

The Binfield Beacon



Your Binfield Parish Community Magazine - there's lots going on!

October 2026



Connecting people to Jesus the Bible and others

Church Office: 01344 421079 office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk facebook.com/allsaintswithstmarks
www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk Produced by All Saints' with St Mark's Churches

SERVICES AND DIARY

SERVICES

(All Services are held at All Saints' Church unless specified)

OCTOBER 2026

Sunday 4th 8.15am Book of Common Prayer Communion
9.30am Common Worship Communion
11.00am Informal All Age Baptism Service

Sunday 11th 9.30am Common Worship Communion
11.00am Informal Service

Sunday 18th 9.30am Common Worship Communion
11.00am Informal Service with Communion

Sunday 25th 9.30am Common Worship Communion
11.00am Informal Service

NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday 1st 8.15am Book of Common Prayer Communion
9.30am Common Worship Communion
11.00am Informal All Age Service

Remembrance Day Services

Saturday 7th November

2.30pm Act of Remembrance Service at St Mark's Church

Sunday 8th November

10.15am Remembrance Service at All Saints' Church

Wednesday 11th November

10.30am Act of Remembrance Service at St Mark's Church

(Will start promptly at 10.30am where a lamp of Remembrance will be lit before the 2 minute silence at 11am, after a short service by the school children.)



DIARY

OCTOBER 2026

Thurs 1st 7.30pm Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Sat 3rd 7.45am Men's Monthly Walk
Wed 7th 9.00am Wednesday Women's Walk
10.00am 3G Toddler Group at St Mark's Church
Thurs 8th 7.30pm Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Wed 14th 10.00am 3G Toddler Group at St Mark's Church
Thurs 15th 7.30pm Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Mon 19th 7.30pm Practice the presence of God at The Rectory
Tues 20th 12 noon Silver Service at St Mark's Church
Wed 21st 9.00am Wednesday Women's Walk
10.00am 3G Toddler Group at St Mark's Church
Thurs 22nd 7.30pm Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Thurs 29th 7.30pm Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church

NOVEMBER 2026

Wed 4th 9.00am Wednesday Women's Walk
10.00am 3G Toddler Group at St Mark's Church
Thurs 5th 7.30pm Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Sat 7th 7.45am Men's Monthly Walk

MEN'S MONTHLY COUNTRY WALK

DATES: Saturday 3rd October and 7th November

The Men's Monthly Walk takes place on the 1st Saturday of each month. We start at 7.45am from the car park at Oakmede Shops. The walk lasts approximately 1 hour.

Be ready for all weathers!

For more information contact Kim Swain on 07894 469633 or kimswain@pm.me

THE SILVER SERVICE

A traditional short service designed and led by our retired congregation members followed by a delicious homemade lunch at St Mark's Church.

Tuesday 20th October at 12 noon
at St Mark's Church

If you need a lift, please call Beverley on 07704 437207

CREATIVE TABLE

DURING 11AM INFORMAL SERVICE
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

WE HAVE THREE SEPARATE AREAS FOR CHILDREN TO ENJOY -
THE CREATIVE TABLE, BUILDING AREA AND A READING CORNER

ALL CHILDREN WELCOME

WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S WALK

A gentle 2-3 mile walk (which takes about an hour) in and around Binfield village, for women of mixed ages and abilities. Usually on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.

The walks go ahead in all weathers and normally start at 9am from outside Foxes' Den Café and finish there around 10am for a coffee.



7th October - 9am meet Foxes' Den
21st October - 9am meet Foxes' Den
4th November - 9am meet Foxes' Den
18th November - 9am meet Foxes' Den

For more information contact:
Gisele on
07724 889169



3G, a group for babies and toddlers, meets **every Wednesday during term time. From 10am to 11.30am at St Mark's Church on Popeswood Road, Binfield.**

DATES:

7th, 14th, 21st October and
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th November

Come and join us for lots of fun, with toys, a story and singing plus refreshments for the little ones as well as the adults. It is an opportunity for everyone to make new friends.

You are assured of a warm welcome. **Christine White and Team**

PRACTICE THE PRESENCE OF GOD

The next Practice the Presence of God session takes place on

Monday 19th October 7.30pm at The Rectory

This is a time to be still and to practice listening to God and learning to recognise how he speaks to you.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR RECTOR



THE USELESS TREE

In a forest near the village, woodcutters came often. They were always looking for trees worth cutting. They chose the straight ones first. Tall trunks, strong wood, perfect shape.

