



THATCHAM TOWN NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2025

Historic Town, Thriving Community

CONTENTS

- **Thatcham's Community Halls:** pg. 2 & 3
- **Thatcham Festival** pg. 4 & 5
- **Community News:** pg. 6 & 7
- **Report an issue:** pg. 8



Thatcham FESTIVAL 2025

See inside
for full
schedule!



MUSIC | TALKS | ART | DANCE | COMEDY | CRAFT | COMMUNITY

Council Meetings

All Town Council meetings are held in the Thatcham Town Council Chamber.

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

Full Council

Monday 29th September, 7pm

Monday 24th November, 7pm

Finance and General Purposes

Monday 27th October, 7pm

Planning and Highways

Tuesday 23rd September, 7pm

Tuesday 21st October, 7pm

Tuesday 18th November, 7pm

Recreation and Amenities

Monday 22nd September, 7pm

Events

Monday 8th September, 7pm

Monday 17th November, 7pm

Town Centre

Monday 10th November, 7pm

Environmental Working Party

Tuesday 9th September, 7pm

Heritage Working Party

Tuesday 30th September, 7pm

Community Engagement Working Party

Tuesday 7th October, 7pm

Missed a Town Council meeting?

Watch it back on the
Thatcham Town Council
YouTube channel



www.youtube.com/@thatchamtowncouncil

COMMUNITY HALLS



Thatcham Town Council's halls offer welcoming, flexible spaces for our community to come together, learn, and celebrate. From children's classes and fitness sessions to craft groups and social gatherings, our halls are home to a wide range of regular hirers who help keep Thatcham active and connected. They are also used for charity events, family parties, and local meetings, providing affordable, accessible venues close to home.

WHAT'S ON

We have wonderful line-up of regular classes and groups which use our halls - see below the full list and get in touch with them directly for more information



Frank Hutchings Community Hall



Burdwood Community Centre



Term Time Only

Frank Hutchings Community Hall

Bradley-Moore Square, RG18 4QH

- 14m x 14m hall with a central dance floor.
- Capacity: 200 guests in a theatre-style, or 96 with table seating.
- Toilet facilities
- Kitchen facilities with serving hatch
- Space for a bouncy castle (max height: 2.75m)
- Large free car park
- Portable stage

Burdwood Community Centre

Whealers Green Way, RG19 4YA

- 13m x 10m hall
- Capacity: 150 guests standing or 70 seated.
- Toilet facilities
- Kitchen facilities
- Space for a bouncy castle (max height: 2.75m)
- Outdoor area
- Car park next door



Thatcham Preschool

Monday - Friday, 9am - 3pm

Thatcham Preschool provides a fun educational setting for children aged 2 to 5 years old. The children have access to art & craft activities, physical activities, a role play area and sensory activity, as well as also offering sand and water play.

www.thatchampreschoolinfo.co.uk



Real Aquifer Martial Arts

Monday, from 5.30pm

Give your child the gift of discipline, confidence, and physical fitness.

www.realaquifer.com



Weight Watchers

Monday, 6pm

Hit your weight-loss goals without giving up what you love. It's all on the table!

www.weightwatchers.co.uk



Clubbercise

Tuesday, 7pm - 7.45pm

An exercise class with club anthems in a darkened room with party lights & glow sticks.

www.bookwhen.com/clubbercisesarahmaskell



Newbury Ringcraft

Tuesday, 7.30pm - 9pm

Newbury ringcraft specialise in ringcraft training and preparation for the show ring.

www.newburyringcraft.com



FitSteps Exercise Classes

Tuesday 10am - 11am, Frank Hutchings & Wednesdays, 7pm - 8pm, Burdwood

FitSteps® is an upbeat dance class designed to achieve real, measurable, fitness results. The dance workout mixes the graceful steps of Ballroom and the uptempo steps of Latin dances to create fun filled classes where you don't even realise you're getting fit!

www.strictlyfitsteps.com





HIRE THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

The Council Chamber is also available to hire for meetings, training, and workshops, seating 20 boardroom-style or 35 theatre-style. Free Wi-Fi, water, glasses, mugs, and a kettle/hot water flasks are provided.

