

Padworth Newsletter

No. 196

October 2025

Free

First of all, may we wish our departing Parish Clerk, **Alice Owen**, all the best for the future and in her stead welcome **Ellie Brewer**. The more observant of you will notice that Ellie is also Clerk to the Trustees of **The Aldermaston Charity** who are inviting applications to fill a vacant Almshouse in Aldermaston Wharf – see below.

Calling all potential Newsletter editors!

We have now been doing the **Newsletter** for nearly 18 years and feel it is time for someone else to take over the reins, who will bring new and fresh ideas. We have therefore decided that **Issue no. 200**, which will be the March 2026 one, will be our last. So is there anyone (or two or three) out there who would like to take over? It doesn't take up too much time each month and is great fun to do. Ideally, it would be good to have a handover period, but if you're raring to go, we won't stand in your way! If you are interested, please give us a call (numbers on page 12 under Newsletter).

Mary & Sheila

Deadline for next issue: 25 October 2025

Dates for your DIARY

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Wednesday 1 October | Ladies at Lunch (p2) |
| • Saturday 4 October | Jumble Sale (p3); |
| • Saturday 4/Sunday 5 October | Great Soil Give-away (p8) |
| • Sunday 5 October | Harvest Tea, St John the Baptist Church, Padworth (p11) |
| • Monday 6 October | Beenham PC (p7) |
| • Tuesday 14 October | Aldermaston PC (p5) |
| • Saturday 18 October | Cantemus Concert (p6) |
| • Sat 25 Oct - Sat 1 November | Mortimer Scarecrow Trail (p9) |
| • 25-29 October | Pumpkin Picking (p14) |
| • Saturday 1 November | Jumble Sale (p3) |
| • Monday 3 November | Padworth PC (p2) |

THE ALDERMASTON CHARITY

A vacancy has occurred for **an Almshouse** at Aldermaston Wharf

Accommodation

Two-bedroom unfurnished end of terrace house, with gas central heating. Living room, kitchen/diner, bathroom with shower. Garden. Parking space for one car. Suitable for a single person or a couple.

Criteria

Our charity statement for the Aldermaston Almshouses is

'For needy persons resident in the Parish of Aldermaston or for such needy people who, in the opinion of the trustees, have strong connections with the Parish of Aldermaston'.

We invite applications from people

- on a **low income**
- **resident** in the parish of Aldermaston or who have a **connection** with the parish, past or present

For further information contact

Contact **Mrs Ellie Brewer**, Clerk to the Trustees, for details in confidence and an application form.

07877 122 127 ♦ elliedawkins@hotmail.co.uk ♦ Juniper House, Fishermans Lane, Aldermaston, RG7 4LJ

Closing date for applications: **1 November 2025**

Padworth Newsletter is available online at <https://www.padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/newsletter>

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Padworth Parish Council – Notes of Meeting – 1 September 2025

District Councillor's Report

- West Berkshire **Members' Bid** process is currently underway. Members can make applications to the DC for funding up to £5000 (deadline: 13 October).
- The **Police and Crime Commissioner** has also put forward funds to which parishes can apply for funding for programmes such as CCTV camera installation (deadline: 22 September).
- Cllr Jones enquired about the allocation of **asylum seeker hotels** in the district. The Home Office allocates the locations centrally. At present there are no asylum seekers in hotels in West Berks. There is also a national scheme to take care of unaccompanied young asylum seekers. West Berks had a post-16 service to enable individuals to attend college and integrate with the community.
- **Four Houses Corner** – there is no current update about the opening of the site. Councillors do have concerns about increased traffic on the roads in the area around the site.
- **Electric Charging Points** Provision – there appears to be an absence of EV charging points outside of Newbury.

Village Hall Matters

- The biker group which uses the facility have paid for storage to be installed at the Village Hall to provide extra storage for their group
- There is new signage on the road sign with updated contact details
- The loos need to be updated; the quotes were higher than expected. The Parish Clerk will liaise with District Cllr to apply for funding through the Members' Bid.

Planning Matters

- 25/00825/PASOL - Exolum PSD Padworth Highwood, Rectory Road. Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed installation of a 93.28 kWp Solar Photovoltaics array to the existing roofs on two storage warehouses – **No Objections**
- 25/00933/FUL Norbrek, Bath Road, Padworth RG7 5HR - Proposed 4 terraced houses with ancillary parking and amenity space following demolition of existing bungalow and outbuildings. - **PC Objected**
- 25/00541/HOUSE - Old Rectory Farm, Rectory Road, Padworth Common RG7 4JD. Replacement of a conservatory with a new single storey extension with rooflights. - **No Objections**

- 25/01664/HOUSE - 44 Fallows Road, Padworth RG7 4GX Flat roof front and side extension to the property in-between the main house and the existing detached garage. - **No Objections**

Decisions from West Berks

- 24/02625/HOUSE – Red Cottage, Mill Lane RG7 4JU - Ground floor extension, new pitched porch, loft conversion, new dormers, internal alterations. Externally red brick to match existing, horizontal timber slats for flat roof dormers, to match existing, and areas of white render. - **Refused**
- 25/01464/HOUSE – The Old Post Office, Reading Road, Padworth Common RG7 4QG. 2-storey side and rear extension. - **Approved**

Horse Walk

Cllr Miller reported that with the help of Cllr Robinson and family the horse walk had been cleared. He urged locals to use the path.