One by one, those trees were marked, cut down, and carried away. The wood became doors, tables, beams, and boats. Among them stood one old tree, huge, twisted, crooked and uneven. The woodcutters looked at it and laughed. This one is useless. No one can build anything from this. Its trunk was bent, its branches grew in strange directions, its wood was rough and full of knots. So they left it alone and kept cutting the trees they called valuable.

Years passed. The straight trees disappeared. The useless tree stood there alone, growing wider, older, deeper. Birds built nests in the branches, tired people sat there in silence. Travellers rested in its shade. What no Carpenter wanted, life quietly embraced.

One day a group of monks passed through the forest and stopped under the tree to rest. A young monk looked up and said, what a magnificent tree, how did this one survive? The master smiled, because everyone called it a useless tree. The young man looked confused. The master said. Useless only to those who wanted wood from it. They judged its worth by what they wanted from it. Then he quietly added. What the world cannot use or understand, it is quick to dismiss. Be careful whose definition of your worth you choose to believe. Afterall who gets to decide what something is for?

I find this verse from the Bible helpful and encouraging, ***"People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*** 1 Samuel chapter 16 verse 7, from the New Living Translation

Luke Taylor

VERSE OF THE MONTH
OCTOBER 2026

Jesus wept.

JOHN 11 VERSE 35

Contributed by Stuart Wharpshire

From the Registers:

Baptisms

Elsie, Mollie and Charlie Nash

Wedding

Victoria Jackson and
Mark Horscroft-Meredith

Funerals

Sean Harris
Zachary Harris
Ron Taylor
Jo Field





Baptisms



BAPTISMS ARE TAKEN WITHIN THE 11AM SERVICE ON THE 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

BAPTISM IS AVAILABLE TO ANYONE WHO LIVES IN THE PARISH OR IS ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL AND A REGULAR WORSHIPPER.

FOR FULL DETAILS ON HOW TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT EMILIE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE-
OFFICE@BINFIELDCOFECHURCHES.ORG.UK
OR 01344 421079



Rector: Revd Luke Taylor
07939 526361
rector@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk
(Friday is Luke's day off)

Curate: Revd Lucy Bowley
curate@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk

Churchwarden:
Matt O'Donovan - 07703 022757

Assistant Churchwarden:
John Hargreaves - 07973 842624

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office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk

Office opening hours:

Term Time:

Monday: 9.30am - 1.30pm
Wednesday: 9.30am - 1.30pm
Thursday: 9.30am - 1.30pm

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www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk



We are also on Facebook
facebook.com/AllSaintsWithStMarks

The Church Office is sited in St Mark's Church

St Mark's Church	All Saints' Church
Popeswood Road	Church Hill
Binfield RG42 4AH	Binfield RG42 5NS



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Scan this QR Code, or visit our website to sign up and see our Data Privacy Notice



www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk/contact-list-sign-up/



Praying for and with you

We have weekly prayer sheets — please email office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk if you would like something to be included.

Bereavement Support

We will all suffer loss, grief or bereavement at some time in our lives, mainly through death, but also in other ways such as relationship breakdown, loss of a job, or sudden disability.

The Bereavement Support Team are not counsellors, but can offer support and companionship if you are suffering a loss of any kind. There is no charge for a visit. All support team members have ID badges.

Peer to Peer support open to anyone dealing with grief. It is not a counselling group, just a friendly get together over a drink.

Tuesday Morning at Binfield Community Centre

Tuesday Morning Bereavement Group Coffee Morning
Binfield Community Centre, Wood Lane
Tuesdays 10am – 11.30am

If you would like to talk to a member of the team, in confidence, please contact:

Lesley 07825 679798 or
Diana 07465 430814 or
Jennie 07790 935528

Friday Morning at Foxes Den

Friday Morning Bereavement Group Coffee Morning
Foxes' Den Café on Fridays 10.30am – 12 noon

If you would like to talk to a member of the team, in confidence, please contact:

Margareta Hawkins 01344 411681 or
Christine Fern 07715 437408 (text messages only)



St Mark's Church Hall - Available for booking

Please contact the church office on 01344 421079 or [email office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk) for more information or to make a booking.

Pastoral Care Visiting Team - need a friend?

In All Saints' and St Mark's Churches we have a small pastoral care team who are happy to visit and befriend the people of Binfield.

