

THE CALLING OAK

Issue 158 – February 2026



Deadline for the Mar 2026 Issue is **18th Feb**

Editor's email Editor@TheCallingOak.co.uk

Advertising: Advert@TheCallingOak.co.uk

To see this months issue online, and our catalogue, please visit:

TheCallingOak.co.uk

Note from the Editor

Hello again,

Well I hope that everyone has had a lovely start to 2026. January came and went. We had snow and storms which kept us busy and having to pay attention to those weather forecasts more than we like to. We do live in a fab place for sledging though and it was good to see so many people out enjoying the snow and having fun, both kids and adult kids alike. This year I made sure that I had my own sledge as the wait at the top was long and cold waiting for the sledge to be dragged up the hill by my daughter. To be fair to her, the journey back up is a workout in itself with the snow.

Lots of fun things to look forward this month and next. Dust off those dancing boots and get yourself down to the barn dance organised by our wonderful Ace team. Another fun event and raising money for a good cause.

March will see the annual quiz which is always a favourite for those of us who love a bit of competition. Get your teams organised and get your names down.

I look forward to hearing from you if you have a story to tell, something to celebrate or just to give any suggestions or feedback on the calling oak. It's a community newsletter so please do send me anything.

I am always keen to have a picture for the front cover so do send your photos in to me or any artwork and I will happily put them in the next edition.

Till next month. Have fun, enjoy and keep smiling

Louise

Saturday 28th February.

Bar opens at 7pm. Fun starts at 7.30pm

Sue's ham & cheese baps available!

Rowney Green Village Hall



BARN DANCE

No experience needed. Just turn up and have fun!

Live music & experienced caller.

Tickets £15

(Under 16yrs £10)

Shirleyann 07754 888 211

Jude 07551 950 840



**Raising funds for
The Basement Project**

Providing support for young people



Village fete tombola Collection !



**Having a Post Christmas clear out?
Planning a Spring clean?
We'd love anything fit for a
Tombola!**

**Last year you donated fabulous prizes for the
Tombola.**

**Your generosity meant we made an amazing
contribution to the fete profit which enables the
maintenance of our park.**

So here we are back collecting again!



Drop Off points :
Ruth @ Bleaklow
Debbie @ Woodbine
Jenny @ Lilac Cottage LRG





Sassy Lassies

Happy New Year, Sassy Lassies! 🎊

Welcome to 2026, which promises an eclectic mix of evenings designed to entertain, enlighten, and generally give you a good excuse to get out of the house.

Annual membership for 2026 is just **£10** — a rare thing these days, as *almost nothing* seems to be going down in price. Please bring your membership money along to a Sassy Lassie meeting.

Our monthly meet-ups are a relaxed chance to socialise with other ladies from the village, and we are always delighted to welcome new members or occasional visitors. If you know a lady who likes good company and a good laugh, do encourage her to come along.

By the time you read this, our end-of-January get-together will already have taken place — a tasting evening featuring one of Jude's legendary quizzes: notable, challenging, and largely impossible. Remember "Sausage Surprise!"

Our next meeting is on Thursday 5th March in the Village Hall — and this one is a little different. The evening is **open to all villagers, men and women**, and we are extremely fortunate to welcome **Professor Sir Keith Porter**, who will be talking about his distinguished career.

Keith will share memories and stories from his career as a Trauma Surgeon at the Birmingham Accident Hospital and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and his role treating injured soldiers from the wars in both Iraq and Afghanistan - work for which he was knighted.

The cost for **non-members is £5**, with all profits going to his charity **citizenAid**.

📌 **PLEASE NOTE:** The March 5th meeting really *is* open to everyone — men and women alike — so spread the word!

If you would like to know more you can speak to Debbie, Jude or myself or email

SassylassiesRG@outlook.com

PECK WOOD FOREST SPACE

FUTURE DATES OF SEEDS & SAPLINGS

AT PECKWOOD FOREST SPACE 🌳

TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER

WEDNESDAY 13TH JANUARY

TUESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH

10.30AM - 11.45AM



A TIME OF STORIES, CRAFTS, SONGS, SNACKS & PLAYING IN THE WOODS FOR CHILDREN 5 & UNDER WITH THEIR GROWN-UPS. 🌳 🍷 🧺

SEEDS & SAPLINGS

Need a helping hand?

If you have any odd jobs around the house or garden or need a babysitter, my name is Lucy Porter, I am 16 years old and would love to help. I am free most weekends, Friday nights and sometimes in the school holidays. I live on Rowney Green Lane.



