

NEWSLETTER NO. 375 – December 2025

SECRETARY'S SUMMARY DECEMBER 2025

Hi all this month a lot of members were not very well with different issues. Resulting in us having to postpone the yearly quiz. However don't worry gang there is still a chance to be victorious and hold the trophy in the new year, you're not getting out of it that easy.

We are all looking forward to Christmas now and enjoyed the festivities at the college for lunch, and look forward to the Bowlers for the Christmas meeting which will include food and drink and a good chat. Hope to see you all there, and a merry Christmas to all that can't make it. If there are any late entries for next year's diary please, let us know by e mail so it can be considered and added.

Paul

Newbury MGOc Diary 2025/2026

Full details of all events will be published in the Newsletter near event date.

Date	Event	Organiser
December		
Mon 8 Dec	Club Night – Chat and Naff Christmas Pullovers	All
January 2026		
Mon 12 Jan	Club Night – Pasta Nght	All

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN DECEMBER

CLUB NIGHT – MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER 7.30PM

Another tradition not to be tampered with!!

Naff Christmas Jumpers and Mince Pies!!

So, find your naff jumpers from the depths of storage and give them an airing on Monday 8th December at the Bowler's Arms, when we shall also indulge in mince pies and, maybe, one or two other little goodies as well. We shall endeavour to make the room look a little festive AND – here's a new one – we are going to have a (naff??) lucky dip! So, please will you bring a lucky dip present to go in Santa's Sack for a shake up and then we can dip in and maybe be lucky!! Present to cost no more than £2.!!!

See you on the 8th.

Trina

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN JANUARY

CLUB NIGHT – MONDAY 12TH JANUARY 2026

As has been our tradition for 'years' our first meeting of the year has been 'Lasagne Night'. This has now transformed into 'Pasta Night' and again we shall be indulging in a Pasta supper at the Bowler's Arms.

The menu this year is:

Mediterranean chicken pasta bake in a tomato and herb sauce

or

Bolognese

both to include salad and garlic bread

Vegetarian Option available and other dietary requirements can be accommodated on request.

Cost to members yet to be decided!

Again, I shall need to know in advance if you will be attending, so Bowler's Arms can provide. If you have not already signed up perhaps you can let me know on the next club night in December, I will have a list!!

Trina

UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

CHRISTMAS LUNCH – FRIDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2025

It was a somewhat different Christmas celebration for the Club this year at Newbury College. It was at lunch time – a new strategy. Admittedly there was no Christmas Tree, but the tables were well and truly decorated for Christmas. We had a superb 4-course lunch with a drink to start, 4 lovely courses with, appropriately, 'Christmas dinner' as the main course. We then had coffee and mince pie to finish off after dessert. The food was delightful, perfect sized portions; beautifully presented by well- dressed staff. It was all very delightful; and for such an amazing price.

Of course, the chefs are students, the 'waiters' are students – they are learning their craft but they all appear to be top class.

To my mind it was a thoroughly good Christmas lunch.

Thank you Newbury College and to whoever suggested it to me!!



Trina



It was also the perfect time to welcome another member to the Octogenarian Club, although not quite on his birthday!

Behind the scenes of our Christmas Lunch

I know Trina has written a bit about our Christmas Lunch but thought the following gleaned from the lady collecting the money may be of interest. I commented to her that some of the students seemed very competent but others much less sure of themselves. She said this was because they combine the first and second year students for events like ours. The first year students are still in the very first term of their course. The second years are encouraged to help and mentor the firsts. I saw a good example of this when Paul's starter turned up with the pâté missing. He attracted the attention of one of the students who didn't seem to know what to do

but one of the other students came to his rescue and a new first course turned up replete with pâté.

If you were wondering, yes, they do take it in turns to serve and to cook. I also asked if they get the chance to learn handling the financial side and general organisation, I was told that their third year was what she called learning about the “front of house” skills and activities.

Lucky Judith attended the same excellent Christmas Lunch with the WI on Wednesday and was told that the tips given are saved up and used for a day out treat for the students to somewhere with an interesting catering theme.

If you are interested to learn more check out this link :

<https://newbury-college.ac.uk/courses/catering-cookery-and-hospitality>.

Kevin