

What's on in Bucklesham?

Group	Date and Time	Venue
Walking Group	Mondays at 9am No need to book - just turn up	Meet in layby opposite the Shannon
Village Library	1 st Monday of month 10am-12pm	St Mary's Church
Geology Group	Monday mornings from 9:30am	Village Hall
Knit and Natter	1 st and 3 rd Monday afternoons of month	Village Hall
Physiotherapy led Pilates	Monday evenings	Village Hall
Little City	4 th Monday morning of month	Village Hall
Silver Swans Ballet and Zumba	Tuesday mornings	Village Hall
Bucklesham Players	Tuesday evenings	Village Hall
Happy Babies	Wednesday mornings	Village Hall
Carpet Bowls	Wednesday afternoons from 2pm	Village Hall
Garden and Allotment Club	1 st Wednesday eve of month	Village Hall
Bumps, Babies and Toddlers Group	Thursday mornings 9:30am-11:30am	Village Hall
Evolution Karate	Thursday evenings Various sessions	Village Hall
Church Lunch	4 th Friday of month 12pm for 12:30pm	Village Hall

A Defibrillator is situated outside the Village Hall

12 Levington Lane – **In an Emergency Dial 999**

The Emergency Service Operator will instruct you and give you the keycode to unlock the cabinet and release the defibrillator

The Bucklesham Bugle ~ Autumn 2026

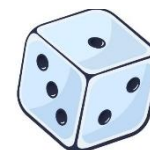


Bucklesham is celebrating – not once but twice! Two Bucklesham stalwarts have just received a **Suffolk Community Award** – please see middle pages for details. We are also thrilled to tell you that Bucklesham Playing Field has been shortlisted for a **Quality of Place Award** in two categories. Firstly, 'Community' – for any built or natural environment project designed to benefit the community in which it was built – judges look at community engagement with the project and the public benefits of the scheme. Secondly, we have been nominated in the 'Landscape' category. In this category the judges consider how the project has enhanced the local landscape character and/or how the design of the project responds to and enhances its natural and built setting. Council representatives met with 7 judges and showed them our fantastic Field last week. The winners will be informed in mid-October. We are up against stiff opposition so being shortlisted alone is a huge achievement, but we really want to win! Please keep your fingers crossed for us. Inserted into this edition of the Bugle is a Village Survey. The Parish Council works very hard on your behalf, and we would like to know how you think we are doing, and what you would like our priorities to be in 2027. All completed surveys returned by 31st October will be entered into a draw to receive a £25 voucher for The Shannon.

Bucklesham Village Hall 1976-2026

'Celebrating 50 years of Hosting our Community'

Our 'Summer of Celebrations' is almost complete and we are ending the year with the most exciting event of them all: A good old fashioned



Beetle Drive

**Friday 23rd October From 7:30pm
in Bucklesham Village Hall**



Join us for a retro evening with a noisy, chaotic, fast-paced, and surprisingly good fun, family dice game – beginners welcome – it's fun, easy to learn the rules, and suitable for all the family (age 3 and up)

This is a free family event, with refreshments

(the game is played in pairs but we can match you up on the night if necessary)

To request your **free tickets** please contact **Ruth 07854 712 734**

clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Remaining Parish Council Meeting Date for 2026

Wednesday 11th Nov at 7pm

in Bucklesham Village Hall.

We occasionally have additional meetings to discuss planning which are advertised via the **Bugle Bulletin email alerts**.

All villagers are welcome to join us.

Bucklesham Village Website

For information on Bucklesham Parish Council, Clubs and Societies, Amenities, Reporting Problems, News Highways, Planning, and all things Bucklesham visit <https://buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk>

We have an email alert service – the **Bugle Bulletin** to distribute **important news** quickly. Add your name to the list and make sure you don't miss out clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Bucklesham Allotments, Green Crescent

The Parish Council own and manage the Allotments and it is a thriving community. Villagers are welcome to walk around the edge of the land but dogs **MUST** be kept on a lead and children must be accompanied at all times please. Occasionally plots become available and priority is given to villagers, so if you are interested in joining the community and managing an allotment plot yourself please contact clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk **07854 712 734**



Bucklesham Food Bank for FIND (Families In Need)

The continuing support of FIND by the village is greatly appreciated. Sadly there are still many families and individuals who are in need and the work of FIND is extremely important. All donations are welcome but in particular we always need long grain rice, long life whole milk, soup, pot noodles, tinned fruit and veg, tinned meat and fish, coffee, tea, sugar, squash, jam, cereal, biscuits and treats, toiletries for men, women and children including toothbrushes and toothpaste. Importantly we also need fresh fruit and vegetables of all kinds.

