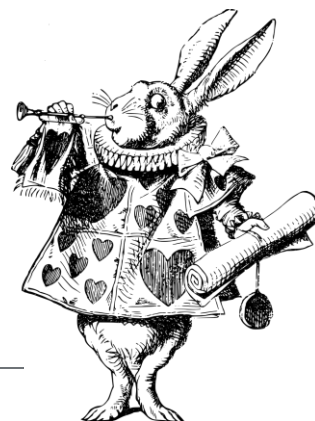


# THE HARE

NEWSLETTER FOR THE VILLAGES OF  
HEVENINGHAM, HUNTINGFIELD AND UBBESTON



## Issue 102: February – March 2024

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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 Huntingfield Hare is financed through advertising - so please support our advertisers whenever you can.

#### Contact the Hare:

[huntingfieldhare@gmail.com](mailto:huntingfieldhare@gmail.com)

#### Find us online:

[www.huntingfield.onesuffolk.net](http://www.huntingfield.onesuffolk.net)

Your editorial team is:

**Helen Cannon**

01986 799103 6 Bridge Street

**Liz Forrester**

01986 798912 The Coach House

**Sue Tyler**

01986 798403 The Firs

*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.*

### Easter events

#### Easter Egg Hunt



There will be a grand Easter Egg hunt on Easter Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> March courtesy of The Arms. Have a walk around Huntingfield on the lookout for a colourful plastic egg to be swapped for the real thing at the pub.

#### Way of the Cross



From 16<sup>th</sup> March, in 14 local churches there will be exhibited a 'Station of the Cross' drawn by artist Iain McKillop. On 23<sup>rd</sup> March from 10am our team rector, Dominic Doble, and colleagues will lead a pilgrimage calling at each parish church. See p 15.

### Get involved in your community

#### Daffys Aplenty



Help to brighten up the village! I have some daffodil bulbs available for planting. Have you seen somewhere that needs them and have time to plant them? Contact me to come and collect. *Julie Collett*

#### Plant sale assistants..



There is a plant sale taking place in May to raise funds for the Millennium Green. Crozie is organising this and is looking for all kinds of help in the run up to the sale and on the day itself. If you fancy helping out for a good cause see p 7.

#### Hub Support required

The Trustees of The Hub, Huntingfield are appealing for volunteers to help keep the village hall running smoothly. Do you have time to spare in a variety of capacities? See p 2

#### Neighbourhood Planners?

There is a proposal that Huntingfield, possibly together with Heveningham and/or Ubbeston should develop a Neighbourhood Plan. If the project goes ahead we will need some long term input from a core community group so we will be looking for individuals who can commit to the project. Details are on p 8.

#### Heveningham Church helpers

Church Warden, Jeannette, is looking for occasional help at St Margaret's in Heveningham. Do you have time to spare? See page 10

#### Eyes Down!



Fancy yourself as a caller? Would you like to organise a fun night out for your fellow residents? The Bingo night is looking for someone to take over the reins. See page 7.

# Hub News



Warm wishes to you all for this new year from The Hub team! The new year has brought change for The Hub: we said goodbye to Charlie, our Admin, Marketing and Accounts Manager as she

starts a new chapter in her life to focus full time on her doctorate. We extend our heartfelt thanks for her commitment and wish her the very best in her future endeavor.

The trustees have decided that we will not recruit to Charlie's post and instead try to manage the Hub between the team. We are passionately committed to doing so; however, we need your help! We would love to hear about events, groups and clubs that you would like to see take place here in the community. If you have suggestions or recommendations, please contact us at [enquiries@hub4all.org](mailto:enquiries@hub4all.org).

In light of these changes, we are mindful that, as a small voluntary team, we might also need some practical support from time to time. We are launching an appeal for volunteers to contribute to various activities that keep our Hub buzzing with life. Your

participation can make a significant difference in creating a welcoming and thriving space, a Hub for all.