Churchyard

Cllr Miller met with a contractor to quote for clearance of the hedge at the boundary between the churchyard and the livery. The owners of the livery yard are happy for the work to go ahead. The quote is for approx. £300. Some work, however, needs to be done by hand. Cllr Miller is in contact with the churchyard contractor to obtain a quote for this work.

Footpath at Padworth Park Farm

Elaine Cox from WBC has been to assess the water run off onto the road. Progress is slow. However Cllr Miller is continuing to press WBC to clear the culvert to avoid flooding in the autumn/winter.

Hedge Cutting Rectory Road & Padworth Lane

Mike Warner has kindly worked to obtain contact details of residents along the road to contact regarding hedge cutting.

Steiner School Mill House

The school has been sold to a developer hoping to convert to Air B&B properties.

Next Meeting

- **Monday 3 November** – 7pm in the Village Hall

All parishioners welcome.

Alice Owen
Parish Clerk

◆ ◆ Padworth Parish Website ◆ ◆

www.padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

All correspondence should be addressed to the Parish Clerk: clerk@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Ladies at Lunch

Our July Ladies at Lunch raised £107 which we donated to See Ability, Heather House in Tadley.

Our next lunch will be on

- **Wednesday 1 October** at 12.30pm at Sheila Jay's house

Sheila's address is Midway, Bath Road, Padworth. Please contact her on 0118 971 3367 if you wish to attend.

If you have any questions, please let me know. My email is caroline.givan@gmail.com or 07808 400843

Caroline Givan

Rambles from the Common

Serenaded by the traffic on the Reading Road, the Padworth Common Volunteer Group assembled in early September to enjoy or endure a day of bracken, heather, wildlife, weather and, finally, eggs.

Bracken is a vigorous plant that shades out and chokes smaller plants whether it's living and green or brown, dead and decomposed into a suffocating mulch. A decade or so of bracken control by cutting or other means has weakened its vigour on the Common, so it is now sparsely scattered over much of the heathland and the volunteer team wandered around carefully pulling it up by hand before piling it up in the woodland fringe.

Actually, "wandering" is the wrong word since we mostly waded through waist-high swathes of **heather**, pulling up a few bracken stalks before moving on to the next clump. A few specimens of **cross-leaved heath** were found growing in shaded mossy spots by the woodland edge; cross-leaved heath is a small type of heather less than a foot high and is easily overlooked. The rest of the heather was **ling**, or *Calluna vulgaris*, a taller plant that is



Like all good citizens we talked about the **weather**, firstly because a brief shower sent us scuttling back to base camp to grab waterproofs and an early lunch, and secondly because the after-effects of the rainless summer were clearly visible. Whilst most of the larger **birches** on the Common are hale and hearty, a few are sporting dried brown leaves; whether the trees have died or have simply reacted to the summer's heat by shutting down early remains to be seen. The leaves on the tree in the photo were definitely brown when I took it, even if it's difficult to tell, but don't look for it in Padworth because it's an unusual multi-trunked birch on Tadley Common, where the birches have also suffered.

As our workday drew to a close and dark clouds crept in from the west, we puzzled over six or so **eggs**, or rather eggshells, that we found in the heather. They were bigger than pigeon eggs but smaller than a hen's, slightly off-white or brown in colour and not mottled or camouflaged like those of ground-nesting birds, and all appeared to have been smashed inwards rather than cracked from the inside as the chick emerged. "Maybe", we mused, "crows or ravens stole them from a nest somewhere and had a feast on the Common". And then it rained, so we went home, and the origin of the eggshells in the heather is yet to be explained. Or should that be eggspained? Maybe, or definitely, it's time for me to sign off.

*Peter Elliott
Padworth Common Volunteer Group*

JUMBLE SALES

Once again a fabulous result from the September Jumble Sale - **£618.62** for Padworth Village Hall. Thank you all for your support in raising such a fantastic amount.



The next Jumble Sales in the Village Hall will be on:

- **Saturday 4 October** - at 2pm in aid of St. John the Baptist, Padworth
- **Saturday 1 November** - at 2pm in aid of Save the Children, local branch.
- **Saturday 6 December** – at 2pm in aid of Padworth Village Hall

We are always grateful for your unwanted donations which can be brought to the Hall on the morning of the Sale between **9.30am and 11.30am**.

