoping to hold a community event to design and make some stained glass windows to go in it.

The updated Hall Bookings calendar on our website (under facilities) means that you can see when we have availability at both Abbotsbrook Hall and at the Pavilion for 2026.

We are planning to undertake long needed maintenance works to Abbotsbrook Hall as soon as we can. They are both lovely halls suitable for a variety of uses and we are always happy to show prospective hirers around. Both venues have wifi access.

We still have just a few allotments available at Chapman Lane. If you are interested please contact our clerk.

All council meetings are open to the public and it would be lovely to see you there and hear your views.

Details of times and dates of meetings are on our website. We have a new address for our website (see below) so please update your records.

Cllr Kath Acres
Chairman

Contact Details

website: www.littlemarlow-pc.gov.uk Email: clerk@littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk

Little Marlow Parish Council
The Pavilion, Church Road, Little Marlow,
Buckinghamshire, SL7 3RS
Tel: 01628 890301 Mob: 07377 424998

* The Little Marlow Church of England Infant School may close due to safeguarding concerns and low pupil and staff numbers. The consultation for this closed as Target went to press. The school has a capacity for 90 pupils, but currently has only 18 enrolled. The governing body has expressed regret over the decision saying alternatives to closure have been explored.



Stay Connected with Carousel Buses

Carousel Buses have proudly served our community for over 25 years, offering reliable and friendly bus services across Buckinghamshire and Berkshire. Our Service 37 connects High Wycombe to Maidenhead, travelling through Bourne End, Cookham, Furze Platt, Dedworth and even stops near King Edward VII Hospital.

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Laura has been a physio since 1994 specialising in musculoskeletal sport's injuries, rehabilitation, pre and post of rehab. She also works with the elderly to help prevent falls, improve general strength and mobility.



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Call Target advertising on 01628 525415

OUR LOCAL CHURCHES KEEP IN TOUCH

Cores End United Reformed Church

We started celebrating Christmas early this year with our Charity Coffee Morning on December 6. More than £900 was raised to be split between three charities - Thames Valley Adventure Playground, REMAP who provide custom made aids for people with disabilities and the URC Commitment for Life. It was a very happy start to the season, enjoyed by church members and old and new friends.

Our Carol Service was well attended, with the carols accompanied by the very accomplished brass band and refreshments afterwards very welcome before everyone heading for home full of Christmas joy.

Cores End and Hedsor Church are joining for a series of Lent Study groups, led by Hedsor's minister Rev Adrian Manning, commencing on Thursday February 26 at 2pm in Cores End Church and then the following five Thursday afternoons. Members of any other local church are very welcome to join us.

As soon as the weather is more suitable, we are replacing dead areas of hedging around the meadow. Once you feel ready to venture out and enjoy a ramble in a peaceful spot, the meadow is the perfect place and open to everyone.

Link Up Club on alternate Tuesdays at 2pm to 3.30 pm has a full, varied programme for the spring term. Do come and join us for afternoon tea and entertainment and an opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new friends for just £2. Sunday morning service is at 10.30am.

St Mark's, Bourne End

We have been working really well with other community groups around Bourne End.

Claytons School enjoyed a wonderful visit to St Mark's and explored the difference between a secular and Christian Christmas.

When the school had to close with no heating in the freezing spell in January, St Mark's welcomed in many families to a warm space with games and hot drinks.

The local Beavers group worked on their faith badge with a visit to the church.

As we seek to grow a church for all ages, we have been running groups for children since January every week at our service at 2pm on Sunday afternoon. All are welcome to join us.

St Paul's with St Mary's Church, Wooburn

With Christmas behind us we have had a bit of a breather, but Easter is right around the corner and Lent begins on February 18. We have lots of special services and events planned so, keep reading and join us.

Lent and Easter Services: Ash Wednesday — Feb 18 at 8pm. Then Holy Week: Monday — Thursday (March 30 to April 2) each evening at 8pm and Good Friday - April 3 at 2pm. This year's focus is 'The meaning of life - body, mind, spirit — theosis'

Our Easter Sunday service is on April 5 at 9.30am. All services are at St Paul's Church.

Our Choral Evensong is a new venture, which we hope to do semi-regularly. It's on February 22 at 6pm in St Paul's.