So, if you have recently moved to the area and don't know many people; if your family live far away; if you are a Mum at home with a baby and would like adult company; if you find it difficult to get out or just fancy a friendly chat over a cup of tea, please get in touch with one of us.

You don't need to be a member of the church, just enjoy some company occasionally!

Jill Hanson tel. 01344 452694
Margareta Hawkins tel. 01344 411681
Gisele Taylor tel. 07724 889169
Dave Dawson tel. 01344 360389

Or contact the church office on 01344 421079 or email office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk

The Binfield Beacon

The deadline for Beacon Contributions for the November issue is:

Monday 12th October 2026

Please email:

beacon@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk

Claire Thomas (Binfield Beacon Editor)



FUNDRAISING NEWS

Binfield Church Fete

What a wonderful day! Only made possible by an incredible team of volunteers, sponsors, stallholders, performers and supporters. A huge thank you to everyone who helped bring it to life and to the whole village for turning up and making it so special.

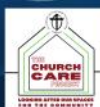
BINFIELD CALENDAR 2027

£10

On Sale This Autumn!

See the church website for more info

Featuring
stunning
shots of
the local
area!



The Church Care Project:
Funding large building projects
and ad-hoc maintenance work
on our church spaces



General Funds:
Supporting the ongoing costs of
running our churches and services,
including the Parish Share payment
and Youth work

Upcoming Fundraising Events

October Half Term: Binfield Scarecrow Trail

This Autumn: Binfield Village Calendar on Sale!

Update

We were so lucky to enjoy the **Binfield Church Fete** over a mostly rain-free day! Look out for a little update in this issue and a full report (with a total raised) in the next. Thank you to everyone who entered their photos into the **Photo Competition** over this summer. 116 people voted on their favourite shots at the Fete. Be sure to check the church socials and our website to find out which images made the cut and will feature in the **Binfield 2027 Calendar**. Maybe one of your favourites did?

Up next is the **Binfield Scarecrow Trail**, taking place as usual over October Half Term. Thanks to the wonderful organisers and all those who chose to give their time and creative talents to build a scarecrow, we will be able to enjoy another fantastic way to keep the kids happy and occupied over the holidays. We continue to be grateful as church that, as well as providing another community event which helps make Binfield the amazing place it is, the trail raises money to support our community spaces – our two historic churches and the village cemetery. Contributions to the Church Care fund help to ensure that these special places continue to be there to serve us all.

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How to make a donation:

We would really appreciate your donation; however big or small, it will all help!

- **Online:** see our updated 'Giving' pages on the website, with easy links to make a one-off donation: www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk/giving-page or click on the 'Donate' link on the Home Page.
- **Cheque:** send a cheque to the church office, made payable to "Binfield PCC". Please write 'Church Care', 'General Funds', or where you would like your donation used on the back
- **BACS - Please contact us for the BACS details to make a bank transfer and to specify where your donation goes.**

Don't forget to **Gift Aid** it if you are a UK Tax Payer - this will add an extra 25% to your donation!

Contact the church office for more details, or see the church website more information and other ways to raise money!

Shop and raise funds at smile.amazon.co.uk and easyfundraising.org.uk: search for Binfield PCC



SCAN ME



With many thanks from the Fundraising Team:

fundraising@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk

Binfield Church Fete – Thank you

Well, that was really rather special.

After months of planning, lists, phone calls, emails, donations, raffle tickets, stall bookings, volunteer rotas and the occasional hunt for a missing gazebo, the Binfield Church Fête arrived, and what a wonderful day it was.

Of course, a village fête does not simply appear overnight. Behind the bunting, tea and scones, dog show, bouncy castle, BBQ, bar, tombolas, music and stalls is an enormous amount of work from an equally enormous number of people.

In the days leading up to the fête, Binfield became one big team. People baked cakes for the tea tent, donated prizes, lent equipment and put up that all important bunting.

Then Sunday morning arrived. From early in the morning, volunteers were already busy setting everything up. Tables came out, gazebos went up, extension leads appeared in trees, stallholders arrived and gradually the fête we had all been imagining for months came to life.

Then the fête opened. For the next few hours the church grounds were full of music, singing, dancing, dogs, children, cups of tea, raffle tickets, burgers and people stopping for a chat with neighbours they might not have seen for a while. It felt exactly as a village fête should.

What made the day particularly special, though, was seeing how many people stepped in to help. Some had signed up weeks beforehand. Others simply appeared and asked where they were needed.