Call or text me on 07494267570
for more information.



FUTURE DATES OF
WANDERING AND WONDERING

AT PECKWOOD FOREST SPACE 🌳

WEDNESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER

TUESDAY 20TH JANUARY

WEDNESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

THURSDAY 12TH MARCH

JOIN US FROM 11AM FOR A TIME OF
WANDERING IN THE WOODS, FOLLOWED BY
SOUP AND
WONDERING CONVERSATIONS BACK AT THE
RANCH HOUSE.

SOUP WILL BE READY FROM MIDDAY AND
THE GATES WILL BE CLOSED AROUND 1.15PM
ISH...



WANDERING AND WONDERING



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📞 07773 563231

🌐 www.lawnwise.uk

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Update from Rowney Green Park Group

GETTING READY FOR SPRING

The Rowney Green Park Team have been busy getting ready for Spring.

The perimeter hedging has had a fantastic success rate with only a few needing replacing.

We have replaced 2 trees in the community orchard and planted absolutely loads of bulbs for everyone to enjoy when Spring arrives.

We are delighted to welcome 2 more Duke of Edinburgh Volunteers, Daniel Stilwell and Amy Alcock who have been incredible helping on the park. Amy makes a fabulous cup of tea too!



Friends, and fury friends, of the park





Rowney Green Park Bank Account Details

Account Name: **Rowney Green Peace Memorial Hall Reg Charity 52318**

Account Number: **15867606**

Sort Code: **09-01-54**

THE PROSTATE CLUB.

I wrote an article for the Calling Oak about year ago, documenting my experience relating to prostate cancer. I am still being monitored (blood tests) on a three monthly basis. I'm also getting used to MRI scans - thanks for asking.

There are a number of men in the village who have prostate cancer, who have had prostate cancer or who have regular PSA tests. There is still some stigma about this subject, although there have been recent high profile cases which have helped to bring the problem out into the open.

Screening for prostate cancer is not now recommended and GPs do not offer tests.

I thought that it may be a good idea to have a get together of men who have been affected and others who want to learn from their knowledge and experiences - what are the symptoms, the general process and possible side effects etc?

It is appreciated that this may be thought of as a private matter but explaining your experience could literally be a matter of life and death to someone else.

The plan is to meet on **Wednesday 18th February 2026 at 7.30pm** in the Goat and Trousers.

This would be totally informal and, who knows, drinks may be available. You don't have to let me know whether or not you're coming, just turn up if you'd like to help or know more.

Mike Fellows.





The Goat & Trousers

QUIZ

(Teams of 6-8)

Sat 28th March

7-30pm

(Bar opens 7pm)

Tickets £10

Hot supper

Let us know if you need a vegetarian option

Names & money to bar or to

Mark 07973 621770

mark@woollatt.net

The money will be used towards for costs of running the park which can range from £3,000 upwards.



Thank you all for your support in making the park a better place.

New members are welcome please contact Richard at Windrush Rowney Green Lane
Mobile 07720 537269

The 100 club Super Draw Results for December 2025

1 st	Prize £50 No 120	Phil Holland
2 nd	Prize £30 No 169	Lynsey Hoxha
3 rd	Prize £20 No 58	Will Savage
4 th	Prize £10 No 152	James Humphries

Looking for a peaceful time away and need a baby/dog sitter?

My name is Sophie May, I am 16 and I have lots of prior experience with all age groups of children alongside experience with dogs. I am available all week nights and (almost!) all weekend with parent backup in the village, just in case of emergencies. Please contact me if you're interested.



For more details, you can reach me on 07512 757 434.

Thank you,
Sophie



Happy Birthday

Willow Howard	14
Arthur Terrazas	10

Wishing you all a great day

To add your child's birthday to future editions, please email the editor.



ROWNEY GREEN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

ROWNEY GREEN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY usually meet at The Village Hall on the second Thursday each month at 7.15pm.



On Thursday 12th February the speaker is Samantha Hopes and her topic is **"Spring has Sprung"**.

Samantha initially trained and worked as a Geologist but soon found herself distracted by the plants growing on and around the rocks, more than the rocks themselves. Following this growing interest, she became a student at Birmingham Botanical Gardens, and Pershore College and then moved to RHS Garden Wisley, specialising in Rock and Alpine plants.

