



# THE BANBURY EVERGREENS LINK

## Keeping You In Touch

Issue 102 1st January 2026

Email: [evergreensbanbury@gmail.com](mailto:evergreensbanbury@gmail.com)

**NEW YEAR BUMPER EDITION.**

**MAY WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY AND HEALTH NEW YEAR**

**SIDMOUTH HOLIDAY 25th JUNE 4  
nights £545.00 pp**

**Royal York and FAULKNER HOTEL**

If you fancy a few days by the sea then this one could be for you. To sign up you need to be at the sports centre on Tues. 13th January at 1600 in the cafe or send in an email at 1600 to the GMail account ([evergreensbanbury@gmail.com](mailto:evergreensbanbury@gmail.com)) saying what room type you require (sgl, twn or dbl) Any emails received before 1600 will be considered after the 1600 ones to avoid queue jumping and keep things fair. Annette has checked out the hotel on line and says it looks fabulous. Lynette is in charge of this trip and has been busy seeking out places of interest for day trips which will include Killerton (national trust) Exeter, an observatory and Bicton Park. Put a note in your diaries to send that email as there are only 40 places on this trip and some singles.



A beautiful Georgian hotel overlooking the Esplanade and bay. Each room has tea and coffee making facilities, flat screen TV and available Wifi.

**BOWLING 19th JAN 1300 £7.50**

We have been asked to change the time of the bowling by members who would prefer to get home in daylight so we are now starting at 1300. You should get time for 2 games. Food and drink is available if you would like it but is not included in the ticket price and you can arrive early if you want to eat first. There will be a prize for each game and one for the overall winner. Tickets will be available from 1st Jan and you can pay on line anytime from now



**GREYHOUND RACING AT OXFORD**

This will be Feb 15th leaving Banbury around 1300 TBC. The cost includes the coach, a burger and chip lunch, a drink and 1 bet and will be £35.00. The bus only holds 16 so please ring or email if this is of interest as it is first come first served. Lynette is in charge of this on 07772 584 770 or [lynette1951@live.co.uk](mailto:lynette1951@live.co.uk) so please ring and book a ticket before putting money into the account. Ref DOG and your name.



Dear Chris

I just had to write and tell you what a wonderful Christmas Party you, the committee and volunteers laid on for us members on Saturday! I had a great time - it was such a well-organised, fun and joyous evening and I'm so glad I went! It was so lovely to see us, the older generation, letting their hair down and having so much fun! Please do convey to everyone involved in making this event possible that we really do appreciate all the work that goes on behind the scenes for our benefit. Thank you so much - I do hope you too were able to enjoy it too!

Regards, Sheila x

Hi Chris and Committee.

Just to say thanks for last night's Xmas Party. It was brilliant and seemed like every little thing had been carefully thought about. The food, music, table decorations, balloons etc. Thanks again from The Foxy Four alias Margaret, Frances, Ann & Me. I will also add Maria & Patrica, who I know really enjoyed it and were most impressed with the M&S veggie selection.

Kind regards from us all. Sue

Dear Chris, What a fabulous party you organised last Saturday evening. Everything was excellent - the organisation, the tables, the decorations, the food, the band, the company. And it was good that you mixed people up on the tables. We were sitting with two u3a members (Frances and Ann) whom I hadn't spoken to previously. Thank you so much for all your, and the committee's, hard work. You have raised the bar far beyond that of the Christmas parties we had enjoyed in the past. Well done, Chris. Gerry xx

Hi Chris, A big thank you to you and the committee for a great Evergreens Christmas party on Saturday. You all worked so hard to make it such a good time and we both enjoyed it very much. From our experience in earlier years, we know how much time and effort is involved and how tiring it can be. All the committee worked tirelessly with good humour and an obvious desire to serve the members well. Thank you seems a bit inadequate, but we mean it. Best wishes and a Happy Christmas from Barrie and Mary Wood.

### Chair womens plea

I can't begin to tell you how heartwarming it is to receive such praise for the work your committee do and yes I do pass on the comments. We do work hard and we set high standards as there is no pleasure for us in doing things any less than our best. We do need to know when things are a bit wrong so please tell us that also as that's how we can improve. From my perspective I hated the wait to get in and sadly it will be the same if we use this venue again. We will continue to investigate other places which are central, have a bar, close and have reasonable parking, which are things you have previously asked for. Any ideas?

### CHRISTMAS SURPRISE

Linda Young applied for a grant for us and has been successful. Thank you so much. We are to receive £200 and will put it to good use so that everyone benefits.


