DIARY DATES FOR FEBRUARY 2026

1st	8.30 am	Holy Communion in St Peter's Church
5th		Prescription Rota – Sandra Wilkins
15th	10.30 am	Holy Communion in St Peter's Church
17th	11.30 – 11.50 am	Mobile library at bus stop.
19th		Prescription Rota – Lilian Smith-Vincent 670767

Your Parish Council

Simon Hooker Chair 07740 844304
Penny Gardner 07976 179834
James Stephens 07967 146988
Colin Mathews 07764 178442
Helen Hide-Wright clerk@radwayparishcouncil.org.uk

Hall Booking line – Nicola Steddy on 07766 417302

Newsletter editor – Puffin Pocock 07811 783272 (landline discontinued)

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 19th March, 2026 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. All residents are welcome.

The next REG meeting will be on ***Thursday 12th March, 2027, 2026*** in the Village Hall at 7:30pm. It would be great to have some new faces and fresh ideas at the REG meetings, so please do come along.

RADWAY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2026

Parish Council News

Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council is still looking for someone to join the team following Clare's resignation last year. If you would like to know more about what is involved with being on the PC or are indeed interested in joining it, then please contact Simon Hooker (07740 844304).

Local Government Reorganisation

Warwickshire County Council has submitted its final proposal for Local Government Reorganisation. The proposal sets out that a single unitary council for Warwickshire would be the best way forward.
The proposal demonstrates that a single unitary authority would deliver at least £18.7 million in annual net benefits - three times more than a two-tier model (as now) and could unlock up to £119 million in long-term transformation savings. This means more funding for vital frontline services like social care, housing and children's services. The Council believes a single unitary authority for Warwickshire provides a single, consistent vision for the county, helping it to deliver stronger communities, better services and real value for money.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7226/warwickshire-county-council-s-final-proposal-for-local-government-reorganisation

Defibrillator Training

The Parish Council has received communication from a company offering to run training in the use of our defibrillator (located on the wall of the village hall opposite the bus stop). They offer training in the use of the defibrillator itself (duration 1½ hours) or a more general first aid training session (duration 3 hours). Anyone interested in attending either one of these training sessions please contact Simon Hooker. We will aim to set up a session in early spring.

Scam Emails, letters & phone calls

Unfortunately scam emails, letters & phone calls are on the increase, and the Parish Council was concerned to hear from a resident who was worried about a recent scam letter they had received. Whilst this is obviously a national issue, it seems to be more concerning when it happens to someone you know. The issue has been in the news recently with the Government setting up a new

fraud reporting website at reportfraud.police.uk, the phone number for this is 0300 123 2040.

If you are at all worried about any unusual or unsolicited communication you receive, first of all speak to someone you trust - a friend or relative, (any member of the Parish Council would be happy to help also) and then report your suspicions via the website or phone number above.
Registering you phone number with the Telephone Preference Service (the UK's only official 'do not call' register for landlines and mobiles) can significantly reduce the number of nuisance phone calls you receive.

Bird Flu
At the recent Parish Council Meeting, Chris Mills (Warwickshire County Councillor) advised us that bird flu has been detected in South Warwickshire. He provided a poster that outlines the measures that we should all follow when out in the countryside to minimize the risks of spreading the disease. This has been put up on the bus shelter noticeboard. But essentially the message is;

- Keep to footpaths with dogs on leads
- Do not feed wild waterfowl
- Do not pick up or touch dead or sick wild birds
- Do not touch wild bird feathers or surfaces contaminated with wild bird droppings
- If you keep poultry or other birds, wash your hands, clean and disinfect your footwear before tending your birds
- If you find any dead wild birds report online at www.gov.uk/guidance/report-dead-wild-birds or call the DEFRA helpline on 03459 33 55 77

Road Gritting
For those that didn't see the message about road gritting on the village WhatsApp Group. The PC have been in touch with Warwickshire County Council Highways who outlined their gritting policy as follows. They are, as you would expect, limited by the resources they have so the priorities are; to grit all major routes and A roads, most B roads and in rural areas one route into a village. This means they grit around 46% of the road network they are responsible for. The 'one route" into the village for Radway is Farnborough Road. The B4086 is also gritted.

Radway Events Group (REG) News
It seems a long time ago now, but the annual Carols around the Tree event was extremely well attended with 60+ people braving the freezing temperatures to join in with the carols before heading in to the Village Hall for a glass of mulled wine and a bite to eat.

At the REG AGM held on Thursday 22nd January it was agreed that REG would distribute £600 of the £800 currently in the bank account. The money will be split, with £500 going to The Church for a) the church roof fund and b) the Edgehill battlefield Exhibition as the audio-visual display has broken and needs to be fixed. The additional £100 will be held back to donate to other village groups that might need a donation.