A fête may only last a few hours, but it is built from hundreds of small acts of generosity: an hour spent running a stall, a homemade cake, a bottle donated to the tombola, a gazebo lent from the garage, a raffle prize, a sponsorship, someone arriving early to set up or staying behind at the end to stack chairs. All those small things add up to something much bigger.

Even the weather seemed determined to let us have our day. The rain held off beautifully until almost the moment the fête finished, when the heavens opened and our volunteers suddenly became possibly the fastest gazebo-dismantling team Berkshire has ever seen. By the end we were slightly soggy, very tired but incredibly grateful.

So, from everyone at Binfield Church Fête, a huge thank you.

Thank you to the incredible team who spent months putting the event together. Thank you to every volunteer who gave up their time. Thank you to our sponsors, stallholders, performers and local businesses who supported us. Thank you to everyone who baked, donated, lent equipment, bought raffle tickets, carried tables, served tea, cooked burgers, poured drinks, judged dogs, tidied up and helped in ways big and small. And thank you to everyone who simply came along. A village fête is only really a village fête when the village turns up. Binfield certainly did. What a wonderful reminder of just how special our community is.



COMMUNITY NEWS



Tea Dance

3-5pm 6th November 2026

at the Binfield Club

with dancing to the wonderful

Clem Johnson

£20 per ticket

Please contact Vicki Dobson for tickets:

Mobile 07701 346424

All proceeds to Abby's Heroes  Children's
Cancer Charity

A colorful poster for 'Farley Wood Community Children's Pre-Loved Sale'. The top has a row of colorful circles (pink, orange, green, blue, orange, blue, green). Below this are various children's toys: alphabet blocks, a teddy bear, a stacking ring, and number blocks. The text 'FARLEY WOOD COMMUNITY' is in green, 'CHILDREN'S PRE-LOVED SALE' is in large, pink, outlined letters. The time '10.00 - 12:00' is in a blue box, and the date 'Sunday 15th November' is in a green box. The location 'Farley Wood Community Centre' is in an orange box. The text 'Tables are only £10' is in a large, blue, cursive font. Below this, it says 'TO BOOK A TABLE PLEASE EMAIL FARLEYWOOD.MANAGER@GMAIL.COM'. At the bottom, it says 'FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:' next to a QR code.

A poster for 'Party On The Pitch'. The top has a banner of colorful triangles (red, yellow, blue). The text 'Party On The Pitch' is in a large, blue, cursive font, with 'PITCH' in red, bold letters. Below the text are two soccer balls. The date 'Save The Date: Saturday 19 June 2027' is in a bold, black font. Below this is a paragraph of text: 'Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated and helped make this year's event such a brilliant success. From music and games to the bar, food and great company, it was wonderful to see the community come together in support of raising funds for youth focused activities. Party on the Pitch returns on 19 June 2027 — we hope to see you there!'. Below this is another paragraph: 'We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our generous event sponsors and supporters. We couldn't do it without them!'. Below the text are logos for various sponsors: Binfield FC, Scouts, Total Tyre Company, Carpenters, Christopher Wren Developments, RYSLIP Pet Care & Activity Centre, avocado property, Mulberry House Vets, and Binfield Parish Council. At the bottom, it says 'If you would like to be involved in next year's event, planning will start in February 2027. Please email us for details on: partyonthepitch@1stbinfieldscouts.org.uk'. The bottom of the poster has a green grass border.

First Binfield Scout Group is a charity registered with the UK Charities Commission, number 1035921. The net profits from the event are split between the Scout group and the football club

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ECO CHURCH WATCH

After our heatwave summer, you may be counting the costs for nature and your garden as I

found. Firstly, I noticed the struggling hydrangeas had finally given up the ghost and a beautiful cream rhododendron in my border had collapsed into a brittle burnt sienna heap. Then, I thought, 'This isn't a disaster, I can use it as an opportunity.' Nature has already stepped in as the hawthorn, growing near the hydrangeas, has grown into a fine young tree with plenty of red berries for blackbirds, song and mistle thrushes which I have previously seen. It might even attract winter visitors such as redwings and fieldfares which can be seen locally.

This set me thinking about how we can plan for the future as our climate becomes hotter in summer and wetter in winter. When I started gardening, I bought a simple soil testing kit online to measure the p-H of my soil. I also observed what was growing happily. In my case, azaleas and rhododendrons so I knew my soil was acidic and erinaceous plants were thriving. Knowing the p-H of your soil, and what grows well now, will help you replace plants that not only suit the climate, but also how to successfully encourage their growth in your soil.