WHAT'S ON

Machine Sewing Improvers - 6 weeks
Starting 10th September, 7-9pm

Machine Sewing Beginners - 8 weeks
Starting 5th November, 7-9pm

Digital Photography - 8 weeks
Starting 6th November, 7-9pm

Setting up a Creative Business - 2 weeks
Starting 4th November 6-8pm

For more information and to book:
www.creative-communities.org.uk/courses

Lipreading classes for adults ★
Starting 4th September, 2-3pm
For more information and to book:
t.orpin@outlook.com/07543967962



Silent Disco Equipment for hire

Fancy making your party the best disco in town?
Thatcham Town Council has 50 sets of silent disco headphones and party lights for hire for use in both our halls and for other private parties.



Thatcham Community Larder Wednesday, 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Memberships start at £18 per month, or £36 per month for a family.
www.sofea.uk.com



Slimming World Thursday, 8.30am – 12.30pm

Slimming World offers members support and accountability in your weight loss journey.
www.slimmingworld.co.uk



Musical Theatre Choir ★ Wednesday, 7.30pm – 9pm

Belt out your favourite show tunes with 50 other singers, and a professional conductor!
www.singspacechoir.com/Thatcham



Move Mind and Body: Yoga for Adults & Teenagers Thursday, 5.45pm

A holistic approach to moving both your body and your mind.
www.movemindandbody.co.uk



Sing Louder Choir ★ Thursday, 7pm – 8.30pm

A choir sharing the joy of music from modern pop to timeless classics and musical theatre.
www.singlouderchoir.godaddysites.com



Kaizen Martial Arts Thursday, 6pm

Kickboxing and self defence classes with elements of Kickboxing, Muay Thai and Aikido.
www.kaizen-martial-arts.co.uk



Footie Champs
Saturday, mornings
Kickstart your child's football passion with classes for children aged 18mths - 7yrs.
www.footiechamps.co.uk



Little Kickers Saturday, 8.30am - 1pm

An introduction to football skills in a friendly, pressure-free environment.
www.littlekickers.co.uk

Thatcham

FESTIVAL

Thatcham Festival returns this October with 10 days of activities celebrating local talent, creativity, and heritage. Many events are free, with no event more than £7.

With a wide range of events including **live music**, **talks**, **guided walks**, **children's activities**, **craft workshops**, and **art exhibitions**, there is something for everyone to enjoy, whatever your interests or age.

This year, the festival will shine a light on **Thatcham's history** with heritage walks and talks exploring our town's fascinating past, while families can look forward to storytelling sessions, nature activities, and hands-on crafts for children.

Local groups, artists, and performers will showcase their skills, and there will be plenty of opportunities to try something new, from board games and painting to photography and music.

Many events are free, ensuring everyone has the chance to join in, discover new hobbies, and learn more about our town. The festival is a wonderful opportunity to meet your neighbours, support local talent, and celebrate what makes Thatcham a warm and vibrant place to live.

LEISURE *and* CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER, 10AM - 3PM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Kick off your festive shopping in style at the Craft Fair at St Mary's Church, where you'll find a selection of handmade treasures crafted by local artisans. From unique cards and candles to beautiful jewellery, papercrafts, handbags, paintings, and more – there's something special for everyone.

In the church grounds, local clubs and community groups will be showcasing their activities, giving you the perfect opportunity to discover what's happening in your area.



THE BIG THATCHAM FEST OFF

Saturday 11th October, 4.30pm - 9pm
Thatcham High Street

Kickstart the Festival with a night of music and street food

LIVE
MUSIC

+

GIFT
STALLS

+

STREET
FOOD

+

BEER &
GIN

+

SILENT
DISCO



- Visual Arts & Exhibitions
- History & Heritage
- Music & Performance
- Family and Children
- Community and Hobbies
- Wellness and Creativity

