

New Buckenham Parish News

NEW BUCKENHAM ART EXHIBITION 2026



April 2026

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New Buckenham Parish News

April 2026

Cakes for the Art Exhibition

I've got the wonderful job of drumming up cakes for the Art Exhibition again this year. Your delicious cakes enable the exhibition to have its own café which raises money that is put back into the village! If you would like to donate but can't bake, or you're just too busy, we would be very happy with a purchased cake.

Please contact me if you would like to donate.

Fi Gallimore

07981 107703

King's Stores

King's Stores will no longer open on Sundays. We would like to thank Sue for providing this service over many years. We appreciate all her hard work and understand that continuing Sunday opening is no longer viable.

Parish News Committee

Sponsor the Parish News

If you would be interested in sponsoring an issue of *Parish News* or advertising in the magazine, please contact Mary Dowson on 01953 860320 or email mdowson@btinternet.com.

Parish News Committee

2026 Bucks Photoshow

The tenth biennial Bucks Photoshow will take place Friday 8th until Sunday 10th May 2026 at New Buckenham Village Hall. It's a wonderful opportunity to share your photographs with the public.

We welcome photographers of all abilities, and especially encourage anyone who has never exhibited before.

For £20 you rent an 8x4ft display board, which you arrange with however many photographs you wish, it's your space. If you can't fill a board, you're welcome to share with another photographer.

You put up your pictures before the show opens on Friday evening and take them down after it closes on Sunday lunchtime. It's entirely up to you whether you offer your work for sale.

We would also be very pleased to hear from local photographers who have not exhibited before but may be interested.

Please email Sonya at photoshow@newbuckenham.net and I'll send full guidance notes.

Sonya Duncan

New Buckenham Players: Spring Workshops

This Spring we're going to be running a range of workshops to help develop on and off-stage skills. All workshops start at 7:30pm and are free to attend. Workshops for April are:

- Tuesday 21st: Singing and Music – for anyone interested in singing or playing an instrument for a theatrical production
- Tuesday 28th: Stage Presence – continuing on from singing, we will look at projection, breathing and physical stage presence.

We hope to see you there!

New Buckenham Players



THE BUCKS PHOTOSHOW 2026



THE VILLAGE HALL,
NEW BUCKENHAM

8 MAY • 7:30PM 'TILL LATE

9 MAY • 10AM – 5PM

10 MAY • 10AM – 1PM



FREE ENTRY • LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHERS
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photoshow@newbuckenham.net

New Buckenham Village Hall Updates:

Heating

As we move into the warmer months and the cost of heating oil continues to climb, we will be reducing the temperature in the Hall to save money and shortly

turning the oil heating off. We hope this does not impact on you using the hall but feel sure that as a community you will understand that given the costs, we have to make these changes.



AV System

When you next visit or hire the Village Hall you will notice some major improvements to our audio-visual systems. With money raised and donated to the Hall from the 200 club, the Village Fete, and the Art Exhibition, we have put in a “Plug and Play” system for access to the audio and the projection system. We have also put a Wi-Fi booster in the auditorium. The projector is now mounted and set up with access from ground level. Access to the audio system now works from a “Bluetooth” link again from ground level. This means when you use the hall for that special party or presentation you can link your device to our systems easily and effectively. No more clambering up to the gallery to set up projector or speakers.

Thanks to everyone who supports the community events and contributes to the 200 Club – you do make a difference. Your support ensures the Trustees can make our Village Hall one of the best community spaces in Breckland.

If you have any ideas for events you want to put on or just want to know a bit more about how it works, contact us on 07469 715517, or email bookings@newbuckenhamvillagehall.co.uk.

Juliet Fulford

Trustee New Buckenham Village Hall

Good Companions

Nineteen members attended the meeting on Thursday 19th March, where we had an Easter Bonnet parade, followed by an Easter-themed quiz. Tea was served by the committee.

The next meeting will be in the Village Hall at 2:30pm on Thursday 16th April. This will be our birthday tea and this is our 77th year. New members will be made very welcome.

