

THE CALLING OAK

Issue 161– May 2026



Deadline for the June 2026 Issue is **15th May**

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,

May is one of my favourite months—2 bank holidays!! Of course the typical British weather does not necessarily mean we are getting the BBQ out or enjoying the garden but it is nice to turn the alarm clock off.

A few things to put in your diary this month. See the coming pages and get those tickets booked if it takes your fancy.

How good was the Queenenergy night. Thank you Ace team for another fab event. The music was great, the moustaches less so. Lots of dancing, you Rowney Green folk sure know how to have a good time.

I hope that you have managed to venture out and look at the beautiful bluebells. If you haven't then get yourself up to Peck wood for the last chance on May day bank holiday.

Wishing you all a good May.

Till next month.

Louise

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

Hello All!

We have an exciting new update to our advert this month! Florian will now also be available for dogsitting/dogwalking, so if I am away with any events or University (from September), I will pass on any messages to him, so hopefully one of us is always around to help you out!

I have lots of experience with children of all age ranges and we both have lots of prior experience with dogs. We are available on both weekends and weekday evenings (and some weekday afternoons - if in doubt feel free to ask!).

Please contact us if you're interested.

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

Thank you,
Sophie and Florian :)





Coffee Morning &more...

Raising funds to
support local people
living with Parkinson's

Bank Holiday Monday

4th May 2026

Rowney Green

Village Hall (B48 7QP)

10am – 12pm

£1 entry includes 1st drink

Join us for a cup of
tea/coffee whilst
browsing our stalls:

- Ever popular plants
- Cakes and Jam
- Paintings/cards
- Fused Glass
- Books
- Pre loved nic nacs & jewellery

And take part in our
tombola

We look forward to
meeting you



PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.

Update from Rowney Green Park Group



Rowney Green Park is looking absolutely stunning this spring, with the orchard now in blossom. The beautiful display of flowers has created a lovely space to spend time.



🎾 Tennis courts in full swing

The free tennis equipment continues to be very popular, with lots of people making the most of the facilities. It's great to see the courts so well used by all ages.

🏠 Green Barn bookings

The Green Barn remains a busy hub for the community, with plenty of bookings coming in. If you'd like to hire the barn for an event or gathering, please contact Jill, 07931868744, or visit the park stall at next month's village fete.

We have bluetits nesting in the box on the front of The Green Barn.

With so much activity and natural beauty, it's a great time to visit Rowney Green Park!



Village fete Collection

April - May



Please help us by donating

**Wrapped chocolate/sweets/toys
that will fit in jam jars**

Wine (for a new stall for 2026!)

Tombola prizes – kids & adults

Wrapping paper & ribbon



Drop Off points :
Ruth @ Bleaklow
Debbie @ Woodbine
Jenny @ Lilac Cottage LRG
Green barn Saturdays 10-12

Thank You

Profits from the fete
are a key way we pay
for the maintenance
& improvement
of our
park.



POPPY UPDATE!

Hi All!!

We thought that (given her celebrity status) we would give you all a quick update on how Poppy has settled in.

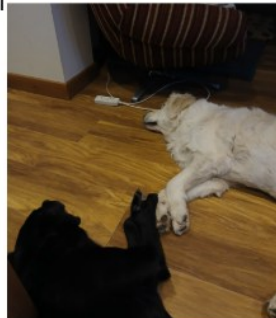
Most of you now know that, after Sandy very sadly passed away, her longstanding companion Poppy has now come to move into Rose Cottage with us and our two other dogs (Rosie and Molly). (Poppy says it is very helpful that she has moved from one 'Rose Cottage' to another one - it makes life easier for Neil the postman when he is delivering her birthday cards!).

After about a week of gently introducing them to each other part-time, Poppy moved in full time a couple of weeks ago and is now very firmly established. She has now claimed her "spot" in the living room and enjoys her daily walks with Molly in the evenings - please do come and say hi if you spot us out, she loves a fuss!!

