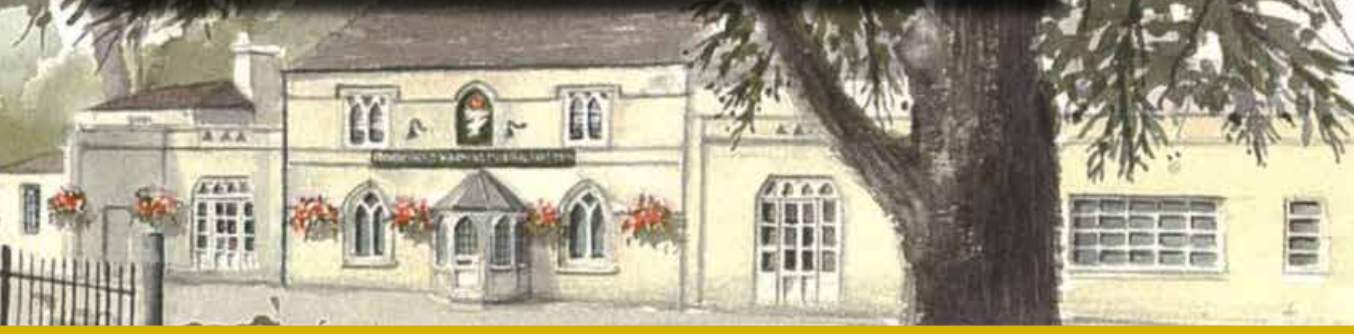


# PANGBOURNE CLUB



## PANGBOURNE VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

September/October 2024



Village News  
Church News  
Nearby News

Local Organisations  
Local Sports & Social Clubs  
Environmental News

Parish Council News  
Pangbourne History  
Crossword



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## SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES AND ADVERTS

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ISSUE 4 January/February 2025	1st of December	10th of January

Please send all the submissions to -[newsletter@pangbourneclub.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@pangbourneclub.co.uk)

*Distribution Lucy Bromage - 07747 056193*

\*Please note- payment is required in full prior to publication.

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Pangbourne Club and the Editor will not accept any responsibility for any errors or for any consequences of any errors that may occur.

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### Get involved in Distribution

Every issue of the **PANGBOURNE VILLAGE NEWSLETTER** arrives on your doorstep thanks to a team of volunteers.



*To all our volunteers –*

**Thank you** for your reliability and time, distributing the magazine to your neighbours. Some of you have been kindly helping for many years, special thanks to Eve Neiland, Ron Bergin and Sir Neil Macfarlane who have recently retired from their rounds.

*To all our readers –*

**Please** get in touch if you are interested in getting involved. We currently need help distributing The Pangbourne Village Newsletter (6 times a year) to:

- Reading Road, Pangbourne Place, Saxon Place -114 houses
- Tidmarsh Road, Pangbourne Lodge Drive, Breedons Hill -25 houses
- Bowden Green, Picketts Lane, Little Bowden Lane – 25 houses

*Please get in touch*

*Lucy 07747 056193*

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**Hello everyone,**

Thank you very much for the positive feedback I have received since the first issue of the Pangbourne Newsletter. I would like to express that we are in great need of advertisers to cover the costs of the Newsletter, if you are a business or just local and wish to support the Pangbourne Newsletter please get in touch.

We will launch a buy & sell page in the next issue as a new addition to the newsletter. The success of this page is dependant on your contributions, let us know what you think?

On behalf of all of the village and local organizations I would like to congratulate Pangbourne Tennis Club receiving their award (pg33) - you are deserving winners!

And have you noticed some changes on our high-street, between the hustle and bustle, we have a couple of new additions, you can read about my visit to the lovely shop owners (pg18) and get to know them by visiting their shop Grace and Nicola Banister Atelier

As the sun is shining on my shoulders I can not believe I'm thinking of hot chocolate and cold evenings in, so yes I'm saying it, now its time to start to think about Christmas. The next issue will be 'Christmas at Pangbourne special' we invite all the local businesses to submit their Christmas special articles and adverts. A gentle reminder to all of our contributors, we are working to tight deadlines with just a two person team, so please do send us articles and adverts by 1st of October. I would like to encourage the villagers to go through all their pictures new or old to find a magical festive picture for the front cover of the next issue. I would like to say thank you for all the photos sent in, this issue's cover picture was taken by Ian Crimp

*With Kind regards, Alise*



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## **Pangbourne Parish Council**

Tel: 0118 9841118 Email: Clerk@pangbourne-pc.gov.uk Website: www.pangbourne-pc.gov.uk

### **PANGBOURNE VILLAGE HALL – CLOCK REFURBISHMENT APPEAL**

#### **Checking the time as you run for a train?**



You might have noticed that the clock on the roof of Pangbourne Village Hall has stopped working! The drive unit on the clock has reached the end of its life and needs to be replaced and wooden slats on the tower itself are also in need of repair.

The Village Hall Committee has set a target of raising £3,000 towards the refurbishment work. Can you help us by making a contribution? An appeal has been set up on the 'Good Exchange' fundraising platform.

In order to donate please follow the link or scan the QR code on the right. Any amount, however small, will help to reach our target and get the clock working again.

<https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/20559/pangbourne-parish-council/pangbourne-village-hall-clock-refurbishment>



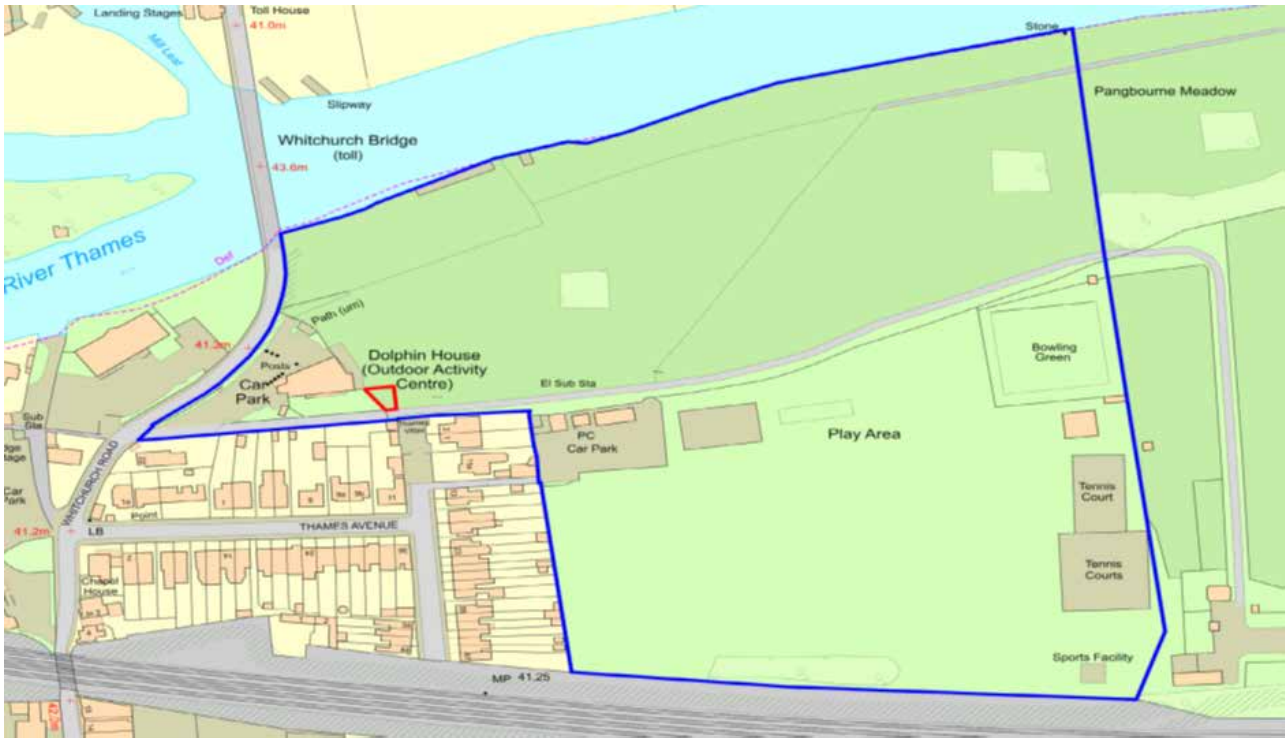
### **Notice of proposal relating to Pangbourne Meadows - Adventure Dolphin Storage Compound Extension**

**The Parish Council has received a request from Adventure Dolphin, the charity who manage the Dolphin Centre, to extend their existing outdoor boat storage area.**

The charity has requested permission from Pangbourne Parish Council, as landowners, to extend the fence line of their existing compound by 15 metres beyond its existing boundary to create an additional 132sq metres of storage space. The land into which the compound will extend is a section of Pangbourne River Meadow, also owned by Pangbourne Parish Council. The area is currently overgrown. Any vegetation and smaller trees will be cleared, with larger trees being retained. Careful consideration will be given to landscaping along the new fence line and under new planning laws an ecological survey will be required and the project will need to demonstrate a positive net gain on biodiversity of at least 10%.

The existing compound is used primarily for storing canoes and kayaks but also houses equipment for Pangbourne Fete. The additional fence would be a chain-link material to match the existing fence. The objective is to offer further, safe and secure storage for equipment used by the charity for their community activities. The current area is no longer offering sufficient space, particularly for the two large bell boats which are used for group and community activities with local schools. The boats hold up to 12 children and are particularly important for safely accommodating children with disabilities and their carers. The current compound restrictions are limiting use of these accessible boats. It is envisaged that the extended area will allow the larger bell boats to be stored on trailers for ease of use and will also accommodate canoe racking for a number of boats not currently stored at the Centre.

Area outlined in red showing proposed extension of boat storage compound:



Pangbourne Parish Council is always keen to support the work carried out by a small team of volunteers at Adventure Dolphin, who continue to strive to preserve the Centre as a local facility for use by our community. Councillors are therefore supportive in principle of the extension given the relatively small area of the Meadows that will be used.

As part of the planning process, Adventure Dolphin will be required to demonstrate to Planning Officers how the proposal meets an identified need and provides a public benefit.

We would like to seek comments from residents prior to the full planning application in order to gauge wider public opinion on the proposed transfer of this small area of Council-owned land.

If you wish to submit any comments on the proposal please email the Parish Clerk at

[clerk@pangbourne-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@pangbourne-pc.gov.uk)

## Village Bed Makeover – Help needed

The flower bed adjacent to the village hall and opposite the Lamborghini garage is in need of attention. Tracing the history of this small piece of land with the magnificent sign depicting King Bertulf has not been easy. The sign itself dates back to 1961 and it is assumed that the flower beds were planted at around the same time. Over the years this small plot has been looked after by various community minded people in the village.

We need more help, to weed, plant, prune and potentially re-design the area. Are you interested? No gardening experience is necessary but a willingness to help and a desire to assist in keeping the area looking beautiful for the community and visitors alike.

Contact : [clerk@pangbourne-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@pangbourne-pc.gov.uk)



### Youth Football Storage Container-installed



We are really pleased to say that the new storage container for youth football equipment at the Recreation Ground has now been installed and is being racked out over the summer in time for a grand opening in September. Youth Football in Pangbourne continues to go from strength to strength and we are delighted to have been able to support the teams by applying for a substantial grant from the Football Foundation, as well as the club obtaining match funding from Pangbourne College Community Fund and Pangbourne Youth Football itself plus a contribution from Pangbourne Parish Council who have also arranged the installation.



This is another step along the way in the Parish Council's vision of providing high quality amenities at the recreation ground for all to enjoy.

### Water Safety -Throwline Training

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service once again held Water Safety /Throwline training on Pangbourne Meadows on July 19th

This event was open to everyone to have a go with the equipment.

Did you know that you can also scan the QR code on the water safety cabinet to find out lots more information on water safety and "float to live" techniques. Throwlines are available in the water safety cabinet which, like a defibrillator, is accessed by calling 999. A further throwline is available at the toll booth on the bridge.

Did you know that there are also defibrillators at the Recreation Ground Toilets, Adventure Dolphin Centre and Working Men's Clubs. All are publicly available and sited on external walls.



### New Name for 143 Bus Service

From Monday 2nd September the 143 bus service operated by Thames Travel and Oxford Bus company will no longer operate.

A new service, the number 43 will commence and will be operated by Reading Bus company. The twice daily service which runs to Langtree school will be re-named the number 93 service (replacing the BB3).

The service remains largely unchanged, however, with the exception of the Langtree bus, it will no longer run onwards to Goring. At the time of going to press, we have been sent the proposed new timetable, however, please do check exact details on bus stops or the operator's website if you intend to travel.



