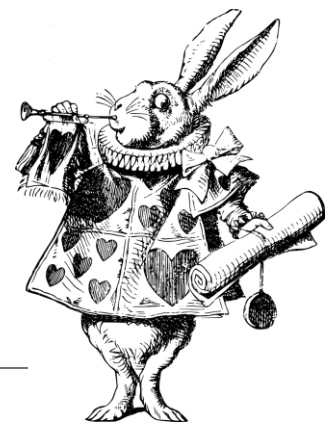


THE HARE

NEWSLETTER FOR THE VILLAGES OF
HEVENINGHAM, HUNTINGFIELD AND UBBESTON



Issue 114: February-March 2026

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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.



Well, we've got over what some describe as the most depressing month of the year... the festivities are a distant memory and, let's face it, among a handful of pleasant days we seem to have been treated to some very grey and gloomy ones! It's a good time to get out and about when the sun is shining and appreciate the soft winter light (if you're lucky enough).

Saying that, as we're putting this issue together it seems there are lots of things to look forward to in the coming months for all interests - be it history, gardening, music etc. Have a browse and put the dates in your diaries.

Titanic 'History Day'

On Saturday 18th April

(3-5pm) we are holding a special event at Huntingfield Church to commemorate the life and death of Thomas Cupper Mudd who grew up in Huntingfield. He was among one of the youngest to perish in the sinking of the Titanic at only 16 years of age.



The afternoon will begin with a service of commemoration for the victims of Titanic. April 15th is National Titanic Remembrance Day, when services will take place to honour the 1,512 people who lost their lives on that day in 1912.

This will be followed by the unveiling of a permanent memorial to Thomas in the church. Come along and learn more about Thomas' life here in Huntingfield and why he was heading to America. See copies of the postcards he wrote to his mother and other artifacts of the time. The afternoon will conclude with

a 'White Star' Afternoon Tea at £5 per head.

We look forward to welcoming you to a very special afternoon at Huntingfield Church.

Sally Clarke

Country Fair 2026

Although it seems a long time off and the weather is cold, let's look forward to the summer and this year's Heveningham Hall Country Fair. A date for your diary, 27th & 28th June. Already it is looking like an excellent line up in the main ring.

Once again we will be looking for stewards, cake makers, tea ladies and many other jobs to cover. Also, of course, the all important tombola prizes. If every household from all the villages gave one item, it would make an amazing tombola. Huntingfield are looking for a new village rep to take over from Sally, who has done a great job over the past few years. If you have spare time on your hands and wish to take this on, please talk to Sally or myself.

Many thanks, Julie Collett
julie.collett@countryfair.co.uk

J. FELTON CHIMNEY SWEEP

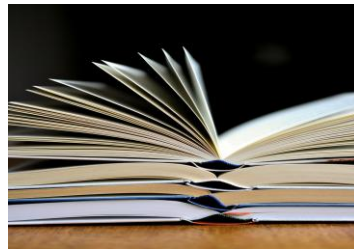
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Mobile Library





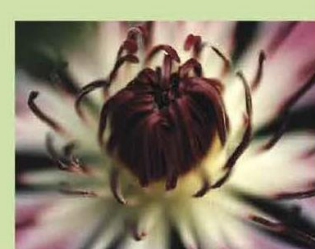
The monthly mobile library stops at Huntingfield Hub on Tuesdays at 15.00-15.20. Upcoming dates are 17th February and 17th March.

Details can also be found online at:
<https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/mobile-library-route/leiston-mobile-library-route-13>



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Sheep Talk...



I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year. The days are very quickly ticking down to the start of lambing. Our due date is March 27th for the Mules and the 29th for the Romney ladies. I have my fingers and toes crossed that this wet, cold weather

disappears before then. Newborn lambs are surprisingly hardy in cold, dry conditions. However, wet weather alongside wet ground is a challenge for them. They can quickly turn hyperthermic and need TLC to aid their survival. If this scenario arrives, affected lambs receive an injection of glucose directly into their abdomen and are placed in a hotbox (a wooden box with a fan heater inside). Usually within an hour they can transform from being lifeless, stiff and cold to standing and shouting for their mum, and, more importantly, the milk bar! It never ceases to amaze me how resilient the smallest of lambs can be.



The ladies are yet to be scanned to see how many lambs they're carrying.

Once scanned, they will have colour coded bottoms for easy identification as I drive around on my checks. A green mark indicates a single lamb, no mark for a pair, a red mark for triplets, and a red & green mark for quads (hopefully not too many of those...). Nationwide numbers are showing a good rate of pregnancy and good percentages. Last year the Romneys came in at 144% and the mules were 187%. This is just an average score of how many lambs per ewe we will be expecting. All being well the ladies will scan well again this time around.