PLEASE DO NOT "DROP OFF" DONATIONS AT THE HALL ON ANY OTHER DAYS. THEY WILL BE BINNED.

Jumble can be collected by ringing Hazel Ewart on 0118 971 3417 or 07876 073385 to arrange collection, or can be delivered to me by ringing one of the above numbers to arrange a time.

Hazel Ewart

Please check the Padworth Village Hall Facebook page for Jumble Sale updates.

The **Village Hall** website: www.padworthvillagehall.co.uk

Bookings: **Jacky Jones:**

info@padworthvillagehall.co.uk

'PADWORTH PAST'



I recently received copy of the attached document and have subsequently had some very interesting communications with the Rev. James Campbell in East Sussex, who is a nephew of Major David Campbell. Major Campbell served in the Berkshire Yeomanry during WW2. He stayed on in the Territorials and rose to the rank of Lt. Col. This document is obviously self-explanatory but shows that Padworth was a community that very much appreciated its residents' contribution to the War efforts and wanted to support returning servicemen.

The Rev. James Campbell's grandfather (Lt. Col. the Hon. Ralph Campbell) served in the Boer War with the Cameron Highlanders. He bought **The Manor House** on Padworth Common in 1930, together with **Pond Cottage**, having previously managed the Stockdale Estate in Pembrokeshire on behalf of his nephew, Lord Cawdor. He died in 1945 but his wife, Marjorie, remained at the Manor House with Rosemary, her daughter. Rosemary moved to Pond Cottage in 1984 when Marjorie died and the Manor House was sold.

Another of Ralph's children was Angus who was the father of the Rev. James Campbell (mentioned above) and he served in the Surrey Yeomanry in WW2, eventually becoming a Major, and died in 2011. His wife, confusingly, was also named Rosemary and they lived nearby at Wasing. Although living at Wasing, Rosemary was a very keen member of the Padworth WI for many years.

The Campbell family lived in Padworth for 80 years and were great supporters of St. John the Baptist's Church at Padworth. The family has ashes interred in the churchyard.

* * * * *

with Ufton but then it became restricted to the ecclesiastical Parish of Ufton which did include a few houses in Padworth, namely in Silver Lane and opposite the old Round Oak Pub on Padworth Common. It does appear, however, that certainly by 1906 Padworth had been excluded. The charity is now being financed by the Benyon family of Englefield, having purchased the Ufton Estate, as Lady Elizabeth's Will was rather complicated in this respect.

Delia Potter

I
f YOU have any interesting little bits of information about Padworth in the past, I would be more than happy to look further into them for you. Hopefully then, we may be able to share them with the rest of our readers. Please let Sheila or Mary know, who will forward your details to me. Thank you.

The poorer residents of Padworth used to be supported by a very old charity.

In the second half of the 16th century Dame Elizabeth Marvyn owned **Ufton Court** and when she died in 1581 she requested a charity be established for the poor of Ufton Nerve and the adjoining village of Padworth. It is said that she did this because she had been well looked after by parishioners when she had become lost in the local woods. The poor originally received wheat, canvas and cloth but over the years the gifts became bread and towels. Currently it is purely two loaves of bread but to include two towels every 5 years for regular attenders. It was, and still is, traditional for these to be collected from a window above the Terrace at Ufton Court each Maundy Thursday. In the early 19th century Padworth was still included on an equal basis

Aldermaston CE Primary School

The new term is underway, and everyone has settled in well to their new classes, whether into Reception class or to a new year group. The staff were delighted to see how eager the pupils were as they came back in after the summer holidays – keen and enthusiastic to learn.

Our new Headteacher, **Miss Mosher**, is enjoying getting to know the children, parents and members of the wider community as she experiences her first few weeks with us and, along with the whole staff, has lots of exciting plans for the school to ensure that every child thrives – emotionally, socially and academically.

We will have the usual mix of **clubs** running as well as **trips** out and visitors into school. In addition, we are pleased to welcome back a group of **volunteer readers** from our local community who give up their time to come and hear children read, to support the staff in school with the children's literacy skills.

Our **PTA** is busy planning some exciting fundraising events and details will be shared when the plans are finalised.

Cathy Jones, Foundation Governor

Aldermaston Parish Council – Notes of Meeting – 9 September 2025

At this meeting, with no Chair or Vice Chair present, Mr Tilsley kindly agreed to step in and chair proceedings.

Planning

Three new applications were reviewed:

- Tree works at Aldermaston Lock – No comment
- Tree works at Church Lodge – No comment
- Approval of details for Burnt Pine on Reading Road – No comment.

West Berks decisions

Works at The Red House and electricity line replacements south of Soke Road - both raised no objection.