Our Forest Church is February 1 at 3pm in the vicarage garden. Messy Church is February 8 at

9.30am and March 8 at 9.30am in St Paul's church Hall (next door).

Community Breakfast is held on first Saturdays 9am at St Mary's.

And see the poster this page about Bake-On with Rosie on February 28, from 4pm to 7pm at St Mary's. Learn how to make perfect savoury and sweet gluten free pastry.

As always, please check our website stpaulswooburn.org (and our Facebook page - St Paul's with St Mary's Church).

St Nicholas' Hedsor

Once our Christmas celebrations and events were over, we welcomed Bishop Dave to one of our Sunday services last month; his first formal visit since his appointment as Bishop of Buckingham.

We are now looking ahead to Easter, beginning with our Ash Wednesday service at the church at 11am on February 18.

Cores End United Reformed Church is running a Lent course every Thursday at 2pm between February 26 and March 26 and we will be participating in this. This will follow Steve Chalke's course 'Apprentice: Walking the Way of Christ'.

Mothering Sunday will be celebrated at our 9am service on March 15.

Our Easter services begin on Palm Sunday at our 9am service. On Maundy Thursday, we shall have a Passover style supper at 6pm in the church and a Holy Saturday Service of Light at 7pm.

On Easter Day our Family Communion with Easter eggs will be at our usual time of 9am.

Our weekly Sunday services are always followed by coffee in the church and we welcome visitors to join us.

For details and information and help on weddings, baptisms and funerals, contact our churchwarden, Maura Carr, on 01628 530181 mauracarr300@gmail.com

For details of our activities visit stnicholaschurch.online and www.achurchnearyou.com and see also our Facebook page.

St John the Baptist Little Marlow

In January we welcomed the new Rector of the Marlow Team Rev Sam Follett and we look forward to getting to know him in the months ahead.

Sunday February 1 is Candlemas and at 11am there will be a reflective Communion service marking the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, followed by a simple soup lunch - all are warmly welcomed.

Sunday February 15 at 11am we have Family@11 - a relaxed informal service for all ages with contemporary worship, accessible teaching, creative activities for all ages, a time to gather as a church family.

Wednesday February 18 is Ash Wednesday and there



will be a service to mark the beginning of Lent. Details of this and other special services and courses to be held during Lent can be found nearer the time on our website.

Sunday February 22 at 11am will be a special service celebrating baptism. Please stay and join us for pancakes - a simple, joyful way to continue our celebration together as we begin the season of Lent.

On Saturday February 28 we will be hosting a special event at Bourne End Community Centre. Join us for an inspiring and interactive day exploring the grand story of the Old Testament, brought to life by Walk Thru' the Bible. The engaging otLIVE-style approach helps make sense of the many books, people and events in the Old Testament in a relevant and memorable way. Whether you are new to the Bible or have read it for years, this workshop offers fresh insight. The cost is £20 and the link to book is: <https://bit.ly/wttOT>

To find more information on our regular services and what is coming up over Holy Week and Easter weekend with services and gatherings for all ages on Friday April 3 and Sunday April 5 go to <https://bit.ly/LM-cal>

Contacts: Rev Fiona Ellingham 01628 482663 or Fiona.ellingham@4u-team.org or Peter Rodger 07985 619780 (churchwarden)

Bourne End Quaker Meeting

A Quaker Meeting for Worship takes place in the Target Room at the community centre at 10am on the first Monday of every month. Everyone is welcome; we stay seated in shared silence until about 10.40am. Anyone present may share their thoughts during this period of worship, as in any Quaker meeting. We chat briefly over tea and coffee after the meeting. For more information please visit www.caqm.org.uk



"Bake On" with Rosie

Saturday
28th March 2026

4 - 7pm

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Cost: Adult £29.50 (or more pp*)
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To buy your ticket in advance, contact:
rosieohagan@me.com or 07989 716635

*This is a fundraiser to help pay for the levelling and renovation of St. Paul's Church floor, to create a flexible space for more exciting service set-ups and community events and so, if you are able, any additional donation will be gratefully received!

The "BAKE ON" is suitable for EVERYONE,
not just those who have a gluten intolerance!