We handle and move the ewes as little as possible at this stage of pregnancy, which finds them extremely stubborn. If they can find a way to be awkward, they most definitely will be. Hence, my dogs are now having quiet work time and they do get bored extremely



quickly. To ease the dogs boredom, I have a small group of sheep that are used for training. These are probably the best-behaved sheep in the County! I'm almost convinced they understood the whistle commands that I blow for the dogs. They are rewarded afterwards with a nice, tasty treat, a bucket of sheep nuts. It seems to make their exercise much more worthwhile!

The gang will gain a new member in late February. My Elsa is due to have (her first) pups and I plan to keep a male pup from her. Fingers crossed for a smooth whelping, and for Elsa being a good mum. I'm hoping there will be one with tan markings as I am a bit of a softie when it comes to tri-colour.

You may have noticed the Mules have (briefly) left Heveningham and are currently doing a circuit of the outlying grazing fields. In theory, this will give the main grazing areas a few weeks rest and allow new grass to emerge. All being well there will be a nice bit of fresh growth prior to lambing which will help the ewes to produce good quality milk as well as maintaining their body condition whilst feeding their lambs. Until next time, *Lucy*

Pilates at Huntingfield Hub Pilates Body Harmony



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Contact Emma 07914535448
pilatesbodyharmony@aol.co.uk

Weather report: December 2025 – January 2026



That was a quick two months since my last report. The new year started off with three named storms in a month: Bonnetti, Ingrid and Chandra. Only the first and last affected us and neither of those with any great significance other than just rain and only moderate breezes alongside.

These storms have tracked up the NW side of the UK and SE into mainland Europe with associated weather fronts depositing the rain on the rest of us. The reason for this is that a blocking high pressure area sits over Northern Europe and this causes the jetstream carrying the depressions to split just as it reaches the UK.

So, January has brought us a mixture of snow and rain. In total, 20 days of precipitation this month. Yes, it's been very dull and cloudy and I don't think it'll change for a few days yet. With several days left of this month, rain totals are already higher than in January 2025 and will increase a little, with a total of 3.15" (79.92mm) of rain to date. Last year's total amounted to 2.6" (67.65mm). It was slightly wetter in December 2024 than in December 2025 with 2.60" (65.98 mm) and 1.99" (55.55mm) respectively. So the variations continue which are to be expected with climate change.

Temperatures have been nothing untoward with a low of -7c and a high of 11c this winter so far, so just a little higher minimum temperatures. Given current weather patterns, I would expect variations from the norm to continue through the seasons.

	2024	2025	Diff Inches
Dec	2.67	1.99	-0.68
*Jan 25/26	2.74	3.15	0.41
Totals	5.41	5.14	

One more murky month to come and then, hopefully, March will be a little more pleasant.

Richard Tyler

Hundred Club



Very many thanks to all subscribers, old and new, for their £12 per entry. All 100 numbers have been allocated which has raised a valuable £600 to help with the upkeep and maintenance of our

wonderful Millennium Green, Wildflower Meadow, Community Orchard, children's play area & equipment, recreation ground with pétanque and football pitches, picnic benches and wooden shelter.

We are very fortunate to have all these - found up the stairs by the Hub with accessible parking off Brick Kiln Lane. Thanks again for your help in supporting our 100 Club.

November		December	
1st	Camilla Costello	1st	Sam Collier
2nd	Ivan Clarke	2nd	Beth and Chris Kerridge
3rd	Nigel Jerrey	3rd	Lori Kingsley-Adams

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Halesworth & District Museum

Halesworth & District Museum is located in Halesworth Railway Station and is run entirely by volunteers. We rely on Friends memberships, donations and grants to care for our wide and fascinating collection of treasures from Halesworth and the surrounding parishes.



Halesworth Station itself is home to a unique feature: moving platforms installed in 1888 and used daily until the early

1980s. The museum displays a working model of these platforms, along with extensive information about their history and operation.

Our collections include:

The Wissett Hoards

Wissett Hoard



An internationally significant discovery of Bronze Age palstave axeheads, spearheads, and part of a sabre, dating back around 3,500 years. These items were purchased from the British Museum and are displayed less than two miles from

where they were originally found. The palstave axeheads are widely regarded as the finest collection in England.

The Bramfield Hoard

This remarkable hoard of Middle Bronze Age axeheads was discovered in 1830 and has been held for many years by the Royal Armouries Museum. Dating from the same period as the Wissett Hoards, the Bramfield items are much more worn and may have been destined for melting down. Together, these two hoards provide a fascinating comparison and, as far as we know, have never previously been displayed to the public.

Local Treasures

Displays include the recently acquired Cookley hoard of Roman silver coins and the Blythburgh Iron Age gold coin hoard.