**PLEASE FIND HERewith THE 2026 MEMBERSHIP FORM THAT YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE SO THAT WE HAVE YOUR UP TO DATE INFORMATION, ESPECIALLY ANY DIET, ALLEGIES THAT WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT.**

**THIS WILL BE REQUIRED AS WE WILL BE DELETING THE OLD MEMBERS LIST AND STARTING AGAIN WITH THE NEW MEMBERSHIP FORMS.**

**WE ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO HOLD THE MOST UP TO DATE INFORMATION DUE TO GDPR REQUIREMENTS.**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS TOGETHER WITH YOUR PAYMENT BY THE 31ST DECEMBER 2025. TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER**

**DIRECT BANK PAYMENT PREFERRED ACT 20434140 SORT CODE 20 03 84 OR BY CHEQUE PAYABLE TO THE BANBURY EVERGREENS.**

 **The Banbury Evergreens 2026**

S \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Date Of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Number \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Diet Requirements \_\_\_\_\_

Mobility Requirements \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Admin Only:  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Mem List \_\_\_\_\_ Accounts \_\_\_\_\_

I give my permission for these details and any photographs to be stored and used by Banbury Evergreens in digital form for Evergreens use in publications

## STEAM TRAIN & CHRISTMAS PART EVENTS



### STEAM TRAIN

Our train should have looked like this but sadly it had broken down but as ever, Evergreens made the most of the day on our restored diesel train. We had gingerbread biscuits, visits to the naughty or nice monitor, listened to the band, sang carols, went to the pantomime (oh yes we did!) and had a play in the junction box in the Museum. The good news is that all 18 who went and were initially disappointed now have a free pass to the railway during the next year. If you want your tickets see me in the new year and if you don't then let me know as they can be used as raffle prizes. (Photo left) Mike Willsher with one of the friendly volunteers.



Waiting for the train.

Jayne Drury, Lynette Langley, Penny Coley, Margaret Fox, Ann Williams and Sue Sturgeon having a lovely warming drink and a chat whilst the band played on



Alan Butler, Jane Holmes, Lynette Langley and Anne Jackson getting in the festive mood watched by the reindeer behind them. Careful where the antlers go! The station had a very festive feel.



Sue and Francis taking in the displays



There were some "hands on" bits in the museum so Janet Wiltshire is having a go. Lets hope no accidents happened as a result of this!



Jane showing John Lee how to charge the points.



Janet and Sarah Carter relaxing on the train with Margaret and Sue behind them



Lynette, Jayne and Penny. Looks like Lynette has burst into song!



Lots to see on the platforms and the weather was cool but kind so Jayne even got her coat off.



This was the train they brought in to replace our broken steam train.



The Room all laid out ready for the guests to arrive. Doesn't it look fabulous!



So many smiling faces, too many to name, but as always up there dancing and sat down chatting. Its what Evergreens do best.



Gerry doing the Scarf dance



Phil Angie Geoff & Joyce



Sarah and John, John and Christine



Lucky Peter Wiltshire on his second prize. Well done



Mary wins too. A bottle for sharing



Alan Butler, another lucky winner



Chrissie Wood - another committee member winner



John Dixons ably assisted by Christine Douglas



Maddie takes 2nd place



Norma is going to have to have a great time



Peter Wiltshire taking 1st prize



Pete McGill without his Guinness and caught dancing



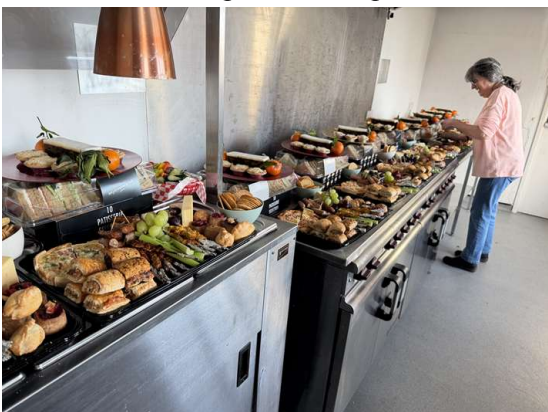
First on the floor



Margaret and Ann, John and Christine



Barrie Wood in party mood



Kitchen production line - almost done



Careful Jane. You are supposed to let them go



The room starts to fill up and the music begins



Gerry and Val hit the dance floor



Lots of arm waving going on



Doesnt Pete scrub up well Maria



Is this a bunch of carol singers or just Evergreens having fun?



A busy dance floor as always



Lovely Christmas jumpers Don and Maureen



Dance floor still full



Stan and Ann obviously had different cracker jokes than us



Roy n Chris not winning the raffle



Mary and Derek join in the dancing



Pete & Sue



Kathy & Pauline



Phil & Angie



Sue & Pat



Roy and Margaret Cook checking out the quiz



Is this the panel of judges for the dancing?



3 of our newest members, Geraldine, Catalina and Ian



Xi / Nancy and friend with Mike



Whats got them giggling?



Above centre. Alan, Stan and John in festive mood.



Above left. Maria and Cynthia taking a break.



Left, all smiles from Jane, Sheila and Shirley. We haven't worked Shirley to death yet.

Right. Sheila enjoying a glass of something to keep the party spirit going.

Overall everyone seems to be having a great time. Phew!





Steven and Pauline Edes with David Hearnshaw.



