



Welcome to the January 2026 edition of the PCASC newsletter!

So here we are again — saying goodbye to another year and welcoming in a new one. I don't know about you, but it sometimes feels as though someone's found the fast-forward button on a time machine. When I saved this document, I realised this is already the 14th edition of the newsletter, which began back in November 2024. How on earth did that happen?

This winter has been unusually mild, and for a while we could almost have been forgiven for thinking winter might quietly pass us by. But 2025 decided to bow out with one last flourish, reminding us all who's really in charge with a spell of properly freezing temperatures.

December was busy, lively and great fun at the Social Club. For those of you who were lucky enough to be surrounded by family and friends, we hope you enjoyed the festive season. But we also know that Christmas isn't easy for everyone. When the world seems to suggest that everyone else is having a wonderful time, it can make things feel even harder for those who are feeling lonely, grieving, or simply finding the season difficult to navigate.

If that resonates with you, please know that you're not alone — even if it sometimes feels that way. One of the strengths of our village is its sense of community, and there are many gentle ways to connect. That might be popping into the Social Club, joining one of our activities, or reaching out to local groups such as VOTO (Villagers On Their Own), run by Elaine Stone, or the monthly Church Café mornings held at Thomas a Becket. There's no pressure — just friendly faces and a warm welcome when you feel ready.

We're delighted to say that our new 85-inch television is now in place, making sports viewing even more enjoyable, alongside the addition of a halo light around the dartboard. Looking ahead to 2026, we're keen to keep building on what we already have and to introduce some new activities. Dominoes is high on the list, perhaps even a hand or two of bridge — and we're very open to ideas. If there's something you'd enjoy, please get in touch and let us know. Keeping the club vibrant and well used is how we make sure it continues to thrive.

We also have a crib team who play on Monday nights during the autumn and winter months in the Sodbury & District League, Division One. The Social Club is always on the lookout for new players. It doesn't matter whether you're a bit rusty or have never played before and would like to learn — just speak to a member of staff and they'll make sure someone gets in touch.

Here's to a new year — hopefully a little calmer, a little brighter, and with plenty of opportunities to spend time together.

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New Website Launched - Click Here... We're Just Getting Started

Exciting news! On 1 January, we launched our new website:

<https://pucklechurchsocialclub.co.uk/>

The website is still very much in its infancy, and we'll be building it up as we go along. We're working hard towards it becoming the place to find information on skittles, newsletters, minutes from meetings, and forthcoming events, with plenty more to come as it evolves. *Thank you to everyone who is helping bring this together.*

We'd love to hear your ideas and suggestions as it develops. You can email us at info@pucklechurchsocialclub.co.uk, or simply have an informal chat with our friendly bar staff next time you're in the club.

Watch this space.....

Tub to Pub – January Collection

Do you have any empty plastic sweet tubs? Throughout January, we're collecting them for Tub to Pub, helping to raise funds for Cancer Research.

If you'd like to contribute, please leave your empty tubs at the collection point at the top of the stairs. Every tub helps — thank you for your support.

PCASC Quiz Night Returns

After the success of our Christmas Quiz, the next PCASC Quiz Night is set for Sunday 25 January at 8pm.



No specialist knowledge required, and no trick questions designed to catch you out — just a good mix of questions, plenty of laughs, and friendly competition. Whether you arrive with a well-oiled quiz team or simply fancy giving it a go, new teams are always welcome.

Keep an eye out for the posters around the club, round up a few friends, and come along for a great night out.

December Events Round-Up

December was a busy and lively month at the Social Club, with a great mix of events and plenty of festive spirit throughout.

Our first Boozy Bingo, held on 14 December, was well supported and thoroughly enjoyed by those who came along — so much so that there have already been requests for another Bingo night. Watch this space.

The Christmas Draw took place on 20 December, with winners' names displayed on the board alongside their prizes. Many thanks to everyone who donated prizes, and special thanks to The Players Golf Course for generously donating a golf prize and a fishing experience on their private lake, which will be raffled at a later date.