Discussions with friends have shown that an effective irrigation system with water butts connected to the downpipes are useful for storing rainwater for dry periods. More than one, and including me, felt we could make better use of water butts. Another idea is having a shallow channel that captures runoffs and help water to soak back into the soil. An example of this can be found at West Green House's garden near Hook. The concept of irrigation channels can be found in Islamic gardens including the Alhambra in Spain.

Moving into a conservation area meant the council stipulated that we must have a hedge. I didn't quite appreciate the idea at the time. Having a tight work schedule and researching hedge plants and nurseries as well as unpacking seemed a bit too much. Whilst berberis and osmanthus came from the nursery, hazelnut and holly found their own way into the hedge. The variety has helped shelter blue tits with a neat little nest left behind and the squirrels complete with me and the birds for the nuts. Whilst supporting wildlife, the hedge traps the pollutants from vehicle exhausts and acts as a windbreak.

A wildflower area doesn't have to be complicated. If you start with yellow rattle, you will see how the tough grasses are replaced by wildflowers and see the benefits to pollinators. My knapweed has encouraged the marbled white butterfly to thrive. A wildflower mix encouraged corn cockle to dominate one year, this year it has been oxeye daisies. Some people may say the latter is a bully that can take over, but, in my garden, it is welcome for feeding bumble and honeybees and butterflies such as the meadow brown and small skipper amongst others.

Before replacing plants, note what is coping reasonably well and what has died off. Leaves tend to narrow on stressed plants as intense UV light causes leaves to narrow or curl which acts as a kind of defence, reducing their exposure to harsh sunlight and lowering internal temperature. Also, this year, plants are going into an early, 'false' autumn as the heat and dry soil have driven them to shut down into survival mode. Cooler conditions and rain should see established plants come back so you may have lost less plants than you think. I am thinking of cuttings and seeds that I can take, as well as plant swaps, rather than rushing out to the garden centre. Another tip for distressed plants in pots I found is liquid seaweed fertiliser which really helps to green up stressed plants, helping them cope with harsh drought conditions, is absorbed quickly and is a natural organic tonic.

Mulching promotes a healthy soil, saves water and suppresses weeds. You are probably thinking like me, it's okay for presenters on garden programmes showing off their lovely black, crumbly, matured mulch. 'They have a team of behind-the-scenes helpers and I don't have time or the experience.' Before dismissing the idea, the Royal Horticultural Society website explains the pros and cons of all sorts of mulches labelling them from 'easy' to 'moderate.' I chose 'easy,' as I didn't want to exert too much effort, and because I had the materials to hand and I knew it would benefit my garden. My choice was leafmould. Having oak and hornbeams trees nearby I was able to collect the Autumn leaf-fall into a bin liner pierced with holes, tied up loosely and popped behind a large pot for 2 years. This year it is ready to release and it will please the garden and me, but not my cat who thought it was a shady cushion!

Kate Ellison-Bourne



Environmentally aware—The Binfield Beacon is printed in the UK on paper manufactured to ISO14001 standard in a European Mill. The paper is FSC approved, ECF acid and chlorine free, biodegradable and sourced from a UK Merchant who is part of the Woodland Trust which helps plant more trees to reduce carbon footprint. Printed using vegetable oil based inks. Please do your part to help the environment by passing on your magazine to others or recycling it responsibly.

Thank you.



Hello Autumn!

We hope everyone in Binfield has had a wonderful summer, filled with plenty of sunshine, happy memories and time spent with family and friends.

As the leaves begin to change, the evenings draw in and there's a definite chill in the air, autumn has officially arrived! But don't worry here at The Foxes' Den, we're ready to keep the good vibes going and spirits high throughout the cosy months ahead. As we head into the darker days, let's also remember to **be kind to our minds**, make time for a friendly chat, a little fresh air, a catch up over coffee and the things that make us smile. Sometimes the smallest moments can make the biggest difference.

Of course, it wouldn't be October without a little **Pumpkin Spice!** Our seasonal favourite is back, bringing all those lovely warming autumn flavours we've been waiting for. Pop in, get cosy and treat yourself!

We love being part of the wonderful Binfield community. Keep your eyes peeled for local activities, seasonal fun and little happenings both here at The Foxes' Den and around the village. There's always something to look forward to, even as the days get shorter.