Representatives from APC have been invited to meet with West Berks officers in October regarding the Woodstock appeal decision.

Highways and Footpaths

- Following the accident outside the school, the PC agreed to press WBC further on repainting the zig-zag markings and exploring the possibility of a raised table. Evidence from residents supporting traffic calming will also be shared.
- Bus stop improvements around the village were noted and welcomed
- Councillors agreed to check the local salt bins ahead of winter
- Concerns were raised over fading paint at the mini-roundabout near the Hinds Head, and several damaged road signs along the A340. These matters will all be taken forward with WBC.
- The damaged fencing by the Jail House on the Recreation Ground will also be inspected with a view to repair.

Parish Environment

A new Tree Protection Order at Church Lodge was noted, and Mr. Shephard-Price will shortly carry out some remedial work at the playground, with an inspection to follow.

Vacancy on the PC

No election has been called to fill the current vacancy, so this will shortly be advertised locally.

Email changes

We agreed to proceed with moving to a .gov email domain through Digital House, along with colour changes to ensure website accessibility compliance.

Other Matters

- the Clerk advised on improved **defibrillator** signage for Aldermaston Hall
- DC Boeck highlighted a £200k PCC **community fund** for crime prevention
- Dave Shirt asked if **member bid funding** might support restoration of the Tithe Map cared for by Aldermaston History Group, which was agreed
- Aldermaston Parish Hall will again host a **Winter Fair** in November

Next meeting

- **Tuesday 14 October** - at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall

As always, parishioners are very welcome to attend.

For full information on Parish Council matters, please visit our website at www.aldermaston.co.uk

ALDERMASTON COFFEE CLUB

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month any time from
10.00am – 11.30am



Join us in the café at **Hilliers**

Drop by for a chat, a chance to meet old friends and make new ones

Everyone is welcome – just come along

For further details contact Cynthia Newman
cmnewman2021@outlook.com 0118 9713 525

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WHATEVER THE WEATHER!



What a change in the **weather**. Not just the so welcome rain but the temperature. This morning on my 6.00am walk around I was very surprised to see a light frost on the lawns. The thermometer said 3 degrees and it's only September. It seems the normal sequence of seasons are now merging into one another. I await the next few months with an open mind.

I have been clearing large amounts of dead **moss**, especially from the rockery. The very hot dry spell we had has killed almost all of it but it will come back, that's a definite. The lawn moss is also dead as is so much grass. I hired a scarifier and spent three hours going over the side lawn which was the worst affected. I ended up with 47 heaps of dead moss and grass, and the annoying thing is you can hardly see any difference; there is still so much there. I am not going to do anything more for now. I have scattered grass seed and will see what happens. The other two lawns are much greener and I actually got the mower out last week. I had to put the charger on as the battery was flat which shows how long it has been since I started it. Green mown grass is such a joy in the garden and sets the whole thing up. Another sign of the past months weather is the amount of conifer needles that are falling onto the drive. I have never seen so many, and after clearing them all, the next day there are as many covering the drive again.

I have been **dead wooding** the **rhododendrons** as sadly there are a lot of dead branches. They are looking a bit open but hopefully new growth will fill the gaps. I have had a blitz on the small self-sown saplings of **oak**, **field maple** and **sycamores** that are everywhere. The conkers that the squirrels have buried are also shooting up.

I am pleased to report that the **Sea Squill** is now flowering well. It's taken three years but the eight inch flower spike is looking beautiful. The **Amarine** is also a beauty, a cross between Nerine and Amaryllis. They do well in the greenhouse. Have you noticed how many **berries** there are this year, especially the **berberis** and the **cotoneaster**? A very good supply for the birds this winter.

I have a small greenhouse which I use as my **cactus house**. Last month I noticed small holes appearing in some of the

less spiky cacti. Initial investigation revealed nothing, so I went down at night with a torch and found a snail actually crawling on a cactus. How it does this on the spikes is a mystery to me. I checked over several nights and have now removed 8 snails and 4 slugs. How they get in defeats me.

Wildflowers that scattered their seed around are germinating after the rain. I especially like the giant **verbascums**. They produce large grey rosettes, about 18 inches wide this year, and then tall flower spikes next year. They are biannual and the flowers are nice at first but as they start to die at the bottom while flowering at the top of the spike they don't look so good. They can be attacked by the **mullien moth caterpillars** which are beautiful but do a lot of damage. Some of the **spring bulbs** are already showing leaves, especially the **three-cornered leeks** which is very early. The **colchicums**, wrongly called autumn crocus, are up and such a joy to see. I have both the pink and white ones. The **Liquidambar** tree is already in full autumn colour as is the **euonymus alatus**, a month early.

