

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER WINTER 2022



COUNCIL SURGERY

Friday 2nd December, 5pm – 7pm,
The Broadway, at Christmas Lights
event

Thursday 19th January, 6pm – 7pm,
on Zoom

Saturday 4th February, 10am - 12pm,
The Broadway*

*with our partners from Thames Valley
Police neighbourhood team

COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Council meetings are held in
Thatcham Town Council Chamber at
7pm unless otherwise stated.

**Recordings of our Council &
Committee meetings can be
viewed on our YouTube channel.**

Members of the public are warmly
invited to attend the following
meetings:

Full Council
Monday 28th November

Events
Monday 5th December

Planning & Highways
Tuesday 13th December

Recreation & Amenities
Monday 19th December

Planning & Highways
Tuesday 10th January

Town Centre
Monday 16th January

Finance & General Purposes
Monday 23rd January

Full Council
Monday 30th January

THATCHAM WARM SPACES



Thatcham Warm Spaces are now
open at three locations in the town.
You are welcome to come and use
these spaces to save on energy
costs at home. Sometimes there
will be an activity going on which
you are more than welcome to join
in with. If you prefer to do your own
thing that's fine too. There will be
free tea and coffee available, and
you can use the WiFi. All ages are
welcome; all that's asked is that
you respect the needs of others
around you and be considerate as
you use the premises. The Warm
Spaces are all non-smoking areas.

WHERE ARE THE WARM SPACES

Mondays 10.30am - 2.30pm - Thatcham Baptist Church, Wheelers Green Way
RG19 4YF 01635 867054

Mondays 2pm - 4pm - St Mary's Church, Church Gate RG19 3PN - 01635 864567

Tuesdays 2pm - 4pm - Glendale Church, The Well, Green Lane RG19 3RG - 0118 971 4887

Thursdays 12.30pm - 4.30pm - Thatcham Baptist Church, Wheelers Green Way
RG19 4YF 01635 867054

Fridays 2pm - 4pm - Glendale Church, The Well, Green Lane RG19 3RG - 0118 971 4887

FUNDING FOR CHARITABLE GROUPS

Are you a local charitable group serving the residents of Thatcham?

Does your organisation need funding for local services and projects?

Our next round of grant awards is coming up in the new year. Applications for
funding over £250 are administered via <https://thegoodexchange.com/>

Upload your application by 31st December to be considered in the next round.

For grants up to £250, email enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk any time
for an application form.



**PLEASE RECYCLE
THIS NEWSLETTER**

**THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FROM 4.30PM
ON FRIDAY 23RD DECEMBER UNTIL 8.30AM ON TUESDAY 3RD JANUARY**

WARMING UP FOR CHRISTMAS



Make a date on Friday December 2nd when Thatcham starts Warming up for Christmas in style with its annual Christmas Lights Switch -On, presented by Thatcham Town Council in The Broadway, with attractions starting from 4.30pm, the lights switched on at 7.00pm and entertainment running through till 8pm.

This year we are delighted to announce that **Elysium Health Care** are the main sponsors of Warming up for Christmas with **Newbury Building Society** our silver sponsors.



With a strong programme of stage entertainment, street food, gift and community stalls and plenty of family attractions there will be something for everyone this year and we can even guarantee that it will snow!



On stage there is a mix of Panto, Dance, Carols, Musical Theatre and Live Music with the boy band of the moment West Berkshire's own **Beyond the Sons** who will take to the stage immediately after the Switch-On of the lights.



Extracts from Dick Whittington will be presented by **KATS**, street dance by **MF Dance** whilst **Dance with Sonia** will be presenting tap dance. Award winning singer **Ryan Upton** joins us on stage and will also be supporting **St Mary's Church Choir** as all are encouraged to join in the festivities and sing some popular carols. Look out for **Whitelands Park School Choir** as well who will be performing with their full choir at 5.00pm and then on stage at 6.00pm. Children can visit our festive farm, visit our steam engine, go on a treasure hunt and see some of the Town's Christmas window displays (with an opportunity to vote for your favourite) and of course see Santa on his sleigh (courtesy of Newbury Lions),



The occasion is one celebrated by Thatcham's friendly community with stalls offering refreshments, hot food and drink to keep us all warm as well as festive gifts to stock up for Christmas Day. As we "Switch -On the Lights" everyone will have a chance to see our giant 30 foot sparkling Christmas Tree sponsored once again by **Oakley Green Conservatories** and many of the Town's retailers will be staying open late.