And with Halloween just around the corner, things may be getting a little spooky at the Den... We'll have plenty of spooky treats and Halloween goodies to enjoy, so make sure you come and see us!

Here's to crisp autumn walks, cosy catch ups, pumpkin spice and plenty of community spirit.

Happy Autumn Binfield and a very Happy Halloween from all of us at The Foxes' Den! *Kerrin & Niamh x*
hello@foxesden.co.uk @foxesdenbinfield 01344 305500
 Benetfeld Road, Binfield. RG42 4EW



FOXY LUNCHES

If you are struggling to feed yourself or your family at any time, please don't go hungry.

These lunch boxes are **FREE** to Binfield Parishioners and we can arrange to have extra supplies delivered if you need them. Call or email in the strictest confidence and we will make sure that you have food on your table. Kerrin 07377048429 hello@foxesden.co.uk

SAFETY FIRST... We love all our customers and want everyone to have the best experience whilst in the café - with that in mind please can we remind parents and carers to not let their children run around the café. We have had some close calls with hot drinks and we really don't want to upset our little visitors by calling them out on it in front of everyone else..



Binfield Environment Group is a voluntary organisation, formed in 2017, to protect and enhance Binfield's nature and people's enjoyment of that nature.

We run regular events throughout the year in and around Binfield: conservation work parties in local green-spaces throughout the winter months; and walks, talks and litter-picks throughout the summer. In addition, we carry out a range of surveys to monitor the state of Binfield's nature.

Our work parties start at 10.00 and last for three to four hours. Further details can be found on our website (<https://binfieldeg.wixsite.com/binfieldeg>) or Facebook group.

Our planned events for this winter are:

- **October 17th** – Blue Mountain - tree-tube removal / orchard tidying and/or Foxley Fields / Wicks Green - seed collecting or removing cut material from wildflower bank / Wicks Green bowl.
- **November 21st** – Farley Copse - coppicing and holly clearance
- **December 19th** – Wicks Green Festive work party – dead hedging and coppicing
- **January 16th** – Pockets Copse and Piglittle Copse – path clearance, early purple orchid patch clearance, bird-box repairs and brown hairstreak egg survey
- **February 20th** – Popes Meadow – scrub clearance and dead-hedging
- **March 20th** – Wicks Green – spring-cleaning and planting bulbs in the green across the parish

Please contact us via our web page, Facebook group, or email (binfieldeg@gmail.com) for more information about Binfield Environment Group.

BINFIELD CALENDAR 2027



£10

Featuring
stunning
shots of
the local
area!

On Sale This Autumn!

See the church website for more info



COMMUNITY NEWS



Game, Set and Community: Tennis for All Ages

Tennis is sometimes thought of as a sport for the young, the highly competitive or the especially athletic. Yet one of its greatest strengths is how easily the game adapts to different ages, abilities and levels of experience.

On court, older players bring patience, knowledge and a generous sense of fun. Younger players bring energy, curiosity and a willingness to learn. When those qualities come together, tennis becomes far more than a match. It becomes a way to share skills, stories and plenty of laughter.

Meet Eileen and Julie



Among the familiar faces at Binfield Tennis are long-term local players Eileen and Julie, who are both 92 and still play regularly. The photograph was taken recently during a Wednesday morning social session, where members gather in a friendly setting to enjoy a game before finishing with a cuppa and a chat at the Foxes' Den community coffee shop.

Eileen, pictured on the left, has lived locally since the 1980s and first picked up a racket at the age of 10. Asked what advice she would give to other players, or to anyone thinking about taking up the sport, her answer was simple and spirited: "Play and don't stop — it keeps you young!"

Julie, pictured on the right, has also lived in the area for more than 30 years. She began playing at 17 through a workplace sports and social club and has not looked back. Her encouragement to others is just as direct: "Start as young as you can, get that racket in your hand and enjoy."

For fellow members, Eileen and Julie are more than regular players. They are proof of what a lifelong love of tennis can offer. As one member put it: "They are my inspiration — I want to be like that when I'm 92!"

A bright start for Freya



At the other end of the age range is Freya, whose tennis journey began a year ago when she was just 2 ½ and brightens the court with her smiles and giggles. Already able to hit over the net, she shows the same enthusiasm that keeps players of every generation coming back.