**Upper Basildon | Central Reading 43**  
via Pangbourne

Monday to Friday

	am	am	pm	pm	NSch 93	Sch 93
Woodcote Langtree School	▽	▽	▽	▽	3.15	▽
Goring High Street	▽	▽	▽	▽	3.30	▽
Pangbourne Station	▽	▽	▽	▽	3.42	▽
Upper Basildon Captains Gorse	9.30	10.55	12.55	2.55	▽	6.00
Pangbourne Police Station	9.42	11.07	1.07	3.07	3.47	6.12
Purley on Thames Sherwood Rise	9.46	11.11	1.11	3.11	3.52	6.16
Kentwood Circle	9.51	11.16	1.16	3.16	3.57	6.20
Reading West Rail Station	9.58	11.23	1.23	3.23	4.06	6.28
Central Reading Station Road stop SB	10.05	11.30	1.30	3.30	4.13	6.35

Sch Schooldays Only | NSch School Holidays only

**Central Reading | Upper Basildon 43**  
via Pangbourne

Monday to Friday

	am	am	am	pm	pm	pm	Sch 93
Central Reading Friar Street stop FC	7.10	8.55	10.15	12.15	2.15	5.15	
Reading West Rail Station	7.16	9.02	10.22	12.22	2.22	5.25	
Kentwood Circle	7.24	9.11	10.31	12.31	2.31	5.37	
Purley on Thames Sherwood Rise	7.30	9.15	10.35	12.35	2.35	5.41	
Pangbourne Library	7.40	9.20	10.40	12.40	2.40	5.46	
Upper Basildon Captains Gorse	▽	9.29	10.50	12.50	2.50	5.56	
Pangbourne Station	7.53	▽	▽	▽	▽	▽	
Goring Cleeve Road	8.07	▽	▽	▽	▽	▽	
Woodcote Langtree School	8.22	▽	▽	▽	▽	▽	

Sch Schooldays Only

**Upper Basildon | Central Reading 43**  
via Pangbourne

Saturday

	am	am	pm	pm	pm
Upper Basildon Captains Gorse	9.35	10.55	12.55	2.55	4.55
Pangbourne Police Station	9.47	11.07	1.07	3.07	5.07
Purley on Thames Sherwood Rise	9.51	11.11	1.11	3.11	5.11
Kentwood Circle	9.56	11.16	1.16	3.16	5.16
Reading West Rail Station	10.03	11.23	1.23	3.23	5.23
Central Reading Station Road stop SB	10.10	11.30	1.30	3.30	5.30

**Central Reading | Upper Basildon 43**  
via Pangbourne

Saturday

	am	am	pm	pm	pm
Central Reading Friar Street stop FC	8.55	10.15	12.15	2.15	4.15
Reading West Rail Station	9.02	10.22	12.22	2.22	4.22
Kentwood Circle	9.11	10.31	12.31	2.32	4.32
Purley on Thames Sherwood Rise	9.15	10.35	12.35	2.35	4.35
Pangbourne Library	9.20	10.40	12.40	2.40	4.40
Upper Basildon Captains Gorse	9.30	10.50	12.50	2.50	4.50

PLANNING APPLICATIONS REVIEWED SINCE THE LAST ARTICLE

<i>APPLICATION NUMBER</i>	<i>PROPOSAL</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
<b>24/01047/HOUSE</b>	Section 73 Application for variation of condition 2-Approved Plans, of previously approved application 22/01054/HOUSE: Construction of a 1.5 storey Kitchen/Diner <b>Wharf House, Ferry Lane, Pangbourne, Reading RG8 7DW</b>	<b>No objection</b>
<b>24/01046/HOUSE</b>	New single storey porch extension and adjustment of roof line, window and door positions and external materials to existing extension. (All of the proposed works are to the rear of the existing dwelling). <b>47 Reading Road, Pangbourne, Reading, RG8 7HY</b>	<b>No objection</b>
<b>24/01229/FUL</b>	Erection of a replacement dwelling with basement following the demolition of the existing dwelling; associated private amenity and erection of front gates. <b>Bowden Hill, Pangbourne, Reading, RG8 8PT</b>	<b>No objection</b>
<b>24/01450/MDOPO2</b>	Request to discharge Section 52 Agreement dated 20th October 1986 relating to planning reference 125352 (85/25352/ADD) <b>12 Reading Road, Pangbourne, Reading RG8 7LY</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>24/01283/HOUSE</b>	Single storey side extension <b>Fairbanks, Riverview Road, Pangbourne, Reading RG8 7AU</b>	<b>No objection</b>
<b>24/01242/FUL</b>	Proposed construction of a flat roof to provide covered way to the rear of no 4-8 High Street <b>4 High Street, Pangbourne, Reading RG8 7AB</b>	<b>No objection</b>
<b>24/01272/COND (not yet consulted at date of magazine submission)</b>	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 4 (soft landscaping scheme) allowed on appeal planning permission 23/00034/FUL - Installation of a ground mounted solar PV array to provide electricity to be used in the home. <b>Woodland Manor, Pangbourne Road, Pangbourne, Reading RG8 8AW</b>	<b>No objection</b>

## WBC DECISIONS SINCE LAST ARTICLE

<i>APPLICATION NUMBER</i>	<i>PROPOSAL</i>	<i>WBC Decision</i>
<b>23/02332/MDOPO</b>	Discharge of Planning Obligation on approved application 97/49978/FUL (149978) <b>2 Lower Bowden Farm Bungalows, Bowden Green, Pangbourne, Reading RG8 8JN</b>	<b><i>Approval</i></b>
<b>23/02554/FUL</b>	Demolition of the existing MOT testing station, together with the erection of a single-storey extension to the existing aftersales facility, to be used for Use Class B2 (General Industrial) purposes, and other associated works. <b>H R Owen, Brook House, 14 Station Road, Pangbourne Reading RG8 7AN</b>	<b><i>Conditional Approval</i></b>
<b>24/00330/HOUSE</b>	First floor extension over existing garage. Extend roof over central entrance to form porch <b>Croft, Courtlands Hill, Pangbourne, Reading RG8 7BE</b>	<b><i>Approval</i></b>
<b>24/00358/HOUSE</b>	Erecting a new outbuilding for a Home Office & Games Room <b>29 Bourne Road, Pangbourne, Reading, RG8 7JT</b>	<b><i>Approval</i></b>
<b>24/00076/FUL</b>	The formation of two car parking spaces to service 32 - 34 Reading Road, including the demolition of the wall and introduction of dropped kerb <b>32 - 34 Reading Road, Pangbourne, Reading, RG8 7JF</b>	<b><i>Approval</i></b>
<b>23/02878/FUL</b>	Erection of replacement boat sheds and boat club facilities together with associated access, parking and landscaping. <b>Pangbourne College Boathouse, Shooters Hill, Pangbourne, Reading</b>	<b><i>Withdrawn</i></b>
<b>APP/W0340/W/23/3325561</b> (appeal) <b>23/00034/FUL</b> (original application)	Appeal against decision: 23/00034/FUL – Installation of a ground mounted solar PV array to provide electricity to be used in the home. <b>Woodland Manor, Pangbourne Road, Pangbourne, Reading, West Berkshire RG8 8AW</b>	<b><i>Appeal Upheld Permission Granted</i></b>
<b>24/00437/HOUSE</b>	Demolition of existing garage/home office outbuilding and erection of new single storey side/rear extension with internal alterations. <b>2 Flowers Farm Cottages, Tidmarsh, Reading, RG8 8EU</b>	<b><i>Approval</i></b>
<b>24/01420/TELE28</b> (not consulted)	Notification under Regulation 5 of the Electronic Communications Code (Conditions and Restrictions) Regulations 2003 (as amended) to utilise permitted development rights (Part 16 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)). The proposal consists of the erection of a wooden 8M Light Pole on Basildon, Pangbourne, RG8 8JJ. <b>Telecommunications Mast 1, Street Record Yattendon Road, Bowden Green, Pangbourne, Reading</b>	<b><i>Response Issued</i></b>



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Adults £10 Children £5  
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St Mary the Virgin Church, Whitchurch on Thames,  
Reading. RG8 7EP

3:00PM - 5:00PM  
Saturday 7th September



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<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-pangbourne-band>



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**CHURCH SERVICES**  
St James | St Laurence | St Nicholas

[www.pangbournechurches.org](http://www.pangbournechurches.org)

**SEPTEMBER**

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>		
10 am	Holy Communion	St James
11.15am	Holy Communion	St Laurence
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>		
7.45am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St James
10am	All Together Worship	St James
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>		
9am	Joyful Noise Breakfast Service	St James
10am	Holy Communion	St James
11.15am	Morning Worship	St Nicholas
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>		
7.45am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St James
10 am	Holy Communion	St James
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>		
10am	Holy Communion	St James

**OCTOBER**

<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>		
10 am	Holy Communion	St James
11.15am	Holy Communion	St Laurence
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>		
7.45am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St James
10am	All Together Worship	St James
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup></b>		
10am	Holy Communion	St James
11.15am	Morning Worship	St Nicholas
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b>		
7.45am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St James
10am	Holy Communion	St James

**Midweek Holy Communion**  
10am every Wednesday morning in St James. All welcome

## A word from our Rector, Rev Mark Hopkins

Dear Friends,

Over the Summer I was appointed as a chaplain to the LGBTQIA+ community for the Diocese of Oxford in addition to my role as Rector of Pangbourne, Tidmarsh and Sulham. Whilst the most common question I get asked in church is “what do all the letters stand for” (Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender-Queer/Questioning-Intersex-Asexual +) the role of the chaplaincy is essentially to provide a confidential safe space for people to talk about matters of faith with regards to sexuality and gender identity. Sadly, the church has historically been (and often continues to be) a place which isn’t comfortable for those of a different sexuality or gender identity to feel they can belong.

Our vision for Pangbourne, Tidmarsh and Sulham churches is for us to become more inclusive and welcoming to those who have faith or are exploring faith and want to learn more about Christianity but might have felt “put off” in the past. We are continuing our seminar series on

“becoming more inclusive” in the autumn with sessions on ethnicity, neurodiversity and gender, and how we can seek to continue making our church a



welcoming and safe place for faith and worship.

Please do check out our regular services and activities. In Autumn these will include Harvest festivals at Pangbourne and Sulham and a Harvest Supper; St James’ Café on the first and third Wednesday of the month, and the Oasis bereavement group on the fourth Thursday of each month.

With best wishes,

*Rev Mark Hopkins*

The Parish of Pangbourne with Tidmarsh and Sulham



What's on in St James-the-Less

**BECOMING MORE INCLUSIVE**  
 A SERIES OF SEMINARS IN ST JAMES THE LESS DURING 2024

Each seminar will include personal testimony, talks from speakers with first hand knowledge of their topic, study of the Bible and table discussion.

For more information, take a leaflet or scan the QR code.

Wednesday 11th September, 7pm  
**ETHNICITY**

Wednesday 16th October, 7pm  
**NEURODIVERSITY**

Wednesday 13th November, 7pm  
**GENDER**

In 2025 **ECONOMIC POWER**

[www.pangbournechurches.org/becoming-more-inclusive](http://www.pangbournechurches.org/becoming-more-inclusive)

**Joyful Noise**

30 MINUTE BREAKFAST SERVICE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

9:00am ST. JAMES THE LESS, PANGBOURNE  
 SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

INCLUSIVE, INTERACTIVE, INTERGENERATIONAL, INCLUDES BREAKFAST

**ALL SOULS' SERVICE**  
 Sunday 3rd November at 3pm

music, readings and prayers  
*To remember those whom we love  
 but see no longer*

St James the Less, Pangbourne

To mark Baby Loss Awareness Week (9th-15th October) a prayer and remembrance station will be set up at the back of St James.

**Baby Loss Awareness Week**  
 9-15 October

This is an opportunity to mark the lives of babies lost in pregnancy, at or soon after birth. Please drop in when the church is open to visit the station and light a candle.

**NOAH'S ARK ...**  
 is back after the summer break.

Come and join us in **St James church** Pangbourne from **10 to 11am on Friday 6th Sept** and each Friday in term time.

Story time, songs, craft, chat and refreshments

*You're warmly invited to join us at*

**OASIS**  
 MENTAL HEALTHY SUPPORT GROUP

The Parish of Pangbourne with Tidmarsh and Sulham  
 St James the Less - 18 Larkins - 19 Wilkies

coffee, company, & conversation

Thursday 26th Sept & 24th Oct | 2 to 2.30pm

The Elephant Hotel

## **St Bernadette's Catholic Church**

Horseshoe Road, Pangbourne, 0118-971-5350, Parish Priest: Fr Alban Hood  
[www.douaiparish.org.uk](http://www.douaiparish.org.uk)

### **9:45 am Sunday Mass**

Every Sunday, with children's liturgy. Followed by tea and coffee. All welcome!

### **Young Disciples**

Every 1st Sunday of the month for children. Bite-sized topics for 10 minutes after Mass. Followed by doughnuts.

### **2nd Wednesday Coffee Morning**

11th September and 9th October at 10:30 am. All welcome for a cuppa and cake.

### **Baptism prep. course – October**

### **Summer Party (pictures below)**

We had our annual summer party on Sunday 21st July, and everyone enjoyed eating bacon rolls, cakes and other delicacies. We also had a large selection of garden games and a tombola. £500 was raised for CAFOD, so thank you for all your donations.