The Lincolne Letters

The Lincolnes were a well respected family from Halesworth who ran the Drapers in early 19th century. This exhibition features audiovisual excerpts from the letters, using recordings made by Circle 67 actors at the book launch. Visitors can also view original letters and other objects from the Lincolne archive.

Children are always captivated by the Witch Finder General display and enjoy hands-on learning with fossils and stones to explore archaeology. We regularly welcome visits from local schools.



Have you ever wondered what all those signs above the Green Room café in the Thoroughfare mean? We have the explanation...? So do pay

us a visit and find out.

The museum is currently closed while we update displays and improve the layout. The lobby and external features have been refurbished, and new exhibitions are being developed, including displays on Edwardian-era trades and on Hooker father and son of Halesworth, creators of Kew Gardens. Looking ahead to later in 2026, we plan to redesign the Local History Room by replacing furniture and improving facilities. Our aim is to encourage more visitors to explore and make use of the museum's catalogue and research resources.

On Thursday 12th February the Museum is holding a quiz at the Halesworth Golf Club. Details below. It will be a fun quiz with quirky questions. We will have an Auction of Pledges and a raffle. All proceeds will go to the museum to help with our ever-increasing running costs.

For further information please contact Karen Forster on 07730 970737 or accounts@halesworthmuseum.org.uk.

QUIZ NIGHT
12 February 2026
Fundraising for Halesworth & District Museum

Come along and test your general knowledge with some fun-filled quirky questions!

- Halesworth Golf Club Bar & Restaurant
- Entrance: £15 per person including supper or £6 without food
- Choice of Chicken, Cheese & Bacon Burger or Mushroom & Halloumi Burger

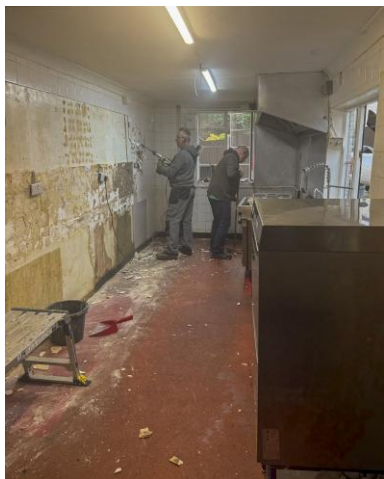
Quiz starts at 7.00 (Doors open at 6.00)

- Teams of 4, or join up with new friends on the night!
- Auction of Pledges & Raffle
All proceeds go to support our local Museum

Reserve your table:
accounts@halesworthmuseum.org.uk
text or call 07730 970737
or 07843 235887

See you there!

Arms Events



It's been an interesting start to the year. We closed the kitchen for major improvements on 26th January and plan to be back in service by 10th February. At the moment everything is running to schedule – fingers crossed! In the meantime, we have been busy in The Hub kitchen producing

homemade ready meals that will be available to purchase from our shop. Additionally, pre-ordered hot takeaways will be available to collect from The Hub on Friday 30th January and Friday 6th February.

The bar will remain open for drinks in the evenings and our Winter Quiz Night will still be happening on Tuesday 3rd February and 3rd March. Entry is £2.50 per person with a maximum of four per team and the winning team takes all! Sadly, without access to the frier we can't provide the usual chips on the first date.

Once we're back in the swing with a bright new kitchen our first themed evening on Thursday 26th February is Welly Night: sample two wellingtons from our list of five options, accompanied by a selection of potatoes, vegetables and sauces.

Thursday 26th March features a buffet-style Curry Night. This popular evening is currently fully booked but you can be wait-listed so please ask.



We are also taking bookings for Mothers Day on Sunday 15th March. Make sure mum gets that very special treat.

And finally, to add some brightness to the current grey days we have already started booking our Summer Sunday Music guests. Some dates for your diary:

3rd May - Gypsy Heart
14th June - Grace Brothers
21st June - Zed Skiffelin
28th June - The Lowestoft Longshoremen
6th September - Table 9

Sara & Steve

HUNTINGFIELD
ARMS



Petanque

Happy New Year! The pétanque teams are well back into games, despite the weather. Felixstowe sea front was not our favourite venue in the cold wind!



The AGM was held in December. Well done to Dunstan on winning the club competition and to the Hares for being runners up last winter. Officers for the

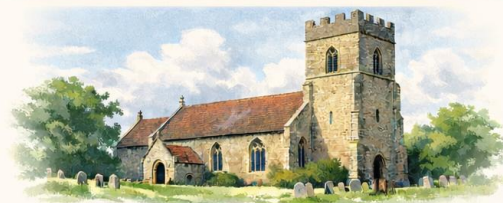
club remain the same. We will be looking



at some new team shirts for the summer, and also will be entering 2 triples teams into the competition.