Mayor of Thatcham Councillor Jeff Brooks said, "Thatcham has a vibrant community spirit, and I am looking forward to this festive occasion with relish".

For further information on Warming up for Christmas see:

www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Or visit: Facebook: @ThatchamTC



WARMING UP FOR CHRISTMAS

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP AND FRENCH MARKET



Thatcham Town Council is excited to present to you its very first Wreath Making Morning at the Frank Hutchings Community Hall on Tuesday 6th December.

With thanks to the expert advice from the Town Council's gardener plus the natural materials she has been harvesting from the Jubilee Sensory Garden, this is going to be a fun festive morning with Christmassy tunes and refreshments and you are guaranteed to take home a beautiful creation perfect to adorn any door!

Places cost £25 including all materials & refreshments and are limited so please ring 01635 863592 to secure your place now.

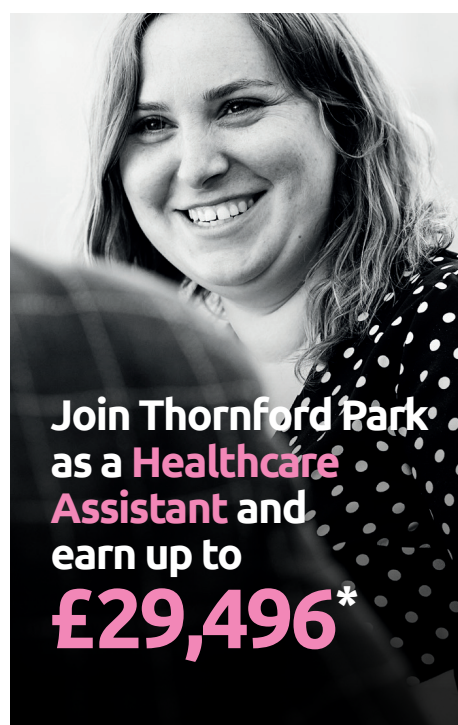


After a three year absence, Thatcham Town Council is delighted to welcome back *France at Home*, with their authentic French Market.

The market will be held on Saturday 10th December, 9am - 4pm in Thatcham Town Centre. Traders travel over from Normandy with an array of french breads (baked on site that morning),



tarts & croissants, cheeses, charcuterie, tartiflettes, paella, garlic surimi prawns & garlic potatoes, dry saucisson, olives, spices & dried fruit and french fashion. This will be a great opportunity to stock up on some treats or gifts in time for Christmas.



Join Thornford Park
as a **Healthcare Assistant** and
earn up to
£29,496*

A career as a Healthcare Assistant

If you're looking for a new career, then consider healthcare and receive all necessary training to join the team at Thornford Park Hospital and feel valued and supported while making a positive difference to the lives of others.

There's nothing quite like the feeling of satisfaction and self-reward that comes from helping those in need and seeing them progress along their care pathway.

With free meals on shift, free parking, pension contribution, service-related annual leave (up to 33 days + your birthday off!) and career development, there are lots of reasons to choose Elysium.

Whether you currently work in retail, hospitality or any other industry, if you want a fresh start with a secure and rewarding career with meaning, then if you're naturally caring and like helping people, apply to be a Healthcare Assistant at Thornford Park hospital in Thatcham.



Apply online today.
www.elysiumhealthcare.co.uk/careers

*Base salary of £21,996 (£10.45 per hour plus £1,619 Location Allowance) working 3 days a week (37.5 hours). Earning potential of £29,496 includes working 40 weekday overtime shifts and 10 weekend overtime shifts per year.