TAKE YOUR TARGET



In November John Marsh took his copy of *Target* to Perth in Australia where he watched the first Ashes Test Match when England played Australia. By the time *Target* readers look at this picture preparations will have started for cricket in 2026 and the Ashes will be just a memory.

He said the stadium was fabulous, the atmosphere was electric and the weather was wonderful.

TAKE YOUR TARGET TOO

Holly and David Whittaker took their *Target* to the Galapagos Islands and they were astounded by the amazing wildlife. Most of the islands are a national park and heavily protected.

Situated off mainland Ecuador in South America the islands are on the Equator. David joked that they had crossed the Equator twice in one day.

Following a path they met up with this giant tortoise, a feature of the islands, and these creatures can live to be over 100. Everywhere they looked there were species found nowhere else on Earth due to the isolation of the islands. A wealth of wildlife delights for them both.



A time for giving and a time to say 'thank you'

Wonderful people and organisations who donate to charity seem to like the festive period and the end of a year to do their giving. Their donations make a difference. So here's a big 'thank you' to them on behalf of the charities.

As this is *Target*, there's appreciation for the donation from the Orchard House and Brent Road social club who enjoy the community magazine and give the funds raised from their annual Christmas Raffle to this cause. 'Thank you'.

As it is the time for making donations, the Wooburn Scrubland Charity were able to make donations to The Princes Centre who run Bourne End Day Care Centre and to Marlow Opportunity Playgroup as they provide a stimulating environment for children with a wide range of additional needs. 'Thank you'. See the picture below.

Volunteers who collect food for those in need find that donations increase at Christmas so they can help more families. A big 'thank you' for those donations. While 'plenty' is demonstrated through festive advertising, for some plenty isn't possible – charities appreciate being able to provide a meal for the family and a box of chocolates.

Unexpectedly *Target* has received donations following a funeral and this is something new and much appreciated. There have also been the individual donations along with ones from events. To each and every one of these we say a sincere 'thank you'.

Below: Helpers and children receive their donation from the Wooburn Scrubland Charity.



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Scintillating salsa

Or how I rediscovered salsa and fell in love with this joyful dance!

By Wendy Mulhall

If you venture into Bourne End Community Centre on the second Sunday of every month, you might think you had been transported to a steamy nightclub in Havana as you see guys and gals dressed up and strutting their stuff to loud, vibrant salsa beats under gently pulsating coloured lights.

This is a regular party night where a little bit of Cuba comes to Bourne End and anyone can join in, even if you think you have two left feet.

My last article in *Target* was about returning to bellringing after 40 years, and this was a similar revelation.

I am passionate about all forms of dance and over the years I have tried everything from tap and modern jive to ballroom and latin but I hadn't danced salsa for 30 years.



I'd noticed the details in *Target* and decided to pop along to investigate, but without any particular intention to take up salsa again. I was warmly welcomed by everyone there, from the door lady to Basil Pinnoch, who lives locally in Wooburn Green and runs the Dance2Salsa company.

After a fun warm up, a one hour lesson took place, catering for different levels of experience.

Although I was the only beginner that night, Basil arranged for one of his teachers to give me an introductory lesson in Cross Body Salsa, the style taught to our group, which gave me enough

basic knowledge and confidence to join the social dancing after the lesson.



Even as a rather nervous complete beginner, other experienced dancers were happy to give me a whirl on the dance floor and, I have to say, I loved every minute. Salsa is now my favourite genre of dance.

I couldn't wait for the following month's party night and was once again welcomed and encouraged to sign up for Dance2Salsa's six week beginners course, held at their weekly

class nights at both Hazlemere and Holyport, Maidenhead.

Within a couple of weeks, I became totally addicted to salsa — Basil and his team of expert teachers ensure the very technical and structured lessons are enjoyable and fun. Four levels of tuition mean that there is something for everyone, whether you are a complete beginner or an experienced dancer looking to progress your skills. No partner is required, and age is immaterial. Our dancers range from 20s to 70s, I started again at the age of 65.

The health benefits of dance cannot be overstated. It can enhance physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. Studies have proved that dancing improves the cardiovascular system and lung function.