I regularly empty the box on Friday but I do look into it during the week in case there is anything in the way of fresh fruit or veg that needs to be collected. Thank you all so much,

Sally Voelcker 07946 085 299

Bucklesham Primary School News

The term has started well, and we have been supporting the community by inviting Kesgrave Kestrels grass roots football club to use our field for weekend matches. Breheny Civil Engineering came in over the summer to do some fencing around the allotment area as part of a community project, and have then been back in with the children inspiring them to be the next generation of engineers. We have welcomed in 15 new Reception children and have tours for next year's intake on 6th October & 5th November at 9am or 30th November at 6pm for prospective parents.

Rachael Rudge, Head Teacher

St Mary's Church News

On 12th September some of our congregation and friends took part in the 'Annual Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT) Ride and Stride' when people visit as many churches as they can either cycling or on foot to raise money for the SHCT. We had people 'manning' the church to welcome visitors, providing refreshments and signing their sponsor forms. Monies raised were split between SHCT and the individual churches. We haven't got the total raised by our riders yet but one gallant cyclist raised well over £500! We are looking forward to welcoming the school on 29th September for their Harvest Festival. This follows St Mary's Harvest Festival on 27th

Rosemary Watson - Churchwarden

**Date for your Diary: St Mary's Christmas Fayre –
Saturday 5th December 10-12noon at St Mary's Church**

***** Bucklesham 100 Club *****

Last chance to purchase your lucky number for only **£20**
Numbers 1 to 100 will be put in a hat with the winning number
being drawn at random on 28th November at the
Community Council's Craft Fayre. The lucky winner will receive

£1,000 in time for Christmas

To play, contact Ruth Johnson, 07854 712 734
clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

There are only 6 numbers left – 36, 46, 59, 78, 81 and 86
so don't wait – purchase your lucky number today for the chance
to win £1,000! Act now before it's too late!

Financial Support for Bucklesham Residents' Fuel Bills This Winter

The Archer Cartwright Bucklesham Charity was set up in 1805 to purchase and distribute coal to people over 60 years of age who lived in Bucklesham. Many things have changed in the last 221 years, but the charity still helps Bucklesham residents who may be in need of financial support. Discretionary grants are available for residents if they need assistance with their fuel bills this winter. Residents can request help from the charity by writing to the Trustees who will review all requests at their meeting on 20th October.

Please contact Ruth Johnson, the Clerk of Trustees, 54 Levington Lane, or clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk by 18th October.

The Playing Field is open from Dawn til Dusk...



...and is locked every evening by volunteers. As the nights draw in, locking-up time obviously gets earlier so please be aware and do not get locked in! The Parish Council is very mindful that many residents walk their dogs on the Playing Field and often want to go on early in the morning or later in the evening.

However, in order to ensure that the Field remains a safe and clean space for all residents, we request that people do not go on the Field when it is dark as it can be impossible to see where your dog has been, especially if they are off lead.

Suffolk Parish Councils were given an opportunity to apply for trees left over from a display at the Suffolk Design Festival in Bury St Edmunds. Bucklesham has been successful in its application and has been awarded two European Larches (2.5 meters tall) and two Dawn Redwoods (4.5 meters tall) to plant on the Playing Field. The European Larch was introduced to Britain in 1620 and is very popular in parks and community spaces, but the Dawn Redwood is one of the world's most endangered trees. Huge thanks to Bower Fuller for collecting them for us, and to Paul Last for offering to help us plant them 😊

Bucklesham Village Hall News

We are thrilled to tell you that the Committee was successful in its application for a Thriving Places grant, so the work on the kitchen renovation and reconfiguration will begin in February. This is great news for the future viability of the Hall as we will be able to add a second space for hire to small groups.