At the party, we took the opportunity to say a very big thank you to Trefor Edwards, who has been playing the organ and directing the choir at St Bernadette's for 40 years! We are grateful for his (and the choir's) role in enhancing our liturgy and worship.



## **Pangbourne Heritage Group**

How on earth did they do it? This was a question we asked ourselves when we had a meeting of the group to discuss the plans for a display of our D Day (Operation Overlord) collection in Pangbourne Library. 80 years ago, the expeditionary force of 159,000 troops crossed the border into northern France from the south and southwestern coastline of England. The enemy forces were unprepared for the invasion to take place as far west as Cherbourg, thanks to subterfuge, deception and carefully guarded secret missions.

Our display was designed to be a tribute to the many young men who took part in the invasion having trained on Pangbourne River Meadow. A good percentage never returned home sadly, but their sacrifice will never be forgotten. Once the display is dismantled, the portfolio of memories will be left in the Local Studies section of the library for others to read.

## **St James Churchyard**

Do you enjoy walking through the lovely churchyard in Pangbourne? Do you have someone that you loved buried there? We are lucky to have such a peaceful space in our busy village and the pathways through are used by many.



It does take a lot of hours to maintain and, contrary to the belief of some, the work is all done by volunteers as we do not have the money to pay for it to be maintained. Green Gym works hard from 9.30 am on the first Thursday and third Saturday morning of every month, weather permitting, and extra hours are put in by some of our volunteers at other times and we are immensely grateful to them all. However, we are an ageing bunch (average age maybe mid 70s), perhaps with less stamina than previously, and would appreciate some more help. If you can spare a couple of hours per month to help with this task, we would so love to see you. Come when you can, stay for as long as you can, tools provided and a welcome coffee break at about 10.30 am.

Our churchyard is appreciated by our community and visitors alike and it is rewarding to see it looking loved.

For further details please contact Len or Jill Palfrey on 0118 984 2698 / 07721 614686 or by emailing [palfrey62@btinternet.com](mailto:palfrey62@btinternet.com)

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### Spanish Bush

'Spanish Bush' seems a crazy title for an article on Pangbourne placenames, especially since the sole entry for it is Spanyshe Busshe, appearing once only as a fieldname in a document of 1548 – and no, I do not know which part of Pangbourne is involved either. The English Place-name Society volumes for Berkshire, published in 1971-72, can offer no explanation for the name, so what is being referred to? The answer, which has only emerged in recent years, may be a surprise.

The Spanyshe Busshe is liquorice, as in Bassetts Liquorice Allsorts. The plant grows to 2 metres, is a member of the pea family, and is native to Western Asia, North Africa and Southern Europe. It was introduced to England at an uncertain date in the Middle Ages by Spanish monks, whence its name, who joined Pontefract Priory in Yorkshire. By the 16th century there is a record of it being grown relatively widely in monastic gardens and as a garden crop for the gentry on alluvial soils, light and free draining as in the Thames Valley. I suspect that the monks of Reading Abbey are responsible for the Pangbourne reference, and the plant is probably referred to locally



*Pontefract cakes.*

also in Spanish Green, Stratfield Turgis. However, by 1780 serious liquorice growing was concentrated almost wholly in Pontefract, Yorkshire, and around Godalming, Surrey.

The climate in England is not warm enough for the plant to flower, the interest being in the root, from which the black extract is made. Its main purpose was as a medicine to ease coughs and stomach complaints, and by the end of the 16th century it was being made into lozenges, called 'Pontefract cakes'. Since 1612 these have been embossed with a trademark, and until the last century this was implanted on them by hand by workers known as 'cakers'.

Another, and perhaps more surprising member of the pea family is gorse. The brilliant yellow flowers of the common gorse readily catch the eye, especially as it blooms a little in late autumn and through the winter, coming into flower most strongly in the spring. Sprigs were a traditional May Day gift between young lovers in the West Country, and as sub-species continue flowering through the

summer, the country saying arose that "When gorse is out of blossom, kissing's out of fashion."

Gorse is also known as furze, although any etymological connection between the two words is not known. Both appear occasionally in minor names locally, as at Gorse Covert, Greenham and Furze Road, Tadley, although the sandy soil that the shrub prefers is not often present in our area. I suspect that the reason the shrub does not feature more frequently is partly because it has a relatively restricted range of uses. Gorse is highly nutritious, so it was used for winter fodder for horses and cattle, but it is prickly, so it had to be cut and crushed. Also, gorse burns rapidly, to a high temperature and with very little ash, making it important for heating ovens for baking, as well as in brick and lime kilns.

Broom, brom in Anglo-Saxon, is also a member of the pea family, and similar in appearance to gorse, but without the spines. Brom originally referred to a wider range of thorny shrubs such as gorse and bramble, but later came to be restricted to the plant as we know it today. It was the defining feature of Bramshill, and of the clearing (-ley) at Bramley. It appears regularly in minor names, such as Broom Copse, Purley and Broomclose Plantation, Pangbourne.

Being easier to handle than the spiny gorse, broom was used more widely. In addition to the list of uses for gorse, it was useful as emergency thatching and fencing. As brushwood it was used for repairing sinking roads and creating or repairing causeways like those leading to fords or bridges. Nationally, 24 Brompton names, meaning 'settlement (-ton) where broom grows', are close to rivers and streams.

The fronds of broom are no longer used for sweeping purposes, but it is the shrub that has given its name to the domestic utensil. Besom brooms are in fact still produced by hand, but now only birch twigs are used. The Nash family at Tadley has been in the trade for about 300 years, and Bradley Nash was, by Appointment to HM The Queen, the Royal Warrant holder for the Manufacture of Besom Brooms and Pea Sticks. He is officially described by the ancient title of 'broomsquire', meaning that he makes besom brooms for a living. His brooms have appeared in the Johnny Depp film *Dark Shadows* and in *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, after which he got orders from all over the world.

Reference to Butlers Broom, Pangbourne might suggest an unusual purchase from Collins, but since this is in fact a fieldname recorded in 1839, reference must be to the shrub, and not the utensil. So, it can't even be claimed that a butler was sweeping round a Spanish bush.

*Nigel Suffield-Jones*



## CHURCH COTTAGE 2024

It is 100 years since a well known author purchased Church Cottage; now after several ownerships it is For Sale again. As the cottage is Grade Two listed, no major changes have taken place to the exterior since then and it has become part of the Pangbourne Heritage.

I was interested to find out more about the origins of the building. The oldest part of the living space



was constructed in 1764, but the flint wall at the rear, backing on to the churchyard of St James, is at least 100 years older than that. If you look at what surrounds the dwelling today; the Old Smithy and the cottages opposite, the Cross Keys, the Mill, the High Street,

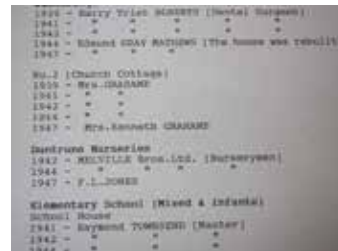
the Elephant and the Church itself, you can see that you are looking at eighteenth century Pangbourne. ( The Lock Up, a round building in the present garden of Church Cottage was just that, there being no police officers to round up wrong doers until they faced the magistrates. By the mid nineteenth century this practice had become obsolete.)

Most of Pangbourne was owned by the Breedon Estate, which included the business premises and cottage industries as part of the revenue owing to the Manor of Bere Court. By 1841 the first census of the village showed buildings extending to the river in one direction and as far as the Breedon School just beyond the Square. It is likely that Church Cottage was occupied by a Basket Maker named Charles Cooper. Baskets were widely used in Fishing, Farming and for carrying goods on the newly established Railway, as well as for domestic use.

By 1865 the Church had been rebuilt (except for the Tower) and renamed but Church Cottage remained much as it was until 1894 when the entire Breedon Estate was auctioned off in 40 lots, one of which included Church Cottage. The new owner wasted no time in employing Leonard Stokes, a leading architect to design improvements and extensions to the property. The high standards of Stokes Designs were published in the Architectural Review of 1897.

Other examples of his work that you can see in Pangbourne include the present Masonic Hall, Hill House and Little Court in Shooters Hill, improvements and extensions to Weirpool, and the East side of the Square including what were Lloyds and the Midland Banks. The style is similar and has been modified in newer constructions or redevelopments.

Kenneth and Elspeth Grahame bought Church



Cottage in 1924 and asked Leonard Stokes to extend it further. For the author it was a place of homecoming, close to his beloved River Thames with countryside that

he had known in boyhood years when living near Cookham. Having written his famous work of Children's Fiction, the Wind and the Willows in 1908, and lost his only son Alastair for whom the stories of Toad were written, he was disinclined to publish anything further, and spent his days walking or sitting in his garden. Elspeth, whom he had married comparatively late in life was more inclined to be sociable. Kenneth Grahame did agree to address the Pangbourne Literary Guild when she was Vice President. He also talked to children as they walked to school ( now Stokes View). He presented the school with a signed copy of his book, which was put in a glass case. ( where is it now, I wonder? )

EH Shepard, the illustrator, came to the house in 1930, and talked with the author about the drawings for a new edition of the book he hoped to do. He was told by Kenneth Grahame ' I love these little people, be kind to them'. What an epitaph.



So in 2024 Church Cottage, with its own private Lock Up, Ministry of Justice please note, will have a new owner, but a long and

illustrious heritage.

**Lesley Crimp and Jane Rawlins  
Pangbourne Heritage Group**

## New Additions to Pangbourne Highstreet.

Our High Street is a hidden gem, known to the outside world for our Summer Fete, Christmas Shopping evening and of course the men's public toilet opening. We're also home to well known Cheese etc, Kiki and Bow and Nino's amongst others. This summer we've seen two new additions to our thriving high street. **GRACE**. a women's Shoe and Accessories shop and jeweller Nicola Bannister opening the doors to her **Atelier** this month.

It's nice to meet you both and great that I've been able to meet you together. **Did you know each other before you opened your shops?** **Nicola:** No, we didn't. We came across each other quite quickly, Amy had just opened **GRACE**. and I had just agreed my lease at 29 Reading Road. **Amy:** It's been great to be able to support each other, we're both in a similar position where we design, source and of course in Nicola's case make, our own product so to have someone to bounce ideas off and share the highs and lows with has been amazing. **Nicola:** We're both really similar in our passion for what we do and our values. We both really believe in women supporting each other and creating a bespoke, personal experience for our shoppers.

**Why Pangbourne?** **Amy:** We both live here and love being part of the community. It's a great destination for locals and surrounding areas who just want to pop out for a wonder round the shops and a coffee. There are already some great shops and cafes and we've been able to add to that by complimenting what's already on offer rather than adding more of the same. **Nicola:** We've already had an amazing response from the local community, we're so glad we made the choice to be here. I'm really looking forward to my official opening on Saturday 21st September.

### What inspired you to open a shop?

**Amy:** My first brand, Feather & Sole has been around for a few years, has a growing online presence and with **GRACE** launching this season it seemed like the natural steps to take.

**Nicola:** It's a dream I always had, starting off on my own a few years ago it's great to have my own space so i can finally display my work for people to come and see. My workshops have become really popular so finding somewhere I could continue with my couples wedding band making workshops and branch out into a space where i could hold group workshops for stacker rings and bangle making I was so pleased to find the perfect space so it all came together quite naturally.

You can find **GRACE** at 18a Reading Road between Collins and Barking Mad, her Instagram handle is **@gracepangbourne** and website **www.grace-theboutique.com** You can find Nicola Bannister Fine Jewellery Atelier at 29 Reading Road just after Artichoke Cafe, her Instagram handle is **@nicolabannister**. jewellery and website is **www.nicolabannister.com**

**Amy:** It really feels like now is the right time to bring back independents like ourselves to the high streets, people are getting fed up of getting everything online and not being able to see and feel what they are buying and have that personal experience, we've been really lucky to have the support we have received so far in the village.

### So what can we expect to find in your shops?

**Nicola:** Jewellery. Everything I make is bespoke and you'll find price points starting from £50. My favourite pieces are the silver cells, they're so simple and elegant, they also mean a lot to me, my late father had blood cancer, for every item I sell £1 is donated to Myeloma UK and Blood cancer UK. **Amy:** My two shoe brands, Feather&Sole, which is all leather and a wider fitting and **GRACE** which is basically the opposite, no animal products used and a regular fit. I then source accessories from independent brands and small family run factories in the UK and Europe...and Pyjamas which have been a great hit!



Mustard Zebra Pyjamas £45 | 9ct Gold Diamond Necklace £600 | Gold Cross Body Waist Bag £45 | Gold Boots £75 | Orange Leather Purse £12.50 | Leopard Headband £22.50 | Pink Velvet Jewellery Pot £26 | Silver Cell Earrings £50 | 9ct Gold Linked Cell Necklace £500

## NINO'S SUMMER POP-UP AT PANGBOURNE MEADOWS

A HUGE thank you to everyone who has visited us at our new summertime pop-up at Pangbourne Meadows, next to Adventure Dolphin Centre. We're so pleased to have been able to offer this new service to what had otherwise been an unserviced area for many many years. It's of course always quite daunting taking on new projects & stretching in this way; but with the support from my amazing team across the restaurant and deli (alongside various new recruits also), we've been able to cover all corners of this wonderful village!