An Australian study of approximately 50,000 adults and their hobbies showed dancing was linked to a 46% reduced risk of stroke or heart attack. As a weight bearing exercise, it also improves bone density, strengthens muscles and the challenge of balance and coordination, flexibility and



posture and leads to greater stability, thus reducing the danger of falls in later life.

Dancing is beneficial for the brain as it enhances cognitive function and improves memory, and several studies have shown that it can reduce the risk of dementia.

In a study at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, researchers found that dancing is associated with a 76% reduced risk of dementia among the participants.

In his 'Just One Thing' series, the late great Michael Mosely wrote about 'Why dancing is the best way to enhance your brain and fitness' and quoted 'In one study using healthy volunteers, a 30 minute salsa class was shown to boost spatial working memory by 18% after just one session'.

The combination of music, movement and social interaction involved in partner dancing such as salsa causes the release of 'feel good' chemicals in the brain - endorphins, dopamine, serotonin and oxytocin.

These work together to create a positive emotional experience of wellbeing, happiness and social connection — it's hardly any wonder that dance has been proved to reduce feelings of stress, depression and anxiety.



And the best thing about this activity which has so many benefits for the mind and the body is that you are having a great time without being conscious that you are 'exercising'.

The Dance2Salsa group is not limited to weekly class nights. We have enjoyed many other activities throughout the year including a lovely picnic in Wooburn Park in the summer where, after setting up camp to eat and chat, we ended up dancing of course. We also had a riverboat shuffle on the River Thames, an exciting live band night in Hazlemere, 'Vinyl' nights where a visiting DJ will bring their own collection of salsa records and our annual full day event offering a choice of 16 different workshops followed by an evening dance with a further lesson and visiting dance troops to entertain us.

Then there's our Christmas Party where everyone puts on their most glitzy outfits for a upmarket dinner dance. Basil even runs a traditional early evening Boxing Night party in Bourne End community centre which is very well attended both by people who might otherwise be on their own or who simply want to dance away the excess Christmas calories and meet up with their dance buddies.

We also have an active social club where, via our own Whatsapp group, members of our dance family can connect and share information about salsa events locally or further afield and arrange lifts or other social activities such as theatre trips, Sunday morning walks and lunches etc.

Going back to bellringing, I even invited members to our open tower day and have recruited a new ringer.

So what are you waiting for? This time of



year can be cold, dark and depressing, so haul yourself off the sofa and find some salsa sunshine, fitness and new friends down at Bourne End.

Dance2Salsa Dance Company
www.dance2salsa.co.uk Also on facebook. Contact Basil Pinnoch
07595 397184
info@dance2salsa.co.uk



IRENE BOX 1922 - 2025

Irene Box, who lived on Blind Lane since 1960, died on November 29 at the great age of 103. Her happy smile and her willingness to be involved in anything local will be a loss. At every opportunity she would attend events at the community centre and enjoy catching up with friends she had made over eight decades.

Irene had been born and brought up in Enfield in London, where she studied social sciences in the evening while working as a secretary at the old LNER headquarters in Kings Cross. After marriage to Ray and the birth of two daughters, Heather and Rosemary, the family moved west and found a home in Bourne End.

Their move came at a vitally important time for local people as there were plans to build a community centre off Wakeman Road in Bourne End.

Irene and Ray were two doors up from Doug Ginger who became a great friend as well as a neighbour.

Doug was actively involved with the plans for a community centre and Irene shared his vision and supported the setting up of Bourne End Community Association with the aim of funding, then building, a community centre for the village. Doug later went on to become the editor of Target for many years.

Irene worked locally, first in the old Lintafoam building in Loudwater, and then for many years at Jacksons Mill.

In her free time she enjoyed being a member of the Womens Institute, enthusiastically creating Easter hats, baking for charity fundraisers and any other challenges they could think up. She acted as secretary for many years, using her shorthand skills to take the minutes of meetings and producing reports.

These same skills took Irene to the Townswomen's Guild where she acted as secretary and was involved in regular events and fundraising.

Eventually she had to step back from the role as increasing deafness made it impossible to follow meetings. But Irene would attend special events and support her friends and the guild in all they did.

