

Gawcott Newsletter

January 2026

Make a note in you diary – Its Progressive Supper Time!



Gawcott Progressive Supper

Saturday 16th May 2026

7.00pm



The Gawcott Progressive Supper has become an annual tradition now for well over 30 Years. This year's event will take place Saturday 16th May starting at 7pm. So make sure the date is in your diary and Babysitters are booked! The supper as before, which costs £20 per person, consists of a 3-course meal including drinks and is a great way for newcomers to get to know new people, as well as others to renew friendships over a good meal. The evening starts at one house for pre-supper drinks and then you enjoy each course at various other houses throughout the village in smaller groups, before everyone meets up again at the end of evening at a final location in the village for coffee and drinks.

More details and joining forms will be in both the March and April Newsletters. But in the meantime, if anyone has any queries or comments please just: Email: GawcottProgressiveSupper@Proton.me or Phone Steve Britton 07542 674 928.

Finally, and most importantly for the regular annual supper attendees, you will have noticed this note is not sent by John Lowing. John has been organising this event since 2011 and even following Covid, he brought it back, but now he has decided it is time to put away the spreadsheets, cease the algorithm conversations with Matt, and after all this time let someone else (a bit younger!) take control and simply sit back and enjoy the evening without any organisational worries.

I am sure all of you fully appreciate the effort he has put in over the years, where he has continually made sure everyone had a great time and kept this long-standing tradition in the village the success it has now become. John and Georgina will be at the event, so proper thanks can be made then, but from me now personally, thank you John and I hope I can keep up the high standards you have set.

Steve

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH 100 CLUB MONTHLY DRAW ON FIRST SUNDAY

2026/27 membership renewals due by 28th February
in time for first draw of new year on 1st March

New subscribers welcome

£12 per person per year (or part of year)

Approx £480 paid out this year

All money raised for church maintenance – we still have
a leaky roof and we plan to get the doors redecorated

Membership form attached here, more details from

Mary Russell, mary.russell9@btinternet.com 01280 823547

Jennie Smith smudge5299@sky.com 01280 813946

YOU COULD BE A WINNER!

The Gawcott Methodist Chapel

It's been a busy time in the Chapel over the Christmas period. The Chapel looked beautiful, we again used our 'faux stained glass window' in the porch (made at GIG club many years ago by 'children' who are all grown up now – we didn't expect it to last so long), the new lights around the Chapel looked so festive, many thanks to Jenny and Lyall for those, and the 'big window' shone out over the Village Green making a lovely backdrop to the Christmas tree.

As well as our regular Sunday Services at 6pm which continue each week we also welcomed friends, old and new, into the Chapel for the 'Lighting of the Christmas tree' on the village green. Our Christmas Eve service was again a very special time, and we were able to gift each person that came a small wooden heart decoration, made from olive wood from Bethlehem. The message accompanying the heart was 'Love came down at Christmas' and the words from John 3 v 16, "For God so loved the World.....".

The Chapel is busy during the week. On Monday the members of the U3A Hand Bell Ringers use it for their practice session. On Tuesday morning from 10 am until 12 noon it is the turn of the Gawcott Parent and Toddler Group, who welcome parents and carers with their bumps, babies and toddlers for a couple of hours of play, chat and friendship. We are also happy to offer a cuppa to any of our ex-parents too, if they find themselves at a loose end and would like to pop in. Thursday morning is our weekly Coffee Café, from 10 am until 12, tea and coffee and toasted tea cakes are served and it is an excellent opportunity to meet up with friends, or to come along and make some new ones. We have lots of jigsaws available for anyone who would like to borrow one – when it's done you can bring it back and borrow a different one. We have quite a collection of paperback books too. The Chapel is also used for various committee meetings and other events; we like to keep busy!!

We would like to thank every single person who has supported the Chapel events, and also the kind people who have made generous donations to our funds. We are looking forward to updating our heating system soon and hanging some roller blinds in the windows to keep the heat in, and – when it happens again- the glare from the sun out .

Happy New Year from all at Gawcott Methodist Chapel

Gawcott

Parent and Toddler Group

Tuesday mornings

10am until 12 noon

Firewood Logs For Sale

Sun dried oak

By the load

(approx. 1.5m cube) or

Small dumpy bag (liftable)

Call Alex on 07813 760763

or email

Cleftwood9@gmail.com

Want to book

Gawcott Village Hall?

To book the Village Hall

please email

Mandy Minney on

gawcottvhall@gmail.com

Thank you

Want to contact the Editor?