More than a game

Stories like this show how tennis can bring people together across generations. At village level, that sense of connection matters. A regular social session can be much more than a place to play; it can become a small community hub where friendships are formed, confidence grows and people of all ages feel welcome. Whether someone is 3, 92 or somewhere in between, the court offers space for movement, conversation and enjoyment. **Jacqui Wright-Terry (Binfield Tennis Association Chair)**

BINFIELD TENNIS ASSOCIATION RAISE OVER £4,000 FOR THAMES VALLEY HOSPICE!

Bravo and Game Set & Match once again to Binfield Tennis Association for an enjoyable and successful charity event held on Sunday 6th September. For almost thirty years the club has been supporting tennis. Through the endeavours of its committee, the club greatly increased its membership, (with an age range from 3 to 92!).

This year the tennis club ran its 12th event. A very successful day was enjoyed by members and the local community, focusing on family fun, as well as the annual tennis tournament. Its community presence has been enhanced through fostering close relations with local sports clubs, businesses, Binfield Parish Council and Berkshire Tennis. This year the event has raised over £4,000!



Volunteers provided a superb buffet lunch and barbecue which was enjoyed by all. The club was honoured to have the presence of Mr Joshua Reynolds, MP for Maidenhead formally opening the tournament. The Mayor of Bracknell Forest, Councillor Peter Frewer supported the day. He not only presented the tournament winners with their plaque and medals but also drew the raffle (with all the prizes donated by local businesses, members and friends).

Binfield Tennis Association is committed to inclusivity, enabling people of all ages and abilities to enjoy playing tennis. They embrace a range of activities run by an enthusiastic coaching team and members, focused on both physical and emotional wellbeing. These include an established partnership with local schools, as well as LTA accredited tournaments and competitions.

In line with their commitment to continuous improvement, they are working closely with Binfield Parish Council to further enhance their facilities and enable members to enjoy playing tennis throughout the year.

News from Binfield Parish Council



October 2026 Meetings

Tuesday 13 October

Parish Council

8pm

Tuesday 27 October

Planning and Transportation Committee

8pm

Blister Pack Recycling Reopened

We are pleased to say our blister pack recycling scheme has now been re opened. It has proved a fantastic success, with one collection box now being filled every month. Each box costs approximately £216, and every blister pack has to be sorted by hand before it can be sent for recycling.

As demand continues to grow, we are looking for local businesses or community groups to sponsor a collection box. In return, we will promote your business or organisation alongside the box and across our social media channels.

If you are interested in sponsoring this valuable community initiative, please get in touch with us at: office@binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk



Stamp Donations

Please note that the Parish Office and Foxes' Den are no longer accepting stamp donations. Thank you for your understanding.

Help us make our village Remembrance displays bloom

We are looking for donations of crochet poppies to help create our special Remembrance displays around the village. If you have made some poppies and would be happy to donate them, we'd be so grateful. Every single poppy will help us create a beautiful community display and ensure we can remember and honour those who served.

You can either pop your poppies into the Parish Office or email us at: events@binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Thank you so much to everyone who has already supported our Remembrance displays and to all our wonderful local crafters who give their time and talents to our community.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2026

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2026 launches on Thursday 22nd October. Volunteers are always needed to help with the Poppy Appeal. If you would like to get involved in any way, please contact John on

john.anderson@qsmlimited.com

There will also be the annual Poppy Appeal Quiz for you to take part in. Quiz sheets can be paid for and collected from the Parish Office. Further details to follow shortly.

Last year, an amazing £110,748 was raised through the Binfield and Bracknell Poppy Appeal. Thank you to everyone who supports the Poppy Appeal and helps to raise vital funds for the Royal British Legion.

Ceri, Hayley, Amanda, Purveen, Alisa, Tracey, Jo and Abbie
Binfield Parish Council at the Parish Office, Benetfeld Road, Binfield, RG42 4EW, 01344 454602
Parish Office office hours: 9.00am-1.00pm Monday to Friday



Email: office@binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk for any Parish Office enquiries
Email: bookings@binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk for any Binfield Community Centre bookings and enquiries

News from Binfield Parish Council

AUTUMN / WINTER EVENTS

Silver Sunday

Sunday 4 October 2026

12.00pm–3.00pm

Join us for our free Silver Sunday event for anyone in our community aged 50 and over. at Binfield Community Centre 12.00pm–3.00pm

Enjoy an afternoon of live entertainment, refreshments and a complimentary goodie bag. Places are free but booking is essential.

To reserve your place, please email events@binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk.