Retired since 1982, she was a familiar figure around the village and loved anything to do with the community centre. Up until 2023 Irene was attending concerts and special events as well as the monthly community market. She enjoyed seeing familiar faces and stopping for a chat.

She will be missed by those who were used to seeing her out and about for over 60 years.

RIP

Peter George Smith

From the day he was born on October 2, 1946, Peter Smith had a view out along Coldmoorholm Lane for the rest of his 79 years.

It was a view he loved as part of his community and he created a special home for his lifelong hobby with royal connections.

Written off by formal education as never amounting to much, Peter set about proving them wrong when he found a skill that eventually won many model making awards and set him apart as someone very special. That carpentry course was the making of the man.

Add to that his ability to talk about what he had achieved, the fact that he was knowledgeable and that he was unassuming about his amazing skills.

Dig a little deeper and Peter would smile with delight as he detailed his precious collection of model carriages – that came with royal approval.

At exhibitions, fund raising events, talks and community get togethers you would find Peter there, with one or more of his carriages and a rapt audience of people wanting to hear how he found the right colour for the accessories, how he made the perfectly proportioned items and what he did to make everything work smoothly.

Peter was a craftsman. He was skilled. To get the perfect match he would search until he found what was needed. Then he created perfectly sized carrying cases for each of his royal carriages. And for anyone technical Peter would produce his meticulous working drawings that came with royal approval.

All this at the same time as working full time for a local builder who knew that Peter would solve a problem as houses took shape.

In his spare time he loved being part of his



community, raising funds for good causes and talking to people about his very special hobby.

After a short illness Peter died on December 23, 2025. In the next issue of Target magazine we will show more of his carriages and talk about the man with a technical skill to put a carriage design onto paper then make a scaled down full working model that gave pleasure to so many.

RIP

Peter's funeral will take place in February but, as Target went to press, a date hadn't been fixed. Neighbours and friends will be advised when the details are known.

Pictured here, Peter with one of his carriages at the monthly Bourne End Community Market.

Please call into the centre and pay £1 for your copy of Target

OUR GROUP MEMBERS KEEP IN TOUCH

Marlow & District Railway Society

It is incredible that, even with the passing years, photographic collections from long ago keep turning up.

One hundred years ago, even though photography was very expensive, a gentleman called Ken Nunn decided that everyday scenes of steam trains were worth recording. How grateful we are to him.

At our meeting on November 20, Jeremy Harrison presented an amazing selection of almost lost photos that Mr Nunn took between 1923 and 1929.

Considering that most of the shots were of moving trains taken on ancient equipment, the quality was spectacular. Albeit helped by more modern cameras, Peter Robins treated us to more superb photography on December 18 when he presented 'India - Part 2'.

Certainly on a cold, damp evening, it was great to be warmed by all that Indian sunshine.

Speaking of almost lost photographic collections, have you a collection of pre-1970 railway photographs? Bearing in mind that none of us are getting any younger, have you told your nearest and dearest what should happen to them when you die?

We know that collections have been lost because surviving relatives simply don't appreciate the value of these pictures. We at the Marlow & District Railway Society would be more than happy to look after them, and we have the expertise to restore them if required. Do contact us.

Meanwhile future meetings include, on February 19, Mike Walker relating how important the railways have been down the years in the transport of china clay (used for pottery and paper making). Then on March 19 Christopher Jones tells us all about the Central Wales Line to Swansea. Meetings start at 7.30pm in the community centre.

Visit www.mdrs.org.uk or ring Martin Stoolman on 07954 849390 for more details.

RNLI South Bucks & Thames Branch

The local branch of the RNLI is looking for volunteers.

We need people to volunteer for 90 minutes shaking a bucket at one of the local supermarkets or the M40 Services in Beaconsfield.

If you can help, please get in touch with Rose.spokes@bluewater.im with contact details so that a member of the RNLI committee can get in touch with you.

We are a friendly group, no pressure, but a warm welcome is always given to interested volunteers.

Bourne End Horticultural Society

We are looking forward to a busy year ahead with most interesting speakers and several garden trips planned.

To start our programme of speakers for 2026 we will be welcoming Gerry Edwards on February 19. He will be sharing his knowledge about growing apples and pears for best results.