Please email

gawcottnewsletter@gmail.com

Deadline for the

March issue is Feb 20th

Winter Wonderland 2025

A massive thank you from the Harper family and friends to everyone who supported our first ever Winter Wonderland event on the 13th of December 2025. We had a wonderful time, and we hope you did too. Father Christmas worked his socks off in the Grotto, along with his Elves, meeting and chatting to some lovely children and their families. The event turned out to be exactly what we planned – sheer Christmassy magic. It was lovely to see the children set off into the woods in search of the home of Gawky the Gawcott Elf who had left some surprises for them in his little house. The giant Christmas tree looked even more amazing than we had anticipated. The snowman had a great time dancing in the snow with all his newfound little friends. Bags of reindeer food were created and taken home, ready to leave out for Father Christmas's reindeer on Christmas Eve, and our Kitchen Elves worked hard serving hot drinks and Christmassy snacks for our Christmas Café.

Our aim, along with creating that Christmas magic, was to raise money for the Alec's Angels charity, supporting children and young people coping with cancer. We raised over £600, which was wonderful, thank you so much to everyone who contributed.

Plans are already underway for an even better and more exciting Winter Wonderland for 2026. Visits to Father Christmas need to be booked in advance, so look out for when the bookings open later in the year so you don't miss out!! There will still be plenty to do for anyone who drops in on the day – we'd love to see you, so please come along - there is no age limit on Christmas fun!!

Thank you again, from the Harpers, the Goodman/Halls, Irene, members of the Alec's Angels committee – and Father Christmas!!

Coming Later in the Year

Halloween at The Harpers!!

31st October 2026

Join us for a fun filled, spooky event.

The Wishing Well and News from the Duck Pond

Many thanks to everyone who dropped a coin in the Wishing Well, we hope your wishes came true. The people of Gawcott make such an amazing contribution to the work of Alec's Angels, supporting children with cancer, with private donations, supporting our fundraising events and by putting the occasional coin in the Well – honestly, every penny helps, thank you.

The geese had a great time at Christmas, firstly – they didn't end up being anyone's Christmas dinner, and secondly – they enjoyed a lovely variety of vegetables and party food brought to them by their many visitors. The geese have just started laying eggs again, we aren't planning on letting them hatch any this year – but we also said that last year and they tricked us!!

We hope you enjoyed seeing the Nativity scene lit up over Christmas. We were pleased with the new 'stable' and the re-vamped 'characters'. We love the way that the geese gather around as if they are a part of the tableau. There were quite a few people stopping to take photos, if you did maybe you could check yours to see if you can spot the 'extra' character that appeared there for a while over Christmas (until we spotted it). One of our naughty (grown up) children decided to add an extra character to see if we would spot it - the Christmas lobster! It was there in the background for almost two weeks before we noticed it. It was removed, but we will be finding it a special place for it somewhere in the Winter Wonderland decorations in December.

We were so pleased that the recent work on the culvert seems to have worked. In the recent deluge the pond filled up, almost to capacity, but kept flowing. We were hoping that it wouldn't overflow as the previous day we had just taken delivery of some huge Koi carp that were looking for a new home. They survived and are settling in well.

The Harper Family



PADBURY TENNIS CLUB

Play Tennis In Padbury



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 TEAM PLAY IN MK TENNIS LEAGUE
 JUNIOR AND ADULT COACHING
 LTA QUALIFIED LEVEL 4 COACH
 NEW MEMBERS WELCOME



COACHING WITH ED

Ed Harwood is a former pro tennis player based in Bucks. He offers adult and kids groups, plus individual lessons at competitive rates.

padburycmemb@gmail.com 07920 297891
 @padburytennisclub

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Christopher



HOLY TRINITY GAWCOTT

FEBRUARY 2026

We move on from Epiphany to Candlemas on 2 February –
the 40th day of Christmas and the presentation of Jesus to the Temple

Monday 10 am – 2.30 pm Tuesday – Saturday 9 am – 4.30 pm
Sunday – according to service schedule
If you need access at other times please see the notice board.

February 1 Café Church 10.30

Informal and friendly - coffee and croissants – activities for children

February 15 Care and Share 10.30

Sharing and learning more about faith – with coffee and companionship

February 22 Holy Communion 10.30

VILLAGE LUNCH Mondays 1-2 pm

We were so grateful to receive another £250 donation from Buckingham Table at the Christmas lunch – so very generous and so appreciated. It was a lovely time with festive fayre. Thank you to John and Susan for leading the carols and to the volunteers who give their time - making soup, laying up, toastie-making, clearing away and doing the laundry!





HOLY TRINITY GAWCOTT

FEBRUARY 2026

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – LANTERN PARADE

Holy Trinity hosted this event for Gawcott Community Group with hot dogs, mulled wine and mince pies. Carols were sung by Roundwood School then Susan and John led more singing in a very full church! Great start to Christmas.