Already we have registered for the summer league and look forward to playing in the sunshine!
Julie Collett, Captain

OPEN DAY



St Margaret's Church

Heveningham with Ubbeston



Thursday 28th March

11 am – 4 pm

Everyone Welcome!



Discover the history of St Margaret's Church



Learn what we do today and have your say in forthcoming events



Try your hand at bell ringing between 1.30pm – 3.30pm



Children's activities



Refreshments available throughout the day

Whether you are a regular visitor or just curious, we would love to welcome you.



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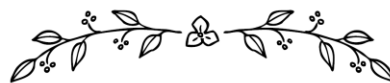
Spring Workshops...

- April 18th : Woodfire Cooking - The Ember Edition
- April 19th : Woodfire Cooking - The Basics
- June 5th : Woodfire Cooking - The Basics
- June 6th : Woodfire Cooking - The Ember Edition

Follow us on Instagram
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Advertising in The Hare



The Hare is always looking for some new advertisers in order to keep our costs down and to allow us to continue to

distribute the newsletter in printed format, free of charge to residents of the three villages. We have had very positive feedback from those who use us to reach out to the local community, as evidenced by those who have been advertising here for many years. Thanks folks!

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 please email huntingfieldhare@gmail.com.
The Hare Team

Huntingfield Watercourse

Huntingfield Watercourse level at Huntingfield

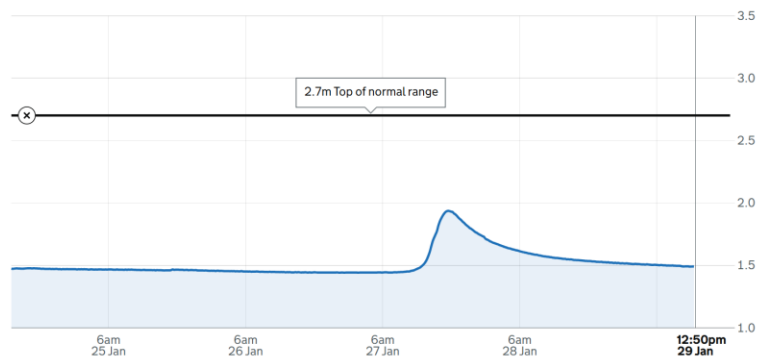
Map Nearby levels

Latest at 12:30pm on 29 January

Height 1.49m Trend Steady State Normal

Normal range 0.00m to 2.70m

Height in metres over the last 5 days



Download data CSV (12KB)

Do you ever wonder what the green boxes are by the bridge at the end of the Carnser footpath where it meets Barrels Hill? It's actually an Environment Agency monitoring station which tracks the current water level. Anyone can access real time details of the water level via the .GOV website at <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/station/6090>.

Thankfully the stream doesn't seem to reach the heights that it has in the past. The maximum on record for the Huntingfield station is 2.688m, which was at 03:00 on 27th January 2013. It's still a useful tool when we have very heavy rain and you're concerned about the levels (as it runs through my garden I've found it very reassuring at times!)

Helen Cannon

Church Chat

Compline Services at Huntingfield will commence again during the period of Lent. Saturday 21st & 28th February and 7th & 14th March at 7.30pm. Compline is a short service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day and ends with those present departing in silence. Everyone is welcome.

Sunday services at St Mary's, Huntingfield are held on the 4th Sunday of the month commencing at 10am. Everyone is welcome to attend whether you are just visiting, curious or have decided to 'try something different' in 2026.

Services are taken by a variety of Priests, Rectors, Curates and Lay people. Each service is different, depending on who is leading it and there are always refreshments and chat at the end. Recently we have been lucky enough to have Adrian lead us: firstly, at our Carol service and then at Holy Communion. But who are these people behind the 'dog collar' and vestments?

Let's start with Adrian:

The Reverend Canon Adrian Daffern is the Senior Cathedral and Major Churches Officer for the Church of England. In this role he gives advice to the 42

cathedrals and 323 major churches on all aspects of their buildings, from installing solar panels to rebuilding organs.

Adrian holds degrees from the Universities of Durham, Oxford and Cambridge. His ministry spanned over 30 years in Oxford, Lichfield, Ely and also time at the Anglican cathedral in Montreal.



Adrian is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists and music and playing the piano and organ is a huge passion for him. However, he does enjoy a good game of squash, boxing and working out at the gym. Crime fiction and political biography are on his reading list.

Adrian was privileged to act as one of the Archbishop of Canterbury's chaplains at the King's Coronation. But perhaps his principal claim to fame is that he could be heard for several years at the organ of St Stephens, Ambridge. Welcome Adrian!

Sally Clarke



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Hub News



THE
Hub



HEVENINGHAM

The first bit of news is that I have managed to hijack writing this slot from Julie, hence the different style and waffle.