On March 19 Dr Sandy Primrose will be giving a clear and interesting talk about *The Language of Flowers*.

We are a very friendly society and always welcome new members. We meet at St Dunstan's Hall in Bourne End on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30 for an 8pm start.

For more details about speakers, trips and membership please visit our new website at

sites.google.com/view/bourneendhorticulturalsoc or email: behorticultural@gmail.com or phone our membership secretary Penny Hampson on 07797318447

Bourne End Flower Arrangement Society

Creating Christmas displays proved to be a fun workshop just before the frantic start of the festive season. It also introduced some festive friends to the displays that might stay around all year (see pictured here). Particularly stunning was the glorious red Amaryllis. Many thanks to everyone who signed up and to our team of helpers and inspirers.

Members didn't meet in January as fresh flowers are a problem, then the February meeting will be our AGM. After that our meeting on Tuesday March 3 is a demonstration from Angela Edmonds with her title 'Gardens from Afar'. It will be lovely to see lots of members coming along to watch an expert at work and inspiring ideas that can be tried at home.

All our demonstrations take place in the May Woollerton Hall at the community centre on the first Tuesday of the month. Why not come along to meet us and enjoy the scent of flowers taking shape in a wide variety of ways? Lucky raffle winners take home the displays created during the demonstration.

If you would like to know more about the flower club contact Jenny Hardwick on 01628 526554 or email jennifermhardwick@gmail.com



Bourne End (Bucks) Twinning Association

We foster friendships between Bourne End and Octeville-sur-mer, Normandy. New members always welcome, French not needed. Info: Wendy Langford (Chairman) langfordw22@gmail.com 07428 004417, or Pearl Hill (Secretary) pearl.hill@btopenworld.com, 01628 527142.

We were sorry to hear of the loss of Dr Dagmar Barrett, a long-term member of great warmth and

culture, who died on Boxing Day. Our condolences to all who knew her.

Members met on January 3 to enjoy the traditional Galette des Rois, a frangipane pie eaten in French families around Epiphany. Token-finders were duly crowned (see this page for more).

We are collecting host names now for visitors from Octeville June 4 – 8 coming for four days of fun and friendship.

Phone now 01628 520065 / 07428 004417 or Liz Yeeles 07973 883570 to find out what it involves and see if you could offer that welcome, maybe with a friend's help?

English-speaking guests possible if necessary. We will organise some events and the guests love to be in a British home.

French tradition in Bourne End

In France they celebrate Kings' Day around January 6 and members of Bourne End Twinning Association do the same here in Bourne End.

A special Galette des Rois, a frangipane pie, is baked and each delicious pastry has a hidden charm and the finder becomes king or queen of the day.

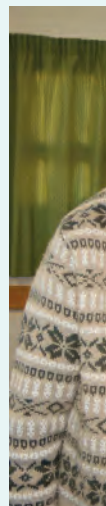
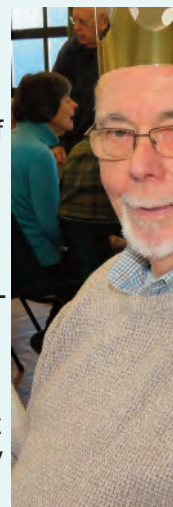
It's a time of celebration in French homes being a family occasion. Here in Bourne End members of the twinning association gather in St Dunstan's Church Hall for tea, a slice of the delicious pastry and time to catch-up with friends.

Celebrating the arrival of the Three Kings at Epiphany is a great start to a new year and a way to chase away the January blues.

The tradition is said to date back to the 14th century and is typically French.

Conversation in Bourne End – between delicious mouthfuls – touched on the visit by their French friends early in June.

Pictures (top to bottom) Jill Keenan, Alan Duncan, Eirwen Meredith, Wendy Langford, chairman of the twinning association with Liz Yeeles



You are also likely to be invited back to Octeville with us next year: a welcome not to be missed.

Do you have favourite Twinning photos? Email a couple to me for display boards at the community market (second Saturdays), which we shall attend whenever we can, introducing more people to the fun of twinning.

The First Saturday Coffee at Lee's is enjoyable, but now up to you. If you want to keep it going, Lee's will be delighted to see you 10-11am. They have been very supportive.

