

THE HARE

NEWSLETTER FOR THE VILLAGES OF
HEVENINGHAM, HUNTINGFIELD AND UBBESTON



Issue 112: October – November 2025

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The Hare is delivered to all residents and businesses in Huntingfield, Heveningham and Ubbeston free of charge. It is also available on the village website (see below). If you live outside the area and would like a hard-copy of the Hare then we request a £10 annual donation towards printing and postage. The Hare is financed through advertising - so please support our advertisers whenever you can.

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The Hare is always looking for ideas and articles. Whether this be something relevant to your village or locality, or just something in which you have an interest and would like to share with others, then please contact us. We would welcome your input.

There have been some lovely sunny days recently but the chill in the air is definitely a sign of autumn approaching, If you have lots of apples bring them to the Apple Pressing at The Hub, or just come along and enjoy (p 3). Don't forget the Moth Breakfast at Huntingfield Church (p 3). St Margarets in Heveningham are hosting a quiz night and their Harvest Supper in October (p 13). Another regular event, Race Night, is happening in November (p 8). There is lots to join in with locally even though the nights are drawing in!

The big event: Hubfest!

On the 23rd August it finally happened: our first ever Hubfest. It may not have been the Follye Fayre of July 5th 1980 with 'Tugs of War' and 'Race for a Smock', but we had first class music, great food and an all day party.



Matt and John opened the festival with an unforgettable set of dualling guitars to arrangements of classic songs. This is the set that held the audiences attention and left an everlasting memory of exceptional musical talent.

Differential 'Josh', followed with his unique narrative,

audience participation and stories blended with songs current and past.

Then came the Halesworth Ukulele

Band with their infectious toe tapping rhythms and a set of well known and loved songs. As the day moved to evening the Back Woods Band played a



stunning set of country and folk songs, with strong vocals and expert musicianship. As the light faded further the Blyth River Blues band gave us a brilliant set of classic blues songs with expert guitar playing from all four band members. Finally as evening turned to night the stage was transformed into a stadium of purple and red as our headline act, Black Deek, played a set to make your soul sing, and your body move. There was dancing, foot stomping and some toe tapping. It was truly amazing.

We want to give a massive thank you to everyone who came along and supported this event which raised over £2,000 for the Hub. We thank the big team of volunteers who were essential in making it happen and also everyone involved who gave so much time and energy to nurturing this event right through to the end. We want to repeat Hubfest next summer and are open to constructive feedback so that every year it can be even better (is that possible?). If you have any helpful suggestions or comments please email us at huntingfieldhubfest@gmail.com.

Jeannette Redway, Peter Kelly, David Blackmore

Suffolk Grenadiers 100/25 Walk



We are a small team of army veterans from the Grenadier Guards who took on a massive challenge during August 2025. We walked the great county of Suffolk starting from Clare in the West and finishing at Lowestoft in the East paying our respects to some of Suffolk's fallen Grenadiers, many who have paid the ultimate price. We covered 130 miles (209km) in total of which 105 miles were done on foot. We laid wreaths at the gravesides of 4 Suffolk Grenadiers and remembered 37 others named on memorials with poppy crosses and a spoken transcript remembering each one.

Our objective was to raise as much money as we can for our regimental charity, the Colonel's Fund which provides support to 85 wounded Grenadiers and 18 bereaved families. The life-changing injuries sustained by these veterans, in nearly all cases a result of overseas operations, range from amputated limbs and loss of eyesight to PTSD and traumatic brain injuries. We provide them with counselling, therapy, mobility aids, home and car adaptations and career development.

*Captain Charlie Bennett (retd),
Chairman The Colonel's Fund*

On Thursday, August 14th Huntingfield was visited by a group of army veterans from the Grenadier Guards who came to lay a poppy cross at our War Memorial in remembrance of Russell Rackham who was a member of the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards and son of Benjamin and Betsy Rackham of Huntingfield. He was killed in action on 1st November 1914 aged just 21.

Here's what they had to say about their challenge.



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Church chat



A BIG thank you to everyone who came, baked and donated towards our annual Macmillan Cancer Support fundraiser. It was a lovely sunny day. The tables, chairs, gazebos and bunting were set up outside and the cakes just kept on coming! A massive

£350 was raised for this fantastic cause. Well done everyone, see you all next year.

