

New Buckenham Parish News

A vibrant graphic featuring a dark blue background with several colorful firework bursts in shades of yellow, orange, and purple. The bursts are surrounded by numerous small, white, star-like sparkles. The text 'FIREWORK DISPLAY' is prominently displayed in the center, with each letter filled with a different color and outlined in black.

**FIREWORK
DISPLAY**

**New Buckenham
Village Hall Playing Field**

Saturday 8th November

Gates open 5.30pm | Bonfire 6.00pm

November 2025

New Buckenham Players present

Rapunzel

By Ben Crocker

December
4th / 5th / 6th
at 7:30pm

Saturday Matinee 2pm
New Buckenham Village Hall

£10 / £8 Conc / £5
under 12s at Matinee

Tickets available from
TicketSource



New Buckenham Parish News

November 2025

Parish News content

The *Parish News* Committee welcome a range of submissions each month: from notices and events coverage, to articles of local interest, and community-focussed pieces celebrating our community or raising awareness for local issues.

Parish News is distributed 11 times a year, with December and January being a joint issue. The deadline for the next issue can be found on the back of each issue. All content and questions can be emailed to editor@newbucknews.co.uk

Parish News Committee

Clarification: October issue

There have been several enquiries regarding fireworks and whether this is organised by Fundraisers. To clarify, the fireworks are organised by the Cricket Club, and the fete is organised by Fundraisers.

Parish News Committee

Sponsor the *Parish News*

This month's issue of the *Parish News* is sponsored by the New Buckenham Cricket Club.

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

Parish News Committee

Fireworks Display and Bonfire

Saturday 8th November 2025

We will be having the New Buckenham Firework Spectacular and Bonfire on 8th November at the Village Hall – Pete and Dan from the fireworks team are already planning to outdo last year's spectacular display! As always we will have burgers, hot dogs, delicious soups, hot punch, hot drinks and of course the beer tent. Also this year we will be providing hot drinks as well.

Parking: Parking is always at a premium on Fireworks night and we appreciate that some inconvenience is caused for the few hours during the event and we thank those affected for their patience. We would urge people coming into the village to car share wherever possible and park considerately. Depending on the ground conditions we may be able to utilise the cricket ground car park. Parking at the Village Hall is strictly limited to disabled visitors only.

Helpers: If you would like to get involved in helping in the evening, i.e. bar/BBQ/soups or setting up during the day contact me as below or just turn up. A grateful and warm welcome will be extended to anyone who can lend a hand! Also, on Sunday morning we will need help with the final clear up at the site.

Food: The soups always go down very well and we are very grateful to the generous villagers who kindly provide them – I will be contacting the regulars shortly but if anyone else can make a pan full then please let me know. Donations of red wine for the punch always very welcome please bring to Conifers, Marsh Lane, or contact me.

Bonfire: The bonfire will be on the amphitheatre side of the playing field and we will be building it on the morning of the event. We have to be very mindful of the regulations covering bonfires regarding pollution as enforced by the relevant environmental agencies and as such we are not able to accept anything apart from clean wood – we will have no choice to refuse unsuitable material so please do not be offended. The site is monitored so do not leave anything in advance!

Jon Halfacree (on behalf of the Cricket Club)

01953 860064 / jonhalfacree@btinternet.com

Rapunzel, Rapunzel! Let down your hair!

Join us this December on a magical, family friendly adventure to... the pub!?

New Buckenham Players presents Rapunzel by Ben Crocker. A fun filled pantomime for all ages, that takes the fairytale we all know and love, then spins it sideways and takes us off the rails!

Performances are on the 4th/5th/6th of December at 7.30pm, with a matinee on the 6th at 2pm. The village hall doors open at 7pm and the bar will be serving refreshments.

Tickets are £10/£8 Conc/£5 for under 12s at the matinee and only available from TicketSource, where you'll be able to reserve your seats - so book early to ensure the best spot!