Future events: AGM, March 7. Visit of CJO (French friends), June 4 – 8 June.

For details or booking, contact Wendy or Pearl (see opposite).

CALENDAR OF VILLAGE EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 1 Sun Tea Dance at the community centre 2pm to 4.15pm. See poster page 5
- 2 Mon Short Mat Bowls in the community centre 7.15pm – and every Monday and Tuesday (except first Tuesday of each month)
- 3 Tues Bourne End Flower Arrangement Society. Demonstration at 8pm by Angela Edmonds 'Gardens from Afar'. See their report page 34
- 5 Thurs (and every Thursday) Fitsteps at the community centre 11.15am to midday (see poster page 5)
- 5 Thurs Centre Bar Quiz at the community centre. Doors open at 7.30pm; please arrive by 7.45pm for an 8pm start. For more information call Diane on 07521 656413
- 5 Thurs Every Thursday at the Black Lion in Well End, join regulars and others for a night of questions, answers and perhaps loads of laughs with friendly people. Fun starts at 8pm. Call 01628 531612 to book a table
- 5 Thurs The Hedsor Jazz Club, start time 8pm (until 10.30pm), admission £12, The Hedsor Club, Hedsor Road, Bourne End (cash only please and please note that we are now running on the second and fourth Thursday each month)
- 6 Fri Bingo in the community centre. Every Friday. The fun starts at 1.30pm and 8pm
- 7 Sat Volunteers Fair at the community centre. See pages 1 & 6 for details
- 7 Sat Repair Café (and then every first Saturday) at Flackwell Heath Community Centre. See poster page 6
- 8 Sun A social with a great mix of salsa, cha cha cha, Cuban and other Latin rhythms at the community centre, £12. Call 07595 397184 or 07956 122505 info@dance2salsa.co.uk www.dance2salsa.co.uk
- 10 Tues Short Mat Bowls in the community centre 7.15pm – and every Monday and Tuesday (except first Tuesday of each month)
- 12 Thurs Wooburn Residents' Association meeting, open to the public, 8pm. See their report page 8
- 12 Thurs Open Mic Night in the bar at Bourne End Community Centre 8pm to 10.30pm. See poster page 5
- 14 Sat Bourne End Community Market 10am to 2pm in and around the community centre. See ad page 31
- 14 Sat Valentine's Day concert starring Andrew Bourn and a live band at the community centre. See poster page 4
- 15 Sun Afternoon movie at the New Royalty Cinema in the community centre at 2pm. *The Notebook*. See page 3
- 19 Thurs Wooburn Residents' Association present a free talk by Trading Standards on 'Fraud and Scams' in the Wooburn Club. See their report page 8
- 21 Sat Repair Café (and then every third Saturday) at the Bourne End Community Centre. See poster page 6
- 24 Tues Live music in the Centre Bar at Bourne End Community Centre with The Bourne Again Shadows. See poster page 4

MARCH

- 1 Sun Tea Dance at the community centre 2pm to 4.15pm. See poster page 5
- 2 Mon Short Mat Bowls in the community centre 7.15pm – And every Monday and Tuesday (except first Tuesday of each month)
- 5 Thurs (and every Thursday) Fitsteps at the community centre 11.15am to midday (see poster page 5)
- 5 Thurs Community Centre Bar Quiz. Doors open at 7.30pm; please arrive by 7.45pm for an 8pm start. For more info call Diane on 07521 656413
- 5 Thurs Every Thursday at the Black Lion in Well End, join regulars and others for a night of questions, answers and perhaps loads of laughs with friendly people. Fun starts at 8pm. Call 01628 531612 to book a table
- 5 Thurs Hedsor Jazz Club, start time 8pm (until 10.30pm), admission £12 (cash only please), The Hedsor Club, Hedsor Road, Bourne End (held on the second and fourth Thursday each month)
- 6 Fri Bingo in the community centre. Every Friday. The fun starts at 1.30pm and 8pm
- 7 Sat Coffee Morning 11am to 1pm at the community centre. Free entrance. See poster page 5
- 8 Sun A social with a great mix of salsa, cha cha cha, Cuban and other Latin rhythms. See details Feb 8
- 10 Tues Short Mat Bowls in the community centre 7.15pm – And every Monday and Tuesday (except first Tuesday of each month)
- 14 Sat Bourne End Community Market 10am to 2pm in and around the community centre. See ad page 31
- 15 Sun Afternoon movie at the New Royalty Cinema in the community centre at 2pm. *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*. See page 3
- 28 Sat Cabaret Night in the community centre. More info from the centre office. Contact details page 2
- 28 Sat Bake On with Rosie at St Mary's Pastoral Centre 4pm to 7pm. See poster page 30