Harvest Supper, always a fun village evening, saw people come from far and wide this year. Game or Chicken pie was on offer and the split, interestingly, was 50/50 although I hear a lot of folks tried both! On display were three fine wall hangings created by The Waveney Guild of Embroiderers. If you are interested in seeing them pop down to Heveningham Church where they will be on display. To finish the evening our rector, Dominic, gave a short presentation on African, Indian and Irish drums with a demonstration of each.

A fabulous finale to a great evening. All proceeds will help in maintaining Huntingfield church and the raffle money was donated to Halesworth Community Larder.

Dates for your Diary:

MOTH MORNING

SATURDAY 4th OCTOBER

9am start in Huntingfield Churchyard

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Matthew Deans
'Suffolk Moth
Expert' will be
on hand to
answer any
questions.

All moths will be released unharmed

9th November, Remembrance Sunday. Please gather around the Village War Memorial at 10.50am for our short service 'Huntingfield Remembers'

26th November, Community Debate. 7-9pm at The Hub. All residents of Blyth Valley are invited to come along. The subject under debate is "Assisted Dying - a license to kill or the fundamental right of the individual to exercise agency and autonomy over their own life?". Rev'd Dominic Doble will Chair the evening. We look forward to an interesting debate so please come along and show your support. Refreshments will be available.
Sally Clarke

Petanque

The summer season is very nearly over with just the finals weekend coming up. We still have a team in the triples, due to play the semi-final very soon, good luck to them! It has been a mixed year: we were 3rd out of 5 teams in Division 3 and, disappointingly, relegated to Division 4 due to the league rejigging the divisions. Give us another year and I'm sure we can be back up to Division 3. The Inter Club Round Robin tournament continues. Will we have a new winner on the shield this year?

Once again we will enter two teams in the winter season - waterproofs will certainly be needed. On the 13th-14th September I had the chance to play for Suffolk Coastal in a challenge tournament at Weston-Super-Mare. There were about 40 players representing



Suffolk, with many other English teams plus teams from both Scotland & Wales. The standard of play was exceptional and I am delighted to report that my team won 2 out of the 8 games. Our four teams in the Challenge tournament did well and

overall we ended 5th from nine teams. However, our teams in the Championship Division 2 competition managed 2nd place which earned promotion to Division 1, well done! With over 100 pistes & 900 competitors it certainly was a great experience!

Julie Collett, Captain

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Nikki Hambling
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AUTUMN

The Tipi has now closed for the Summer season but we still have a couple of events coming up!

Autumntide: Supper & Story Telling. Celebrate the changing of the seasons with an evening of food, stories and merriment led by the Yarnsmith of Norwich with a seasonal supper cooked for you by the Fire & Feast Team.
11th October.

Supper and Star Gazing. The last chance to have a taste of Fire & Feast this year, join us for supper and after dinner star gazing and talks with Dash Astro.
8th November.

IF YOU'RE STUCK FOR GIFT IDEAS WE OFFER VOUCHERS FOR ALL OF OUR WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS!



Advertising in The Hare



Since moving up to 16 pages The Hare is looking for some new advertisers in order to keep our costs down and to allow us to distribute the newsletter free of charge to residents of the three villages.

The cost for a full year (6 issues) is very reasonable:

Eighth page: £35 Quarter page: £60

Half page: £75 Full page: £100

Distribution includes 200 hard copies delivered to all residents of Heveningham, Huntingfield and Ubbeston, email distribution to a request list and online distribution to social media and village websites.

If you are interested in advertising to the local community, please email huntingfieldhare@gmail.com.

Neighbourhood Plan

I have had responses from the Parish Councils of Heveningham, Huntingfield and Ubbeston who are willing to have an initial discussion regarding a joint venture to set up a Plan for our combined local area. East Suffolk Council are in the process of consulting on an updated set of guidelines and issuing a project plan template to make things a little easier. Once we have details I will organise a meeting of representatives and also invite anyone who has expressed interest in taking part in the project.

It won't be a simple or fast process but, hopefully, will help our area develop in the right way and future-proof our local environment. If you are interested in taking part please email me on hcannon50@gmail.com.

Helen Cannon

Arms Events

Our summer holiday seems like a dim and distant memory. Everyone is back to work, be it school or pub!

Although the sun is still shining and the days remain warm, we are gearing up for the Christmas frenzy. The December bookings are quickly filling up so if you are planning to dine with us over the festive period early reservation is recommended. If you're entertaining, our Christmas food collection menu is now available from the pub or via email on request.



We are pleased to host the popular Grace Brothers band for our Christmas Light Up on 28th November, adding music to our festive market.