For more information, please contact me on 01953 860467 or Diana Cole on 01953 860636.

Christine Wilby



News from the Pews

Easter is just around the corner and before we indulge in far too much chocolate, there are several services over the Easter weekend.

Good Friday: On Good Friday at 2pm there will be a reflective service, with choral pieces by the choir, congregational hymns and spoken meditations on the Easter story. By tradition, services on Good Friday finish by 3pm.

Lilies for Easter: Hopefully you will have received the flyer about the lilies and if you haven't ordered one we may have some available, so do give me a ring. On Easter Saturday, starting at 12 noon, we hold an informal, contemplative gathering to remember loved ones. Collect your lily, put it in the vase and light a candle. You are welcome to simply come and go, or sit quietly listening to music whilst remembering those you love. We will be there until 1pm but if you can't come at 12 o'clock, the church will be open until dusk and as usual all the lilies will be named, so you can collect yours. If you can't collect your lily, let me know and I will be happy to place the lily and light a candle for you. If you haven't ordered a lily, you are most welcome to come to remember those you have loved. The lilies will then be displayed in the church until they are past their best.

Easter Sunday: There will be Holy Communion with Revd. Sarah Walsh at 11am and if you haven't already treated yourself with Easter chocolates, there will be some to enjoy afterwards!

coffeemates!: Our first coffeemates! will be on Saturday 18th April, starting at 10:30am. We will be raising funds for Nourish, launched under charity The Feed, providing hot evening meals to rough sleepers, those in temporary accommodation and those without cooking facilities, in Norwich, 6 days a week – a sadly much needed service. We look forward to seeing you there!

Book Stall: Thank you for your continued support of the book stall, which raises much needed funds to keep the fabric of the building going, to say nothing of paying the ever-rising electricity bills.

Food Bank: Thank you, too, for your generosity in leaving donations either in the church or at King's Stores.

Contact details: Revd. Sarah Walsh is always happy to visit or chat. You can contact her on 01953 571549 or 07809 430967.

For any other queries do contact me:

Louise Casson (Churchwarden)

01953 860191

St Martin's Services: April 2026			
Fri 3rd	2pm	Good Friday Meditation	
Sat 4th	12pm	Lily Remembrance	
Sun 5th	11am	Holy Communion	1st Sunday of Easter
Sun 12th	10am	Group Service at St Mary's, Kenninghall	2nd Sunday of Easter
Sun 19th	11am	Morning Prayer	3rd Sunday of Easter
Sun 26th	11am	Holy Communion	4th Sunday of Easter
<p>For more information about services, contact: Priest in Charge: Revd Sarah Walsh (01953 571549)</p>			



Village & Vestry
presents...

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Vocal ensemble from West Yorkshire
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Saturday 18th April 7.30pm

St. Martin's Church New Buckenham

Entry £10 to include wine and nibbles
Tickets available from Monday 30th March
at Kings Stores New Buckenham

Do you want to open your garden?

On June 28th, this year we are holding another Open Gardens event here in the village. I have been dropping off flyers to those householders who have very kindly opened their gardens in previous years and I have also put some through other doors in the hope that they may volunteer. So far I have very few responses and we understand you may not want lots of people tramping through your garden but it's like the party that you couldn't raise the energy or inclination to attend. After the event you realise that it was extremely rewarding both for you, your garden and financially for us at the Gardening Group.

We raise funds to support the Village Show and to support gardening and/or children's projects. We have supported Old Buckenham Primary, Old Buckenham High School, and the Village Hall Children's Garden.

Would you like to open your garden? It's not a question of size or expertise, colour or abundance? We have had gardens and courtyards, large and small, and because it's all within walking distance it's very popular.

So many gardens are hidden from view and may hold many secrets. Help us to help others and it's only for a few hours on a Sunday afternoon. Contact me if you want more information or would like to join in.