When we first moved to the village in October 2023, I wondered what the Hub was. I then discovered that this amazing building was the replacement for a dilapidated village hut. I have since learned that many villages still have small dilapidated huts and so I believe that we are so very fortunate to have such a wonderful building, thanks to those who campaigned for it and made it happen. This building is unique and because we have the Hub and the pub in this village, we are incredibly well resourced for coming together as a community.

I came to understand that the Hub serves the three villages, not just Huntingfield and this makes sense. I think that we need a generic name for our three villages. Unless anybody has a better idea, I am going to call us HuntUbbHeven, or HUH for short.

So, let's start with what we've got. Regular events:

Health and Wellness

This is very topical especially at the beginning of a New Year when everyone professes to drink less, lose weight, exercise more and all that stuff. Pilates, Tai Chi,

Yoga and Zumba all take place on a weekly basis at the Hub. There is also a monthly relaxation class. Full details for joining and when all the groups take place can be found on the back page.

Brunch

This takes place on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10.00am and will restart on 28th February. This is an opportunity to sit and idle away a Saturday morning with your fellow neighbours in HuntUbbHeven or HUH, over a plate of bacon, eggs, beans, mushrooms, sausages and the rest. Forget the New Year resolution to lose weight or whatever, come on down, it's a nice way to start the day and to meet and chat to others.

Thursday Club

The Hub is a space for our community, a space for coming together. Together we are better and the health benefits from being together in groups sharing ideas, chatting, helping and being there for each other are enormous and cannot be underestimated.

This group was started with this in mind. It runs from 2-4pm every single Thursday with the idea of a weekly space where we can come together for mutually beneficial and fun activities and games. It is a space and time for creative innovation, for games and socialisation. We have dozens of board games at the Hub and also creative innovative people who can and are willing to impart and share their skills. Ginny, our village potter, brought along clay and various tools and gave instruction on pottery and clay making, which I found fascinating. It's an opportunity to learn a new skill. If you have a game or a craft you would like to share with others, along with instruction on how to play or make then please do so.

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This group is open to everyone, and even if you don't want to get involved with a game or participate in any particular activity, please feel welcome to come along and sit in the warm, drink tea and eat chocolate biscuits. It's fine. If you have any queries you can email either myself, Jeannette, at jredway.bfl@gmail.com or Sheila at sheilacfreeman38@yahoo.com.

Finally, a useless or useful fact: An earthworm turns six tons of soil in its lifetime.

Written by Jeannette Redway on behalf of the four J's and Alan making up the Hub team (Full and proper details on the back page of the Hare)

Community Debate



The next community debate will take place on **Wednesday 4th March, 7-9pm, The Hub**

Our topic this time is based around transgender issues and “*How do we balance inclusivity with protecting womens’ sex-based rights?*”. Together we will explore the definition of ‘transgender’, social inclusion, discrimination and harassment, the use of puberty blockers and support for young people.

You are all invited to come along, join in or just listen. A warm welcome, tea and coffee are provided.

Sally Clarke

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Willow arch weaving?



Heveningham Parish Council is seeking someone to shape the willow arch on Bell Meadow. A willow artist has offered to carry out the work for a fee and to train interested residents for future maintenance.

If you would like to pay a small fee and learn this skill, please register your interest with the Clerk of Heveningham Parish Council. Alternatively, if anyone knows of a local person who would be interested in shaping the willow arch, please inform the Clerk, Angela Colbridge,

heveninghamclerk@gmail.com

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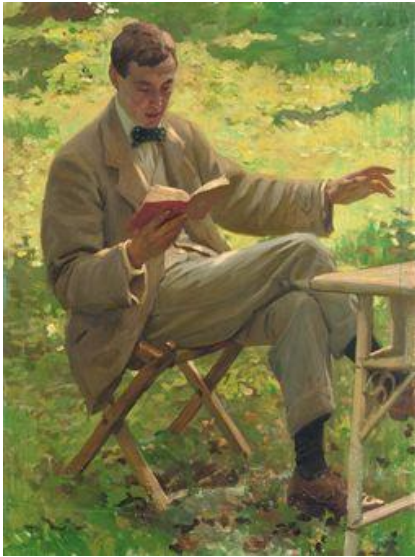
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FOR A QUOTE



History Corner: Sir Alfred Munnings attended Laxfield Dames' School, 1882

'Although very young, my brother and I were away at a sort of dame's school at Laxfield, Suffolk. This was kept



by two sisters, Miss Jane Read and Miss Alice Read. Jane was stoutish and wore a fringe, Alice was turning grey and had a red face. Both were kind.