Every Tuesday until the end of November is Steak Night – a 10oz rump steak with mushrooms, tomato, onion rings, chips and peppercorn sauce for only £13. A bargain not to be missed and, again, booking recommended.

The Curry Night we are hosting on 16th October is fully booked. Cancellations do occur so put your name down on the wait list if you are interested or, alternatively, book for the Mexican Fiesta Night on 20th November. Due to a recent cancellation, we have some space available for our 3-course dinner and entertainment by Minty Spectre on 6th December. £55 per person.

Also, in November our Charity Quiz night is back. This will now take place on the first Tuesday of every month over the winter period at 7pm.

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Hundred Club



The 100 Club's aim is to raise £600 a year to help with the upkeep and maintenance of the Huntingfield Millennium Green and Wild Flower Meadow. 100 people each pay £12 a year to enter the monthly draw of 3

numbers. First prize is £30, £15 second and £5 for third. Many thanks to all subscribers.

July

- 1st Janet Pearl
- 2nd Jane Roe
- 3rd Caroline Hare

August

- 1st Kate Lucas
- 2nd Julie Collett
- 3rd Winnie Elsley

Sue Brewer, 07885 541587 susanmbrewer@mac.com

Mobile Library



The monthly mobile library stops at Huntingfield Hub on Tuesdays at 15.00-15.20. Upcoming dates are 28th October and 25th November.

Details can also be found online

at: <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/mobile-library-route/leiston-mobile-library-route-13>

Pilates at Huntingfield Hub Pilates Body Harmony



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Suitable for beginners and intermediate
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pilatesbodyharmony@aol.co.uk

Weather report: August – September 2025



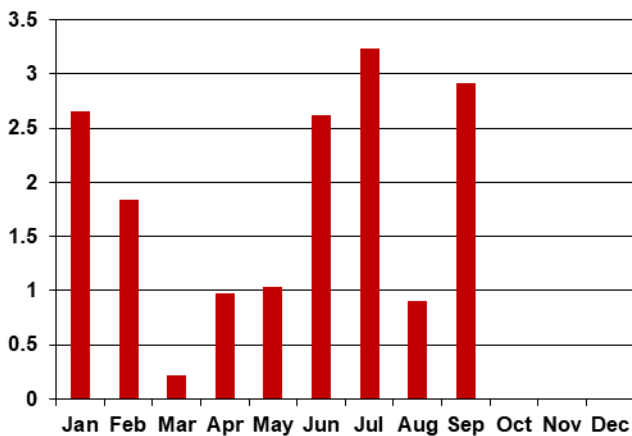
Summer has all but gone now and temperature-wise it's certainly been a little below average this month. This, of course, has been

caused yet again by the jet stream that has been affected by decaying hurricanes which have split the jet stream into two, with one stream going to the north of the UK and the other heading towards Spain. This, in turn, has left us with a messy weather scene and all that emanates from it.

After a very warm summer and extremely dry periods, the weather has changed with August and September being wetter than the same two months of 2024 by around 25mm (1 inch) more. However, compared with the same January-September period last year, 2025 has seen 7.42" (188 mm) less rainfall to date - a significant difference.

There have been a few chilly nights (in single figures) in September and it has been quite breezy at times. Sunshine amounts for this year have been higher than last year. So, as we move into autumn, it remains to be seen which way the weather will go. More rain or continuing on the drier side? We shall see.

Richard Tyler



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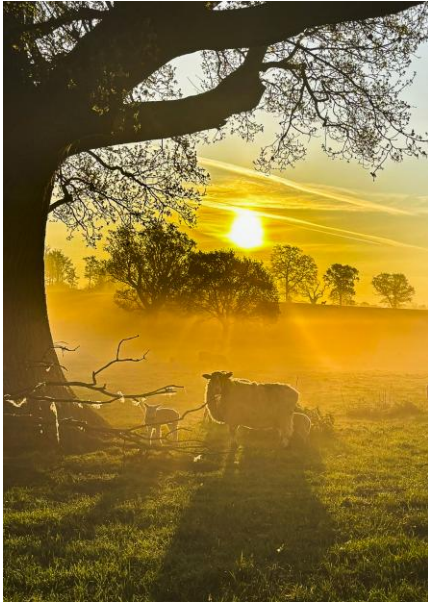
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Sheep Talk...