The coming year will see REG supporting the main fundraising challenge for the village, that of raising money to sort out the roof on the church. To that end REG events this year will seek to raise money wherever possible, but the goal to bring the community together and have a bit of fun will still be there, just with a bit more focus on generating a bit of cash.

With that in mind, here are a few events and dates for your diaries:

- ***Friday 27th February*** – A Board games evening in the village hall from 6pm. Barry Jackson will lead us in an evening of fun playing a variety of board and card games. He has been running these in Kineton for a while and they have proved very popular. There will be food (baked potatoes & various fillings, and / or pizza) plus a paid bar. Tickets will be £10.00 for an adult or £25 for a family ticket. Please contact Lilian on 07786 325196 if you would like tickets.
- ***Sunday 29th March*** - Volunteering Day – an opportunity to join in with village maintenance and tidying up activities, followed by a bacon roll and a cup of tea or coffee in the Village Hall.
- ***May*** (date TBC) – A talk in the village hall – presenter TBC.
- ***Saturday 6th June*** – Open Garden at The Grange – See under Church News
- ***Saturday 18th July*** - Progressive Supper

Heating oil syndicate
Newcomers to Radway may not know about the heating oil syndicate which runs in Radway in combination with three local villages. It's known as the Gaydon Oil Syndicate.

There are five deliveries a year. When the dates get close, oil orders are collected from all the villages and are sent out to tender with local suppliers. You don't need to order every time...just skip a date if you have enough.
The lowest offer is accepted and deliveries commence. Payment is made direct from individual purchasers to the suppliers. Payments may be required in advance. Around 60 members order each time centrally, of which around 15-18 are from Radway.

If you would like more info. please contact me (by email please) and I will try to help. At the time of writing the next order dates are 31st Jan. and 4th Apr 2026, at Noon.
Paul Grenet
Smithy Cottage
paul@pgcomputing.co.uk

Church News
Roof Restoration Project Update
The action group has been working very hard to complete the first stage of the lottery grant funding application, the Project Enquiry Form, and we are hoping to submit this by the end of January.
We have also been working on other grant funding avenues, a village engagement survey (coming too you soon) and fundraising ideas. On that note, please save the date for the:

OPEN GARDEN DAY AT RADWAY GRANGE
By kind permission of David and Karen Richards
SATURDAY 6th JUNE

We need green-fingered Radwegians to grow plants for the plant stall, bakers to make your amazing cakes and many volunteers to help on the day!
We are especially looking for someone who would be willing to coordinate the plant growing and running of the plant stall.
If you can help at all in any way, please contact:
Clare Rankin 07976 286037 Hemp Cottage clarerankin@aol.com or
Alison Hooker 07831 632864 Holles House alisonhooker2@gmail.com

The Battle of Edgehill Exhibition in church, has just celebrated it's 10th birthday. Thanks to lottery funding, many local donations, and much hard work by a dedicated group, it opened on the anniversary of the battle, 23 October 2015.

The Battlefields Trust, Cromwell Association and The Sealed Knot all recognise its historical importance, but it also illustrates the real hardship that was inflicted on our village predecessors. Since opening it has been enjoyed by schools, (pupils loving the opportunity to handle real muskets), historic societies, and visitors from throughout the world.

In just the last 6 months, visitors have come from Bath to Aberdeen, and internationally from Belgium, New Hampshire, Germany, Wellington NZ, Melbourne and Canada.

The Church is open from 8 til 8 every day so please do pop in, or look at our website: http://www.battleofedgehillexhibitionradway.org.uk/

A Tribute to Brian Douthwaite, a true son of Radway.
Brian Douthwaite passed away on 28th December 2025. Although he lived in Kineton for the last thirty years of his life, he always considered Radway his home. Born at Townsend Farm, later living at Shakesfield House, Valley Farm and then moving to Arnold's Farm where he converted the barns into a home. Brian took on Townsend Farm and farmed in the village all his working life.
He was always very involved in village life, having been a part of the Parish Council for several decades, and as Chair for some of that time, including when Radway won 'Best kept Warwickshire Village' in 1977. He also was a long-standing member of the PCC and a church warden for over 40 years. Always keen to make a change, Brian setup the bellringers and led a project to have the sixth bell installed. He later went on to be a key part of setting up the Battle of Edgehill exhibition in the church, the audio information points around the village and the accessible ramp to the church door. This is by no means an exhaustive list of what he was involved with, but they are some of the key, local ones.
Rest in Peace Brian. You will be sorely missed.