'We were there, I believe, because of our mother's illness at the time. I was nearly four, and went about with Randolph

Caldecott's picture in my mind, for the Misses Read had the Christmas number of *The Graphic* of the early eighties [1880's], and I remember those pictures even more than the landscape around Laxfield. So when my father came to see us [they were obviously boarders] on my fourth birthday, bringing with him a beautiful toy horse, a dun-coloured horse with a black mane and tail and a head that nodded up and down, being full of Caldecott, I called it Merrylegs; the name taken from *The Graphic* Christmas number wherein Caldecott had

pictured a country wedding with snow, grey horses, postboys, wedding bells and breakfast and the young lady who got married going to the stables to say goodbye to her horse Merrylegs. I can see the Misses Read, my father, ourselves, and the [toy] horse on the table, with its head nodding up and down.

'Another Laxfield scene. The wide village street. Its church and Wolf Inn and a country crowd at a fair. My first ride on a dapple-grey horse, which I clothed in beauty and sacred wonder. I even dreamt about it. The Steam Horses they were called.'

Text from Munnings An Artist's Life 1950.



Diana Wood's Wedding: Returning from Church by Randolph Caldecott

Lynne Ward

Laxfield & District Museum will re-open for the 2026 Season on Good Friday



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Nature Notes

At the time of writing we have had some cold and frosty night-time temperatures but there are also emerging signs of warmer times ahead. Day length is noticeably increasing: we have gained nearly an hour since the Solstice (December 21st) and now have almost nine hours of daylight. This means that the sun has a bit more power as it is slightly higher in the sky, so it is beginning to feel a little warmer, if only subtly.

On a warmish sunny day recently several bird species including Song Thrush, Skylark, Blackbird and Dunnock were singing quite strongly. On the same day, I was amazed to see a Peacock Butterfly flying in my garden - it must have been woken from its hibernation by the warmth.



Rooks are beginning to gather at local rookeries. The pairs will be deciding where they will build their large twiggy nests. You can easily spot rookeries

as the nests are constructed quite high and early, before leaves have appeared on the trees. Plus the Rook flocks called “parliaments” create a loud, clamouring noise that can be heard from quite faraway. Other birds will also be contemplating nesting. In fact, on a recent trip to Aldeburgh I saw a Herring Gull starting to construct a nest on a house chimney. These are the large noisy gulls that like to steal your chips if you aren’t careful!



Locally, probably the most noticeable early signs of the Spring to come are the swaths of beautiful Snowdrops just beginning to bloom. If you search you may also find some other flowers blooming such as the Yellow Aconites and the long yellow catkins or Lambs Tails dangling on Hazel trees. In old local woodland carpets of the bright green leaves of Dogs Mercury, with its clusters of tiny green flowers, can now be seen.

It’s an interesting, poisonous plant that can be found in woodland right across Europe and as far way as Turkey and Iran but is strangely absent from Ireland.

Of course, we do still have lots of signs of winter in the natural world at the moment. With most tree species still to leaf up and many winter visiting birds still very evident. These include flocks of Thrushes, Fieldfare and Redwing

feeding in local hedgerows along with many Blackbirds and Robins from Eastern

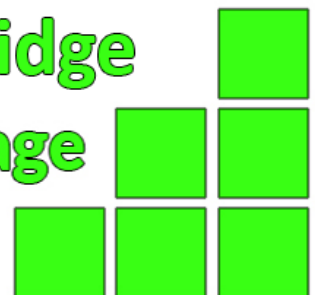


Europe who migrate across the North Sea to avoid really cold weather at their breeding grounds. I have had over forty Blackbirds feeding daily on apples in my garden recently, compared with the two to three pairs that are present in summer.

By the time of the next Hare we will be well into spring, the trees will be green, hedgerow flowers will be blooming and our local birds will be joined by summer visitors. Birdsong will be getting louder so do keep an eye and ear out.

Tony Howe

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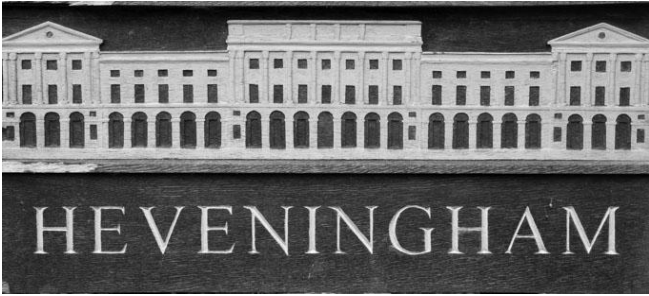
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Your Parish Council

Heveningham Parish Council



The most recent meeting of the Parish Council took place on Wednesday 21st January 2026 at the Hub in Huntingfield. Draft minutes from the meeting will be available on the Parish Council website.

The Parish Council has received a donation from the Heveningham Charity Trust to be used towards expenses incurred in connection with projects on Bell Meadow. The Council extends its grateful thanks to the Trust for this kind donation.