Our summertime pop-up has been a fantastically enjoyable trial run, whereby we hope to learn what periods of the year will benefit from our meadow-side presence, and what months would be viable for us to open. The new Airstream trailer is also available

for private hire for local events, fetes, weddings, garden parties etc; and so please reach out to us to enquire! We hope to utilise it throughout the spring, autumn and winters months when we're not fixed at the Meadow location. For events / private hire, we can offer our same summertime coffee & gelato setup, or perhaps even a mobile spritz & Peroni bar / tiramisu bar? (should the occasion require it- the variety of opportunities are endless!)



A big thank you needs to go out to West Berkshire Council for believing in the scheme, and all their support. A big thank you to Pangbourne Parish council also for all their positivity in what we've brought to Pangbourne meadows. And lastly a very big thank you to Adventure Dolphin Centre for asking us - & believing in us - to carry out this new venture. We're very proud to be able to support their charitable objectives through renting the pitch space, as well as offering this new service to all their various attendees, youth groups, boating clubs etc, and the support we can then give them by making their Dolphin Centre visit even more enjoyable.

Summer 2024 marked the first time we introduced our now locally infamous "Signor Whippo" to the people of Pangbourne and beyond! & we'll look forward to serving many more Whippos in the years to come. Roll on Summer 2025!

*Nino*



Pangbourne Valley Pre-School is a not for profit charity. We provide high quality care and education for children aged 2 to 4 years old. We are currently fundraising for a new building! If you can lend a hand with fundraising or expertise

please get in contact with us at [pvpg.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:pvpg.enquiries@gmail.com)

We had a busy end of term, celebrating another fabulous year with a garden party! We said goodbye to lots of children that are moving off to 'big school' We wish them the best of luck and we know



they will do well. The children asked to have a picnic as part of their end of term celebrations so that's what we did!

During June we went wild for 30 days! We explored lots of areas around Pangbourne and the children learnt about and interacted with plants, insects and birds. It's really important for the children to be involved in the local community and the natural world around them. We have lots planned to continue with this next term. One of our talented parents came in to play his guitar to the children. We enjoyed singing lots of songs together and dancing too!



### Pangbourne Twinning Association.



For over forty years the association has been open to all people in the village of Pangbourne establishing friendships and sharing experiences with our twin village of Houdan near Paris. Now as part of our plans for the future we are working to extend and expand the diversity of the membership. We want to be attractive to a wider variety of people and ages



both in Pangbourne and the surrounding villages.

In the last couple of years, we have reached out to Pangbourne Tennis Club and other local tennis clubs and formed a successful link including an annual tournament with the Tennis club in Houdan. Following a

very successful morning at the Bowls club we have also begun the process of a link with the Pétanque club in Houdan which we hope to expand.

We also feel that it is important to foster ties with the young people in the two villages so this May as part of our annual exchange we formed links with the pupils at St Andrews school in Pangbourne and a school in Houdan. Thanks to the work of Phil Bates Head of the Modern Languages team at St Andrew's we are making great steps forward. Please do read Phil's report below of how this is progressing with the children.



We are now looking to set up a link with the Pangbourne youth football teams. Maybe by running a tournament with a youth team from Houdan in the future. Do let me know if you would be interested in helping with this in any way.

We are of course continuing with our usual activities. We are looking for new people to join us on our Marcher et Parler walks often on a Tuesday morning. Each week we try to walk and speak French (beginners welcome) whilst walking in the local area. Please contact us if you would like more information. We also organise regular social Sunday walks with a

pub lunch and an annual dinner in January. Please contact us at [Infopangbournetwinning@gmail.com](mailto:Infopangbournetwinning@gmail.com) for information or to join the association.

Of course, we will be continuing with our annual round of fundraising to cover the costs of the biannual visit from our friends in Houdan the first weekend of May. We attend the village fete, hold coffee mornings at the Art café in Whitchurch and most importantly show French films at our very popular French film nights at Pangbourne village hall that will commence again in October. We hope to see you at one of our events soon.

Autumn/ Winter French Film nights starting on Sunday 27th October 2024.

Pangbourne village hall. Bar available before the film.

Doors open at 6.45pm. Film starts at 7.30 pm.

27th Oct 2024 The Three Musketeers – D'Artagnan (2023)

24th Nov 2024 Coco Before Chanel (2009)

26th Jan 2025 La Grande Vadrouille (The Big Stroll) (1966)

23rd Feb 2025 Hidden (Caché) (2005)

30th Mar 2025 Les Demoiselles de Rochefort (1967)

27th Apr 2025 Sarah's Key (2010)

Report from Phil Bates Head of Modern Languages at St Andrews school.

#### **Twinning of St Andrews school Pangbourne and Francois Mauriac college Houdan.**

I have been involved with the twinning association on and off for a number of years and with the greater involvement of Pangbourne Tennis club, I was becoming increasingly interested in going to Houdan. However, it was due to the persistent requests of Lauren Kilsby, the chair of the twinning association, for me to come and to make links in my professional capacity with a school out there.

For the past three years I have been working at St Andrew's school as Head of Modern Languages. We run a year 7 trip to France once a year, but apart from that, like many schools, we do not have contact with other French schools. This was all set to change.

A few weeks before the trip, along with my two year 7 French colleagues, I got my class to write a letter (this time in English) to a new pen-pal (a concept that needed some explaining to our current modern 11-year-olds!) in Houdan. We

were impressed with how well they engaged with this, but the best was yet to come.

During my trip to Houdan, I met with a French teacher (Julie Peron) and we exchanged letters. Her classes had written letters to each one of our year 7 pupils in French. 1 week later, we gathered all the year 7 pupils in one place and handed out their letters. This was again a very new concept for them to receive a hand-written letter.

In the photos here, you can see the joy in their faces as they read information (trying to decipher the French handwriting) from their new pen-pals. It felt like Christmas! Since this time, we have continued to build on these initial exchanges with a letter and a video about their school.



We look forward to broadening this further to our year 6s and new year 7s from September. It is so good, as a teacher, to give pupils a genuine reason to do a piece of work and this new twinning venture really seems to be ticking this box in every way.

[Infopangbournetwinning@gmail.com](mailto:Infopangbournetwinning@gmail.com)

## Village Market



The market is having a busy summer. Our farm fresh soft fruits and our homegrown new potatoes and runner beans have been very popular. The fortnightly fresh fish stall is also a big draw. The "cafe" run by our amazing volunteers provides a social hub for the village and beyond.

In addition, we offer homemade cakes, preserves, honey, eggs, plants, second-hand books, cards and pictures, jewellery, vegetables and fruit in season, old fashioned sweets and lotions and potions. We also have occasional stalls offering children's knitted items, jewellery repair and advice on caring in the community.

Our Christmas market will be held on Saturday 16th November. A chance to visit us if you work and cannot come on a Friday.

*We look forward to welcoming you.*



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It is planned to hold the RBL Annual Dinner this year on Saturday November 16th. We have had feedback that Friday evening, our usual date, can be a bit of a rush for those who work that day, so by moving to a Saturday, we hope to be more accommodating and customer friendly!?

Ticket price and venue have yet to be confirmed, but if you'd like to register your interest in attending, please contact me on the address below, giving your contact details and I'll be in touch as soon as we have the full info!

Also we are looking for volunteers to pledge an hour to man a Poppy Tray and collection tin (oh! and a card machine - we are now 21st century!) during the two Poppy Appeal weekends, 25th and 26th October and 1st and 2nd November. For those of you new to the village, we stand outside the Co-op and the Pharmacy from 10.00am to 2.00pm trying to persuade everyone to part with their money to support our great cause! Please let me know if you're interested in helping at the address below.

With regard to the Annual Parade on Remembrance Sunday, we anticipate to continue the tradition of marching through the village to St James' to lay our wreaths and join the service at 3.00pm in the church. All times need to be coordinated and confirmed so please check the Parish Council website nearer the time.

On behalf of our branch, many thanks to all our supporters and we look forward to seeing both you and our villagers soon!

**Denise Saunders. Pangbourne Branch Treasurer.**  
[saunders939@btinternet.com](mailto:saunders939@btinternet.com)

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## The last few months here at Adventure Dolphin have been rather exciting!



Our AGM bought up some important topics but also bought about the announcement of some very exciting opportunities for the charity and our local community. We celebrated the achievements of

our team but particularly Anne who heads our fundraising here at Adventure Dolphin and in the last year alone has facilitated fundraising over £32k.

As a charity we have some very exciting opportunities in the next few months for adults and children alike to come and enjoy the outdoors with us. In particular Wild adventure joins us again this summer for some exciting weeks learning new skills and making friends in the great outdoors & our Duke Of Edinburgh Award opens up its doors again for September for those in year 9 to come and join our Bronze Award.

Be sure to follow us on social media or sign up to our newsletter to keep up to date with all of the exciting activities on offer.

By the time you read this article all the summer activities at Wild Adventure will be over but you can book a place for half term 28 October - 1 November for a fantastic opportunity for your children to spend time outdoors having fun and learning new skills. Spaces are limited, so don't miss out! Visit our website to book your adventure now.

**Book here: <https://wildadventures.uk>**

We would like to send a huge congratulations to Jake Humphreys for being presented this year's President's Award at our Annual General Meeting this month. The President's Award is for Outstanding Achievement and is presented by our President, Clive Williams OBE. Jake is our 4th winner of the President's award, and we are so proud to have him as a continued member of our volunteers here at Adventure Dolphin.

***Huge congratulations Jake, very well deserved!***

## Busy times and new boats for Pangbourne Paddlesport Club

### Beginner's courses

Pangbourne Paddlesport Club (based at the Dolphin Centre) has been busy teaching the next generation of budding canoeist. The flow on the river was still quite high in April, when the courses began, so they were all thrown in at the 'deep-end' so to speak!

Coming up on 17th Aug, we have a Beginner's Standup Paddleboard (SUP) course. There are still a couple of places available – if you would to book, please go to <https://bit.ly/ppc-sup> or email [admin@pangbournepaddlesportclub.co.uk](mailto:admin@pangbournepaddlesportclub.co.uk)

### National Marathon Championships

In addition to developing beginners, we have a growing competition team that have been racing all over the region and most recently competed in the National finals, which this year took place on our doorstep at Caversham. The blue-ribbon event of the weekend (13/14th July) saw 77 two-person racing boats in the 'Mixed K2' event racing over an eight-mile course with two portages (where the paddlers have to jump out of their boats, pick them up and run with them across a short course before jumping back in the boats again).



The challenge of this race is the mass start, avoiding hitting other boats, all keen to get to the front of the pack. Most often it is chaos, with paddles clashing and boats pushing one another in. I'm pleased to report that this year all our competitors finished without a dip.

### Taking care of the environment

In June the club ran its annual 'Big Paddle Cleanup' day where volunteers cleared rubbish from the river, focusing this year on the downstream stretch from Whitchurch Bridge to Mapledurham. The club is also involved in the 'Thames21' water quality campaign, where independent bi-weekly testing has shown that the Whitchurch Bridge



area has consistently 'Good' water quality. Half a mile further down steam (the Sulham Brook inlet) varies between 'Good' and 'Poor'. Although we should never be complacent, our stretch of the river is proving much safer for canoeing and swimming than further down the river at Henley and Marlow.

### New boats

During June and July, our friends at Adventure Dolphin took delivery of many new boats and buoyancy aids, purchased via a grant from the Greenham Trust.



They are all being used regularly by the club and we are extremely grateful to the Trust for the equipment.

We are a growing club and welcome new members. If you'd like to find out more, please get in touch at:

[admin@pangbournepaddlesportclub.co.uk](mailto:admin@pangbournepaddlesportclub.co.uk)

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### Pangbourne Rotary Club features on BBC South Today

On Saturday, 22nd June, a team from the Rotary Club of Pangbourne and friends, including Charity partner, Charlotte Wilshire from Brookfield's School, put in two hours litter-picking along the banks of the Thames at Caversham. They were joined by a special guest, but we couldn't tell you anything about it until now because the guest was BBC South Today's Weather Presenter, Alexis Green, and her appearance was due to be screened on BBC South Today later in the year as one of her "Where am I" spots. Well, it was screened last Wednesday, 31st July, so now we can bring you the story, and show you the team with Alexis.

In her report for the programme, after showing what a beauty spot Caversham's riverside area is, Alexis spoke about the BBC's connection with Caversham Hall, She then featured vox pops of people, saying what a delight it was to live in Caversham, and how clean and tidy it was - cut to the Pangbourne Rotary litter pickers, led by Rotary's Environment Champion Les Jones (back row, left end). Les told how concerned about the environment and sustainability part of Rotary's ethos of service to the community is, and that, with this in mind, the team had collected thirty bags of litter in just two hours of sunshine, and even found fresh litter in areas they had cleared, on their way back to the starting point.

The item finished with the Rotary-and-friends team shouting "Pick it up and bin it"

It was clear that the peaceful and clean beauty of Caversham owes much to the public-spirited fellowship of people like the Rotary Club and their friends.