We have loved having her join the family, she really is just a fluffy ball of love!

Here are some photos of the three of them from the last month...we particularly like the one of them 'holding paws'!

From,
Soph, Flor, Wilma and Robin :)



Rowney Green
Players
presents
CURTAIN UP!
by Peter Quilter
Thursday 7th, Friday 8th,
Saturday 9th May 2026

Postphoned

Tickets available from Sue Walker
07977 254519 or 0121 445 1562
Rowney Green Village Hall, Rowney Green Lane, B48 7QP



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Community Improvement Project survey report



Thank you to everyone who responded to the RGA questionnaire printed in the March edition of the Calling Oak and on the Rowney Green website.

By the closing date, the RGA had received 18 completed questionnaires.

From the suggestions listed, the most chosen projects in order of preference were:

1. Support improvement of the local countryside footpaths.
2. Improve the local village appearance and environment with the addition of flowers shrubs and trees.
3. Better road safety signage and (joint third) Resurfacing of the existing village centre footpaths.

Additional suggestions made were:

- CCTV installation at village entrances.
- Attention to overgrown vegetation obstructing the road and paths.
- Removal of animal excrement.
- Prohibition of HGVs going through the village.
- Early introduction of road safety measures on the Holloway.

If you have any suggestions for small, low cost improvements for which we can seek funding, and would like to complete a questionnaire, please visit the website <https://rowneygreen.org/wp-content/uploads/RGA-January-2026-Survey.pdf> and either print and return to the post box in the Village Hall entrance porch or complete online and send to rowneygreenassociation@gmail.com.

You do not need to be a RGA member.

The RGA will be discussing the results at the **May 5th** meeting after the AGM.

The RGA committee welcomes you as a new member!



The Village Hall on the evening of 5th May- that's when the RGA has its AGM, followed by the regular business session. Might this be the time when you decide to do that bit more for our community by joining the association's committee?

If so, why not visit <https://rowneygreen.org> to check our webpages or speak to a current committee member. Then email our secretary at rowneygreenassociation@gmail.com for more details, or to confirm you want to join the committee. Please do make contact ahead of the meeting and thank you.

Extract from the RGA contribution to the 2025/26 Annual Meeting Report published by Alvechurch Parish Council

The top RGA business items currently numbering five are below.

1. Efforts have continued with Worcestershire County Highways for improved village road safety, particularly to achieve a 20-mph speed limit through the village central part. A walkabout with our MP Bradley Thomas last summer illustrated the road hazards but his support in later correspondence made no impact on the County. Residents and visitors alike will therefore have to walk for over 1km of the current 30 mph zone in the roadway alongside mixed traffic. Our latest focus is to switch to getting extra road signs giving all vehicle drivers more safety information about the road conditions ahead.
2. The major Parish housing development at Bordesley Hall brings continuing issues involving construction traffic, road surface impact, cleanliness and noise. The recent successful planning application for conversion of the Hall itself into flats and attached houses means construction work will continue for several more years. Section 106 monies, required by Bromsgrove Council from the developers Wain Homes, were not allocated for any RG community improvement. We have therefore requested the company directors to make a special donation to several identified village projects.
3. With frequent power outages in RG due to weather conditions impacting the overhead power lines we have produced a special advice note for our residents on dealing with various emergency situations including availability of the village hall as a refuge. We have also discussed with the Parish Council the updating of aspects of the Parish Emergency Plan to include power interruption and the responses.
4. Recent crime events including an aggravated burglary mean residents' concerns have grown around the need for a village camera monitoring scheme. We sought information from Bromsgrove district council about their portable CCTV units and the conditions of use for crime monitoring. Unfortunately, with no footpath lighting in Rowney Green and no other camera mounting points with a power supply, it is not possible to install one or more of the cameras. We have suggested to Bromsgrove Council that solar power CCTV would be an appropriate addition for use in rural areas like ours.
5. Anticipating future availability of various public and other grant schemes (including S 106) for community improvement purposes, we are organising a community survey seeking residents views on possible village improvements at reasonable cost. Potential projects will be ranked and shared where appropriate with the Parish and District Councils for support.