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/new-buckenham-players>

Ellie Hupton

New Buckenham Players

Good Companions

The meeting held on 16th October was attended by 18 members. We were supposed to be having a talk on fire safety in the home from the Norfolk Fire and Rescue Team, but due to unforeseen circumstances the lecturer was unable to attend. This talk has been rearranged for early 2026. Tea was served by the committee.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 20th November at 2:30pm in the Village Hall. All new members will be made very welcome. For more information please contact me on 01953 860467 or Diana Cole on 01953 860636.

Christine Wilby

The Future of Our Village Fete

We had another wonderfully successful Village Fete this year. We raised over £6,500, all of which has been distributed to organisations within the village.

We are extremely lucky to have such a long-standing tradition and an event that attracts visitors from neighbouring villages and beyond. It is the scale of the fete that allows us to generate such an impressive income for our community when compared with villages of a similar size.

The fete's success is entirely thanks to the hard work of so many volunteers, and we are hugely grateful for everyone's time and effort. However, without new volunteers coming forward, the future of the fete in its current form is uncertain. We have a great team who help with setup, takedown, and running stalls on the day – but we now need people to join the committee and help with some of the planning and organisation that happens quietly behind the scenes.

This isn't a huge commitment as the committee only meets three or four times a year, but it's vital to ensure continuity and to allow those who've helped for so many years to take a well-earned step back.

As examples, many of you will have read Janet Webb's message in the last Parish News announcing her retirement from running the White Elephant Stall. Similarly, Louise Casson also recently stepped back from running refreshments after many valuable years. Both have helped raise thousands of pounds for the village and our thanks go to both of them.

It would be a real loss to see these important elements of the fete end – without new hands to help, this could happen.

The same applies to several other much-loved stalls and activities.

If you think you might be able to help, even in a small way, please get in touch to keep this wonderful event alive. Please contact me on 07534 353713 or email at jon.frith@frith-blake.co.uk.

Jon Frith

On behalf of the Fete Committee

A Huge Thank You to Janet Webb

The Fete Committee and everyone in the village would like to extend our thanks to Janet Webb for her many years of dedication running the White Elephant Stall at our annual Village Fete.

Over the many years of service, Janet, Audrey and their many helpers have raised many thousands of pounds to support the village. What few people see is the incredible amount of behind-the-scenes effort that goes into sorting, pricing, transporting, pre-selling and displaying the endless stream of donated treasures that make the stall such a highlight of the day.

Janet's energy and tireless commitment have made the White Elephant Stall one of the most popular parts of the fete year after year. Her contribution has played a major role in making our fete the great success it is today.

On behalf of the whole village, thank you, Janet, for everything you've done.

You'll be greatly missed, and we are deeply grateful for all the time, care, and community spirit you have given over so many years.

The Village Fete Committee

Calling all villagers/families!

We are having a clean-up event at the garden at the Village Hall, on Saturday 29th November at 10am. We will be weeding, cutting back the lavender and having a tidy up.

We would love you to come along and help.

There will be refreshments. Please bring tools and wheel barrows.

Everyone is welcome. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you!

Mandy Hartley

RNR 260 Cuffer Lane (Roadside Nature Reserve) UPDATE

OK. It's actually a depressing DOWN date.

I have been contacted by the Greenspaces Team Chief of Staff, the splendidly committed, Dr Jacqueline Zavala. She was hugely apologetic but had to report that the extension of the nature reserve from the few hundred yards at the Old Buckenham end of Cuffer Lane, cannot go any further into New Buckenham.

You are going to be asking, "WHY?"

After all, interested parties in New Buckenham had collected lists of hundreds (I kid you not) of species of flowers, plants, grasses, trees, birds, insects, reptiles, mammals etc. along with official evidence of rare bats and Turtle Doves, all recorded on Cuffer Lane. How could it not become a designated zone?

The hedge and verge cutting would occur only once a year, in September. All the cuttings would be removed and taken away. Nature would have a chance to expand, mature, improve. Why would that not happen along the whole length of Cuffer Lane?

The answer is simple – it is RNR! **R**eserves **N**eed **R**esources and that is **R**eally **N**o **R**evelation. Yup! You guessed it. There's NO MONEY!

Norfolk County Council's Green Spaces Team is closing down the entire project. Those already designated will remain. But, at least for the time being, there will be no new ones. They cannot even find enough loot to get an ecologist to verify what we've submitted. The project team has been reduced to only TWO people.