WHAT'S ON

Sponsored by



Friday 10 th October		
Beating of the Bounds Talk	7.30pm	Thatcham Town Council Offices
Thatcham Comedy Club	7.30pm	Thatcham Bowling Club
Saturday 11 th October		
Thatcham Art Exhibition	10am - 4pm	Old Bluecoat School
Thatcham Memorial Classic Car Show	10am - 4pm	Memorial Playing Fields
Thatcham Scale Model Show	10am - 4pm	Memorial Hall
Organ Gala & Cream Tea	3pm - 5pm	St Mary's Church
Storytime with Fiona Barker	1pm	Thatcham Library
Storytime Draw-a-long with Steve Antony	2pm	Thatcham Library
The Big Thatcham Fest Off	4.30pm - 9pm	Thatcham High Street
Sunday 12 th October		
Thatcham Art Exhibition	10am - 4pm	Old Bluecoat School
Soldiers of Thatcham	11am	London Road Cemetery
Thatcham Board Game Club	1pm - 4.30pm	Frank Hutchings Community Hall
Thatcham Thrives Dance Gala	4pm & 6.30pm	Kenet School
Incantata Concert of Musical Delights	7pm	St Mary's Church
Monday 13 th October		
Moo Music	1pm & 2pm	Frank Hutchings Community Hall
Andy's Fun Afternoon Quiz	2pm	TBC
Beeswax Candle Making	7pm	Old Bluecoat School
Art Workshop - Paint a Barn Owl	7pm	TBC
Tuesday 14 th October		
Museum Family Craft Workshop	3.15pm - 4.30pm	Thatcham Library
Jesus The Evidence	7.30pm	Thatcham Parish Hall
Bouzouki Bellows	8pm	Old Bluecoat School
Wednesday 15 th October		
Thatcham, Around and About Talk	7.30pm	Town Council Offices
Meditative Sound Bath	7pm	Old Bluecoat School

Thursday 16 th October		
Author Talk with Cara Hunter	6.30pm	Thatcham Library
Film Screening of 2040	2pm & 7pm	Town Council Offices
Friday 17 th October		
Thatcham u3a - Open Afternoon	2pm - 3.30pm	Catholic Hall
Thatcham Unplugged	7.30pm	Frank Hutchings Community Hall
Astronomy Evening	7pm-9pm	Nature Discovery Centre
Newbury Pride in Thatcham - Drag Bingo	7.30pm	Thatcham Rugby Club
Saturday 18 th October		
Leisure and Craft Fair	10am - 3pm	St Mary's Church
Have a Go at Handbell Ringing	11am - 1pm	St Mary's Church
Thatcham Then and Now - Coffee Morning	10am - 12pm	Thatcham Library
Photography Exhibition	10am - 4pm	Old Bluecoat School
Diwali Market	1pm - 7pm	Broadway
Retro Computer/Games Console Exhibition	10am - 4pm	Moors Pavilion
KATS Perform	7.30pm	Parish Hall
Sunday 19 th October		
Photography Exhibition	10am - 4pm	Old Bluecoat School
Be a Radio Presenter - with Thatcham Radio	10am - 4pm	Town Council Offices
Nature Discovery Centre Wildlife Walk	10.30am	Nature Discovery Centre
Getting to know the Birds in your Garden	2pm	Nature Discovery Centre
Blue Plaque Unveiling	2pm	Moorside
Thatcham Festival Finale Concert	7pm	St Mary's Church

Book your tickets now: thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/thatcham-festival

COMMUNITY NEWS



Community Grants Bloom into Action

Last year Thatcham Town Council awarded a community grant to Alice Bye Court, and we are thrilled to share this wonderful update from them:

"Our residents built the raised planters, and we now have 3 in our back garden and three on the lawn in the front of the building. They made them different heights and accessible for people in wheelchairs. As you can see, they look beautiful."

It's fantastic to see how the grant has supported such a meaningful, resident-led project - creating beautiful, accessible green spaces that everyone can enjoy. Well done to everyone at Alice Bye Court for bringing this to life!

Council Surgery

Meet two of your Councillors on the first Saturday of the month on The Broadway, whether you seek information, advice, or wish to enquire about our services, your elected representatives are here to help. Representatives from Thames Valley Police are usually in attendance too.

Saturday 6th September, 10am - 12pm
Saturday 4th October, 10am - 12pm
Saturday 1st November, 10am - 12pm
Saturday 6th December, 10am - 12pm

New Digital Noticeboard Installed in The Broadway

Residents and visitors to Thatcham will now find it easier to stay informed about local events and important notices thanks to a new digital screen noticeboard installed in The Broadway.