Thank you to GCG for lighting the church path.



CHURCH OPENING

Monday 10 am – 2.30 pm Tuesday – Saturday 9 am – 4.30 pm Sunday – according to service schedule. If you need access outside these times please check the notice board for contacts.

HOLY TRINITY 100 CLUB

Our monthly draw for cash prizes – drawn on 1st Sunday at Café Church. 2026 forms for renewal and new subscribers are attached. Thank you to those who subscribe by standing order – all draw numbers will be allocated in time for the March draw.

FUND RAISING

We plan some events this year – we still have a leaky roof and the doors need redecorating!

Save the Date!!

Saturday 18th April 2026

The Gawcott Mile for Alec's Angels

To everyone who has supported this event in the past, we'd love you to join us again this year – watch out for our optional Fancy Dress theme in next months Newsletter.

For those who may be new to the village, this is your chance to join in a Fun Run and win a beautiful medal to impress your friends and family – you don't even have to tell them that the Fun Run is only a mile long!!

The Gawcott Mile starts at the Methodist Chapel by the Village Green, goes through the village, past The Crown, up Hillesden Road to the Richard Roper playing field, around the Pavillion, back down Hillesden Road, up Church Street and down the Church path back to the Chapel.

There is a £10 entry fee (all proceeds to Alec's Angels) and everyone wins a medal. For the competitive there are trophies for the winners of several different categories, and a trophy for the best Fancy Dress costume. The great thing is you don't even have to run!! We have had people roller skate, use a wheelchair, push a buggy, walk – anything (safe) goes.

We also have a younger children's shorter fun run from the Chapel to the school and back again, we say it is non-competitive but some of the youngsters don't see it that way!! Medals and sweets for all participants.

There are also various stalls in the Chapel, including a well-stocked cake and refreshments stall.

“Lots to look forward to in 2026”

With the new year now well under way, I want to share my hopes for Gawcott and the surrounding villages - and the exciting opportunities ahead for our community.



This year will bring real change and growth for our region. North Buckinghamshire is set to play an important role in the Oxford Cambridge Growth Corridor, which is fast becoming one of Europe’s most dynamic economic areas. This isn’t just about big cities: it’s about our villages contributing energy, talent, and innovation to drive prosperity.

Buckinghamshire already has a £19.2 billion economy, and by 2035, we’re projected to have more high-growth businesses than the national average. With advanced technology clusters at Silverstone and thriving local enterprises, Gawcott will be part of this future-connecting skills and ambition to new opportunities.

And of course I’m looking forward to getting out and about across the village even more this year. I really enjoyed hosting a ‘Meet your MP’ event locally in 2025, as am in regular contact with the Parish Council too.

Thank you for everything you do to make Gawcott such a special place. As always, please do get in touch with me at callum.anderson.mp@parliament.uk if there is anything I can help you with.

Callum Anderson MP

(Member of Parliament for Buckingham and Bletchley)

www.callumanderson.org.uk

HOLY TRINITY FRIENDS 100 CLUB MEMBERSHIP

12 opportunities to win a cash prize across the year. Annual subscription runs from March through to February and draws take place on First Sunday of every month at the Café Church. Half of all the money raised through this scheme is paid out in cash prizes, with the other half going towards the upkeep of the church. Please complete the form and return with your subscription for the year (£12 for each entry), before 28th February. Participants must be 18 yrs of age or over.

Address
Telephone No.
Email

Names (1 line per person in household)	Tel No. (If different from above)	Subscription Amount
		TOTAL

I am aware that personal information shown is held by the officers of Holy Trinity Church (Gawcott PCC). I give permission for that information to be used in accordance with the Church Data Privacy Notice. (I understand that I can request at any time that my information is deleted.)

Signature **Date**

=====

Subscription options

- a. Please make **CHEQUES PAYABLE** to **Gawcott PCC** and return to address below, or
- b. *BACS Payment to NatWest Bank: sort code: 60-04-09 Account: 47108606 using reference: 100 + 'your surname' (eg: 100Jones) and e-mail: mary.russell9@btinternet.com confirming your payment + any relevant amendments, or*
- c. set up a **STANDING ORDER** - please complete and return the form below

Standing Order Mandate to Bank.....

Bank Address.....

..... Postcode

Please pay NatWest Bank, Everyday Banking, PO Box 5612, Manchester M61 0WN

Sort code 60-04-09, to PCC of Gawcott, account number 47108606

the sum of (in words) pounds £.....

on Fifteenth of March and thereafter on the same date each year until further notice.

My account number **Sort Code**.....

My account name

Signature **Date**

Please return completed standing order form to Mary Russell, Pennyfarthing, New Inn Lane or Jennie Smith, Croarken House, Main Street