The scheme started in the 1990s. Since 2022 NCC increased the RNR numbers from 111 to 300, equalling 100km of verge, covering approximately the area of 57 football pitches.

Dr Zavala was keen for us to know that the information provided will be retained in readiness for the day when more money is found.

So, perhaps we should be more optimistic...

Cuffer Lane is an RNR i.e. **R**eally **N**early a **R**eserve!

But, it's also true that **R**iches are **N**eeded for **R**ejuvenation.

And the Council **R**ecognises and won't **N**eglect the **R**oad.

Ironic, isn't it, that Old Buck and New Buck both need Big Bucks!!

Janet Trewin

New Buckenham Junior Football Club

Grateful thanks from everyone at the Club for a donation of £750 from the Fundraisers from the profits from this year's well attended and very enjoyable Village Fete. I have mentioned previously how the Club has expanded in recent months and, with continued success, come extra expenses. We are looking to purchase some new nets and some Respect signs and lines which we have to have as part of the FA's Respect campaign promoting safety and respect at all games. We are also planning to purchase two new, easy to carry traffic signs to remind people to drive slowly and carefully to and from matches and training sessions.

We know that there is a lot of work done by the Fundraisers in the months, weeks and days before the Fete as well as on the day itself and we very much appreciate this. Thank you again for this very generous donation.

Karen Hobley

New Buckenham Junior Football Club

New Buckenham Parish Council

Councillors met this month with our local police officer (PC Dion Phillips) and local Highway Engineer (Luke Denney) to pick up the traffic and parking matters raised by parishioners during the August meeting. We had a useful discussion exploring options and how to move ideas forward. It was apparent that there are limitations as to what can be done and to a large extent issues such as parking come down to drivers being considerate of others and parking sensibly. There was no support for any extension of double yellow lines as visits by traffic wardens would be rare and so any parking restrictions would not be enforced. The Council has agreed to go ahead with upgrading the current flashing speed sign at the entrance to the village, and to install a 'Children's Play Area' sign. We will also investigate whether it is possible to install speed tables on some of the roads in the village.

We have had reports of an increase in dog fouling around the village, including on the cricket pitch area and in the cemetery. As a dog walker myself I regularly see dog poo left on the footpaths and green spaces around the village. I am sure that the majority of dog walkers are very conscientious and always clear up after their dog, and that there are just a few who leave a mess. It is extremely unpleasant for people walking and enjoying the village and surrounding area, and particularly for anyone cutting the grass. So if you have a dog please be considerate of other users and clear up after your dog – it really is not difficult.

The next Parish Council meeting is at 7:30pm on Tuesday 11th November at the village hall. Everyone is welcome and to raise any issues concerning the village.

Andrew Bingham

Chair – New Buckenham Parish Council

Summary of draft Minutes October 2025

Present: Andrew Bingham (AB), Paul Martin (PM), Karen Hobley (KH), Mary Dowson (MD), Mary Manning (MM), Don Crossman (DC), Steve Highton (SH), Steve Askew (SA) District/County Cllr, Angela Thornton (AT) Clerk and 1 member of the public.

1. Minutes of the August meeting approved.

2. Matters arising

a) Update of the meeting with Highways, Police and District Cllr regarding highways issues.

Discussion of the issues raised and possible solutions at the meeting in August resulted in the agreement of the Parish Partnership to support improvements to traffic issues.

NBPC will be applying for:

- i. A Playground warning sign on the Norwich road.
- ii. A mobile SAM 2 or 3 that highlights actual speed and collects data to be passed to the police and may be used in any further applications for traffic calming measures.
- iii. Possible extension of the H bar markings outside St Mary's.
- iv. NBPC in conjunction with the police may place notices on cars to request more considerate parking.
- v. NBPC in conjunction with the police request obstructions to footpaths be removed.
- vi. Consider traffic surveys to gather data to justify speed tables if agreed by Highways.

b) The village map on the noticeboard is to be reprinted – ongoing.

Continued overleaf..

3. **Public Participation**

A member of the public suggested rewording of the Minutes of the August meeting as follows:

“Consider housing proposals including land for village car park “ to become, possibility of a donation of land for a community housing scheme or a car park.