Classic Cream Tea

Rowney Green House Farm

Sunday 7th June | 2.30pm to 4.30pm

**In the event of wet weather, this event
will move to the Village Hall**



Enjoy an afternoon of classical music from

The Eularia Trio

*with a
Gorgeous Cream Tea*



Tickets £15 (under 16yrs £10)

Janet 07515 029315 or

Deb 07594 669166

*Pimm's &
Prosecco Bar*

Helping to raise awareness and money for the F.T.D. Brothers Foundation.

All & Sundry Productions Presents

written by
Anthony Shaffer

Directed by
Mike Richardson

SL TH

24th-27th

June

7:30pm

**ARTRIX
Studio
Bromsgrove**

SLIDESLOW DRIVE

BROMSGROVE

B60 1GN

ARTRIX

Tickets £15*

From

artribromsgrove.co.uk

&

allandsundry.uk

**excludes booking fee*

**Not recommended for under 12yo
Performance contains mild
swearing and gun shots**



This amateur production of "Sleuth" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.

A REQUEST TO ALL GARDENERS

At this year's summer fete on Saturday 20th June we will once again be having a plant stall – all monies raised will go to help maintain the Park.

If you can contribute any plants this will be much appreciated, so please bear us in mind at this time of year when sowing seeds or dividing plants.

Plants are not required until the day of the fete

Thank you!



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 14th May 2026 the Speaker will be

Greg Hunt from Fruitfields, Barnt Green.

Greg and his family set up their family business of planting an orchard in North Worcestershire in 2009. The orchard has expanded to include a variety of fruit trees and soft fruit bushes.

They also have their own Fruitfields honey apiaries produce wonderfully tasting local apple juice, cider and honey.

Guests are welcome £3.50 including coffee and biscuits.

For more information please telephone Lindsay Smith on 01527 592874.

ROWNEY GREEN VILLAGE FETE

SATURDAY 20TH JUNE

Dog Show starts at 12.30pm
(register from midday)

**Fete officially opens at
1.30pm**



◆ ONE EVENING ONLY ◆

BOOK CLUB

Thursday 7th May
—◆ 7:30pm ◆—
Kindly hosted by Sally
at Hornton House

This Evening's Book:

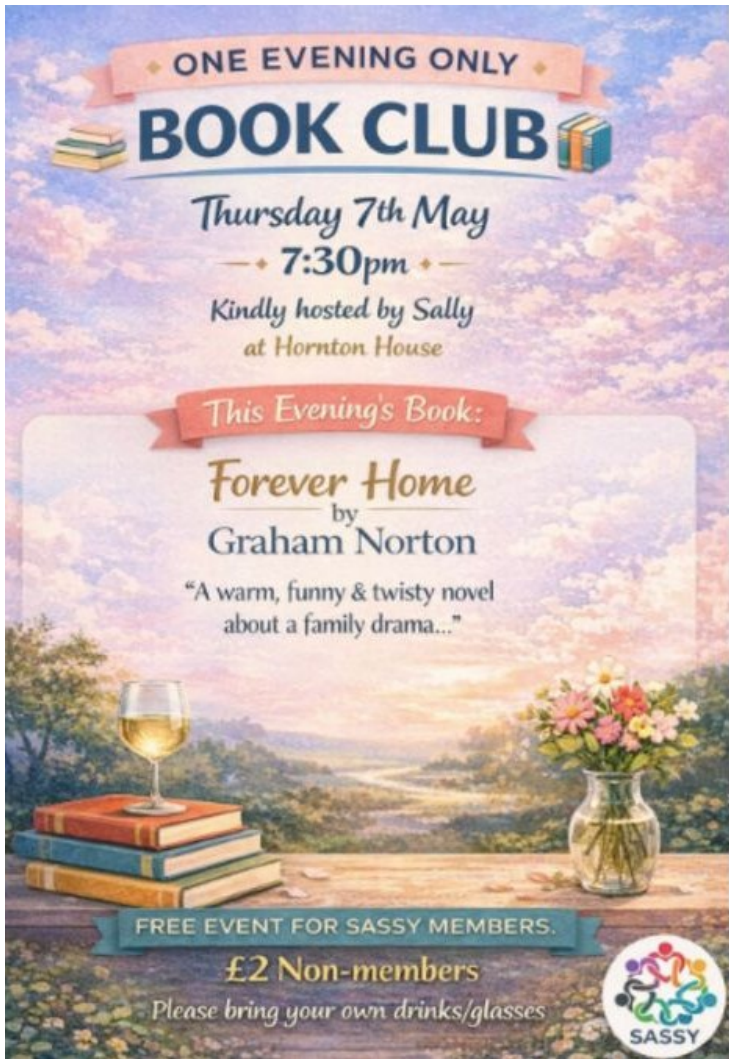
Forever Home

by
Graham Norton

"A warm, funny & twisty novel
about a family drama..."

FREE EVENT FOR SASSY MEMBERS.

£2 Non-members
Please bring your own drinks/glasses



A big welcome to Elizabeth and Gregor Barr who moved into Wood End in April. Welcome to the village, we hope you will be very happy here.

Sassy Lassies



Our next Sassy Lassies event is Thursday May 7th and we'll be trying something a little different: a one-off book club evening at 7.30 pm at Hornton House on Rowney Green Lane.

Our chosen read is Graham Norton's novel Forever Home. Please do get hold of a copy and start reading, so you can join us for what promises to be a light-hearted (and possibly spirited!) discussion of Graham's book. Again please bring your own drink and your own glass.

Our following Sassy Lassies on Thursday 4th June will be a pottery painting evening at 7.30 pm. We have various pieces of pottery you can choose from and you can decorate them as you wish.

Each piece will have a price which will include all the glazes and firing. It will be sent away for firing in the kiln and you will receive your item all nice and shiny after this process. Prices for items will vary but will be a lot lower than commercial pottery events eg a teapot will be around £10.

This will be a fun and relaxing evening and you do not need to be an artist, you can just paint spots if you wish. If you are not a member and you wish to attend, please contact Sally, Jude or myself (details back of Calling Oak) so that we can make sure we have sufficient items.

Entry is free to members and £3 for non members.

We'd love you to join us



Happy Birthday

Arthur Dykes 17

Ben Croxton 18

Wishing you all a great day

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



The 100 club Results for April 2026



1st Prize £25 No 6 Rita Rawson.

2nd Prize £15 No 117 Anna Brendon Penn.

3rd Prize £10 No 162 Jacqui Grandfield.

4th Prize £5 No 108 Leanne England.

Congratulations to the Winners

Thanks to all the members of the 100 Club for supporting the RG park

Remember Numbers are Half Price Until August 2026 £5 per Number

For cash sales please contact Richard Woodward, Will Savage, or Sue Dutton

Standing orders payable to the 100 club bank account.

Account Name: Rowney Green Village Hall Lottery

Sort Code: 54-30-35

Account No: 38776154

Payment Reference: "Your House Name or Full Name



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.



Queenergy

What a fantastic evening! It was brilliant to see everyone enjoying themselves—singing along to Queen hits, dancing the night away, and rocking some truly questionable moustaches!

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to support the event, and to those who helped out behind the scenes, especially with the clear-up at the end — it really does make a difference.

We're delighted to share that, thanks to a sell-out night (and plenty of drinking!), we not only covered all our costs but also raised an amazing **£155** 🍷

This will be carried forward and donated to our next charity event: **Classic Cream Tea** (check out the poster for details).

Thanks again and we hope to see you soon!