What a difference a few weeks of rain has made for the ladies. The grass is now growing almost as fast as the sheep can nibble it off. Since weaning the lambs the ladies have settled back into the routine of relaxing, eating and sleeping all day. They have all started to improve in body condition

and are gaining weight from the fresh flush of grass that has appeared. By the time it comes round to the rams visiting they should be in ideal condition. Any ladies that haven't looked after themselves, and are on the thinner side, are now together in a group of their own back at the farm and are being fed haylage and sheep nuts. The likelihood is that a high proportion of the "skinny group" will go on to produce triplets when they lamb in March. The additional nutrients they are eating, plus the age of a lot of them, will definitely have an impact on their fertility.

The flies continue to be an issue despite every single sheep going through the dipper lorry. The warm temperature, combined with a flush of grass has resulted in a few dirty sheep bottoms which the flies have been very quick to find resulting in a handful struck with maggot. A quick trim with clippers and the

application of livestock friendly insecticide means they soon wiggle out and fall off the sheep.



Our Macmillan coffee morning charity trial weekend at Heveningham went very well. We raised £516 over the 2 days of trials. Out of curiosity, I spoke to Macmillan to see how much I have helped raise in the 4 years since starting to

do tea, coffee & cake at the trials. The total came back as an amazing £7,140.15. I was absolutely over the moon. I told the ladies that when doing their bit of exercise trotting around the obstacles on the trial field, they are

doing it for a very good cause. I'm not sure they fully understood mind you. I would like to say a huge



thank you to anyone that has visited our Heveningham trials and donated, or baked. Long may people continue to donate and eat cake!

Over at Henham, lambing has already started slightly earlier than their due date of 10th October. There is a small group of 140 Dorset ewes which are in lamb to a Suffolk ram. They are extremely chunky little lambs with lots of wrinkles to grow into. The weather is kind at the moment, so, fingers crossed the ladies get on and pop them all out quite quickly. *Lucy*

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Tools with A Mission



If you have any unwanted or unused tools in a shed, attic or cupboards please consider donating them to Tools with A Mission (www.twam.uk) located in Ipswich. TWAM refurbishes unwanted tools and create toolkits which are sent to sub-Saharan Africa. The charity has over 500 volunteers in the UK and contributes to environmental sustainability by reducing waste.

Last year 22 containers were sent! This prevented nearly 400 tonnes of tools from ending up in UK landfills and provided over 18,000 tool kits to trainees in Zambia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Malawi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Burundi.

Toolkits can be for sewing, mechanics, agricultural work, carpentry, electricians, plumbers and builders. In Zimbabwe, TWAM partners with a local organization which supports projects working with orphans, vulnerable women, impoverished communities and displaced people.



TWAM accepts builders, mechanics, plumbers, electricians and carpenters tools and garage

workshop and power tools. They also collect sewing and knitting machines and haberdashery. They will repair broken tools but cannot repair or accept tools with woodworm. They also do not accept ladders, rakes, hedge trimmers, lawn edging tools or electric trimmers. And they do not need lawnmowers. A full list of what they accept (or decline) can be found on their website.

If you have anything you'd like to donate, Ethan Kline will collect the tools from you and ensure they get to TWAM in Ipswich. If interested, please email him on egrinkline@gmail.com

Hub News

Firstly, the Trustees would like to say a huge thank you to the Hubfest team for putting on such a fantastic event. Fabulous music, great refreshments, a brilliant atmosphere and so many people! A good amount was raised for the Hub funds which will give the Trustees a chance to breathe. If you missed it this year hopefully it will be back next, bigger and better!

Several photos have been submitted and we will, hopefully, be putting together a calendar of local pictures ready to present in November. Let us know if you would like to buy one or more, perhaps as Christmas presents?

Race Night also happens in November. Details and the racecard are included in this Hare. All horses are available to buy before the evening at £3 each. Let us know if you would like to buy one in advance or come and join us on the night.

Finally, yes, we do need to mention Christmas! The 3 villages meal is planned for 14th December. This is a 2-course meal at the Hub with Turkey and all the trimmings or vegetarian Wellington on the menu, followed by Christmas Pudding or Mandarin Cheesecake. Menu choices and payment must be made by 5th December along with any dietary requirements. £22 per person or £14 for under 12s. For further information or to reserve your place email enquiries@hub4all.org or contact one of the Trustees.

The Hub Trustees

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From our overseas correspondent...

Every other month a copy of *The Hare* wings its way across the Pond to Katy Kline who lives in a town called Topsham in Maine. She is an avid reader of *The Hare* and has kindly offered to share with us some aspects of life in the New England region of the US.