*Alexis Green behind a camera for a change.*

If you would like to take part in events like this, please contact:  
[membership@pangbournerotary.org.uk](mailto:membership@pangbournerotary.org.uk)

### HAPPY NEW YEAR

All over the world, Rotary Clubs begin a new year on 1st July, so Pangbourne Rotary Club would like to wish all their friends, and the many charities they support, a Happy New Year.



They are looking forward to another year of activities, such as the Santa Sleigh visits before Christmas and the Woodcote 10K to run off the weight put on during the winter holidays. Over the past three years, these activities have raised more than £110,000 for charities, both local and international. But (there is always a 'but') the club needs more members if it is going to continue such valuable work. Despite appearances when the members are running up and down the riverbank during the Dragon Boat Races, and the boisterous carol singing around Santa's sleigh, the membership of the club is keeping up their old habit of aging. There are spaces at the dinner table. Apart from its fundraising activities, the club is also a centre for fundraising, and it needs more members to join in, promote the fun, and help with the collaboration with Charities. During the coming months, we can expect to see posters put up around the area, supported by press releases and social media inviting everyone and anyone to join. One popular image of a Rotarian is Captain Mainwaring of Dad's Army, but that is only a TV image. The average Rotarian is - well - an average person, who just happens to like doing something useful with her or his spare time, enjoys meeting once a week for dinner, often with an entertaining and informative speaker, and is willing to muck in and help for the sheer fun of it.

If you want to get ahead of the queue, contact [membership@pangbournerotary.org.uk](mailto:membership@pangbournerotary.org.uk)



## The THURSDAY HUB



Pangbourne Dementia Forum

On a lovely warm day in June, 26 guests met for a ploughman's lunch in the George Hotel. Quiche, sausage rolls and pork pies, kindly supplied by Greens, a wonderful selection of cheeses which were donated from The Cheese Shop, were served with a tasty salad and all the trimmings.



Ashleigh Stone entertained us with a lovely variety of songs

(no problems for those with hearing aids) and as it was 'the end of term' we had an enormous raffle with 10 prizes.

Many thanks, as always, to our wonderful volunteers, to Devarshi and her staff, Greens of Pangbourne, The

Pangbourne Cheese Shop and special thanks to Kiren Sharma for his unwavering support.

We look forward to seeing our friends - old and new - at our next meeting on Thursday 19 September. Look out for the posters as they will be going back up in the village.

### "One Voice Community Choir"

Our choir is going really well, we now have a regular group of about 20 plus attendees, one week in July we actually hit 26 which is fantastic. Today, 30th July, was our Summer Singalong outside The George. I must say, unlike Christmas when we had the wettest day in December we suffered the hottest day in July, it was boiling at 11 o'clock, but well done everyone for staying the pace. We sang a rendition of "All that Jazz", "Bring me Sunshine" Always looking on the bright side and many more.



A big thankyou to all who donated, the money will be going towards the purchase of t shirts, they will bear our One Voice Logo which is in the graphics department as we speak!

One Voice Community Choir will restart again 10th Sept, come and join us at The George 10.15 for a cuppa and biscuits followed by singing at 11 o'clock. Music is a great stress relief it also improves your lung function and stimulates the brain but most of all it brings everyone together and brings people out of isolation so come along. It doesn't matter if you say you can't sing, We say every melodic note has it's place in a choir so by blending together we create the "Once Voice Choir" See you in September.

### Cribbage

Crib will restart at The George on 4th Sept then every month on the first Wednesday 2 till 4. It's a social gathering, again open to anyone just turn up. There is no cost just buy a drink at the bar and join the fun.

Sponsored by Kiren Sharma

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*For further information regarding our events please contact either Di on 0118984 2473 or Gill on 0118 984 1122*



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## The Pangbourne Band

At the time of writing, we are having a busy and enjoyable Summer. So far, as flagged up in our last report, we have played at: Pangbourne College Classic Car Show on Saturday 1 June (I took my little MG along to that too so double the fun).

Tidmarsh D-Day Celebrations on Thursday 6 June  
 Pangbourne Club on Saturday 8 June  
 Sindlesham Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh Court Fete on Saturday 15 June (on a very windy day)  
 Reading Town Regatta on Saturday 29 June  
 Padworth & Aldermaston Warf Craft & Produce Show on Sunday 7 July (on a showery day); and

Henley Bandstand on Sunday 4 August.

At the Pangbourne Classic Car Show

In September we will be holding a Disney themed concert in partnership with Whitchurch Pre-School in St Mary's Church



(Acknowledgement Claire Holliday)

on Saturday 7, then on to Beech Hill Garage Classic Car Show on Saturday 14 and Newbury Bandstand on Sunday 15.

You will see from our activities that the band loves being part of the local community of Pangbourne and surrounding villages. We really enjoy playing at village fetes, charity garden parties, breweries, car shows, rallies, regattas etc so we're always delighted to get bookings for these.

If you would like to book the band, do please let us know in good time. Booking enquiries can be directed to our events coordinator, Claire Holliday, by sending an email to [claireholliday23@gmail.com](mailto:claireholliday23@gmail.com). Alternatively, you can contact the band secretary, Helen Pierce, by calling 07790557572 or by sending an email to [pangbourneband@gmail.com](mailto:pangbourneband@gmail.com).

We rehearse on Wednesday evenings at Pangbourne Village Hall and always welcome new players of all ages. Do come along at 6.45pm in term time for the All-Comers Band if you are a learner (or trying a different instrument). Please come at 7.45 for an 8pm start for the Silver Band if you are a more experienced brass player.

**David Paine**  
**The Pangbourne Band**

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### Pangbourne Art Group

It has been a while since I last wrote an article for the Pangbourne Magazine. It's so nice that it has been restored, under the new name of Pangbourne Village Newsletter.

Thank you to all concerned who have made it possible to restart publishing again. It has been greatly missed.

Pangbourne Art Group has, as usual, had a very busy year. We continue to get a very good turnout of artists on a Wednesday afternoon, continuing to produce wonderful works of art. Our Committee has kept up the interest for our members with various activities during the year.

Four of our members went on an Art Retreat to Westcott Barton in Devon at the beginning of July. This was with the well renowned Artist, Mark Warner. This included three full painting days travelling out to seaside locations in North Devon, and a full day of painting in the beautiful studio. There were nine participants and between us we produced some lovely Artwork. It was nice to meet and get to know fellow artists from different parts of the country in a very pleasant setting.



Later on in July, a workshop was booked with an old friend of ours, Paul Weaver and it was decided to do a Watercolour Still Life day. Six artists attended this, and found that it was a very interesting and informative day. Paul showed us how to tackle

a very simple study of three vegetables, an onion, garlic and a pepper which we did first in pencil and then a further one in watercolour. In the afternoon, Paul did a beautiful study of sunflowers in a glass vase. We could then do our own study with objects/ flowers/ vegetables etc. we had brought from home.



We all managed to accomplish at least one painting and learned a lot. A very good day.

At the beginning of August, 28 members of our Art Group went by coach to Chichester for a day

out. It was a very hot day, and on arrival everyone could decide what they wanted to do. There is a very well known Art Gallery called the Pallant and the exhibition



currently on until October is "The Shape of Things: Still Life in Britain. Several of our members decided to go to this, and many others opted to visit Chichester Cathedral. This beautiful Cathedral dates back to 1025. It has been depicted by some of Britain's most celebrated artists such as J.M.W. Turner and John Constable. It was lovely to venture in in on such a hot day, to feel the peacefulness and serenity of the interior with very helpful volunteers telling us about this awe inspiring place. There were also plenty of cafes/ restaurants to enjoy a welcome rest, relaxation and refreshments. We returned to the coach at 4pm to start our return journey home to Pangbourne, but I think everyone had an enjoyable day.



Our next very important date is our Annual Art Exhibition which will take place on the weekend of Saturday 12th/Sunday

13th October from 10am-5pm each day. This is a chance for all our members to showcase their art work that they have achieved throughout the past year. In recent years we have had a lot of success by selling framed and unframed paintings and also a big selection of greetings cards. Our Refreshment area is always popular with lots of delicious home made cakes. Also we have a "Creating Room" in the Small Hall where several artists will be painting and engaging with the public.

We would love to see you in October where you would receive a warm welcome from our members and enjoy all the varied Art Work that we produce.

If you are interested in joining our very friendly Art Group which takes place every Wednesday afternoon from 1pm-4pm please get in touch with either Debbie Hildred, Chairman on 07591 505707 or Alison Bourne, Secretary on 07776 252605 or alternatively our website on pangbourneartgroup.com

**Elizabeth Ford August 2024.**

**Repair Shop in Pangbourne**

Goring and Purley both have a thriving Repair Cafe/Shop in their villages, and it would be great if Pangbourne had one too! If there are any repairers out there who would like to volunteer their time on a Saturday morning every other month, I will research a suitable venue.

If you are interested, please email:

[jackie\\_malcolm@hotmail.com](mailto:jackie_malcolm@hotmail.com)



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## Message from The Boathouse Surgery

Dear Patient,

We are always looking for ways to improve your access to GP appointments, as demand continues to rise. We are aware of the increasing wait times for routine GP appointments and have listened to your concerns. Following research, we have found an effective solution that will change the way you access our services. On Monday 30th September, we will be introducing a GP led Total Triage system.

All requests for GP appointments and queries (routine and urgent) will be reviewed by our triage doctor, on the same day, and an appointment will be offered as clinically appropriate.

We want to make sure patients are getting the advice and access they need in a timely manner, in line with their clinical needs.

You should no longer telephone the practice to book a GP appointment. Bookings will be replaced with a new, quick and simple online triage form on our website. This can be accessed through our website (The Boathouse Surgery ([pangbournesurgery.co.uk](http://pangbournesurgery.co.uk)) between 8 am – 4 pm, Monday to Friday. If you have an urgent medical need after 4pm, please call the surgery and you will be seen.

Whilst this system will be easily accessible for most patients; for those that don't have access to the internet please call our reception team who will be able to assist you by completing the online request form for you. You are welcome to come to the surgery and speak to them in person, should you prefer.

Once the GP has triaged your request, the outcome may be:

- An urgent appointment that day with the appropriate clinician (GP / Paramedic / Nurse Practitioner)
- An urgent GP appointment
- A routine GP appointment
- Referral for relevant tests
- A nurse appointment
- A reply via your chosen contact method for queries that do not need an appointment
- Passed on to our clinical pharmacist team for relevant medication queries

- Passed on to our admin team, such as medial secretaries, for relevant queries

- A referral to our social prescriber

Signposted to other providers, such as community pharmacy, physiotherapy, minor injuries, or 111.

Please note, there is no change to the booking of nurse or health care assistant appointments for the time being – these appointments can be arranged by phoning the surgery, as usual. Please only book a blood test if you have been requested to do so by a clinician.

We would like to remind patients that if they are experiencing life-threatening symptoms, please dial 999, or if you're unsure what service you need consider using 111 online.

Over the next six weeks, we will have limited availability, as our current system winds down (routine appointments are not available to book beyond 1st October when the new system starts). All urgent and acute medical needs will still be seen and dealt with appropriately.

Many neighbouring practices are now using this system, and feedback has been very positive with the average wait for a routine appointment reduced to 10 days.

The form will allow you to state your preferred contact method so that we can get in touch with you following triage. This may be via email, a phone call, or a text message which may include a booking link to allow you to book the appropriate appointment at your convenience.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the new Total Triage system, please send these to us via our online feedback form (Feedback | The Boathouse Surgery ([pangbournesurgery.co.uk](http://pangbournesurgery.co.uk)) or in writing for the attention of the practice manager. We will then be able to produce and share an FAQ to answer these. Please do not call our reception team with questions or queries.

Thank you for support and understanding as we make this transition – we hope this will improve care and continuity, enabling those who need to see a GP, to do so promptly.

**The Partners**

**Pangbourne Medical Practice**



**The Importance of the Microbiome and Its Impact on Human Health**

The human microbiome, a complex ecosystem of trillions of microorganisms residing primarily in the gut, plays a crucial role in maintaining overall health. These microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and other microbes possess an incredible diversity that is essential for various bodily functions.



**Digestive Health**  
The microbiome is essential for the digestion and absorption of nutrients. Gut bacteria help break down complex carbohydrates, synthesize vitamins like B and K, and support the digestion of fibres that human enzymes cannot break down. Imbalances in the gut microbiome, known as dysbiosis, can lead to conditions like irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, coeliac disease and chronic constipation.

**Immune System Support** Approximately 70% of the immune system resides in the gut. The microbiome interacts with the immune cells, training them to distinguish between harmful pathogens and benign substances. A healthy microbiome enhances immune responses, while dysbiosis can contribute to autoimmune diseases like rheumatoid arthritis and lupus, allergies, asthma and increased susceptibility to infections.

**Mental Health** The gut-brain axis is a bidirectional communication network between the gut and the brain. Gut bacteria produce neurotransmitters such as serotonin and gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA), which influence mood, anxiety, and cognitive functions. Imbalances in gut bacteria are linked to mental health disorders like depression, anxiety, autism spectrum disorders and even neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.