“ Village infrastructure includes” to become, over development of village without parking provision – dwellings built without off road parking.

AB explained that the Minutes could not be amended as they had already been approved but would be recorded by including the comments in this meeting.

The member of the public said proposals had previously been submitted to the PC for a parking area as part of a Community Trust Land Scheme and requested PC to discuss.

AB suggested a letter with specific proposals would be needed to enable the PC to discuss at a future meeting.

4. **District/ County Councillor Report**

Local Government Review: Districts have submitted their preferred models ranging from 1, 2 or 3 unitary options. Public consultations will take place with government ministers making a decision in Spring 2026.

Devolution: Election of a Mayor in Spring 2026 and a ‘shadow authority’ will operate until 2028 when the new approved structure will commence.

5. **Parish Cllr Reports**

a) KH suggested that Chair should write an article in Parish News highlighting the issue of dog fouling in the village.

b) SH reported a villager had raised again the issue of taxis being left in the Play Park area car park. MM reported that only 2 are parked during the day and only in term time. This will continue to be monitored.

6. Financial Matters

- a) September Bank Reconciliation approved.
- b) Payments for October 2025 approved.

7. Planning

a) Inn on the Green has lodged an appeal following refusal of planning application.

AB will resubmit our comments.

b) Wymondham Road bungalow demolition and replacement dwelling with garage.

PC generally in support of replacement with one dwelling, but would like more

information

as to how the replacement building and landscaping would fit in with its surroundings.

8. Amenities

a) Grounds Maintenance: draft tender circulated. Suggested changes to Clerk for approval at November meeting.

b) Closed Churchyard: quote for work on lime tree near gate and trees overhanging Colebrooke House approved.

c) Cemetery: 'Dogs on Lead' sign to be purchased and displayed.

d) Allotments: annual invoicing to take place in October.

e) Play Area: annual inspection is overdue.

f) Defibrillator: KH to check if all 999 calls register the device unavailable – ongoing.

g) Footpaths: bridge over footpath still closed.

h) Community Car Scheme: reported a drop in journeys reflected in mileage claim.

Continues overleaf...

8. Correspondence

- a) Resident requested a poppy wreath be purchased. Agreed a wreath for £25.00 and donation of £25.00 instead of previously agreed £50.00 donation. Chair to lay the wreath at Remembrance Service.
- b) Flood Resilience Fund requirement not applicable to New Buckenham..

Mary Dowson for NBPC

**WINTER WARMER
CAFE
EVERY WEDNESDAY**

**STARTS OCTOBER 28TH,
1.30PM TO 3.30PM
NEW BUCKENHAM VILLAGE HALL**

Updates from the Gardening Group

While the lazy, hazy days of summer seem far away, the Gardening Group (Jimpy Casson, Lynn Carter, Ian Ludbrook and Karen Hobley) has already started planning for our two events in 2026 – Open Gardens on 28th June and the Village Show on 18th July, dates to put in your brand new 2026 diary.

We have made a start on the 2026 Village Show Schedule and will be coming out of hibernation in January to complete it. However, we have firmed up our classes for Handicrafts and Photography in order that you can begin working on them during the dark days of winter!

Handicrafts:

- From the Shed – a home for wildlife, any medium, on a base no larger than 35cms by 25cms
- A hand-knitted or crocheted item
- A hand-painted ceramic item
- A hand-made book mark
- An item of patchwork

Photography:

- Reflections
- Fancy dress / Fashion
- Open Gardens event
- My pride and joy
- Seasons
- Extreme Parish News Reading (in an unusual place or situation).

In future issues of Parish News, we are going to be making suggestions for planning your hanging baskets. We will also be delivering flyers about the Hanging Baskets and Fill your Boots classes. Please look out for this information and, nearer the time, the inevitable pleas for help with both events as we are a committee of only four people.

Many thanks.

Karen Hobley

News from the Pews

coffeemates!: We were on the cusp of being rather chilly at our last coffee morning this year, which may explain the additional cups of coffee and tea sold! The morning was in aid of the agricultural mental health charity YANA and the splendid sum of £255 (including Gift Aid) has been sent to the charity.