Let's say you are hosting a birthday party and wish you owned an ice cream maker but hesitate to go out and buy one in case you never use it again and it becomes one more item in your already overcrowded kitchen. If you lived in Brunswick, Maine (a small northern New England city, population around 25,000), you could head right over to your public library and borrow one! The Curtis Memorial Library's **LIBRARY OF THINGS** is a collection of more than 1,500 useful objects ranging from bolt cutters to eye glass repair kits, metronomes to tire pressure gauges, microphones to nail guns, stand mixers to shoe stretchers. ALL are available for patrons to borrow for a week, FOR FREE, just as easily as checking out more traditional library fare – books, CDs and DVDs.



This ever-more popular program is part of Curtis Library's earnest mission to encourage a sharing ecosystem, build community and temper over-consumption. Objects are donated or purchased, from the smallest (a green bean Frencher) to the largest (a multi-shelved dehydrator which dries garden fruits

and vegetables for year-round consumption). The library also hosts weekly swaps of art supplies and

small pieces of hardware as well as a periodic "Repair Café" where community volunteers fix balky lamps, small appliances and bent or broken jewelry. Patrons pay for lost or damaged items (in excess of normal wear and tear) but these instances have been extremely rare.

Founded in 2018, the Library of Things has been enthusiastically received (3,700 checkouts just last year) and has inspired other area



libraries to set up similar lending programs. There are apparently a small number of somewhat similar programs in Scotland and Wales, and interest has been expressed in the UK, though these programs are based on a Rental, rather than Free Borrowing, model.

Now, if you will excuse me, I must run to the library; I am planning an Asian meal for dinner guests and need to borrow a dumpling steamer.

Katy Kline

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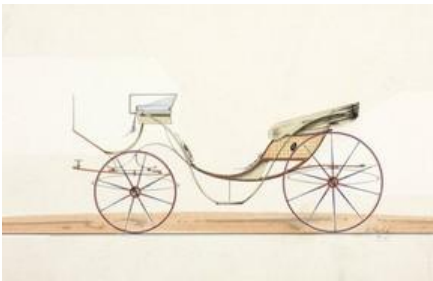
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History Corner: The Laxfield Hearse



I wrote earlier about the return of the old Laxfield hearse to the parish and the discovery of its former shelter, the Hearse House, in the cemetery grounds. Since then

the hearse has been displayed twice outside the museum and gathered a huge amount of interest. Each time we have decorated the vehicle with flowers in honour of those who were transported in the hearse some time in the first half of the twentieth century. On



its second airing it was pulled by a horse and it was a magnificent sight when it was drawn majestically down Laxfield High Street.



The hearse was made from an old Victoria carriage and the Laxfield bier before WWI by Bertie William Quinton (1881-1917) the local builder, carpenter and undertaker.

(The Museum season finishes at the end of October and there is a Ceilidh with the Hosepipe Band in Laxfield Village Hall on November 1st – see website for details www.laxfieldmuseum.onesuffolk.net)
Lynne Ward, Laxfield & District Museum

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Thank you from Julie



I am so grateful for your kind donation to support my Dementia UK Cycle Challenge and I thought you might like to receive a brief account of my experience!

London to Dover/Calais to Dunkirk

Day one we navigated the heavy traffic out of London and eventually

hit country lanes and prepared for the steepest climbs of the ride between Wye and Dover. I conquered every hill - passing the tough guys who had Ironman success under their belts but couldn't nail the ascents.

The ferry at Dover allowed for a celebration glass of bubbly with my eldest nephew, Tim. At Calais the light was fading and unexpected roadworks impacted our route. We finally got to the hotel in Dunkirk about 10pm to find we had to store our bikes with us in our rooms via the lift. I fell into bed at 11pm with 90 miles clocked, 4,500' climbed and total of 7.5hrs in the saddle.

Dunkirk to Cambrai

Day two, in theory, was the easiest but the blistering heat reaching 40c in the afternoon, a relentless headwind and lack of shade made this the worse day of my life! There were also clouds of tiny black flies that got everywhere and I could feel my hair becoming a fly hotel! We finally reached the hotel around 7.15pm having set off 12 hours earlier and expectating to arrive by 4pm! At dinner fellow riders unhelpfully told me I looked broken and they were not far wrong!