**The next issue of Target will cover April and May 2026.
Email editor@targetmagazine.org.uk by Friday March 2
to get your event included in the issue and/or in the calendar.**



Please call into the centre and pay for your copy of Target

THE FALCON QUIZ

Set and sponsored by The Falcon Pub, Wooburn Moor

Quizmaster Steve set this quiz and landlady, Katie Lamb, generously offers a meal for two at the pub (or a takeaway) as a prize for the winner. For your chance to win, send in your answers to the questions below by email to editor@targetmagazine.org.uk (with the subject line Falcon Quiz) or write down your answers and drop them in at the community centre. Don't forget to include your contact details. The winner will be picked at random from all the correct entries on the closing date Monday March 2. Have a go... if nobody gets all the answers the winner will be the person with the most correct answers. This time test your musical knowledge and find songs with blue in the title.

- 1) Who had a hit with 'Mr Blue sky'?
- 2) What is the Manchester City fans anthem?
- 3) Who had a hit with 'Song sung blue'?
- 4) What was Linda Ronstadt's UK hit in 1979, previously a hit for Roy Orbison?
- 5) Status Quo's only top ten hit to not be performed live is?
- 6) A top ten UK hit for David Bowie in 1984?
- 7) Chelsea FC anthem released in 1972?
- 8) Who got to number one with 'Bridget the midget (the Queen of the blues)'?
- 9) Who had a top ten hit with 'Black skinned Blue eyed boy'?
- 10) 'Blue' was a top 20 hit for which American female singer in 2024?
- 11) What was Elton John's top ten hit in 1982?
- 12) Who sang 'Blueberry hill' in 1956?
- 13) What song did Madonna take to No1 in 1986?
- 14) Who sang 'Don't it make your brown eyes blue'?
- 15) 'Moody Blue' was a single released a year before this singer died?
- 16) 'Into the blue' was a No12 hit for which Aussie singer?
- 17) Who sang 'I guess that's why they call it the blues'?
- 18) Who got to No 9 with 'Blue Monday' in 1983?
- 19) What was the song by Neil Diamond that was a top 20 hit in 1979?
- 20) A UK re-release in 1990 reached No 2 for Bobbie Vinton. What was it called?

Answers to the December/January 2026 Quiz:

1 7 January (Russia uses the Julian calendar we use the Gregorian) 2 Italy
3 The Sun 4 Germany 5 Turkey 6 Norway 7 True 8 Melchior 9 Florida
10 Angels 11 9 12 Feliz Navidad 13 Paul McCartney 14 East 17
15 Milan 16 Bells 17 Indian Ocean 18 1932 19 Denmark 20 15 years old
The winner wanted to remain anonymous.

Terms and conditions: Entrants must be aged 18 or over, only one entry per person, no cash alternative to the prize, our decision is final, no correspondence can be entered into. The meal must be booked in advance and is subject to availability. Drinks not included.



The Falcon Pub

Watery Lane,
Wooburn Moor, HP10 0NE
Tel: 01628 522752



**LIVE
MUSIC**

FEBRUARY 14

Lucy Clarke

MARCH 14

Matt & Damo

**Book now Valentine's
Day & Mothering
Sunday**

**Follow our Facebook
page for more info**



The Community Centre Bar

Your Bourne End bar

Cheaper drinks

Sports on a big screen

*Regular darts evenings and
musical events*

*Comfortable surroundings in
which to socialise*

Open for members of the Bourne End Community Association and their guests (membership starts from just £5 a year)

Mondays to Thursdays 7pm to 11pm, Fridays 6pm to 11pm

Saturdays Midday to 11pm and Sundays Midday to 9pm