The feeders are having to be filled twice a day as there are so many birds. Not so welcome, looking for food, is the **heron**, now a daily very early visitor. He arrives in the dark so uses his special eyes which can alter depending on the light. Two days ago on my walk around I heard squawking in the oak tree and looked up to see three; they had to be told to go. Still have two **rabbits** that can resist the lovely carrots in the live trap, perhaps they will be tempted in the winter.

Time for the Groans, so loved by the editors:

- Did you hear about the chef who died? He pasta way
- My grandfather survived pepper spray and mustard gas during the war. He came home a seasoned veteran
- I got arrested for stealing a kitchen utensil. It was a whisk I was prepared to take.
- What did the bald man say when he got a comb for Christmas? "I'll never part with this."

Keep gardening!

Mike Warner

CANTEMUS
CHOIR

Conductor: Mary Westley
Accompanist: Ian Westley

sings

FIVE DAYS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD
by Bob Chilcott

REQUIEM
by John Rutter

7.30 pm
Saturday 18th October 2025
St Joseph's Church,
105 London Road,
Newbury RG14 1JP

Tickets £10 at the door
Interval refreshments
Proceeds to St Joseph's Church

www.facebook.com/cantemusnewbury

Down on the Farm - No repeat of last year, please!

Rather than getting caught out by the weather of last autumn (do you remember? It was wet and more wet!), we have started the **autumn sowing** not earlier but better prepared. Harvest was completed in good time enabling us to do the preparatory land cultivations. The soil is allowed to stand so that weeds and volunteer cereals from the previous crop can germinate. Then we use glyphosate (Roundup) to destroy them and can start with a very clean seedbed. We have had just the right amount of rain to soften the soil, creating an ideal situation for planting. We are now well on with the sowing.

In terms of **rotation**, we sometimes grow one wheat crop after another, usually on the better land but this crop needs to be sown later for disease prevention purposes, approximately the second week of October. Let's hope it doesn't turn wet then!

Last week we took a few days off to travel up to Cheshire, which gave me a chance to look at our lovely autumnal countryside. The immediate change I noticed was the huge areas of stubble fields not cultivated. Normally autumn planting is well underway by now and there is much activity in the fields.-What is happening? I have written before on this subject and I'm genuinely concerned because this is the changing face of the English countryside. I can accept that the poorer less productive land could be put into the new government environmental enhancement schemes, but surely not the best most productive grades of land?

In October we will harvest and store the **fodder beet**. As I predicted earlier, when the rain eventually came the fodder beet started growing again and I think they will yield well. I will let you know.

From Our Agricultural Correspondent

Beenham Parish Council – Notes of Meeting – 1 September 2025

Public Forum

- *Harvest Lunch* will be held on 5th October
- *Giant vegetable show* will be held on 14th September
- *Vehicles parking on pavements*: PC suggested posting a notice on Facebook to deter

Affordable Housing

2 sites have been identified for the Affordable Housing Initiative. Landowners to be approached to discuss land availability

Playground

Regular inspections to be carried out on playground to ensure any repairs required are made.

Planning

25/01495/FUL: Douai Park Recreational Ground, Upper Woolhampton: No objection, but noise level plan required
25/01497/HOUSE: 5 Back Lane, Beenham: Application granted, no comments

Other Matters

- *Keys to new doors* in Community Room have been distributed
- *Local plan review*: Final version is available online
- *SID and highways* issues for Beenham PC are now being overseen by parishioner Michael Beakhouse

Next meeting

- **Monday 6 October** – 7pm in the Community Room

All parishioners welcome.

All correspondence to the PC should be addressed to the Parish Clerk, Lauren West: 07919 916125/clerk@beenham-pc.gov.uk
Parish Council website: www.beenham-pc.gov.uk Beenham Community Website: <https://www.beenhamonline.org/>



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Waste and recycling Soil give-away event for a greener West Berkshire

In partnership with Veolia, WBC's environmental partner, we're offering **FREE** locally produced soil conditioner for the seventh time at

- **Padworth Integrated Waste Management Facility** (RG7 4JF) between
- **10am - 4pm on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 October.**



VEOLIA

working in partnership

WestBerkshire

For the giveaway weekend, no appointment is needed - just bring proof of address to confirm you are a West Berkshire resident and your own bags or boxes to easily carry and load the soil conditioner into your car - the soil conditioner will be loose, no direct loading into vehicles for health and safety reasons. Residents can still use the **household waste recycling centre** as normal but must still **book an appointment**.

This is a free event, and some queues are likely during peak times. Please arrive after 10:00am to avoid congestion; we'll restock throughout the day so there's plenty to go around. Please be patient when you arrive as we aim to allow as many people as possible to collect the soil conditioner. Also, let's be fair - we ask residents to take a reasonable amount so everyone can benefit to enjoy this fantastic offer.