**Metabolic Health** The microbiome influences metabolic processes, including the regulation of blood sugar levels and fat storage. Dysbiosis is associated with metabolic conditions such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and metabolic syndrome. Gut bacteria also affect how different people respond to the same foods, influencing weight management and dietary needs.

**Advances in Health Technology: Personalised Gut Health Testing at Formula Health**



Personalised Gut Health Testing now allows for a detailed analysis of an individual's microbiome, and involves sequencing the DNA of gut bacteria to identify the types and proportions of microorganisms present.

Functional medicine focuses on addressing the root causes of health issues rather than just treating symptoms. Personalised gut health reports provide invaluable data for functional medicine practitioners, enabling them to develop tailored and effective treatment plans that address specific imbalances and health concerns. Nutritional therapists and practitioners can use these reports to:

- Identify any pathogenic or other problem causing bacteria that may be responsible for your symptoms
- Recommend specific dietary changes that support beneficial gut bacteria.
- Prescribe probiotics and prebiotics tailored to an individual's microbiome composition.
- Develop lifestyle modifications to enhance overall gut health.

To improve access to these transformative insights, Formula Health is certified as a clinical stockist of microbiome test kits at their Pangbourne clinic. Clients can book follow-up consultations with experienced practitioners, all under one roof. This comprehensive approach ensures that individuals receive personalised care and support based on their unique microbiome profiles, leading to improved health, wellbeing, and longevity.

**Gemma Fisher M.Ost Med. – Director Formula Health Ltd**



## Looking to extend, remodel or update your home?

Pangbourne lies in The North Wessex Downs, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty with visibly ancient landscape of great beauty, diversity and size. To prepare for a renovation or an extension to your home there are a few things you need to know as size, scale or style of extensions are significantly limited under permitted development rights in an AONB. Take a look at [www.planningportal.co.uk](http://www.planningportal.co.uk) for a great starting point.



source: [www.candidakennedy.co.uk](http://www.candidakennedy.co.uk)

**Room rearrangement:** Think about the direction your home faces, how natural light flows into each room and where you spend most time. Altering the floorplan or installing taller doors and windows into living spaces, brings natural light into your home, improving wellbeing and reducing energy bills.

**Porch:** A major pinch point in a lot of homes is by the front door. If there's nowhere to put coats and shoes when you come in, a porch extension provides extra space, better circulation and kerb appeal.

**Garage Conversion or Garden Room:** With space at a premium in many homes and hybrid working creating additional demands, this can be a great solution to gain more living space.

**Extension:** Build a little but add a lot. Side-return additions and rear extensions can transform the way you use your home as well as enhance the existing floorplan. Bringing daylight into your extension from more than one direction to add multiple layers of light and shade, will greatly enhance the quality of space. Designing features such as overhangs and really thinking through the orientation of the new addition will help address the issue of overheating.

**Loft Conversion:** You don't have to increase your footprint and you're adding an extra level of living. However, converted lofts can be awkward spaces to get right. Adding a dormer window provides a little extra headroom. The location of your loft stairs is key to ensuring good flow and use of space.

**Sub-division:** With an ever-growing demand for housing in sought after areas subdividing a property can offer significant financial benefit to the owner. Planning development objectives welcome carefully considered provision of additional family homes that respond to modern day family needs.



Please get in touch if you would like assistance to maximise the potential of your home or site with a bespoke, individually tailored solution. From inception, feasibility, concept design to submission of planning applications and other approvals, contact Lucy Bromage to discuss.

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## Pangbourne Tennis Club is LTA National Club of the Year!

The club has done it! We are the winning finalists of the LTA National Club of the Year.

Chairman Richard Raynes and head of the fundraising committee Kim DeMarchi attended the glittering awards ceremony at the National Tennis Centre in Roehampton on behalf of the club, not knowing if the club would come out top of the three finalists. In true Oscars' style, the three nominations were featured and then the broadcaster Adrian Childs opened the envelope to reveal that Pangbourne was victorious! Richard and Kim were absolutely thrilled to accept the award on behalf of the club.



On stage at the LTA National Awards Ceremony

Kim DeMarchi and Richard Raynes with Adrian Childs

This is an exceptional recognition for all our members, our dedicated committee, our coach Damian Lane and the many volunteers who make this club so extraordinary.

### End of Season Tournament and AGM – Sunday 29th September 13:00 – 17:00

To mark the end of the summer season, enter the fun American Doubles Tournament running on Sunday 29th September from 13:00. Anyone who can serve and sustain a rally is welcome to play and you don't need a partner. Everyone plays with and against lots of other players and the winners are those players who amass the most points. There are prizes for the winners and runners up.

The tournament is limited to 24 players - go to [www.pangbournetennis.org/clubevents](http://www.pangbournetennis.org/clubevents) or scan the QR code to secure your place.

Tea and cakes will be served from 15:30 ready for prize giving and the AGM which will start around 16:00. Members who are not taking part in the tournament are welcome to come for refreshments and the AGM to find out about the plans for the

club for the coming year.

### The Autumn Tennis Programme

Tennis is a year-round activity at the club – this is the second year with the benefit of court lighting to allow late afternoon and evening play throughout the year.



### Junior Coaching

Sign up for autumn junior coaching on Friday afternoons starting on 6th September. Children from 4 years of age are welcome – groups will be organised by age and previous experience.

Book on the website at [www.pangbournetennis.org/coaching](http://www.pangbournetennis.org/coaching)

### Coaching for Adults

Tuesday evening and Sunday morning sessions with our coach Damian Lane will be running throughout the autumn. Tuesdays will feature new programmes covering on-court tactics and technical clinics. The very popular high-energy drills will be back again too. Skills and Drills will run on Sunday mornings. A new Start to Play course will start on 8th September for 6 weeks.

All these sessions are available for booking on the website at [www.pangbournetennis.org/coaching](http://www.pangbournetennis.org/coaching). Remember that the number of places are limited, so book early to secure your place!

### Social Tennis

Join us for social doubles every Friday at 19:30 – 21:00 Also, the popular Saturday afternoon social sessions run at 14:00 – 15:30. You will be assured of a warm welcome, so do come along. Players of all levels enjoy these sessions – you just need to be able to serve and sustain a rally. You certainly don't need to be a Wimbledon champion!

Make a note that there will be an extra special Christmas Festive Tournament in early December.

### New Members are Always Welcome

Not a member but would like to play? We offer adult membership for 12 months from the date of joining for £65. Junior membership is £25 and family membership is available for £135. If you would like to try out the club for size, or just play occasionally, we offer monthly membership for £10. Just scan this QR code or go to [www.pangbournetennis.org/membership](http://www.pangbournetennis.org/membership) to find out more.



**Pangbourne Tennis Club Committee**



## PANGBOURNE BOWLS CLUB

Surprisingly some local residents do not know that Pangbourne Bowling Club is alive and well. We are situated down Thames Avenue, sharp left at the bottom and immediately sharp right onto the recreation ground and we are a short walk across the field to the left of the tennis club with whom we share a club house.

Submerged in January our green is now fully recovered from a very wet start to the season and is now playing as a bowling green should do thanks to the efforts of our hardworking green keeping team. If you come to the green on a Monday afternoon you can practise bowling with a club member and any other visitors who may be present. All you need to remember is to wear a flat pair of shoes such as trainers and we do the rest, in particular providing bowls suitable for you.



You don't need to live in Pangbourne to play or to join the club – we have members from many nearby villages and areas. If you do

join you can have coaching (for free!) and then a variety of opportunities to bowl as the club plays mixed teams, ladies only and men only matches against other local clubs, in friendlies and in two local leagues. In addition there are club only competitions throughout the season and every Monday afternoon. Very quickly you will feel at home sharing and discussing your hobby with other friendly bowlers. Bowling is a marvellous hobby for all ages – fresh air and exercise, friendly fellow bowlers. Experts say that it improves fitness, co-ordination and confidence. What's not to like?

The club is a committed supporter of the Bowls England development scheme for young players and is hosting several sessions of bowls for young



children from local schools this summer. It is hoped that they or their parents or grandparents – after all, bowls is a sport for all age groups – will take up the sport by joining Pangbourne Bowls Club.

The subscription for a new member is only £50 for a year. Please visit our web site for further information on



the club where contact details for club secretary Alan and myself can be found. Our web site: <https://pangbournebowls.co.uk/>

The club, now 102 years old, is keen to recruit new members. Could you be one of them? Try us and see.

**Martin Fraser – Club Captain 07746 680183**

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Email: [newsletter@pangbourneclub.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@pangbourneclub.co.uk)

<b>Monday</b>			
09.30am-12pm	Tai Chi and Qigong	Karen: 07867 954 786 info@karenpounds.co.uk, www.karenpounds.co.uk	Dolphin Centre
10am-12pm	Hand bell tune ringing	Len Palfrey, palfrey62@btinternet.com	Whitchurch Art café
10.30 am	Adapted Pilates (Chair Based)	Vicky Elson Smith 07775638611, info@themovementclinic.co.uk	The Movement Clinic, Pangbourne
12.45pm-2.45pm	Art Courses	Jeanette 07500862025, art-courses@hotmail.com	Pang VH
2pm-4pm	Coffee & Craft	0118 9844117 - pangbournelibrary@westberks.gov.uk	Pangbourne Library
6.30pm	Zumba	Rachel Grocott 07885 444 510, rachelzumba4043@gmail.com	Pangbourne Primary School (VH in school hols)
7pm	Crib	info@pangbourneclub.co.uk (When the League is on)	Pang Working Men's Club
7.15pm-9pm	Duke of Edinburgh Awards	dofecoordinator@adventuredolphin.co.uk , www.adventuredolphin.co.uk , 0118 321 7206	Dolphin Centre
7.30pm	7-a-side Football	Laurie 07793680999	Pangbourne College
7.30pm-9pm	Badminton	www.pangbournebadminton.club (Term time only) A friendly non-league club. See website for session dates etc.	Pangbourne College Sports Hall
7.45pm	Adapted Pilates Mat Work	Vicky Elson Smith 07775638611, info@themovementclinic.co.uk	The Movement Clinic, Pangbourne
<b>Tuesday</b>			
8.45pm-9.45am	Circuits	Alex 07555 148 024	Dolphin Centre
10am-1pm	Pangbourne China Painters	Margaret broadbentm462@gmail.com	Dorman Rooms St Bernadette's Church
11am- 12pm	Yoga Yoga	www.walkingthepath.co.uk, bara.cechova@gmail.com www.walkingthepath.co.uk / bara.cechova@gmail.com	Dolphin Centre Dolphin Centre
10.15am-12pm	"One Voice Community Choir"	Di, Diane2473@btinternet.com 07971 226548 Cuppa/Chat 10.15 Singing starts at 11am	The George Hotel
5pm-8pm	Tennis Coaching	www.pangbournetennis.org info@pangbournetennis.org	Recreation Ground
7.15pm	Poker	James Blandy 07766333221, james.blandy@icloud.com	Pangbourne Club
<b>Wednesday</b>			
6pm	Seated Yoga	Kate 07706357801 kate.wiggins@getberkshireactive.org	St Bernadettes Church
6.20pm	Zumba	Rachel Grocott 07885 444 510, rachelzumba4043@gmail.com	Adventure Dolphin
6.30pm-7.45pm	All Comers Band	Stewart Lewins 0118 9425076, email@pangbourneband.org.uk	Pang VH
7pm	Table Tennis	info@pangbourneclub.co.uk (When the League is on)	Pang Working men's club
7.30pm-8.30pm	Yoga class	Laura 07766335176, peacelilyyoga@hotmail.com www.peacelilyyoga.co.uk	Dolphin Centre
7.30pm	Dance Fitness Class	Andrea turners.the@icloud.com, 0771 7023 007	Pang Primary
8pm	Camera Club	Alan-01491 681471, alan@curiosities.co.uk www.wotphoto.co.uk	Whitchurch VH
8pm-10pm	Pangbourne and District Silver Band	email@pangbourneband.org.uk Facebook.com/pangbourneband, Helen Pierce 07790557572, Stewart Lewins on 0118 9425076	Pang VH