Installed by Scion Communications and funded through Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) contributions, the noticeboard ensures that development in Thatcham directly benefits the community.

The digital screen will feature upcoming events, local initiatives, and key council information, supporting Thatcham Town Council's commitment to clear, accessible communication while also helping to reduce paper usage.

This project is part of the Town Council's ongoing work to enhance The Broadway area, helping to keep the town centre vibrant and welcoming for everyone.

If you or your local group are interested in advertising on the screen, please contact:
enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk





Thatcham Station Colourful Updates

A new community-led project at Thatcham Train Station will transform the platform into a bright, welcoming space for all.

Thatcham Town Council and Together for Mental Wellbeing - Reading Services will paint a colourful mural in the platform waiting room, install posters in the ticket office, and decorate planters placed around the station.

The project also includes free suicide prevention training for volunteers, empowering them to spot signs of distress and offer a listening ear to those who need it.

The initiative is supported by Great Western Railway's Station Adoption scheme.

For more information, to volunteer, or to support the project, please contact enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk



Town Council launches Business Connect WhatsApp Channel

Thatcham Town Council has launched a new WhatsApp Channel specifically for local businesses providing timely, relevant updates directly to your phone, including:

- Upcoming Thatcham Town Council supported events in the town centre
- Road closure information
- Opportunities to sponsor and support local events
- Local grant opportunities and support schemes
- Ways to get involved with community projects and volunteering

It's a quick, easy way to stay connected and informed without getting lost in email inboxes.

To join, please scan the QR code or search Thatcham Business Connect in WhatsApp.





Thattham
WARMING UP
FOR CHRISTMAS
 An Exciting Weekend of Festive Activities

Friday 5th December
 Christmas Lights Switch On
 Entertainment from 5pm

Saturday 6th December
 Christmas Market
 Thattham Broadway, 10am-3pm

Sunday 7th December
 Santa Fun Run
 Organised by Rotary Club of Thattham

FREE

Monthly eNewsletter

Would you like to receive news and updates from Thattham Town Council more regularly? You can sign up to our monthly e-newsletter directly into your inbox!

☐ I agree that Thattham Town Council can send me the monthly enewsletter and ad hoc news to the email address below.

Email Address: _____

Full Name: _____

Please drop this form into the Town Council offices or scan this QR code to sign up online



Thattham Town Council is responsible for:



- Mayor of Thattham
- CCTV on The Broadway
- Henleys Allotments
- London Road Cemetery
- Public Toilets
- Thattham Market
- Community Events
- Street Furniture
- Play Areas and Open Spaces
- Burdwood Community Centre
- Frank Hutchings Community Hall
- Red dog waste bins

West Berkshire District Council is responsible for:



- Tax and Benefits
- Business Rates
- Rubbish and Recycling
- Care and Housing
- Planning
- Roads, Transport and Parking
- Schools, Learning and Libraries
- Consumer and Environmental Protection
- Leisure, Parks and Countryside
- Green dog waste bins

To report a problem to West Berkshire Council please visit: www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem

Town Councillor Contact

Town Councillors can be contacted by email using the format: **name.surname@thatthamtowncouncil.gov.uk**

Thattham Central

Iain Cottingham [D]
 Jay Lunn
 Tom McCann [D]
 Petra Pemberton
 Stephanie Steevenson [D]

Thattham North East

Mike Cole
 Jeremy Cottam [D]
 Mark Thomas
 Dave Lunn
 Ben Schiffer-Harte

Thattham Colthrop & Crookham

John Boyd
 Owen Jeffery [D]
 Val Watts

Thattham West

Jeff Brooks [D]
 Mark Lillycrop
 Justin Pemberton [D]
 Simon Pike
 Suzanne Adamantos

[D] = also West Berkshire District Councillor

Your Feedback Welcomed

We hope you enjoy the articles in the Thattham Town Newsletter. To send feedback, suggestions, or to report an issue:

Online form:

www.thatthamtowncouncil.gov.uk/contact_us

Email: enquiries@thatthamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 01635 863592

WhatsApp Messages: 07503 634761

Visit a Council Surgery

www.thatthamtowncouncil.gov.uk/faqs



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 this newsletter**