Jimpy

petercasson219@btinternet.com / 01953 860191

Call for plants

We'll be having a plant stall at the Old Vicarage during Open Gardens (28th June) and welcome all contributions. Proceeds go to the Village Show. So if you are sowing seeds, splitting plants or raising cuttings please think of doing a few extras for the stall. We can help with collection if needed. Thanks for your help.

Pat and Charles - 860708

Winter Warmer Café 2025-26

We will be closing the drop in café at the end of this month when the clocks change and we move into Spring. We have welcomed a small but dedicated group of people through our doors this winter on a Wednesday afternoon. There have been lots of games played, from Scrabble, Wist, Rummicub and Uno to name a few, lots of laughter, chat, tea coffee and biscuits.

Thanks to everyone who supports the café and particular thanks to New Buckenham Cricket club who are covering our hall hire charge for 2025/26 from the proceeds of the fireworks night.

That's all folks until we head into next winter. See you in October.

Juliet Fulford

New Buckenham Common Grazing Rights Wanted

I am interested to acquire Grazing Rights on New Buckenham Common. Good cash price paid.

If you have lost the paperwork of your own or an inherited Right I can resolve that. I will also deal with the required procedures for lawful Conveyancing and Transfer of the Right at no cost to you the seller. You do not have to transfer Rights free of charge, appropriate legal documentation is required which I can arrange.

Many thanks.

Charles Stimpson

07919 592106 / charlie_4567@hotmail.com

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS



AT NEW BUCKENHAM VILLAGE HALL
(BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE QUIDENHAM GROUP OF PARISHES)



Join us for afternoons of Creativity and Play, including:

Creative craft work, Fun Group Games
Music and movement, Bible stories and lots more.....

Events will take place on:

March 29th – 2-4pm

April 12th - 2-4pm

May 24th - 2-4pm

June 21st - 2-4pm

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Age range: 0-11 years

We look forward to seeing you there!

For further information contact Rev. Sarah Walsh on:
01953 571549/revsewalsh967@gmail.com

New Buckenham Parish Council

Summary of draft Minutes March 2026

Present: Paul Martin (PM), Karen Hobley (KH), Steve Highton (SH), Mary Dowson (MD), Mary Manning (MM), Don Crossman (DC), Angela Thornton (AT) Clerk and no members of the public.

1. Minutes

Minutes of the February meeting approved.

2. Matters arising

a) The village map on the noticeboard is to be reprinted - awaiting delivery.

b) Grazing Rights - article to be written in Parish News (AB).

c) Breckland District Council have been informed of MM's resignation from 1st April. A Notice of Vacancy will be sent on that date. 14 days after this if <10 parishioners have requested an election co-option may take place.

d) Neighbourhood Plan - MM highlighted page 64 which clarifies the monitoring process of the plan. The review is due by July 2027. Cllrs to consider monitoring requirements and bring recommendations to the next meeting.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. District/County Councillor Report

Steve Askew sent confirmation of grants from his Local Member Fund.

£1,000 for Playground signs and £3,700 for SAM 3 device.

Devolution LGR - County Council elections will now take place in May.

5. Parish Cllr Reports

KH presented a 'thank you' letter from a parishioner. AT to return cheque.

6. Financial Matters

a) February Bank Reconciliation approved.

- b) Payments for March 2026 approved.
- c) A draft Grants Policy was considered and approved.
- d) Cllrs approved the re-appointment of Mr R Canwell as year end auditor.

7. Planning

No new applications.

8. Amenities

- a) Grounds Maintenance - AT to ensure all outstanding works to be completed and paid.
- b) Closed Churchyard - east gate has been repaired.
- c) Cemetery - nothing to report.
- d) Allotments - £900 water bill paid but still under investigation.
- e) Play Area - annual inspection was completed last week. DC to bring actions required to the next meeting.
- f) Defibrillator - nothing to report.
- g) Street Lights - nothing to report.
- h) Community Car Scheme - fewer requests for transport than last year. Grant application submitted, DBS checks progressing.

9. Correspondence

None.