Cambrai to Soissons

Day three was the best ride ever. I set off apace and, as I was told, totally smashed it! The surprise birthday cake that the crew had waiting for me at a water stop definitely helped. I cut my cake to a birthday chorus: Why do this on your birthday? Can't you just go to the pub with your mates? I am pretty sure I was the eldest rider by a few years at least. After 73 miles, 3,300'

ascent and 5.5hrs in the saddle we arrived at the worst accommodation. First impressions - basic but ok - little did I know what was lurking in my bed linen.

Soissons to Paris

Day four, it soon became apparent I was the only one covered in bites and the pattern of bites was later confirmed as bed bugs/fleas. I had no antihistamine tablets to calm the swelling and itching. Leaving Soissons for Paris we rolled through fabulous countryside and pretty villages to the outskirts of the city. Millions of flies hitting my jacket fooled me into believing it was raining! We had some pretty scary hairpin bends climbing and descending and as I hurtled downhill towards another hairpin with loose gravel across the road I just held on and prayed. Eventually after 80 miles, 3,000' ascent and 6h 40m we glided up the Champs Elysees and took our life in our hands looping the Arc de Triomphe. I finally arrived at the official finish, met by Edward, my other nephew, his wife and children. I didn't know how I would feel but I burst into tears and just kept crying!

Thank you so much for your support I couldn't have done it without your encouragement. I raised just over £3,000 smashing my target of £2,000.

Julie Watson

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David's Column: Your village needs you!



We now have only four Parish Councillors for Huntingfield; myself, Edward, Emma and Sally Kline. I will be retiring early in 2026 so we are much in need of new Councillors.

Being a councillor is both rewarding and a privilege. You will be in a position to make a difference to the quality of other people's daily lives. Parish Councils have relatively few duties imposed on them by central Government but have an array of powers which give them flexibility to deal with many of the matters affecting local people. Parish Councils can consider and make recommendations on planning applications affecting the village (although they are not the deciding authority). They can support local events and community buildings (i.e. The Hub) and also provide assets which support the identity of the community (village signs, dog litter and waste bins and benches). Parish Councils exist to serve the community, and how they achieve this is largely determined by the councillors who serve on the Council. A particularly exciting task for Huntingfield PC at present is the

allocation of several tens of thousands of pounds of Community Infrastructure Levy monies to be allocated to infrastructure projects within Huntingfield

Parish Councillors do not get paid, but in some cases may be able to claim expenses. The usual term of office is 4 years. There are certain criteria that you must meet to be eligible to be a Parish Councillor.

You must:

- Be a British citizen or a citizen of The Commonwealth or European Union
- Be at least 18 years old
- Be registered to vote in the area, or have lived, worked or owned property in Huntingfield for at least 12 months
- Have lived within 3 miles of the parish for at least 12 months

You do not need any previous experience of being a councillor to apply, but you will need to be passionate about your local area and dedicated to working as part of a team for the benefit of your residents.

If you are at all interested in joining us on the Parish Council then please do ask any of us for further information.

To apply please email our Clerk, Carol Hume. at huntingfieldclerk@gmail.com

The Collett Celebrations!



Saturday 27th September saw our eldest daughter marry her fiancé, Stuart. What a great celebration it was, held at the Ivy House in Oulton Broad, with many family and friends attending and, of course, their children Stanley and Molly. We wish them many years of health and happiness as Mr & Mrs Fitch!

This follows our delight to welcome our 4th grandchild back in May. A 2nd daughter, Remi, for Natalie & Harry and a sister for Billie who thinks the world of her! Congratulations to all.

We are very proud of our ever growing family!!!
Julie Collett



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St Margaret's Church, Heveningham with Ubbeston

I always love September, that in-between month between summer and winter where we can still expect some warmer days but colder nights. However, it does also mean that we start to think about Christmas and the shops are reminding us that it isn't that far away.



We have enjoyed a good couple of months with August and September proving very busy. Our Pet service was again very popular with a good variety of animals including a pony, goat, sheep and Teddy the Tortoise. We continued the animal theme with some lovely pets coming to our handbell workshop. They may not

have been able to join in but I am certain they enjoyed the music. Also in August, we held a Bat Evening and welcomed around 50 people to this event. With crafts for children and a talk by Revd Dominic providing a lot of information about our Bats, we completed the evening with burgers and hot dogs to help us wait for the bats to come and join us. We were not disappointed and a really good evening was had by all.

In September, the village came together to hold a picnic alongside the Suffolk churches ride and stride. Despite the wet and stormy weather during the picnic, the welcome addition of a Pimms cart helped keep spirits high and also raised some funds for the church together with our cake and bake sale. The church made a good shelter and we were also treated to an impromptu concert by some visiting ride and striders.