# Social Calendar

<b>Thursday</b>			
8.45am-09.45am	Circuits	Alex 07555 148 024	Dolphin Centre
10.00am-12.00pm	Art Courses	Jeanette 07500862025, art-courses@hotmail.com	Pang VH
10.30am	Adapted Pilates (Chair Based)	Vicky Elson Smith 07775638611, info@themovementclinic.co.uk	The Movement Clinic, Pangbourne
12.45pm-2.45pm	Art Courses	Jeanette 07500862025, art-courses@hotmail.com	Pang VH
7.30pm-8.30pm	AC Pilates, Mat work	Anna Cotgreave 07754598627 actraining@hotmail.com	Pang VH
7.45pm	Adapted Pilates Mat Work	Vicky Elson Smith 07775638611, info@themovementclinic.co.uk	The Movement Clinic, Pangbourne
8pm	Bingo	info@pangbourneclub.co.uk	Pang Working Men's Club
8pm-9.15pm	Church bell ringing	Len Palfrey palfrey62@btinternet.com	St James the Less
<b>Friday</b>			
9.30am-10.30am	Kettlebell Conditioning (All levels)	Gareth France 07853 381449, gareth.france@sky.com, www.garethfrance.co.uk	Adventure Dolphin
11am-11.45am	Seated Yoga	07706357801 kate.wiggins@getberkshireactive.org	Dorman Rooms St Bernadette's Church
7.30pm-9pm	Social Doubles	www.pangbournetennis.org info@pangbournetennis.org	Recreation Ground
8pm-10pm	Basildon Table Tennis Club	Basildontt@gmail.com	Upper Basildon Village Hall
<b>Saturday</b>			
10.30am	Zumba	Rachel Grocott 07885 444 510, rachelzumba4043@gmail.com	Tidmarsh Village Hall
<b>Sunday</b>			
10am – 12:30pm	Tennis Coaching	www.pangbournetennis.org info@pangbournetennis.org	Recreation Ground
<b>Monthly</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday 8pm	Jazz Night	<a href="https://www.pangbournejazzclub.com/">https://www.pangbournejazzclub.com/</a>	Pang Working Men's club
Last Sunday of the month 7pm Feb – April inc	Twinning Film Night	Steve infopangbournetwinning@gmail.com	Pang VH
1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 7.45pm	Natural History	Katie Jenks Jenkskatie@hotmail.com; www.rdnhs.org.uk	Pang VH
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 2.30pm	WI	Susan Smith 01189833258 susan.smith.ufton@icloud.com	Pang VH
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 8pm	RSPB	Judith email: readingspsb@gmail.com <a href="https://group.rspb.org.uk/reading/">https://group.rspb.org.uk/reading/</a>	Pang VH
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 2pm-4pm	Family History Sessions	0118 9844117 – pangbournelibrary@westberks.gov.uk	Pangbourne Library
Last Tues of the month 7pm	Book Club	Pangbourne.Book.Club@gmail.com	Pang Working Men's Club
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Weds 11am	St James café	Rector 0118 984 2928 or Jill Palfrey 984 2698 jill.palfrey1@btinternet.com	St James church
1 <sup>st</sup> Weds 2pm	Cribbage	Di Williams Diane2473@btinternet.com 07971 226548	The Bar, The George Hotel
3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu Various times	Thursday Hub	Di Williams Diane2473@btinternet.com 07971 226548	The Function Room the George Hotel
1 <sup>st</sup> Fri 2pm-3pm	Book club	0118 9844117 – pangbournelibrary@westberks.gov.uk	Pangbourne Library

Various			
Various	Ladies Walking	Nicki Woodward. 07768 986 799 www.purleypathfinders.co.uk	Various
Various	Bowls	Alan Copeland 01491 681471 alan@alancopeland.co.uk WWW.Pangbournebowls.co.uk	Recreation Ground Thames Ave
Various	Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers	helenguides@yahoo.com	Pangbourne VH
Various	Various	Climbing  Carl: hello@borntoclimb.uk 07920 444842	Dolphin Centre
Various	Various	Purley & Pangbourne Scout Group (Squirrels, Beavers, Scouts) gsl@1stpandp.org.uk	Dolphin Centre
Various	Pangbourne Paddle Sports	admin@pangbournepaddlesportclub.co.uk www.pangbournepaddlesportclub.co.uk	Dolphin Centre
Various	Bowls	Alan-01491 681471, alan@alancopeland.co.uk www.pangbournebowls.co.uk	Rec Ground Thames Ave
Wed, every other, 8pm	Camera Club	Alan-01491 681471, alan@curiosities.co.uk www.wotphoto.co.uk	Whitchurch VH
Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 10.30am to 12pm	Coffee Morning	Kathryn (parish office) 0118-971-5350	Dorman Room at St Bernadette's Church
School holidays	Tennis	To apply for membership please contact Andy.Crossley@pangbourne.com.	Pangbourne College

\* Please contact Di Williams on [Diane2473@btinternet.com](mailto:Diane2473@btinternet.com) for additions, updates or changes to the information\*

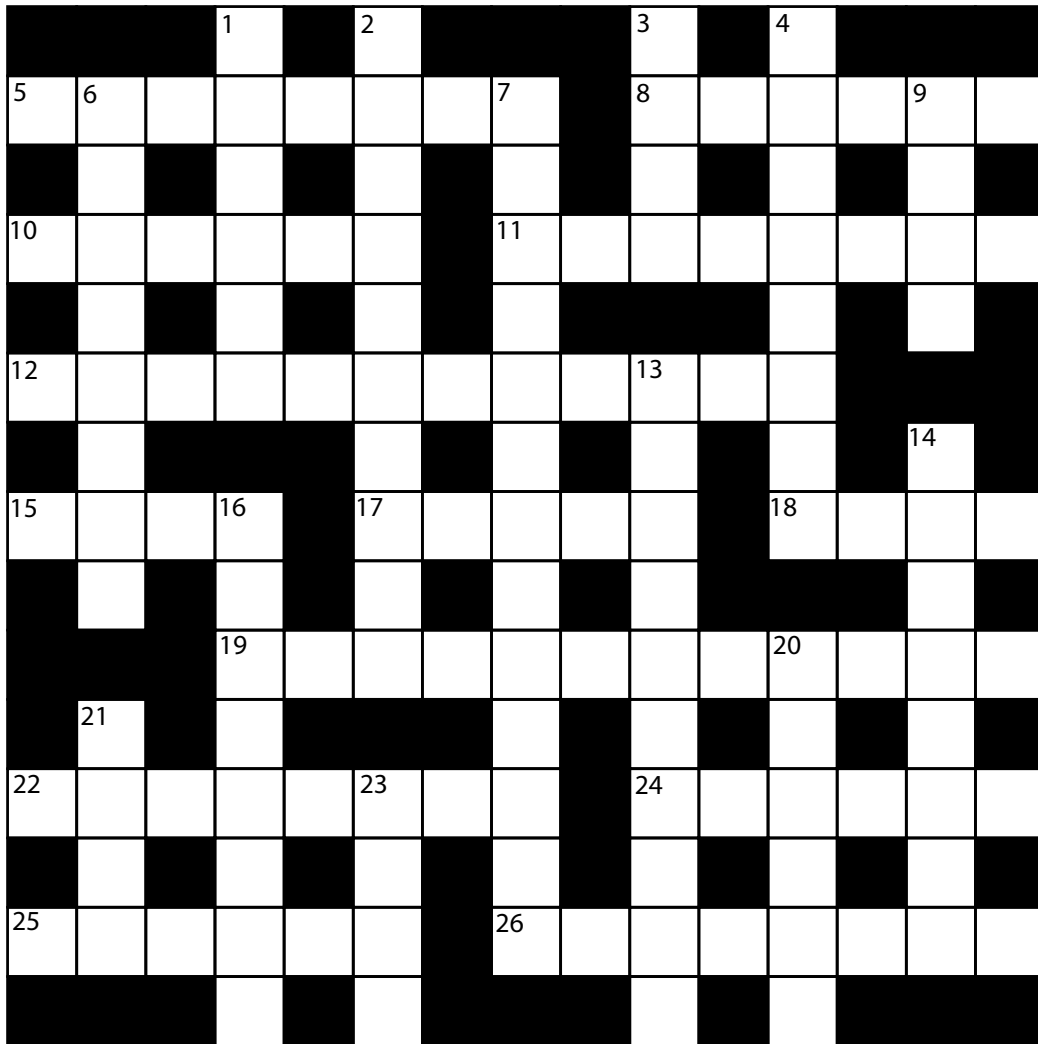
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**ACROSS**

- 5 Initially a donkey came and helped little Edward. (8)
- 8 Lacking courage a resident of The Tower took to flight ((6)
- 10 Confused by what she did? No problem - she served it up on a plate (6)
- 11 Surprise! Brum football club finally indicates the need for secrecy (8)
- 12 The proverbial nutcracker - downhill In the snow? (11)
- 15 You usually see this at the pictures - generally a huge story (4)
- 17 You'll want back-up help in the end to get to this Sub continent (5)
- 18 People do say commonly it's quite dead (4)
- 19 Eventually gets really angry about ICE emissions (7, 5)
- 22 You need to rib Sid in his Italian port chat (8)
- 24 Mary Queen of Scots reputedly said she had it engraved on her heart (6)
- 25 I tell you once and for all, it's a turn around lock out (6)
- 26 An era ultimately in equine fashion well reined in (8)

**DOWN**

- 1 The Women's Institute hoped for a more permanent meeting place (6)
- 2 It's said that even ghosts died after such a solid, tummy filling plate (6, 4)
- 3 He or it is commonly said to cost nothing across the border (4)
- 4 It was simply that greed ran wild and it all was stored away (8)
- 6 You'll certainly need a lift up after this run down (3, 5)
- 7 Quite the reverse of alive and kicking (4, 3, 6)
- 9 It's quite relaxing when you're told to take it (4)
- 13 Ironically, you may need to grub around to get a free one (4, 6)
- 14 After brief publicity he just kept going round sticking to his story (8)
- 16 "It beats as it sweeps as it..."- her late Majesty could complete it (8)
- 20 Initially a threat to the United Nations ...or not? (6)
- 21 She could keep an eye on you in the garden (4)
- 23 There's virtually nothing in this Independent Television Authority (4)

*(Answers on page 38)*

**Supplied by Ian Busby**



## **Pangbourne and Whitchurch Sustainability News**

I am reading "God is an Octopus" by Ben Goldsmith, a story of Loss, Love and A Calling to Nature.

The death of Ben's daughter at fifteen and a half in an accident breaks his heart and he describes his grief journey and how he is soothed by the recognition of the power of nature to bring meaning to life and loss. Ben is a British environmentalist and is very involved in the rewilding movement, global and national conservation. He was a Director at DEFRA for five years where he advocated for environment restoration policies and the Species Reintroduction Taskforce among many other initiatives.

In his book he advocates for us all to see the inextricable links and dependency we have with all other species, flora and fauna and how it is at our peril that we exterminate nature in our pursuit of more, more and more consumption. This is a painful but delightful book and I thoroughly recommend it.

We have had several events in the last two months celebrating nature. On the 20 June we had an excellent evening with Ailsa Claybourne who gave a talk on "Scintillating Swifts in Pangbourne". Ailsa has been a keen birder all her life, but it was on retirement that she noticed the decline in Swifts. She began to lead walks and provide environment education locally. She realised that talks about the constant doom and decline of birds is contributing to climate anxiety and poor mental health and set out to give talks on success stories and what positive actions we can do to be more positive. There was so much to learn about these brave, strong, beautiful little birds and I point you to PAWs website for a full description by Kat Syfret of the evening spent with Ailsa.



### **Some quick facts:-**

Swifts are migratory, travelling from Equatorial Africa and Southern Africa.

Swifts are aerial, fast and fantastic travellers.

They eat amazing meals, flying through clouds of insects, with their beaks gaping, and collect 300 insects at a time!

They sleep with half their brain- sleeping at 10,000 feet, go down to 25 feet and then up again.

They can stay aloft for 4 years at a time, fly 4 million miles and fly at 70 mph.

They have beautiful tidy nests, the parents eat the droppings of their young, recycling the nutrients.

They don't breed until they are 4 years old.

Swifts come back to various sites in Pangbourne every year and they need old buildings; they are site faithful, returning to the same site each year to breed. If their nests are destroyed, they might never breed again. If you want to encourage them please look at the article on the web site or visit <https://www.swift-conservation.org/> or Facebook.



On the 30th June, we had our annual visit to James Norman's organic hay meadow at Hardwick in Whitchurch. Over 40 people assembled to look at, discuss, learn and enjoy this sublime meadow. It is only harvested for grass for James' organic beef cattle once seed has been set from the enormous variety of flower and grass species. This year new species are emerging from the ground that lay under water for several months in our very wet winter and spring. The rain had a big effect on the distribution of grasses and their height. In this beautiful environment we watched a flock of lapwings, swifts, swallows and a lone buzzard. With a cup of tea and cakes at the end and with a great deal of knowledge gained from expert botanists we had a perfect Sunday afternoon.

On the 1st July we had a hugely entertaining evening when Jackie and Brian Hoskins delighted us with their story of their time in Japan in April where

Brian received the Japan Prize from the Emperor. A village hall full of people very proud of Brian, his work and contribution to climate science.

On the 25th July we enjoyed a talk by Andrew McAlister Hood entitled "Living Wild at Home, a summer performance". Andrew is a sculptor, based at Path Hill, Whitchurch, who lives to enjoy life with nature. He has worked as a sculptor for fifteen years after training at Weymouth College in stone masonry. Despite producing work he found it hard to make ends meet and eventually decided to keep his studio but let

go of his house. Previously in the army he had basic skills for living on the land and he decided as his work is profoundly impacted by nature to immerse himself in a life living closely with and in nature. He now sleeps in the woods, using a sleeping bag and tarpaulin to keep out the rain. He describes feeling fitter and healthier for his life constantly in the fresh air, foraging for his food. He has a bike to transport his few things and sleeps in different areas of the woods. He started wild swimming many years ago and extols the virtue of cold water. He has researched the science of sleeping on the ground and agrees with the experiences of forest dwellers and nomads which support the fact that they suffer less musculoskeletal lesions than we

house bound, bed bound people do!