After additional training at Kew and Great Dixter, she graduated and went to work alongside John Massey as part of the team at Ashwoods Nurseries looking after his Hepatica collection. This became one of her passions, alongside specialist alpinists and a new breeding program with Roscoeas. In 2016 Samantha Ashwoods to work with her husband Nigel, who created their own nursery, Hopes Garden Plants at Halesowen.

Guests are welcome £3.50 including coffee and biscuits.

For more information please telephone Lindsay Smith on 01527 592874.

PAUL CHADDERTON ELECTRICAL

- * All electrical work undertaken
- * Additional lights/sockets through to full rewire
- * Inspection and testing
- * Electric Vehicle Charge Points installed
- * NICEIC registered Domestic Installer
- * Installation of CCTV systems



Tel: 0121 445 2562

Mobile: 0797 1566843

ROWNEY GREEN ASSOCIATION

Future meetings: Tuesdays, Mar 3rd, May 5th, July 7th, Sept 1st and Nov 3rd.



A message from your Safer Neighbourhood Team

Got an issue or concern?

Need some advice?

POLICE 'DROP-IN' SURGERIES

Your police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) will be holding several 1-2-1 'Drop-in' surgeries during the next few months. If you have any issues, concerns, or you would just like to speak to a member of the team for some crime prevention advice or some police advice in general, please pop along to one of the 'drop-in' sessions listed below for a dedicated one-to-one chat. Alternatively, if you cannot attend one of our sessions but you would still like to speak to us, you can still do so by emailing the Alvechurch and Wythall Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) at: aw.snt@westmercia.police.uk so we can then arrange a convenient time to come out and visit you.

<u>Alvechurch</u> <u>Café Morso</u> <u>The Square, Alvechurch</u> Wednesday 4 th Feb 26: 11am-12pm Tuesday 17 th Feb 26: 11am-12pm Wednesday 11 th Mar 26: 11am-12pm Friday 20 th Mar 26: 11am-12pm Thursday 9 th Apr 26: 11am-12pm Thursday 16 th Apr 26: 11am-12pm	<u>Wythall</u> <u>Wythall Parish Council</u> <u>37 Silver Street, Wythall</u> Friday 6 th Feb 26: 6pm-7pm Thursday 19 th Feb 26: 6pm-7pm Saturday 14 th Mar 26: 6pm-7pm Wednesday 25 th Mar 26: 6pm-7pm Friday 10 th Apr 26: 6pm-7pm Saturday 18 th Apr 26: 6pm-7pm	<u>Rowney Green</u> <u>Rowney Green Village Hall</u> <u>Rowney Green Lane</u> Monday 9 th Feb 26: 11am-12pm Monday 16 th Feb 26: 11am-12pm Monday 16 th Mar 26: 11am-12pm Monday 30 th Mar 26: 11am-12pm Monday 6 th Apr 26: 11am-12pm Monday 27 th Apr 26: 11am-12pm
	<u>Majors Green</u> <u>Rowbrook Close, Majors Green</u> Saturday 7 th Feb 26: 6pm-7pm Friday 6 th Mar 26: 6pm-7pm Monday 20 th Apr 26: 6pm-7pm	<u>Beoley</u> <u>Moss Lane Close, Beoley</u> Sunday 8 th Feb 26: 6pm-7pm Saturday 7 th Mar 26: 6pm-7pm Sunday 19 th Apr 26: 6pm-7pm

Please be aware that due to the unpredictability of policing, sessions may be cancelled with little or no warning due to 'unforeseen' operational policing requirements. We would like to apologise in advance should this occur. To receive messages and updates from your SNT, please register online with our community messaging service 'Neighbourhood Matters' by visiting: www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk

Report crime online at:

www.westmercia.police.uk/report

For crimes in progress call 999



www.westmercia.police.uk

www.westmercia.police.uk

www.westmercia.police.uk

www.westmercia.police.uk

www.westmercia.police.uk

www.westmercia.police.uk

www.westmercia.police.uk

www.westmercia.police.uk

Rowney Green Useful Contacts

Alvechurch Parish Council /Broms District Council	Claire Mason	0121 447 8016 01527 881 288
The Calling Oak Editor	Louise Alcock	editor@thecallingoak.co.uk
Pilates	Steff Affleck	07759 590 830 www.steffafleck.co.uk
Rowney Green Players	Sue Walker	0121 445 1562
Horticultural Society	Lindsay Smith (Secretary) Pat Davies (chairperson)	01527 592 874 07970 188 227
Sassy Lassies	Debbie Sally	07594 669166 07767 255728
Village Taxi	Clive	07907 928 399
Village hall chairperson	Mark Easter	RGPMHTrustees@outlook.com
Rowney Green Association	Chair — John Cypher	rowneygreenassociation@gmail.com
ACE Rowney Green	Jude Louise	07551 950 840 07815 069703
Worcestershire Wildlife	Tom Watkins	01905 754919 enquiries@ worcestershirewildlifetrust.org
Newspaper delivery	Hillcrest stores	01564 823 866
100 club	Richard Woodward	07720 537269
Rowney Green Park	Pete Jeffs	07583 846121
Green Barn bookings	Jill Wallis	07931 868744
Village Hall Bookings	Sadie Dykes Annie Cowles	Admin@rowneygreenvillagehall.org