As October is looming upon us, we are looking forward to our next lot of events from Harvest to Christmas.

10th October. Quiz night. This time round we are holding the event in the church with our lovely Linda as quiz master. Teams of 4 people at £10 a team. You are welcome to bring your own drinks and nibbles. Please contact me to book a place. I am currently collecting raffle prizes. If you have an item to donate, please either leave in the church or contact me.

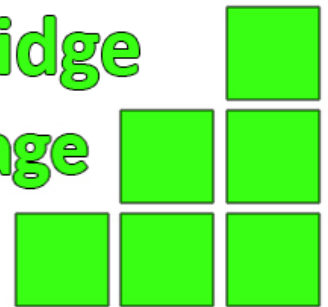
12th October. Harvest Festival and supper. We will be welcoming our new curate, Edmund, who will be leading the service, followed by our Harvest supper. We will be supplying soup and rolls, and, of course, wine. Donations of plates of food are greatly appreciated. Also, if you are able to help with the decoration of the church, please pop by and pick up a vase. Last year the church looked amazing and I would love it to be the same again this year. There will be no coffee morning as previously mentioned this weekend, but if anyone has any produce they would like to sell or donate, please do bring it to the church by the Friday or Saturday.

6th December. Christmas table sale/craft fair. If you would like to book a table at a cost of £5 please get in touch with me.

Finally, our repair works are finished. The church is looking good and we thank the Heveningham Country Fair Trust for the opportunity to complete these works. The church is watertight so we are working to improve the inside and recently uncovered a fireplace used for visiting gentry which is really worth a look. The church is open daily and we gladly welcome visitors. Thank you all for your support for both village events and for the church.

Jeannette

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Nature Notes



At the time of writing, it's about a week since the autumnal equinox: the day when the Sun is directly over the equator so day and night are equal in length. This is true for both hemispheres of the world and marks the start of autumn here in the north and the start of spring in the southern hemisphere. Our nights will (already noticeably) become longer as the tilt of the earth takes us into its shaded side. So how does this astronomical change affect the natural world in the UK?

Plants and animals alike will be using the milder climes of autumn to prepare for the much colder and harsher weather of the approaching winter. Many plants will shut down. Deciduous trees, for instance, drop their leaves to absorb vital sugars and giving us a stunning colourful show before they actually fall. Perennial plants such as Ox Eye Daisy, die right down to survive as roots underneath a protective layer of soil.

Evergreen plants have various strategies to enable them to survive long periods of cold weather. These mainly involve minimising water loss as low temperatures can radically reduce the availability of moisture. Waxy coated leaves such as those found on Holly or small leaves in the form of needles on conifers aid hugely in keeping the leaves internally moist and alive even in the harshest conditions. Annual plants such as poppies, take another route by scattering seeds in summer and autumn which themselves survive winter before shooting when spring arrives.



Animals also employ many different strategies. Mammals such as hedgehogs and reptiles such as slowworms hibernate, meaning sleeping in a frost-free spot with a stable temperature. This could be in a grassy nest or somewhere underground.



Other animals actually move to a warmer climate by following the sun and migrating to the southern hemisphere. Our locally breeding summer visiting warblers such as Blackcaps that breed in local hedges will, at the moment, be gorging on fruit such as blackberries - fattening up to keep them fuelled for the long journey to West Africa. They can almost double their weight before leaving the UK.

Most small birds migrate at night and can move surprisingly long distances in the dark. I have known birds that have been ringed in the UK one morning to be found somewhere in France well south of the Loire river the next morning. Birds that remain in colder regions for the winter such as our Robins and Blue Tits adapt by changing their food. Generally, this is from insect prey which is plentiful in the summer to fruits, nuts or seeds in the winter. This is why birds flock to garden feeders in the winter and why hedgerow berries like Hawthorn are vitally important for UK overwintering birds, especially thrushes.

Insects, especially moths and butterflies use all sorts of methods to survive. They can lay eggs on plants that are so well disguised they can pass safe and unnoticed. Other species caterpillars or chrysalis go into a hibernation state known as diapause. Some adult moths and butterflies actually hibernate themselves: you may well have found Peacock butterflies doing just this in a shed or outbuilding.

Some moths are even adapted to remain active in the winter. They have dense hair like body scales and a type of anti-freeze in their blood. A species which does this is the Winter Moth which flies from November to March. Of course, an advantage of this particular strategy is that, as moths are nocturnal, in winter they will have longer nights to feed breed etc.