Mary Dowson for New Buckenham Parish Council

Summer's Coming...

...And plans for our Open Gardens event on Sunday 28th June and the Village Show on Saturday 18th July are progressing nicely.

Unfortunately, Ian Ludbrook has had to leave the Gardening Group to focus on other projects but we would like to thank Ian (and Lolita and Emily of course!) for his hard work over the last few years. We are delighted to say that Mandy Hartley has joined us on the Gardening Group Committee - she will be organising the Decorated Benches part of the Open Gardens day and further information about this will soon be available. We are still a small committee of four so are always looking out for volunteers to support us at these events.

For Open Gardens, first of all, please see information from Jimpy if you wish to open your garden. In addition, we would be delighted if you could make a cake or volunteer in the kitchen (which is always very busy!) Nearer the time, I will be asking our "regulars" if they will be kind enough help us in the kitchen once again, but please do let me know if you are able to offer an hour or two at any time during the afternoon.

We also need First Aiders to be "on call" during the afternoon. I will make a note of your name and phone number and will call you from the Hall if your help is needed. We will not publish your name and number and you will still be able to wander around the gardens if you plan to do so.

The Village Show Schedules should have been delivered by the time you receive this edition of Parish News. If you haven't received yours by mid April or need extra copies, please do contact us using the details below. The schedule will also be able to be downloaded from www.newbucknews.co.uk.

As ever, we look forward to receiving a bumper crop of entries to this year's show within an ethos of friendly competition so make this the year when you enter for the first time alongside some of our regulars. If your lettuces are luscious, your marmalade magnificent and your succulents are, well, succulent, think about what you can enter this year. There are classes for everyone!

Again this year, we have “Up the Wall,” the class for hanging baskets, pots and window boxes and “Fill Your Boots” for a pair of wellies planted with flowers. We will be delivering a flyer with further information about these competitions very soon.

We also have two new competitions this year. The adults are encouraged to grow and nurture a fuchsia plant to be judged on show day. Lynn Carter (Lynncarter222@gmail.com / 01953 571211) will supply everything you need to get started including the plant and instructions at the cost of £1 and we will leave you to do the rest!

For the youngsters, we will be handing out sunflower seeds and everything they need to plant and grow them with full instructions. We are currently compiling a list of youngsters in the village so please contact me if your child would like to be involved. The sunflowers will probably need to be measured in situ but look out for confirmation of arrangements.

If you are not a baker, crafter, gardener, photographer or flower arranger, there are other ways in which you can help. We would welcome some small gifts for the tombola or cakes for the refreshments in the afternoon. Also, you may be able to help us with setting up the Village Hall on the Friday evening before the Show, somewhere between 6pm and 7pm. Half an hour of heavy lifting would be GREATLY APPRECIATED, especially by me!

There`s a lot to take in but we have started our planning early and would be most grateful for any help in June and July. Thank you for taking the time to read this article - at least, there is not a Multiple Choice Test to complete at the end of the article! There will be updates from the Gardening Group in the next few editions of Parish News so I`ll sign off by saying “I`ve started so I`ll finish!” and look forward to hearing from you if you can help.

Many thanks.

Karen Hobleby 01953 860529 / karenhobleby@hotmail.com

Jimpy Casson 01953 860191 / petercasson219@btinternet.com

New Buckenham Parish Council

Chair: Andrew Bingham (01953 861150 /
cllr.andrew.bingham@newbuckenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Vice-Chair: Paul Martin (01953 861117 /
cllr.paul.martin@newbuckenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Councillors: Don Crossman (01953 861246)

Mary Dowson (01953 860320)

Steve Highton (01953 860000)

Karen Hobley (01953 860529)

Mary Manning (01953 861242)

Clerk: Angela Thornton (01953 887830 /
parish.clerk@newbuckenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The Parish Council meets at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month at the Village Hall. Further information can be found on our notice board on the Village Green or www.newbuckenhampc.info.

200 Club Lucky Winners

Thank you for your continued support of the Village Hall. Here are the lucky winners for the latest draw.