The **Christmas Quiz** was also very well supported, with **15 teams** taking part and creating a great atmosphere. Mince pies were shared around the tables, and mulled wine was available on the night. Many players embraced the Christmas spirit with jumpers, shirts and festive outfits — and congratulations to our **best-dressed winner**, chosen by Denise, who went home with a bottle of wine... having quite literally 'elfed' herself.



We welcomed in the New Year with Angie, and had a really enjoyable evening. Members came together to celebrate, share a few laughs, and enjoy the relaxed, friendly atmosphere that makes the Social Club such a special place to be. There were plenty of good conversations and smiles as we rang in the year ahead.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make it such a pleasant way to start 2026 — we're looking forward to many more shared moments in the months to come.

Pucklechurch's New Woodland Takes Shape!



Pucklechurch's new woodland is well under way, with volunteers doing a fantastic job as planting continues towards around 22,000 native trees this year. It's been wonderful to see the area taking shape and how much can be achieved when people come together.

Planting will continue through the winter, pausing in March when it becomes the wrong time of year to plant bare root

trees, before resuming next autumn with a further 22,000 trees planned. The sessions are friendly, relaxed and - despite what you might imagine - not overly physically demanding. It's a great way to spend some time outdoors, meet neighbours, and play a part in enhancing our village while helping the climate.

Planting sessions take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and new volunteers are always welcome. To find out more, please contact **Daphne, Parish Clerk**, at clerk@pucklechurchparishcouncil.gov.uk

Skittles League Update - This Month's Commentary

(voiced in the style of a shipping forecast – low, understated phrasing, calm & measured)



Skittles Restart – Forecast

Skittles resumes on 5 January, following the Christmas break.

Opening format: Front First.

A gathering is expected on Saturday 10 January.

Conditions suitable for sharing New Year leftovers.

New participants welcome.

Outlook:

Generally settled, with opportunities developing.

Positions as of 18 December 2025

Badminton: now leading, conditions improving.

Mind the Gap: strong northerly surge, rising rapidly through the table.

O' so Close: visibility good, edging steadily upward.

Diamonds: holding position, little change expected.

Cricketers: steady pressure, maintaining mid-table waters.

Wandering Stars: drifting south after earlier high pressure at the top.

Footballers: occasional squalls, losing a little ground.

Double Tops: easing back, but still navigating safely.

Misfits: unsettled conditions, watching developments closely.

Mafia: currently becalmed, but forecasts can change.

Outlook for the second half of the season:

Variable fortunes with the chance of sudden movement. No team written off. Skittles forecast — unpredictable.

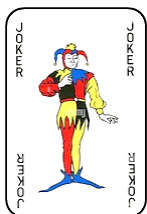
Bonus Ball New Year, New Game



Fancy a bit of fun for just **£1 a week**? Here's how it works: pick **five numbers** from the National Lottery bonus ball range. If all five of your numbers are called as bonus balls, you win the pot — with 10% donated to the PCASC to help support our club.

The Bonus Ball starts again on **3 January**. If you'd like to take part, simply add your name and numbers to the sheet in the club. Usual rules apply — and new players are very welcome.

Find the Joker – The Game with a Winner Every Week!



The Joker Pot has climbed to £355.00.

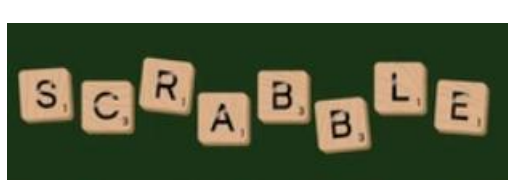
Six picture cards are already face up.

Nearly half of the 53-card deck has been turned... and still no Joker.

Tickets cost just £1 and can be bought at any time prior to the draw Friday at 10pm.

The question is — how much longer can the Joker stay hidden?

Help Us Keep the Club Alive - Bring Your Game Nights Here



Your Social Club works best when it's being used — and like many community venues, quieter evenings can be a real challenge. If a skittles or cribbage match is cancelled, we can sometimes find ourselves with just a handful of people in the club, which simply isn't sustainable in the long term.

So, we'd love to open the doors wider and encourage new evening activities — not just from Pucklechurch, but from across the wider South Gloucestershire community too.