St Mary's Church would be delighted to see you at our –

HARVEST SUPPER

ALL ARE WELCOME (you don't need to be a churchgoer) for a good meal, a chat, and a couple of fun quizzes

Saturday 10th October 6:30pm for 7pm

Bucklesham Village Hall – Tickets £10

Main course and dessert – *Bring your own drinks and glasses*

Tickets from

Sally Voelcker 07946 085 299 sallyvoelcker@gmail.com

Elizabeth Fern 07762 916 591 e.fern@hotmail.com

(by 2nd October at the latest)

Christmas Craft Fayre

Hosted by residents of 'Bucklesham Park'

Saturday 7th November in Bucklesham Village Hall

From 2pm to 4pm, Free Entry

Handmade Gifts, Tea and Cake, Tombola, Raffle

Please come along and support us

whole village welcome



Bucklesham Community Council's

Christmas Craft Fayre

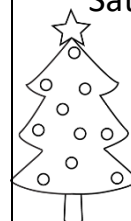
Saturday 28th November in Bucklesham Village Hall

10am to 2:30pm, Free Entry

19+ stalls selling locally made crafts and gifts

Not all stalls take cards, please bring cash

Tea, coffee and cakes



Bucklesham Community Council Presents

'3 Steps To Heaven'

Playing music from 50s 60s and 70s

5th Dec, Bucklesham Village Hall, 7:30 til 11pm, only £5

Get your tickets now to avoid disappointment

Contact lois.mac@btinternet.com 07484 668 551

Or dkridd@hotmail.co.uk 07931 951 474

Suffolk Community Awards

‘The Ian Campbell MBE Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution to their Community’ **awarded to Evelyn Bloomfield**

‘Parish or Town Councillor of the Year’ **awarded to Cllr Clive Lenton**

We have double cause for celebration in Bucklesham as two much-loved members of the community, Evelyn Bloomfield and Clive Lenton, have been recognised for their exceptional service to village life.

While their stories span different generations, they share the same determination to protect the village’s valued facilities, strengthen community life, and ensure that Bucklesham continues to thrive.

A lifetime of service from Evelyn Bloomfield

At 96 years old, Evelyn Bloomfield has spent almost six decades at the heart of community life in Bucklesham.

Her remarkable record of service began in 1967, when she became a founder of Bucklesham Community Council. She subsequently served as a Parish Councillor for 30 years and has been involved with the Village Hall Committee since the Hall was built in 1976. Over the years, she has taken on numerous responsibilities, including Chair, Treasurer, Bookings Clerk, and Caretaker, always stepping forward and rolling up her sleeves when something needed to be done.

Evelyn also helped raise the funds needed to purchase the Playing Field, creating a recreational facility that has since benefited generations of residents. Her commitment has extended to supporting St Mary’s Church through the Parochial Church Council, organising village events and celebrations, and continuing to offer her knowledge and support to Parish Council activities following her retirement.

When the Community Council faced the possibility of folding in 2019, Evelyn once again stepped in. She helped stabilise the Community Council and encouraged the Parish Council to temporarily take over, safeguarding its future and preserving the foundations upon which further community projects could be built.

Those foundations have continued to support new achievements, including the work that secured £103,000 for the new play area. Even now, Evelyn remains involved in village life and is helping to plan celebrations for next year’s 60th anniversary of the Community Council she founded.

Hands-on leadership from Clive Lenton

Clive Lenton was named Councillor of the Year in recognition of his exceptional commitment to Bucklesham and the practical, energetic leadership he provides through Bucklesham Parish Council.

Under Clive’s leadership, the Parish Council successfully became Sole Trustee of the Village Hall, helping to secure the future of this important community asset. He also played a leading role in the New Play Equipment Project, which secured an impressive £103,000 through fundraising and grants. However, Clive’s contribution is not confined to Council meetings or major projects. He organised the Community Self Help Scheme to undertake highways tasks around the village and works alongside volunteers to clear the path to school, clean road signs, and clear gullies and ditches. He also leads on Community Speed Watch, helping to improve safety on local roads and lanes.

It is this combination of forward-thinking leadership and a willingness to get personally involved that makes Clive’s contribution so special. Whatever he does, Clive leads by example. The judges praised his practical leadership, tireless energy and unwavering commitment to the community, recognising the important part he has played in helping Bucklesham remain a thriving village.

Celebrating the past and shaping the future

It feels especially fitting that Evelyn and Clive should be celebrated together. Evelyn helped establish and preserve many of the organisations and facilities at the heart of Bucklesham. Clive is helping to protect those assets, strengthen them and develop new opportunities for the generations that follow. Both have understood that thriving communities do not happen by accident. They are built through determination, practical action, and people who are prepared to give their time without seeking recognition.

Their awards are richly deserved, but they also represent something larger: a celebration of Bucklesham itself and the extraordinary community spirit that both Evelyn and Clive embody. We are a tiny village, yet Evelyn and Clive have really put Bucklesham on the map!

Congratulations to two truly worthy winners, and thank you for everything you have done, and continue to do, for Bucklesham.