Please note there will be vehicle restrictions in place. Vehicles listed as 'prohibited' in the **Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) user guide** will not be allowed to collect the free soil conditioner. No commercial vehicles will be admitted; this is for householders only. Residents must take necessary precautions for carrying the soil conditioner safely to their vehicle. The event organisers accept no liability for any injuries or damage that may be sustained by residents loading their vehicles.



New Volunteer Induction Courses Starting This Autumn



We're delighted to announce that we will be running **two brand new volunteer induction courses** here at Home-Start West Berkshire!

It's been some time since our last volunteer training – in fact, due to low numbers, we haven't been able to run a course since February this year. That's why we're so excited to welcome new people who want to make a difference to local families.

Our volunteers are at the heart of everything we do, and the work we do makes a difference.

Upcoming Course Dates

Monday Course

- 22 September 2025 – 9:30am–12:30pm
- 29 September 2025 – 9:30am–12:30pm
- 6 October 2025 – 9:30am–12:30pm
- 13 October 2025 – 9:30am–12:30pm
- 20 October 2025 – 10:30am–12:30pm

Friday Course

- 26 September 2025 – 9:30am–12:30pm
- 3 October 2025 – 9:30am–12:30pm
- 10 October 2025 – 9:30am–12:30pm
- 17 October 2025 – 9:30am–12:30pm
- 24 October 2025 – 10:30am–12:30pm

If you or someone you know would like to get involved and become a Home-Start volunteer, please keep an eye on our website and social media channels for more details – or get in touch with our team directly to register your interest.

<https://home-startwestberks.org.uk/>



SAT 25 OCT - SUN 02 NOV

MORTIMER'S GONE POTTY!

FAMILY FUN THIS OCTOBER HALF TERM




BURGHFIELD & MORTIMER
VOLUNTEER
Bureau

Drivers Wanted!



If you cannot get to your medical appointments we, at the Burghfield and Mortimer Volunteer Bureau, give our time and use our own private vehicles to get you to **Hospitals, GP Surgeries, Dentists and Opticians** in our area. We take you to your appointment from your home, wait for you and then return you home.

and chatting? Looking for a way to give some of your time to your community? The Burghfield & Mortimer Volunteer Bureau needs **more drivers** and would welcome **any** of your time (daytime Mon-Fri). An allowance of 50p per mile is available to cover motoring expenses.

Have you recently retired? Have a car and enjoy meeting people

Contact us on **0118 983 1814 (Mon-Fri 9:30-11:30am)** or email bureauvolunteer@gmail.com

Art Class with Jonathan Newey
Friday 24th October 9.30-4pm
Autumn Landscape with Acrylic

@ Earley Crescent Resource Centre
 Warbler Drive, Lower Earley RG6 4HB
 (next to police station)

£46 PP

To book contact Jonathan
 email: jnewey210@gmail.com or
 scan QR code



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Website: www.premiergardens.biz

West Berkshire Council – Snippets

Members Bids 2025-26

Once again, WBC invites community groups to come forward with any ideas or plans that will benefit residents and that need funding. This offer is made through the Members Bids scheme, which relies on applications being submitted by groups, supported by their local elected member.

Each member can bid up to **£5k** in each round. This is a great opportunity and if anyone has any proposals they are considering, please let your local District Councillor (in our case Dominic Boeck) know. Applications need to be submitted by **13 October**.



Volunteer with us!

Baughurst Repair Cafe

• baughurstrepaircafe@hotmail.com • www.baughurstrc.uk

We are a Community Action Group entirely run by volunteers.

Every 3rd Sunday of the month (Jan-Nov)
10am - 1pm
(Last admission at 12:30pm)

At Heath End Village Hall
(RG26 5LU)

FREE Repairs, FREE Café
Discretionary donations welcome

Don't Bin it. Repair it!

To book an item for repair, scan the QR code or visit the website from the 1st of the month onwards. Thank you.

Monthly Showcase
Each month we showcase a local company or organisation, who operates in a sustainable way and / or wants to make our community aware of their existence.
Visit our website for more details.

Items we repair:

- Electrical & Electronics
- Bicycles
- Wooden Furniture
- Costume Jewellery
- IT Equipment
- Textiles
- Soft Toys
- General Repairs
- Mechanical Repairs

Plus:

- Kitchen & Garden
- Tool Sharpening
- Tech & Mobile Help-desk
- Tool Donations
- Ultrasonic Cleaning

Around 30 volunteers per event

Scan the QR code to visit the website



Silchester Players Present
A pantomime for all the family

BUN FIGHT AT THE OK CORRAL

OPEN AUDITIONS

Tuesday 30th Sept or Friday 3rd Oct 7:30pm

Silchester Village Hall

NODA
For every stage

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Lightlight Scripts.