The installation of a pétanque court at Bell Meadow is scheduled to begin in February and will provide an exciting new amenity for families and residents to enjoy in the village.

The Suffolk Highways Community Liaison Engineer has agreed to visit the village to discuss the ongoing issues relating to HGV signage. It is also hoped that traffic-calming measures for Heveningham Long Lane can be discussed during the site visit.

The Parish Council has been exploring a move to a GOV.UK domain for some time and is pleased to confirm that it has now agreed to proceed, with One Suffolk providing the service. Details of the new Parish Council email address and website will be shared once everything is fully up and running.

We are fortunate to have a community defibrillator in the village, which requires ongoing monitoring and maintenance. A local resident has been kind enough to take on the role of guardian for the defibrillator, supported by a small team who assist with its upkeep. The Parish Council extends its sincere thanks to all involved for the time and effort they dedicate to keeping this vital facility rescue-ready.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is due to take place on Wednesday 18th March 2026 at 7pm in The Hub at Huntingfield. All residents are welcome to attend.

Angela Colbridge, heveninghamclerk@gmail.com

Ubbeston Parish Council



The most recent meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 12th January. Draft minutes of the meeting are available to view on the Parish Council website and noticeboard.

The budget and precept for 2026/2027 were considered and approved by councillors.

The agreed precept will result in a 0% change to the parish element of the council tax bill.

Councillors have been considering a move to a gov.uk domain for some time and have now agreed to proceed with this through One Suffolk. A new email address and website domain are currently being set up, and further information will be shared once they are ready to go live.

The Speed Indicator Device has been assessed and found to have a technical fault. The Parish Council are considering the available options to determine the most appropriate way to resolve the issue.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is due to take place on Monday 9th March 2026 at 7pm in The Hub at Huntingfield. All residents are welcome to attend.

Angela Colbridge, ubbestonclerk@gmail.com



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St Margaret's Church, Heveningham with Ubbeston



Spring seems to be starting early this year, with daffodils already showing their faces alongside the snowdrops. A welcome burst of colour to help chase away those January blues!

To kick off our new year of events and activities, we are holding an Open Day on Saturday 28th March. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit the church and learn more about its history, our recent

restoration works and our plans for the future. There will be fun activities for children, refreshments available throughout the day, and the chance to come and ring the bells, with bell ringing taking place between 1.30pm and 3.30pm.

We will also be showcasing the beautiful hangings embroidered by the Waveney Stitch and Textile Group. These were created to commemorate the work of Capability Brown and were originally displayed at Ixworth House. Blyth Valley churches were delighted to be invited to exhibit these stunning pieces, which are truly worth viewing. Information about the work involved will be available, and we hope to have some of the seamstresses present to talk about their craft. We also look forward to sharing these hangings with other churches in our benefice in the future.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting ideas in the early planning stages, alongside the return of our popular events such as quiz nights, coffee mornings with craft markets and table sales and a bat evening for children, as well as a separate adults-only bat evening. Full details will be available at our Open Day, or you can sign up to receive updates via our email newsletter.

Church Services:

8th February, 10am - Traditional Communion
8th March, 10am - Family Service

The church is open daily for quiet reflection. We also have small jars of local honey for sale as well as packets of seeds and celebration cards for all occasions.

With thanks as always for your continued support.

Jeannette

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Huntingfield Millennium Green



The Trustees of the Millennium Green wish to thank the Parish Council for agreeing a grant for the purchase of replacement picnic tables etc. Some of our old ones were becoming unsafe to use. This grant came from the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy.

We have started preparations for our own fundraising events including our highly successful and enjoyable Plant Fair that is taking place on Sunday May 17th at the Hub. This has become an annual crowd pleaser and provides essential funding to maintain the Green including mowing etc. and keeping the equipment and facilities in a usable and safe condition.

As well as our own carefully cultivated stock we welcome plant donations and February is just the right time to start sowing those seeds! I am sure that there will be lots of us who have half empty seed packets that will only get gobbled

up by hungry mice. We are also looking for donations to our gardening Bric-a-Brac stall that was so well supported last year. Any garden related items, e.g. vintage tools, would be kindly welcomed as long as they are in a usable condition. Please contact Tony Howe (07484 184 487) if you have anything suitable.

David's Column

It is a bit late to wish you a Happy New Year, so I will just wish you all a healthy and successful 2026.



Sally always accuses me of looking at the world through rose tinted glasses, but looking round the village at the moment I think those glasses are justified. Our three major assets all seem

to be thriving. The Arms seems to be hugely popular, as it should be, bearing in mind the effort that Steve and Sara continue to put in. The Hub continues to go from strength to strength ably guided by the small band of Trustees, and as you can see elsewhere in this issue there are some really interesting things happening at our church.