Thatcham Friday Market Dates Remaining Dates for 2022

Friday 2nd December - closes 12 noon (for Christmas Lights set up)

Friday 9th December - Open

Friday 16th December - Open

Friday 23rd December - Open

Friday 30th December - Closed

Friday 6th January - Open

Pitches cost just £9.50, call
01635 863592 if you're interested
in selling at Thatcham Market.



Elysium Healthcare, proud sponsors of Thatcham's Warming Up for Christmas



SPOTLIGHT ON... KATS

It's almost Pantomime time!! 'Oh no it's not!' I hear you cry!!

The origins of British Pantomime or 'Panto', as it is often known, dates back to the middle ages, taking on board the traditions of the Italian 'Commedia dell' Arte, the Italian Night Scenes, and British Music Hall.

Today 'Traditional' pantomimes give us men dressed as women, women masquerading as men and the fun of animals being played by human beings. The tradition of men playing women can be traced back to the early days of theatre when it was deemed not appropriate for women to enter the theatrical profession. During the mid-nineteenth century we saw the principle boy character being played by a female. Whilst ladies were corseted, crinolined or bustled on the streets, artistic licence allowed ladies upon the stage to wear costumes that revealed their shapely legs in tights on the condition they were playing a male role! A Panto should also include important elements such as good battling against evil. The pantomime villain should always enter from the 'dark side', stage left, and the good fairy from stage right. This echoes the tradition in medieval times when the entrances to heaven and hell were placed on these sides.

Across the UK, children and adults visit their local theatre to be dazzled and thrilled by the spectacle and the fun of pantomime. Why not come long and enjoy Thatcham's very own pantomime? KATS (Kennet Amateur Theatrical Society) will be performing Dick Whittington at the Kennet School from 16th – 18th February 2023 (with a matinee on Saturday 18th) Tickets will be available from 1st December from <https://ticketsource.co.uk/katsorguk> Ticket Prices - Adults £12 and Concessions £8.

THE MAYOR'S COLUMN

As I write this I am exactly half way through my Civic year and have attended around 100 engagements.

It's been an honour to have been welcomed to such a wide variety of events and October was particularly busy with our 10-day Thatcham Festival consisting of an amazing 44 events. I was delighted to attend 30 of them with my Deputy Mayor Cllr Mark Lillycrop attending those I couldn't make. It was lovely meeting the numerous community groups and talent that we have here in Thatcham and the surrounding areas.

It is still my aim to meet as many people as possible and so if you'd like to invite me to an event, please feel very welcome to email civic.officer@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk.



Cllr Jeff Brooks, Mayor of Thatcham 2022-2023

CIVIC CAROL SERVICE



The Mayor of Thatcham warmly invites you to the annual **Civic Carol Service** at St Mary's Church on Sunday 11th December, starting at 4pm. The service will feature The Barfield Handbell Ringers and the St Marys Church Choir with readings from local school pupils and representatives from the Mayors charities.

Festive refreshments will be served and all are very welcome to attend.

CONTACT THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCILLORS

Each Thatcham Councillor can be contacted by email using the format name.surname@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Thatcham Colthrop & Crookham

Steve Ardagh-Walter	07790 932545
John Boyd	07853 151871
Richard Foster	07803 203292

Thatcham West

Jeff Brooks	- Mayor
Mark Lillycrop	07717 858284
David Lister	
Simon Pike	07787 154070
Keith Woodhams	

Thatcham North East

Mike Cole	01635 869893
Jeremy Cottam	01635 871733
Lourdes Cottam	01635 871733
Lee Dillon	07393 288712
Christine Rice	

Thatcham Central

Ellen Crumly	
Richard Crumly	01635 867283
Paul Field	
Owen Jeffery	07968 251370
Jennifer Walker	

☎ = also West Berkshire District Councillor

REPORT IT...

Have you seen something that needs reporting that we haven't spotted yet? It's easy to let us know about things like broken glass, dog fouling and litter using the "Report It" page on our **website**.

Or call the Council Office on **01635 863592**, message us on **07503 634761** or visit a Council Surgery.

To report a problem to West Berkshire Council visit:

www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem

Follow us on social media to receive regular local news and information.



@ThatchamTC