The Ace Team ♠️



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- * Additional lights/sockets through to full rewire
- * Inspection and testing
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Tel: 0121 445 2562

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Logo by Artemis-Rose

ALVECHURCH PICNIC IN THE PARK

Sunday 24th May 2026

The Meadows, Alvechurch

10.30 Dog Show

12.00 noon Grand opening

12.00 – 4.30 Activities & entertainment
for all

Alvechurch Cricket Club

4.30 til late

• Bars • Food vans •

Live Music • Activities

Dog show & stalls • Face painting • Children's activities
Competitions • Entertainment • Pig roast • Refreshments

DRESS UP AND WIN! FAIRY TALE THEME. PRIZES TO BE WON!

A fun day out for all • Everyone welcome!

With kind support from

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ALVECHURCH

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For more
info:



No admission charge. Dogs welcome but must be on lead.
Gazebos welcome, open flames and barbecues are not.

Rowney Green Useful Contacts

Alvechurch Parish council (RG Rep)	Wendy Easter	wendy.easter@alvechurch.gov.uk
The Calling Oak Editor	Louise Alcock	editor@thecallingoak.co.uk
Pilates	Steff Affleck	07759 590 830 www.steffaffleck.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@worcestershirowildlifetrust.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 May 2026

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

Time	Event	Time	Event
Friday, May 1		Friday, May 15	
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, May 16	
Sunday, May 3		10:00am - 2:00pm	Private Booking MH
10:00am - 1:00pm	Church Group MH MR SR	Sunday, May 17	
Monday, May 4		10:00am - 1:00pm	Church Group MH MR SR
9:00am - 1:00pm	Parkinson's Coffee Morning MH	Monday, May 18	
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
5:45pm - 7:45pm	Pilates MH	1:30pm - 2:30pm	Move It Or Lose It MH
Tuesday, May 5		5:45pm - 7:45pm	Pilates MH
9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH	7:30pm - 8:30pm	Trustee Meeting SR
5:45pm - 6:45pm	Pilates MH	Tuesday, May 19	
7:30pm - 9:30pm	RGA MR	9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH
Wednesday, May 6		5:45pm - 6:45pm	Pilates MH
6:15pm - 7:45pm	Riopredre Dance MH	Wednesday, May 20	
6:30pm - 7:30pm	All & Sundry SR	6:15pm - 7:45pm	Riopredre Dance MH
7:30pm - 9:30pm	All & Sundry MR	Thursday, May 21	
Thursday, May 7		9:30am - 1:30pm	Art Class MH
6:00pm - 10:00pm	RGP MH MR SR	Friday, May 22	
Friday, May 8		9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH
9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH	6:00pm - 11:00pm	Goat & Trousers SR
6:00pm - 10:00pm	RGP MH MR SR	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Goat & Trousers MH
Saturday, May 9		Sunday, May 24	
6:00pm - 10:00pm	RGP MH MR SR	10:00am - 1:00pm	Church Group MH MR SR
Sunday, May 10		Monday, May 25	
10:00am - 1:00pm	Church Group MH MR SR	10:30am - 12:30pm	Coffee House SR
Monday, May 11		12:00pm - 2:00pm	Caretaking MH MR SR
10:30am - 12:30pm	Coffee House SR	1:30pm - 2:30pm	Move It Or Lose It MH
12:00pm - 2:00pm	Caretaking MH MR SR	5:45pm - 7:45pm	Pilates MH
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Move It Or Lose It MH	Tuesday, May 26	
5:45pm - 7:45pm	Pilates MH	9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH
Tuesday, May 12		5:45pm - 6:45pm	Pilates MH
9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH	Friday, May 29	
5:45pm - 6:45pm	Pilates MH	9:15am - 10:15am	Pilates MH
Wednesday, May 13		6:00pm - 11:00pm	Goat & Trousers SR
6:15pm - 7:45pm	Riopredre Dance MH	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Goat & Trousers MH
Thursday, May 14		Sunday, May 31	
9:30am - 1:30pm	Art Class MH	10:00am - 1:00pm	Church Group MH MR SR
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Horticultural Society MH		

MH = Main Hall

MR = Meeting Room

SR = Social Room