THE VILLAGE HALL -

Bookings February 2026

Contact the Booking Team: admin@rowneygreenvillagehall.org All bookings can be seen in more detail by

Time	Event	Time	Event
Sunday, February 1		Sunday, February 15	
10:00am - 1:00pm	Church Group MH MR SR	10:00am - 1:00pm	Church Group MH MR SR
2:00pm - 5:00pm	All & Sundry MH	2:00pm - 5:00pm	All & Sundry MH
Monday, February 2		Monday, February 16	
10:30am - 12:30pm	Coffee House SR	10:30am - 12:30pm	Coffee House SR
12:00pm - 2:00pm	Caretaking MH MR SR	12:00pm - 2:00pm	Caretaking MH MR SR
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Move It Or Lose It MH	1:30pm - 2:30pm	Move It Or Lose It MH
5:45pm - 7:45pm	Pilates MH	5:45pm - 7:45pm	Pilates MH
8:00pm - 10:00pm	RGP MH	8:00pm - 10:00pm	RGP MH
Tuesday, February 3		Tuesday, February 17	
9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH	9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH
5:45pm - 6:45pm	Pilates MH	5:45pm - 6:45pm	Pilates MH
7:00pm - 10:00pm	All & Sundry MH	7:00pm - 10:00pm	All & Sundry MH
Wednesday, February 4		Thursday, February 19	
6:15pm - 7:45pm	Riopredre Dance MH	9:30am - 1:30pm	Art Class MH
Thursday, February 5		Friday, February 20	
9:30am - 1:30pm	Art Class MH	9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH
Friday, February 6		6:00pm - 11:00pm	Goat & Trousers SR
9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Goat & Trousers MH
6:00pm - 11:00pm	Goat & Trousers SR	Saturday, February 21	
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Goat & Trousers MH	10:30am - 12:30pm	Private Booking MH
Sunday, February 8		6:30pm - 10:00pm	All & Sundry MH
10:00am - 1:00pm	Church Group MH MR SR	Sunday, February 22	
2:00pm - 5:00pm	All & Sundry MH	10:00am - 1:00pm	Church Group MH MR SR
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Horticultural Society MH	2:00pm - 5:00pm	All & Sundry MH
Monday, February 9		Monday, February 23	
10:30am - 12:30pm	Coffee House SR	10:30am - 12:30pm	Coffee House SR
12:00pm - 2:00pm	Caretaking MH MR SR	12:00pm - 2:00pm	Caretaking MH MR SR
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Move It Or Lose It MH	1:30pm - 2:30pm	Move It Or Lose It MH
5:45pm - 7:45pm	Pilates MH	5:45pm - 7:45pm	Pilates MH
8:00pm - 10:00pm	RGP MH	8:00pm - 10:00pm	RGP MH
Tuesday, February 10		Tuesday, February 24	
9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH	9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH
5:45pm - 6:45pm	Pilates MH	5:45pm - 6:45pm	Pilates MH
7:00pm - 10:00pm	All & Sundry MH	7:00pm - 10:00pm	All & Sundry MH
Wednesday, February 11		Wednesday, February 25	
6:15pm - 7:45pm	Riopredre Dance MH	6:15pm - 7:45pm	Riopredre Dance MH
Thursday, February 12		Thursday, February 26	
9:30am - 1:30pm	Art Class MH	9:30am - 1:30pm	Art Class MH
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Horticultural Society MH	Friday, February 27	
Friday, February 13		9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH
9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH	6:00pm - 11:00pm	Goat & Trousers SR
6:00pm - 11:00pm	Goat & Trousers SR	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Goat & Trousers MH
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Goat & Trousers MH	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Fete Meeting MR
		Saturday, February 28	
		5:00pm - 11:00pm	ACE MH SR

MH = Main Hall

MR = Meeting Room

SR = Social Room