Christmas Silver Club

Sunday 13 December 2026

12.00pm–3.00pm

Our festive Christmas Silver Club is a free event for residents aged 50 and over. At Binfield Community Centre, 12.00pm – 3.00pm

Enjoy festive entertainment and refreshments as well as a Christmas goodie bag.

Places are free but booking is essential. Please email events@binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk to reserve your place.



Binfield Warfield Winkfield

ARTS WEEK

Our annual arts festival

Local arts, crafts, music & exhibitions for all ages

www.arts-week.org

Arts Week 2026

The Arts Week website is now live and tickets go on sale midday on the 4th October. With details of all the exciting events and opportunities available during this year's Arts Week. Although Binfield Parish is taking a sabbatical from hosting events this year, there are still opportunities for Binfield residents to get involved and attend events elsewhere. For further details please see as follows:

<https://www.arts-week.org/>

Remembrance Parade Sunday 8 November 2026

The annual Binfield Parish Remembrance Parade will once again take place in with the Royal British Legion, the Royal Naval Association and our local uniformed organisations.

The parade will leave Binfield Club, proceed to All Saints' Church for the Remembrance Service, and return afterwards. Temporary road closures will be in place along the route, and we thank residents in advance for their understanding.



Annual Binfield Parish Christmas Tree Light Switch On! Thursday 19 September 2026

Join us on Foxley Fields for the official switch-on of the Binfield Parish Christmas Lights.

Meet from 6.00pm | Switch-on 6.30pm.

Enjoy festive performances from the Binfield Community Choir, refreshments from the Foxes' Den and help us celebrate the start of the Christmas season.



Binfield Christmas Market



Binfield Parish Christmas Market 2026

We are delighted to announce we will be taking over the organisation of Binfield Christmas Market.

This will be held at

Binfield Community Centre, Wood Lane, RG42 4EX

Sunday 29 November 2026

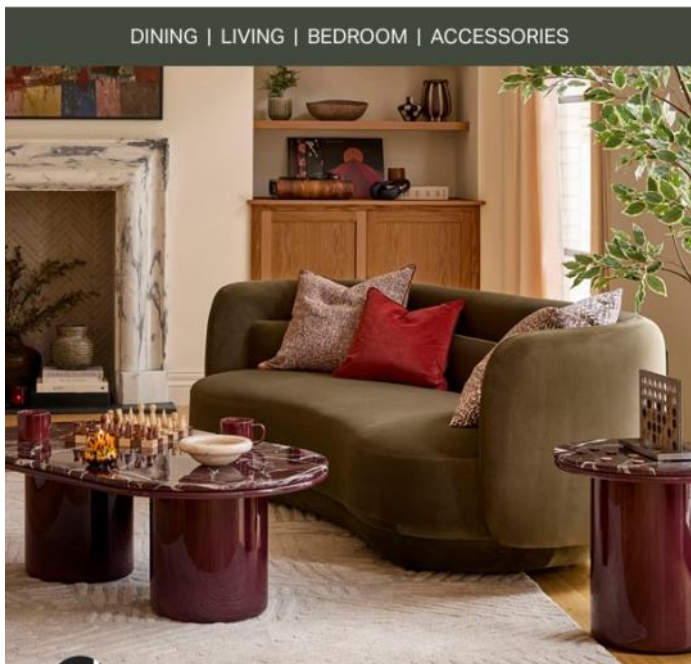
3.00pm–6.00pm

We are looking forward to bringing everyone together for a wonderful festive afternoon, with plenty of Christmas cheer!

Save the date and further information to follow.



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ClothesBank

KNICKERS NOVEMBER

During **NOVEMBER** we are collecting:
BRAND NEW KNICKERS AND BOXER SHORTS - donations can be left at All Saints' on Sundays, the Church Office (during opening hours), The Rectory or in the box at Foxes Den.

 We are in need of knickers and boxers for all children, men and women (If you have any donations please drop off as above)



ClothesBank

 **SOCK SEPTEMBER** THANK YOU 

Thank you for all the donations of socks during Sock September

AUTUMN WORDSEARCH

OCTOBER	HARVEST	APPLE	JUMPER
AUTUMN	BONFIRE	HEDGEHOG	CANDLE
LEAVES	CRISP	SQUIRREL	FIRE
ACORN	COSY	WOODLAND	HOT CHOCOLATE
CONKER	RAIN	WELLIES	
PUMPKIN	FOG	SCARF	

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