SPECTACLE of LIGHT

WELFORD PARK

The **Breathtaking** After-dark Experience is Back!

17 October – 9 November 2025

BOOK EARLY & SAVE!

DOG FRIENDLY

★★★★★
‘...The whole family absolutely loved it...’

Book tickets online WelfordPark.co.uk



CHURCH MATTERS

St John the Baptist, Padworth

Parking on left hand side of Padworth College Drive

Sunday 5 October	Harvest Tea	5.45pm
	Harvest Songs of Praise	6.30pm
Sunday 12 October	Parish Eucharist	9 am
Sunday 19 October	Evensong	6.30pm
Sunday 26 October	Parish Eucharist	9 am



Harvest in the Benefice

Sunday 5 October at St. John's, Padworth: 5.45 pm Tea and Cake followed by 6.30 pm Harvest Songs of Praise

Sunday 12 October

St. Mary's, Mortimer: 10 am Sung Eucharist

St. John's, Mortimer: 12.15 pm for 12.30 pm Harvest Lunch

Please sign the list at the back of the church, telephone 933 3704 or email admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk if you would like to attend

St. Saviour's, MWE : 5.45 pm Tea and Cake

6.30 pm Harvest Thanksgiving

St John's, Mortimer

The **Eucharist** is offered daily at 9.15 am & **Night Prayer** each weekday at 9 pm

The **Eucharist** is also each Sunday at 10am via Zoom

Zoom link for services <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6931233940>

Everyone is welcome to join with the clergy and to take part in these services.

Details are also available on the website: www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk

For more information contact the Benefice Office: 0118 933 3704 or email Lorna Jones lornajones48@gmail.com

Aldermaston Parish Hall (RG7 4LW)

Saturday 4 October -9.30 am. The Four Movements of Reconciliation – a talk by the **Bishop of Reading**

Tickets **£5** each ♦ to include a continental breakfast ♦ available from

Reverend Jane Manley - jmanley.awb@gmail.com / 01189 712 891

For Aldermaston and Woolhampton Benefice, go to www.awb.org.uk

LOCAL LIBRARIES

Opening Hours

Burghfield Common – 0118 983 3632

Monday	2-5pm
Wednesday	2-5pm
Thursday	10am-5pm
Friday	2.30-6pm
Saturday	10am-12.30pm

Mortimer – 0118 933 2882

Monday	1-5pm
Tuesday	9.30am-5pm
Friday	1-6pm
Saturday	10am-12.30pm

Pangbourne – 0118 984 4117

Monday	2-5pm
Tuesday	10.30am-6pm
Thursday	9.30am-12pm
Friday	10.30am-5pm
Saturday	10am-12.30pm

Theale – 0118 930 3207

Monday	1-5pm
Wednesday	10.30am-5pm
Thursday	2-6pm
Friday	10.30am-5pm
Saturday	10am-12.30pm

Thatcham – 01635 866049

Monday	9.30am-5pm
Tuesday	9.30am-5pm
Thursday	9.30am-5pm
Friday	9am-5.30pm
Saturday	10am-12.30pm



library@westberks.gov.uk www.westberks.gov.uk/libraries

Veolia Household Waste Recycling Centres - Padworth & Newtown

How to book an appointment

- There will be a limited number of appointments available during the day between **9am and 6pm**
- The quickest way to book an appointment is **online** but you can also book by contacting Customer Services on 01635 519080
- When you book your appointment you will need to provide your details and car registration number
- Eligible Hampshire residents with a blue permit are able to book an appointment to use Newtown Road recycling centre
Locations: Newtown Road Recycling Centre and Padworth Recycling Centre.