£20

Ben Aston, Gail Paterson, Phil Ackerman

£10

Jill Cox, Mel Smith, Sue Barton, Lisa Attfield, Nancy Robertson

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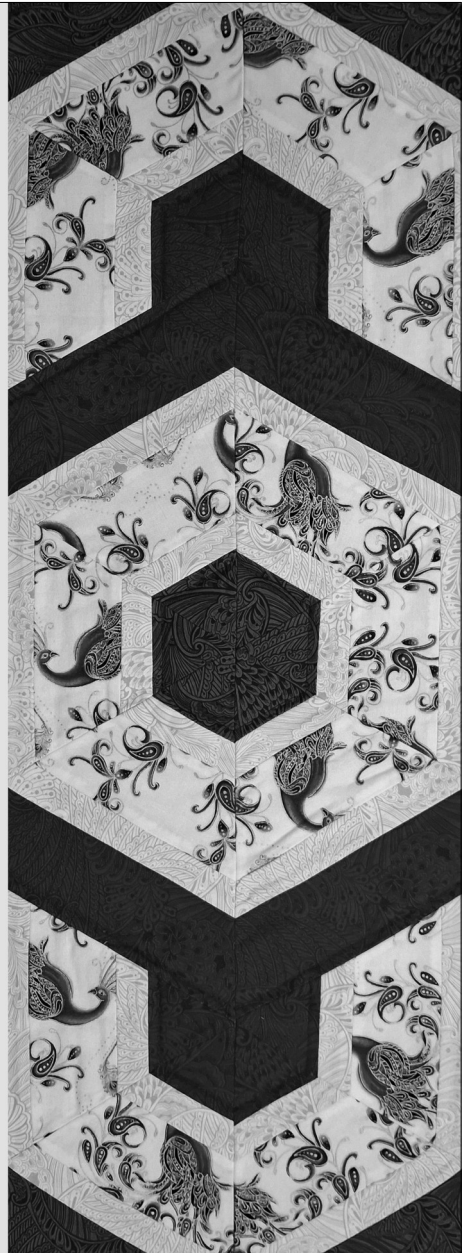
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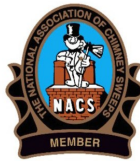


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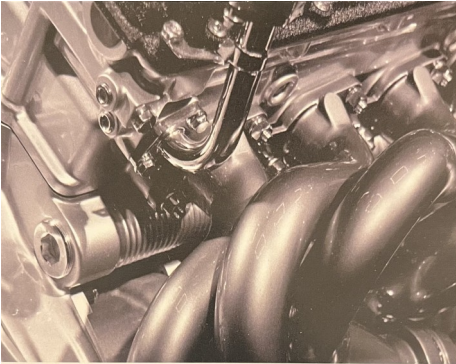
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Dates For Your Diary

April 2026

Fri 3rd	Art Exhibition Opening Night, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Sat 4th, Sun 5th, Mon 6th	Art Exhibition, Village Hall, 11am until 4:30pm
Sun 12th	Children's Workshop, St Martin's Church, 2-4pm
Tues 14th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Thurs 16th	Good Companions, Village Hall, 2:30pm
Sat 18th	coffeemates!, St Martin's Church, 10:30am
Sat 18th	Cantorelli, St Martin's Church, 7:30pm
Tues 21st	Players Spring Workshop, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Tues 28th	Players Spring Workshop, Village Hall, 7:30pm

The Village Hall Bookings Administrator is Stevie Hobley
07469 715517 ~ bookings@newbuckenhamvillagehall.co.uk

Contributions for the May 2026 issue of *New Buckenham Parish News* should be submitted by 6pm on Wednesday 22nd April to Richard Hoggett, 9 Church Street (860136), Katie Wyatt-Hupton, Orchard Cottage, Marsh Lane (308427) or by email to editor@newbucknews.co.uk.

TO ADVERTISE: please contact Mary Dowson on 01953 860320 or mdowson@btinternet.com