Thank you to everyone who comes to support our efforts. We look to help lesser known charities and those that are close to the hearts of many of us in the community. Through your love of cake, coffee and chat you have raised the remarkable total of £1,630 for seven charities! That is a fantastic sum, so from us all – a sincere and very big thank you.

A HUGE thank you, too, to Janet Trewin, who comes each month with her impressive and delicious array of preserves (according to Jimpy, her marmalade is the best he has ever had!). If you haven't bought any from Janet, we would urge you to (although perhaps not the marmalade, please...)!

More heartfelt thanks: We should like to thank the Fundraisers for their generosity in donating funds following the Fete. We know that many villagers work very hard for the Fete, but it wouldn't happen without the Fundraisers' organisation.

We should also like to thank Tony Lister for the donations we have received over the years from his cardboard collections, and to Clive for storing them. I suspect that Tony and Clive might possibly be relieved not to have to deal with the cardboard, but when we are being implored to recycle, it is somewhat sad that there is no longer a market for our efforts.

Remembrance Service: There will be a short service and wreath laying on Sunday 9th November to which all are invited. It has been the custom in the village for many years that a flag is flown to mark specific occasions, such as Remembrance Sunday (and also, for instance, St George's Day and the King's birthday). There is no political motive in doing so, but simply continuing a tradition started decades ago.

Save the dates: Apparently there aren't many weeks left to the C-word, so you might like to make a note now of dates for services over the period. We start with a traditional Carol Service on Sunday 14th December at 3pm. There will be more carols to sing this year, followed by refreshments. On the 24th we will celebrate Midnight Mass at 11:30pm and join us on Christmas Day at 11am for a family-friendly service.

When you do come to any of the services, you will find it much more comfortable! The new pew cushions will be delivered and installed in time for the beginning of November – we are very excited!

Children's Play Area: We are giving the area a bit of a spring clean on 31st October so it will be out of action that day, but ready for action again on the 1st. We're pleased that several families visit and don't forget that the children's books are all free! All we ask is that the area is tidied up, please, after you've played.

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

Service details for November are on the next page. For any other queries do contact me.

Louise Casson (Churchwarden)
01953 860191

St Martin's Services: November 2025

Sun 2nd	10am	Benefice Service at All Saints, Old Buckenham	21st Sunday after Trinity
Sun 9th	10:45am	Remembrance Service	22nd Sunday after Trinity
Sun 9th	4:30pm	Evensong	22nd Sunday after Trinity
Sun 16th	11am	Morning Prayer	23rd Sunday after Trinity
Sun 23rd	11am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
Sun 30th	11am	Benefice Service at St Mary's, Kenninghall	1st Sunday of Advent

For more information about services, contact:

Priest in Charge: Revd Sarah Walsh (01953 571549)

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200 Club Lucky Winners

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

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£10

Gary Buckle, Karen Bird, Sally Thompson, Pippa Ballard, Sue Britton, Lindsey Hodges, Gerry Walsh

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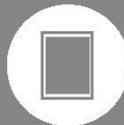
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New Buckenham Parish Council

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cllr.andrew.bingham@newbuckenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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

Councillors: Don Crossman (01953 861246)

Mary Dowson (01953 860320)

Steve Highton (01953 860000)

Karen Hobley (01953 860529)

Mary Manning (01953 861242)

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

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

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Dates For Your Diary

November 2025	
Sat 8th	Village Fireworks Display, Village Hall, gates open 5:30pm, bonfire lit 6pm
Sun 9th	Remembrance Service, St Martin's, 10:45am
Tue 11th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Thurs 20th	Good Companions, Village Hall, 2:30pm
Wed 26th	Winter Warmer Café, Village Hall, 1:30pm
Sat 29th	Children's garden clean-up, Village Hall, 10am

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

Contributions for the December 2025 / January 2026 issue of *New Buckenham Parish News* should be submitted by 6pm on Friday 21st November to Richard Hoggett, 9 Church Street (860136), Katie Wyatt-Hupton, Orchard Cottage, Marsh Lane or by email to editor@newbucknews.co.uk.

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