Useful Numbers and Contact Information

Aldermaston CE Primary School: Chair of Governors		971 3362	enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk
Aldermaston Parish Councillors:	Charlotte Watchorn	971 2236	CoG@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk
	Sophie Crawford(Ch)	971 2549	scrawford@aldermaston.co.uk
	Dave Shirt	971 4686	dshirt@aldermaston.co.uk
	Alison Faulkner	07887 522610	afaulkner@aldermaston.co.uk
	Adam Shepherd-Price	971 0142	adam@aldermaston.co.uk
	Rob Smith		rsmith@aldermaston.co.uk
	Ed Tilsley		
	Angela Woodley	971 2803	awwodley@aldermaston.co.uk
Aster Communities			
Neighbourhood Officer	Rachael McCarthy	01264 405692	rachael.mccarthy@astercommunities.co.uk
ASB Officer	Sue Barton	01264 405583	sue.barton@astercommunities.co.uk
Beenham Parish Councillors:	Graham Bowsher (Ch)	07557 967575	g.bowsher@beenham-pc.gov.uk
	Graham Bragg	971 3688	g.bragg@beenham-pc.gov.uk
	Alex Cother	07764 637190	a.cother@beenham-pc.gov.uk
	Peter Hamblin	971 2959	p.hamblin@beenham-pc.gov.uk
	David Hancock	07471 148256	d.hancock@beenham-pc.gov.uk
	Peter McEwen	07717 718608	p.mcewen@beenham-pc.gov.uk
	Revd Jane Manley	971 2891	awb.benefice@gmail.com
Benefice Office – Aldermaston		933 3704	admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk
Benefice Office – Mortimer		971 3136	
Churchwarden – Padworth Church	Elizabeth Porter	0800 80 70 60	(24-hour number)
Environment Agency		07808 400843	caroline.givan@gmail.com
Ladies at Lunch	Caroline Givan	01635 519827	
Mobile Library			
Neighbourhood Watch			
Rectory Road	Mike Warner	970 0391	
The Fallows			
Network Rail			
Network Rail 24 hour Helpline	Gail Evans	01793 777471	gail.evans@networkrail.co.uk
<u>NEWSLETTER</u>		08457 114141	
	Mary Dance	07713 680671	maryedance@hotmail.com
	Sheila Evered	933 1451	sheila_pusinelli@hotmail.com
	Reading Buses	959 4000	www.reading-buses.co.uk
No 3 Bus route	Abi Lewis		parishclerk@aldermaston.co.uk
Parish Clerk (Aldermaston)	Lauren West	07919 916125	clerk@beenham-pc.gov.uk
Parish Clerk (Beenham)	Ellie Brewer	07877 122127	clerk@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
Parish Clerk (Padworth)	Robert Jones (Ch)	07475 744182	robert.jones@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
Padworth Parish Councillors	Andrew Griffin	07473 803979	andrew.griffin@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
	Jonathan Johnson		jonathan.johnson@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
	John Miller	933 2966	john.miller@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
	Emily Robinson	07769 674460	emily.robinson@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
	Tommy Tucker	971 2180	tom.tucker@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
	Andy Williams		andy.williams@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
Padworth Common Advisory Committee:			
Chairman	Mike Warner	970 0391	
Police Neighbourhood Watch	Pangbourne team	101	
Veolia Environmental Service	Daytime	0203 567 2900	west.berkshire@veolia.co.uk
	Out-of-hours	08701 660 309	
Village Hall - Bookings	Jacky Jones	07756 820263	info@padworthvillagehall.co.uk
Village Hall Committee - <i>Chairman</i>	Rob Jones	07475 744182	
Volunteer Bureau		983 1814	
Website manager			clerk@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
Website			http://www.padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
West Berks Council		01635 551111	
Local Councillors			
Aldermaston, Padworth & Beenham	Dominic Boeck	971 0330	dominic.boeck@westberks.gov.uk
Bradfield	Ross MacKinnon		ross.mackinnon1@westberks.gov.uk
Burghfield & Mortimer	Nick Carter		nick.carter2@westberks.gov.uk
	Vicky Poole		Vicky.poole1@westberks.gov.uk
	Geoff Mayes	933 2536	geoffrey.mayes1@westberks.gov.uk
Planning Department		01635 519111	
Highways & Transport			
WBDC Customer Services		01635 519080	
Environmental Health		01635 519192	
Fly Tipping & Waste		01635 519080	
Emergencies (out-of-office hours)		01635 42161	

◆ ◆ Padworth Parish Website ◆ ◆

www.padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Please send your contributions to: clerk@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk



pura
PILATES.

Discover the Pura Pilates experience
this October!



INTRO OFFER

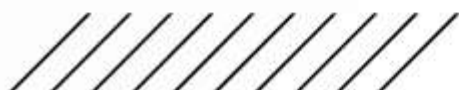
Book via our website & enter code PURA20 for
20% off your first class!

WHERE TO FIND US

Pura Pilates, Rectory Road, Padworth Common,
Reading, RG7 4JD.

Your ultimate destination for reformer pilates!
Our boutique studio offers small group classes
designed for all ages, abilities, and fitness
levels.

Here, you'll get plenty of personalised attention
in a friendly, supportive space as you start your
journey towards a pura vida lifestyle.



www.purapilates.studio

A promotional poster for a pumpkin picking event. The background features a brick house with a child sitting on a vintage tractor. Three circular inset images show: 1) a hay stack with pumpkins, 2) a field of pumpkins, and 3) a child with a wheelbarrow. The text 'Pumpkin picking 2025' is written in a white, cursive font across the middle. At the bottom, there is a circular logo for 'The little play lounge' and event details including dates and a website link.

Pumpkin picking 2025

A circular logo with a green stylized tree icon above the text 'The little play lounge' in a white, cursive font.

The little
play lounge

25th - 29th October

Book your tickets now:

www.thelittleplaylounge.co.uk/pumpkinpicking2025