As his shoes gradually fell apart Andrew has discovered the benefits of being barefoot. He rarely suffers pain in his feet and finds running barefoot a freeing experience. You may see him running through Pangbourne occasionally.

Through this lived in experience Andrew examines human dependence upon the natural world and compares the scientific world's discoveries in this field, with his own experiences, as a man who, because of circumstances and inclination, must wander through and sleep in wild places of England, every night; seeking shelter, refuge and sustenance. He believes that human and environmental degradation as a result of their unhealthy relationship with each other, are also subject to the stone sculptor's scrutiny.

His presentation, along with images of his work and drawings of work in progress provided us with a unique take on life and how it can be lived.

Inspired, I went home and retrieved my tent from the loft and am now enjoying the calm and stillness of summer nights under canvas with of course the advantages of running water and flushing toilet!

*Heather Thorne*

### Forthcoming events

*Please note that the calendar that was printed in the previous edition was unfortunately incorrect.*

When	What	Where
Saturday September 11 <sup>th</sup> 10.30-12.30	<b>Art café</b>	The Old Stables
Sunday Sept 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2-4pm	<b>Apple Pressing</b> Bring containers to take home delicious juice.	Whitchurch Maze
Sunday Oct 13 <sup>th</sup> 10-1pm	<b>Litter Picking</b> - Meet next to the petrol station	Chiltern Walk
Thursday Oct 17 <sup>th</sup> 8-10pm	<b>Flooding in the Pang Valley</b> - Talk by Peter Worsley, Kay Lacey & Nigel Arnell	Pangbourne Village Hall
Thursday Nov 21 <sup>st</sup> 8-10pm	Film Night	Pangbourne Village Hall
Thursday Dec 5 <sup>th</sup> 8-10pm	Christmas Gathering	Pangbourne Village Hall
Thursday Jan 16 <sup>th</sup> 2005 8-10pm	Planning Meeting for 2005	Pangbourne Village Hall

*Join our Facebook group: PAWS (Pangbourne & Whitchurch Sustainability) or visit pawsg.com*

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Call: 0777 8900 796  
Email: newsletter@pangbourneclub.co.uk**



## Woodcote Village Fete – Saturday 14th September 2024



Come along and join in the fun at Woodcote Village Fete! It's on Saturday 14th September 12pm to 5pm.

This is a great event for the whole community. Entertainment includes live music, a compere, a dog show, inflatable fun, a produce and craft show and a tug of war. We will also have a children's entertainer, Jester Giggles, who will put on a show for the younger children and Berkshire Reptile Encounters will be at the fete between 1pm and 3pm with some interesting creatures!

We also have a raffle with some great prizes and a variety of stalls to peruse.

There is plenty of food and drink on offer too. There will be a barbecue, a pizza van, an ice cream van, a coffee truck and other treats available. There will also be a bar and a traditional tea tent.

Woodcote Village Fete has a website – [woodcotefete.com](http://woodcotefete.com) – with more information about the fete including stalls and raffle prizes etc. and also has the produce and craft show competition entry form and competition categories for those of you who might like to enter.

For those of you on social media please like and follow our Facebook page @WoodcoteVillageFete for further updates and information.

See you all there on Saturday 14th September 12pm to 5pm for a fun day out!

*The Woodcote Village Fete Team*

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## Purley Barn Bridge Club



This popular club meets at the historic Barn, Goosecroft Lane, Purley every Friday morning at 9.40 for a fun morning of friendly bridge with friendly people with a break for a chat, coffee, tea and biscuits. Our members who come from many surrounding suburbs and villages like the informality of the bridge played at the Barn compared to other clubs. Bridge at the Barn is an ideal way to meet people from round and about who don't take the game too seriously and all of whom are welcoming of new members. You will find that Purley Barn is not just a bridge club but a social club which plays bridge and maybe this is what appeals to new members. There are other pluses:

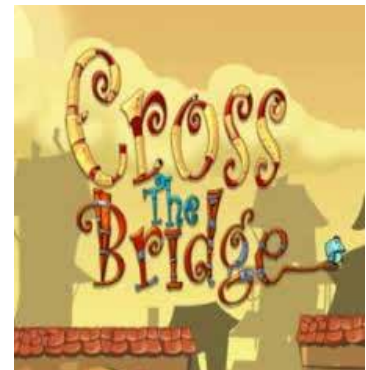
- We meet every week in the day time with free easy parking right on the doorstep
- No need to go out in the dark evenings to play
- We have a competitive on line session every Tuesday evening from the comfort of your own home with a snack and refreshment to hand

Recently the club held its annual summer lunch party event where bridge sessions took place in a relaxed atmosphere either side of a pleasant lunch break when members could choose from a wide range of titbits and refreshments. The highlight of the event was the presentation of an honorary life membership



of the club to retiring chairman Bernie Nix who established the club with a handful of members fourteen years ago and has been inspirational in guiding the club to its present state. Committee member Angie Grindley paid tribute to Bernie's leadership and presented him with gifts on behalf of the members. Our photo shows Angie making the presentation to Bernie of a sun lounger (let's hope for some sun!) and some of Bernie's favourite liquid refreshment.

So play your cards right and cross that bridge. . – just turn up before play starts on a Friday and we'll fit you in at a table with a partner. Ring Martin on 07746 680183 for more information or visit our web site at: [https://](https://www.bridgewebs.com)



[www.bridgewebs.com](https://www.bridgewebs.com) No previous experience is necessary and free coaching is available if required. And remember that your first few sessions at the barn are free! After that a modest subscription is payable.

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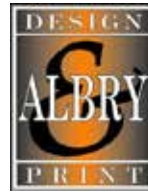
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## poker

**Do you play or would like to learn to play Poker?**

*If the answer is – YES to either of these questions,  
why not join the Texas Hold 'Em Poker Night?*

**Venue: Pangbourne Club**

*Time: Tuesdays – 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.*

**1st, 2nd & 3rd places take the pot!**

*For further info, please contact James Blandy on email:*



**[james.blandy@icloud.com](mailto:james.blandy@icloud.com)**

**or mob: 07766 333221**



**The Poker game is £5 per buy-in per session with the proceeds  
going the game's winner, 2nd and 3rd places.**

Whilst it's not obligatory to be a member of the club to join Poker Night, why not become a member  
and enjoy all the benefits available with membership?

At just £20 per annum plus an initial £5 application fee, it really is worth joining!

For more information, please contact James Blandy at  
**[james.blandy@icloud.com](mailto:james.blandy@icloud.com)**

# PANGBOURNE CLUB



**Pangbourne Club comprises a cross section of the whole of the community within the village and the surrounding area.**

The club houses many activities and sub-clubs: darts, snooker, crib, bingo, quiz nights and live entertainment. We have large screen televisions and projector screens with most sporting channels available.

## Upcoming events

### SEPTEMBER

**Sun 1st of Sept  
Jazz Night 7pm**

**Sat 7th of Sept  
Junkyard Rocket  
(electric mix) 8pm**

**Sat 14th of Sept  
Pool Night 7pm**

**Sat 21st of Sept  
Fight night- Boxing  
7 pm Tickets available at the bar**

### OCTOBER

**Sat 5th of October  
Triple O Band 8pm**

**Sun 6th of October  
Jazz 7pm**

**Sat 26th of October  
Darts Night 7pm**

### NOVEMBER

**Sat 2nd of November  
Halloween party 7pm  
Prizes for best dressed**

## Regular events

### FIND THE JOKER

Every Sunday afternoon

### BINGO

Every Thursday Night 8pm

### MEAT RAFFLE

Every Friday night from 9pm

### Poker

Every Tuesday Night 8pm



**SKY SPORTS  
SHOWN HERE**

*Watch in the comfort of our fully  
air conditioned bars.*

## Club News

### We are hiring!

We are looking for talented and enthusiastic staff to join our friendly team.

See our website for details

[www.pangbourneclub.co.uk](http://www.pangbourneclub.co.uk)

### Annual Pangbourne Club Christmas Market

Friday 6th December from 5pm onwards

*If you wish to have a stall, email:*

[info@pangbourneclub.co.uk](mailto:info@pangbourneclub.co.uk)

## Our facilities include:

- Air Con throughout
- 3 full size snooker tables
- Pool Table
- Large projector screens and TV's
- SKY Sports
- Conference Facilities
- Function Room for hire with kitchen facilities and licenced bar
- Free parking for members
- Free WiFi

## New member applications

Drop into the club or fill in our online membership application form.

*New members are always welcome.*

## Pangbourne Club

Rosewood Hall, Whitchurch Road, Pangbourne, Reading, RG8 7BS

**Keep up to date with events and entertainment by visiting our website**

[www.pangbourneclub.co.uk](http://www.pangbourneclub.co.uk) • Visit us on Facebook

e: [info@pangbourneclub.co.uk](mailto:info@pangbourneclub.co.uk) • t: 0118 9842885

**USEFUL NUMBERS**

POLICE Non-emergency number ..... 101

CRIMESTOPPERS .....0800555111

PANGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL (at Village Hall)  
 www.pangbourne-pc.gov.uk..... 011898 41118  
 Parish Office opening hours- by appointment

CHAIRMAN OF PANGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL  
 Ian Walker- iwalker@pangbourne-pc.gov.uk

VICE CHAIRMAN OF PANGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL  
 John Higgs- jhiggs@pangbourne-pc.gov.uk

CLERK OF PANGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL  
 Becky Elkin- clerk@pangbourne-pc.gov.uk

WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL  
 Switchboard ..... 01635551111  
 Councillor Matt Shakespeare- matt.shakespeare1@westberks.gov.uk

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU..... 01635516605

MP FOR READING WEST  
 Alok Sharma ..... 01189413803

SURGERY ..... 01189842234  
 Emergency out-of-hours (6.30pm-8am) ..... 111

PHARMACY ..... 01189842935

LIBRARY..... 01189844117

PANGBOURNE DISTRICT VOLUNTEER CENTRE..... 01189844586

PANGBOURNE PARISH PRIEST  
 Reverend Mark Hopkins- rector.ptschurches@gmail.com

FLOOD WARDENS  
 Kay Lacey ..... 07889231136  
 Stephen Billyeald..... 01189843368  
 Ed Penney ..... 07756432946

**Crossword Answers**

**ACROSS**

5 ASSISTED, 8 CRAVEN, 10 DISHED, 11 ASTONISH,  
 12 SLEDGEHAMMER, 15 EPIC, 17 INDIA, 18 DODO,  
 19 EXHAUST FUMES, 22 BRINDISI, 24 CALAIS,  
 25 ASSERT,26 DRESSAGE

**DOWN**

1 WISHED, 2 STODGE DISH, 3 SCOT, 4 GARNERED,  
 6 SKI SLOPE,7 DEAD AND BURIED 9 EASY,  
 13 MEAL TICKET, 14 ADHERING, 16 CLEANSER,  
 20 UNLESS, 21 IRIS, 23 IOTA

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[office@cleevelodge.co.uk](mailto:office@cleevelodge.co.uk)

[www.cleevelodge.co.uk](http://www.cleevelodge.co.uk)

Cleeve Lodge, 11 Elmhurst Rd  
Goring, Reading RG8 9BN



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www.warmingham.com

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**Having celebrated successive record breaking years in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, we've done it again in 2023!**

Having been established for nearly 40 years, we don't rest on our laurels; Leading by the front, achieving the very best for our clients. For a 8th consecutive year, 2023 has seen Warmingham & Co, out-sell and out-let all of our competitors within our area of coverage\*, as recorded by Rightmove. Accordingly, you can be assured of a professional and thorough approach from our highly qualified and experienced, personable staff, who both understand the current marketplace, and yield extensive local knowledge. Offering our clients the most effective, cohesive and progressive marketing package tailor-made to their own individual requirements, locally, nationally, and internationally, 7 days a week, we are here to make your next move both seamless, and the right one for you.

\*OX10 0, OX10 6, OX10 8, OX10 9, RG7 5, RG7 6, OX11 9, RG18 0, RG18 9, RG9 5, RG8 0, RG8 7, RG8 8, RG8 9, RG20 6, RG20 7.

Sales & Valuations

T 01491 874144

E sales@warmingham.com

Call us 7 Days A Week to arrange a Free Valuation or Viewing

Office Opening Hours: Monday - Saturday: 09:00 - 18:00 & Sunday: 10:00 - 16:00

Website Opening Hours: 24 Hours A Day - 7 Days A Week - 365 Days A Year

Lettings & Valuations

T 01491 875011

E lettings@warmingham.com



Bob Warmingham



Tonia Sheldon



Duncan Kent



Karen Spiers



Laura Rosi



Paul O'Loughlin



Louise Pasker



George Brack



Naomi O'Loughlin



Arun Readings



Sue Warmingham