October - December 2025 Newsletter Issue No. 121

Acts of Remembrance in Blandford Forum

Saturday 25th October at 11am

Join the Mayor of Blandford Forum and the Blandford & District Branch of the Royal British Legion for a short procession from Legion House to the Parish Church for the Branch's Poppy Appeal launch event and the opening of the Field of Remembrance in the churchyard.

Sunday 2nd November at 11am

The Commonwealth War Graves Memorial Service at the Cemetery will be led by the Blandford & District Branch of the Royal British Legion. Please meet at the Cross of Sacrifice at 10:50am.

Friday 7th November at 10:30am

Local schools will be meeting in the Parish Church prior to laying crosses in the churchyard and a two-minute silence. As with all the Acts of Remembrance, members of the public are welcome to attend and refreshments are available.

Remembrance Sunday Wreath Laying, Service and Parade 9th November from 2:45pm in the Market Place

Watch the wreath laying on the memorial tablets of the Town Hall façade and at the churchyard of the Parish Church, hear music from the Blandford Stour Valley Band, join fellow residents singing Hymns in the open air and watch the town parade.

Please contact us if you would like to lay a wreath or take part in the parade.

There will be free parking in Dorset Council car parks (time limits still apply, see overleaf for details).

Please check our website and the Facebook Event for additional details prior to the event.

Tuesday 11th November at 10:40am

Hear the Piper play in the Market Place and join the Mayor for a two-minute silence for Armistice Day.







Town Clerk's Office, Church Lane, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AD Tel: 01258 454500

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Free Parking Dates

Sunday 9th November – Remembrance Sunday Saturday 29th November – Christmas Shopping Day Friday 5th December – Yuletide Festival Saturday 6th December – Small Business Saturday



The Dorset Council car parks that are included are as follows: Marsh & Ham, Station Court, Church Lane, Langton Road and Eagle House Gardens. Please note that time limits still apply. Please 'Shop Small' in Blandford Forum!

Events in the Corn Exchange

(subject to being able to open at the beginning of November)

November 2025

Remembrance events – shown overleaf

14th & 15th November – **Blandford Literary Festival**

25th November – **Wellness Walk-in Clinic** (Blandford Group Practice)

29th November - Mayor's Charity Bingo Night

December 2025

Wednesday 3rd December at 6pm – **Civic Carol Service** at the Blandford Forum Parish Church with the Blandford Stour Valley Band.

Friday 5th December from 5pm – **Blandford Yuletide Festival**

Friday 12th December – **Wessex Acoustic Folk Night**.

Tickets available here: www.wessex-acoustic.co.uk

Friday 19th December 10am-12pm – **Christmas Cheer Coffee Morning** (free drop-in for festive refreshments/music).

Friday 19th December – **Christmas Concert** with The Blandford Stour Valley Band. Tickets available now!

Monday 22nd December – **Mr Merlin Free Family Show**. Free tickets available now!

Events Coming to the Corn Exchange in 2026...

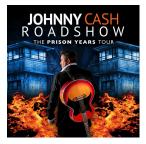
Monday 9th January – **Johnny Cash Roadshow**. Tickets available now! Friday 23rd January – **BBC Radio 4 Any Questions**. Tickets available soon! Saturday 14th February – **Mayor's Charity Valentine's Dance**. Tickets available soon!

Saturday 28th February – **Epic Comedy Night**. Tickets available soon! Sunday 8th March – **Wedding Fair**. Info from the organisers to follow! Saturday 14th March – **Merry Hell Folk Night**. Tickets available soon! Friday 17th April – **Frankie's Guys** (4 singers – Frankie Valli tribute). Tickets available now!

Saturday 25th July – **Dirty DC** (ACDC tribute). Tickets available soon! Friday 7th August – **Fleetwood Bac** (Fleetwood Mac tribute band). Tickets available soon!

Tickets for Town Council events can be purchased from Ticketsource (scan the QR code below) or from the office.









Blandford Forum Calendars 2025

For the seventh year running, thanks to photos taken by local residents who entered the North Dorset Photo Competition, the Town Council has created a charity calendar for 2026.

The calendars cost £5 each and proceeds will go to the Mayor's charities; TREADS, Blandford Fashion Museum and the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance.

They are available from the Town Clerk's Office, Blandford Information Centre, Blandford Fashion Museum and the Blandford Town Museum now!



Photograph taken by Paul Dibben

Christmas Lights

The small Christmas trees and column lights in the town centre will be installed at the end of November. We took on the installation from the Blandford Yuletide Festival Group in 2019. Since then, the Town Council has engaged the services of a local electrician to carry out the installation, connection and removal of the trees and lights.

Woodhouse Gardens will be lit up again from early December until early January. The lights in the gardens will be on between 4:30pm and 9pm every day during the festive season (apart from Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).

This year, we are using a local company to provide and decorate the Christmas tree and hope residents and businesses will enjoy it! We are really excited to see it! Please do let us know what you think...