If you are a member and already run (or would like to start) a group for dominoes, bridge or whist, canasta, scrabble, mahjong, backgammon, chess or any other suitable social game, why not make your Social Club your home? We're very happy to offer members our space free of charge, with a friendly bar, comfortable surroundings, and a welcoming atmosphere. And members also benefit from cheaper bar prices too!

Whether it's a regular club night, a casual get-together, or something entirely new, we're keen to help make it happen. If you're interested, please speak to the bar staff or get in touch via email - and let's see how we can work together to keep the club lively, well used, and thriving.

Cribbage at Pucklechurch Social Club – Players Wanted !



Our **Cribbage team** is always happy to welcome new players. If you're at a loose end on a Monday evening and fancy some good company — with the bonus of food like sandwiches or sausage and chips — this could be just the thing.

It doesn't matter whether you've played for years or have never picked up a crib board before; it's friendly, informal and easy to join in. Just have a word with the bar staff if you're interested.

And if league play isn't your thing, cribbage boards and cards are always available behind the bar for a relaxed game with friends at any time.

Activities currently available in your Club



Bored or Board?

Why not dive into our growing collection of board games and rediscover the simple pleasure of playing together?



Hit the Mark with Darts!

Looking for a laid-back way to liven up your evening? Challenge your friends or neighbours to a friendly game of darts.

It's interactive, social, and right here at the club. Just ask at the bar—we've got the darts ready and waiting!



Free Pool – Rack 'em Up!

Yes, you read that right - our club offers a pool table completely free to use! It's the perfect excuse for a little friendly competition or a relaxed game with fellow members. Just ask at the bar for cues and balls, and enjoy a match on the house.

Could You Be Our Next Secretary?

We're still hoping to find someone to take on the role of Secretary — a key part of keeping our club running smoothly. If you think you might be interested, or know someone who would be great for the role and can spare a couple of hours a month, please get in touch with the committee or email info@pucklechurchsocialclub.co.uk. You can find a list of current committee members at the back of this newsletter.

Winter Opening Hours – from 1st October

Monday to Friday: 7:00pm – 11:00pm

Saturday: 13:00 – 11:00pm

Sunday: 12:00 noon – 7:00pm

On most evenings, last orders will be called at **11:00pm**, and we'd appreciate everyone heading out by **11:30pm**.

These times may vary for special events such as quizzes or parties, but if it's a particularly quiet night, the bar staff may close up a little earlier.

Thank you for your understanding — and for helping to keep our evenings relaxed and enjoyable for everyone.

Pucklechurch AFC Fixtures

Looking closer to home, these are the upcoming match fixtures for our local lads and lasses:

Note: Correct at time of going to press, please check dates and times

	Men's First – Upcoming Fixtures			
	Uhlsport Bristol Premier Combination League			
	03/01/26	14:00	Hambrook & Brimsham Utd	Pucklechurch Sports
	10/01/26	14:00	Pucklechurch Sports	Oldland Abbotonians Reserves
	17/01/26	14:00	Pucklechurch Sports	AFC Mangotsfield
	24/01/26	14:00	Pucklechurch Sports	AEK Boco Reserves
	31/01/26	14:00	Lion	Pucklechurch Sports
	Men's Bristol & District D2 Reserves – Upcoming Fixtures			
	17/01/26	14:00	Made For Ever Reserves	Pucklechurch Sports Reserves
	24/01/26	14:00	Thornbury Town A	Pucklechurch Sports Reserves
	31/01/26	14:00	Pucklechurch Sports Reserves	Shirehampton A
	Over 35s Division 2 – Upcoming Fixtures			
	18/01/26		Real Thornbury	Pucklechurch 35s
	Shield Services Group South-West Regional – Upcoming Fixtures			
	04/01/26	14:00	Pucklechurch Sports Ladies	Forest Green Rovers Women
	11/01/26	14:00	Saltash United Women	Pucklechurch Sports Ladies
	18/01/26	14:00	Pucklechurch Sports Ladies	AEK Boco Ladies
	25/01/26	14:00	Forest Green Rovers Women	Pucklechurch Sports Ladies

PCASC January 2026 Edition

Check out the fixtures nearer the time to check for any changes on the following websites:

Men's First Team

<https://fulltime.thefa.com/displayTeam.html?divisionseason=202889869&teamID=239046326>

Men's Reserves

<https://fulltime.thefa.com/displayTeam.html?divisionseason=318991785&teamID=783634027>

Pucklechurch Ladies

<https://fulltime.thefa.com/displayTeam.html?id=884511731>

Pucklechurch Veterans

<https://bristolcorinthiansleague.co.uk/over-35s-division-1/>



SSF – Sky Sports Football SS F1 - Sky Sports F1 SSME - Sky Sports Main Event
SSPL – Sky Sport Premier League SSM – Sky Sport Mix SS+ Sky Sports Plus

Date	Time	Channel	Teams / Fixture
Sat 3 rd Jan	12:30	SSPL	Aston Villa v Nottingham Forest
Sat 3 rd Jan	17:30	SSPL	AFC Bournemouth v Arsenal
Sun 4 th Jan	15:00	SSME	Fulham v Liverpool
Sun 4 th Jan	15:00	SSPL	Newcastle United v Crystal Palace
Sun 4 th Jan	15:00	SSF	Tottenham Hotspur v Sunderland
Sun 4 th Jan	17:30	SSPL	Manchester City v Chelsea
Tues 6 th Jan	20:00	SSPL	West Ham United v Nottingham Forest
Wed 7 th Jan	19:30	SSF	Fulham v Chelsea
Wed 7 th Jan	19:30	SSME	Manchester City v Brighton & Hove Albion
Wed 7 th Jan	20:15	SSPL	Burnley v Manchester United
Thurs 8 th Jan	20:00	SSPL	Arsenal v Liverpool
Sat 17 th Jan	17:30	SSPL	Manchester United v Manchester City
Sun 18 th Jan	14:00	SSPL	Wolves v Newcastle United
Sun 18 th Jan	16:30	SSPL	Aston Villa v Everton
Mon 19 th Jan	20:00	SSPL	Brighton & Hove Albion v AFC Bournemouth
Sat 24 th Jan	17:30	SSPL	AFC Bournemouth v Liverpool
Sun 25 th Jan	14:00	SS+	Brentford v Nottingham Forest
Sun 25 th Jan	14:00	SSME	Crystal Palace v Chelsea
Sun 25 th Jan	14:00	SSPL	Newcastle United v Aston Villa
Sun 25 th Jan	16:30	SSPL	Arsenal v Manchester United
Mon 26 th Jan	20:00	SSPL	Everton v Leeds United
Sat 31 st Jan	17:30	SSPL	Chelsea v West Ham United

Holding an Event in our Club?

We're here to help! If you're a club member and would like your event advertised in the newsletter, please speak to a committee member or bar staff.

Book Your Event with Us!

Why not host your next event right here at our club? Members enjoy *free access* to our facilities—perfect for all kinds of gatherings, such as:

- Fundraising events;
- Birthday parties;
- Anniversary celebrations (whether it's ruby, silver, gold, or platinum);
- Wakes and more.

Email us at info@pucklechurchsocialclub.co.uk with your ideas, or

Chat with our friendly bar staff for an informal conversation when you're next at the club.

If you think your event might require extra bar staff for your event, please let us know in advance so we can plan accordingly. Your input helps us make the club even better - thank you!

Your Feedback Matters

As we strive to enhance our club, we want to keep you informed about our plans and how you can contribute.

We appreciate all members who have shared their insights and suggestions. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us create a more enjoyable and welcoming environment for everyone.

Social Club Committee

Your committee members are as follows:

Derek Watts, Chair

Denise Young, Treasurer

Margaret Fortune

Dave Britton, Vice Chair

Andrea Ryland

Marylynn Bolwell

Vacant, Secretary

Carol Dolling

Richard Hanks

Ann-Marie Johnson, Membership Secretary

We value the input of all club members! If there's anything you'd like to share or bring to our attention, please feel free to speak to any of us or email us at info@pucklechurchsocialclub.co.uk

If you have an interest in joining any of the activities highlighted in our newsletter, please speak to the bar staff who can then direct you to the relevant person, or if you prefer, contact our committee by email.