At the January Parish Council meeting we were pleased to co-opt John Folan as a new councillor. Welcome John. I am pleased to say that the Parish Council were able to agree a budget for 26/27 that will result in a 5% reduction in the 'precept share' of our council tax. It does not account to much, but in these straitened times every little helps.

County Councillor Stephen Burroughes updated us on the local government reorganisation, pledged some money for two new dog waste bins and expressed a hope that he may be able to find some funds to help towards the cost of new traffic signage on Barrels Hill.

Much of the meeting was occupied with the allocation of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds. We currently have over £30,000 available.

The following allocations were agreed:

- an additional notice board for The Hub (to display more 'community notices')
- further works to the drain on brick Kiln Lane
- funding for Hubfest 26
- new picnic benches and tables for the Millennium Green.

It was also agreed in principle to fund an extension to the disabled parking area on the Millennium Green, and also to provide services (water, electricity and wifi) to the MG shelter, subject to costed proposals. There were other items discussed and we are happy to consider any ideas that you may have.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 11th March at 19.00 in The Hub.

David Blackmore

orchid fitness



Nikki Hambling

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Please contact me on

07899 888 778

nikkihambling@gmail.com

www.orchidfitness.co.uk

Hubfest Update



Yes, we are doing it all over again. We had such a great time last year, so it has to happen. Planning is already underway.

Hubfest will be bigger and better this year with two stages - while one band plays the other sets up to provide a seamless flow! Yet again, we have some quality music with some exceptional local talent. The following is a selection of the bands that will be playing; Zigzag Box Cars, The Annex, Blyth River Blues band, Matt and John, and the

Halesworth Ukulele Band. We will also be hosting an open mike session to give the opportunity for up and coming acts to wow the audience.

We will have even more food outlets, a coffee stall and an even better range of crafts and artisan goods etc. It all kicks off on Saturday 1st August on the Millennium Green in Huntingfield from 1-9pm. Tickets are still only £10.00 on the gate or in advance from the Arms at a discount.

This is a charity event run by volunteers from the community for the community. All proceeds go to the Huntingfield Hub to keep this wonderful resource financed throughout the year. Save the date and watch out for further updates

JDP. The HUBFEST team

What's on – dates for your diary

February

3rd Quiz Night, The Arms, p 6
8th Communion Service, St Margarets, p 14
12th Halesworth Museum Quiz Night, p 5
17th Mobile Library, p 2
21st Compline Service, St Mary's, p 8
26th Welly Night, The Arms, p 6
28th Compline Service, St Mary's, p 8

March

3rd Quiz Night, The Arms, p 6
4th Community Debate, p 10
7th & 14th Compline Service, St Mary's, p 8
8th Family Service, St Margarets, p 14
10th Ubbeston PC Meeting, The Hub, 7pm
11th Huntingfield PC Meeting, The Hub, 7pm
14th Compline Service, St Mary's, p 8
15th Mother's Day, The Arms, p 6
18th Heveningham PC Meeting, The Hub, 7pm
17th Mobile Library, p 2
26th Curry Night, The Arms, p 6
28th Open Day, St Margaret's, p 6

Regular events at The Hub

Thursday Club – every Thursday from 2-4pm (see p 9)
Orchid Fitness Pilates: Thursday a.m. (see advert on p 15)
Pilates Body Harmony: Monday 6-7pm, (see advert on p 3)
Tai Chi: Monday, 2-3pm (contact Cindy Engel, cindywildhealth@gmail.com)
Zumba: Every Thursday, 11am-noon, £7 per PAYG session (see advert on page 14)
Relaxation Class with SarahLou: Third Monday of the month, £15 pay as you go. £50 for the 4 sessions

Upcoming Events

Saturday, 18th April, Titanic History Day, St Mary's, 3-5pm
Sunday 17th May 2026, Huntingfield Plant Sale, p 14
Saturday 1st August, Hubfest, p 15

Parish Councils *

Heveningham

Chair: Cllr. Sam Fairs
Clerk: Angela Colbridge heveninghamclerk@gmail.com

Huntingfield

Chair: Cllr. David Blackmore
Clerk: Carol Hume huntingfieldclerk@gmail.com

Ubbeston

Chair: Cllr. Carl Walker
Clerk: Angela Colbridge ubbestonclerk@outlook.com

Millennium Green Trustees*

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Tony Howe Linnet Cottage 785429

Treasurer:

Jim Wardale Burin Barn 798393

Secretary:

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Christopher Jenkins Towranna Farm

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Churchwarden:

Emma Ward, Huntingfield

PCC Members:

David Blackmore, Huntingfield
Sally Clarke (Secretary), Huntingfield
Tony Morelli (Treasurer), Huntingfield
Tony Howe, Huntingfield

The Hub *

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