David Wade and Margaret Dickerson



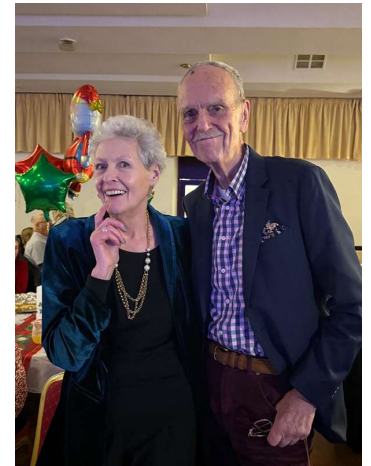
The two Chrises



Stan and Ann



Peter and Janet Wiltshire



Mary and Derek



Eileen, Sheila and John



Peter, Carole, Mary and Barrie



Janet, Jean and Roy



Norma and Sue clearly enjoying a little of what they fancy



Is Sue propositioning Pete or just admiring his ear rings



Chris and Cynthia

We know we have missed a couple of you out but its really difficult to include everyone when there were 82 people there. We were pleased to have all of you there and even more pleased to see the smiling faces. Apologies to anyone we missed.

## MEMBERSHIP

Banbury Folk Club - meet weekly on a Weds at The Cromwell Lodge Hotel. Artists are as advertised on the folk club website, along with admission cost. Chris Kay attends

-----  
Diamond Spur Line dancing- weekly beginners lessons Tues 7-8pm at Hardwick Community Centre. £6. New dances are taught every 12 weeks, giving the chance to join the class throughout the year.

-----  
Weekly Over 50s Ballroom and Latin Dancing lessons at The Mill, £7 a class, starting at 1145am, from 7th January- 25th March. No partner needed. Full details on The Mill Website. Chris and Roy attending

-----  
Health Walks with walk leaders

Adderbury - weekly gentle 3 mile walk in the country around Adderbury | Every Monday, leaving Adderbury Library at 1030am ( meet at 1015 to register). Also a 5 mile walk for those wanting a bit longer walk

Grimsbury. meeting at the Mill 1030 every Tuesday. Speak to Anne or Shirley

Easington Every Weds 1030 meeting at Sainsburys Speak to Shirley or Anne

Walking shoes/ boots recommended. Normally followed by coffee.

-----  
Regular shows of various kinds at The Mill Theatre. See The Mill Website for details. It is common to see Banbury Evergreen members there and it is generally a very friendly atmosphere.

-----  
Country & Western at Banbury Borough Bowls club last Sunday in the month ring Chris 07971 144 416 for details

-----  
Free Fish and chip lunch

1st Friday of each month at Glebefields Drayton. You need to book 07971144416

-----  
SILVER SCREEN

Every Thursday @The light Cinema

Social meeting

How about coffee or tea at The Cromwell lodge on a weds PM.

Keep your eye on this space in the next magazine

We currently have 70 members who have renewed their membership for 2026. We need a form and payment as we will delete the old list on 1st Jan once we have sent this. Anyone who hasn't completed a new form and made their payment will not receive newsletters in the future. We are however still honouring the lifetime membership previously given to our existing Honourary members which means you will be able to continue to join us for free tea and coffee at the sports centre should you choose to and attend events but you will have to find out about them through other members who might give you the newsletter to read. If in doubt please phone me 07971144416

GET WELL SOON

To all of you who couldn't make the party because of illness we wish you a quick recovery and thank you for not spreading the problem. It is much appreciated by all

**CHRISTMAS QUIZ WINNING TEAM WERE** .Don & Maureen ,Chris & John ,Laura & Mervyn,,Sarah & Jon. THE XMAS TREE,S  
KNIFE AMMNESTY

If you have been planning to have a clear out in your cutlery drawer we would like to relieve you of any surplus knives you may have - as well as spoons and forks. We are trying to think of ways to improve on events and ditching the wooden cutlery would make me a lot happier.

As you know we subsidised the party by £500 and have a plan in place to ensure that the party next year is as good but without subsidy

CHAIR WOMANS THOUGHTS

On behalf of the committee I would like to thank you all again for the support and thanks received throughout the year.

The committee seem to think that I always have a "but" to add and I do....its how we improve things.

So thankyou again but when it comes to next years AGM I would ask that members pencil in the date so they can attend and more importantly that you fill in the nomination sheets to vote for the committee members as is the usual format. This years committee kindly agreed to stand but its not how it should be. I had to press gang people at the sports centre to nominate those people as we didn't receive one single nomination for any of the posts.

The second thank you is to those people who get in touch to say how things could be done to improve on things. We do not view this as interference "but" as constructive help. Could more people do this please. Happy New Year to you all

## Evergreens Events

January 19th

Ten Pin Bowling

3pm £7.50

February 15th 1pm

Dog Racing @ Oxford

Potters March 9th

4 Nights 5 Days

Including subsidised  
DUXFORD Air Museum

March TBA

Spring Walk & Eat

June 25th

Sidmouth seaside 4  
night 5 day holiday