On the subject of moths please don't forget to come along to the Moth Breakfast at St Mary's (see p 3). Matthew (aka Mothew) Deans, Suffolk's expert will be identifying numerous examples of local autumn moths.
Tony Howe

Your Parish Council

Ubbeston Parish Council



The most recent meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 8th September. Draft minutes of the meeting will be available to view on the Parish Council website and notice board.

A Village Emergency Plan is currently being created. Once approved, this will be

available on the Parish Council website and also via paper copy upon request. Updates to follow.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is due to take place on Monday 10th November 2025 at 7pm in The Hub at Huntingfield.

All residents are welcome to attend.

Angela Colbridge, ubbestonclerk@gmail.com

Heveningham Parish Council



The most recent meeting of the Parish Council took place on Wednesday

17th September at St Margaret's Church in Heveningham. Draft minutes from the meeting will be available on the Parish Council website. Comprehensive updates were received from The Tree Warden and Heveningham PCC.

The Parish Council are currently acquiring quotes for the installation of a Petanque Court on Bell Meadow, something for older children, families and all ages to enjoy. It is hoped that the installation will be complete by early 2026.

An update from the Police & Crime Commissioner included autumn public meeting dates. Locally these include Monday October 20th at Inspire Suffolk, 49 Lindberg Road, Ipswich, IP3 9QX at 6:30pm, no requirement to book. There is also an on-line meeting on Monday November 3rd at 6pm via Microsoft Teams. Please email spcc@suffolk.police.uk to register for the online-meeting.

A Village Emergency Plan has been created and the content has been agreed. This will be shared with the Joint Emergency Planning Unit and will be on the website in due course so please look out for it. You can contact the Clerk if you would like a paper copy.

The Parish Council has been in contact with the Suffolk Highways Community Liaison Engineer with a view to arranging a meeting to discuss HGV signage in the village.

The next meeting is due to take place on Wednesday 19th November, 7pm at The Hub, Huntingfield. All residents are welcome to attend.

Angela Colbridge, heveninghamclerk@gmail.com

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What's on – dates for your diary

October

4th Moth Breakfast, St Mary's, p 3
5th Huntingfield Apple Pressing, p 3
10th Quiz Night, St Margarets, p 13
12th Harvest Festival & Buffet, St Margarets, p 13
16th Curry Night, The Arms, p 5
25th Brunch at The Hub, 10-11am
28th Mobile Library, p 7

November

4th Charity Quiz Night, The Arms, 7pm, p 5
8th Heveningham Hall Fireworks
9th Remembrance Service, Huntingfield, p 3
15th Race Night, The Hub
10th Ubbeston PC Meeting, The Hub, 7pm
12th Huntingfield PC Meeting, The Hub, 7pm
19th Heveningham PC Meeting, The Hub, 7pm
20th Mexican Fiesta Night, The Arms, p 5
22nd Brunch at The Hub, 10-11am
25th Mobile Library, p 7
26th Community Debate, The Hub, p 3
28th Christmas Light Up, The Arms, p 5

Regular events at The Hub

Youth Club: Check <https://3vypsuffolk.wordpress.com/> or 3VYP Suffolk on Facebook for details.

Orchid Fitness Pilates: Thursday a.m. (see advert on p 4)

Pilates Body Harmony: Monday 6-7pm, The Hub (see advert on p 5)

Tai Chi: Monday, 2-3pm (contact Cindy Engel, cindywildhealth@gmail.com)

Zumba: Every Thursday, 11am-noon, £7 per PAYG session (see advert on page 16)

Relaxation Class with SarahLou: Third Monday of the month, £15 pay as you go. £50 for the 4 sessions

Upcoming Events

6th December, Christmas Craft Fair, St Margarets p 13

6th December, Minty Spectre Dinner, The Hub, p 5

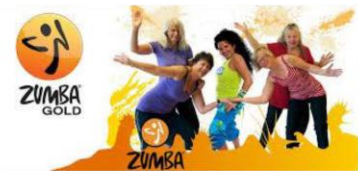
14th December, 3 Villages Christmas Supper, p 8

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Huntingfield

Chair: Cllr. David Blackmore

Clerk: Carol Hume huntingfieldclerk@gmail.com

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Louise Ferrario (Rep. Eco Warriors).

Linda Hitchings - 3VYP Treasurer.

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