There are voluntary roles to suit all, whatever your situation. Support of The Hub might include but is not limited to:

- Lending a hand with Saturday Brunch,
- Leading or supporting events, clubs or groups,
- Assisting with maintaining and the delivery of our "Warm Welcome" space,
- Supporting with village clean ups,
- Supporting The Hub team to maintain the flowerbeds and green space,
- Taking charge of unlocking/locking up,
- Extending a warm greeting to hirers.

By joining our list of dedicated supporters, you become an integral part of The Hub's success story. Your time and commitment can help foster a sense of togetherness and community spirit. Together, we can create a warm and inclusive environment for everyone to enjoy. If you would consider joining as a volunteer, or as a trustee, please speak to one of the Hub trustees or email at [enquiries@hub4all.org](mailto:enquiries@hub4all.org). We hope to create a network of friends of The Hub who can support us in our endeavor to make a Hub for all!

*Best regards from The Hub Trustees  
Jim, Julie, Jane, Allan, Ken & Lauren*

## Hundred Club

The 100 Club's aim is to raise £600 a year to help with the upkeep and maintenance of the 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.

### September

1st Carla Kruger  
2nd The Kerridge family  
3rd Stanley Kingsley-Adams

### November

1st Douney Stanley-Clarke  
2nd Gloria Richardson  
3rd Daisy Elsley

Sue Brewer

### October

1st Stanley Fitch  
2nd Emma Ward  
3rd Joss Bailey

### December

1st Nola Feeney  
2nd Winnie Elsley  
3rd Jana Thompson

## Physiotherapy Clinics coming soon to Huntingfield Hub!

Physiotherapy can help with:

- Back and neck pain
- Joint problems
- Post operative rehabilitation
- Musculoskeletal pain/ injuries
- Mobility problems
- Improving posture and relaxation



For more information and booking enquiries please contact:

**Emma Strachan, Chartered Physiotherapist**

**Tel: 07821 055404**



## Community Infrastructure Levy

At the past few Parish Council meetings we have discussed how we should spend the money we have received from the CIL. This money originates from a levy on new developments in our local area – the majority coming from the Wilderness Reserve projects. To date we have received approximately £20,000 which must be spent on local infrastructure projects. Our initial grant of approx. £1,000 constructed the base of the new shelter on the Millennium Green. We are now considering three more projects for which we would appreciate your feedback:

- 1) Additional storage for The Hub.** Comprising a shed (to be located in the outside corner space of The Hub), storage shelves and lockable storage cabinets for the store room. £3,003 inc. VAT.
- 2) A Bike Repair Station and Pump** located at The Hub. This comprises a surface-mounted stand incorporating a comprehensive tool set and integrated pump with pressure gauge and valves for all bike types, wheelchairs, prams etc. This would provide a service to both locals and the many visitors to the village. £1,275.00 plus VAT.
- 3) A mobile phone mast** to be mounted in the church tower. This would improve the currently poor mobile connectivity for all areas of the village. The cost is currently being investigated.

Please give your feedback via email to [huntingfieldclerk@gmail.com](mailto:huntingfieldclerk@gmail.com) or speak to one of your councilors listed on the back page. We will make the final decision on Items 1 and 2 at the next PC meeting.

David Blackmore

Chair, Huntingfield Parish Council



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## St Mary the Virgin APCM

**Thursday 21st March, 6.45pm**



*Do you know  
which Disciple fell  
from the ceiling in  
the 1930's?*

*Do you know  
where Rev William  
Holland and  
Mildred carved  
their initials as an  
everlasting legacy  
of their love?*

Come and find out the answers to these plus 8 more quirky facts at our Annual General Meeting. You might even have your own to share?

**6.45pm** gather for drinks and nibbles whilst catching up on what the Church has achieved over the last 12 months

**7.10pm** 10 Quirky facts about your church

**7.30pm** Commencement of APCM to which you are cordially invited (approximately 30 mins).

We look forward to welcoming you all to YOUR church.

Sally Clarke, Huntingfield PCC

**orchid  
fitness**



Nikki Hambling

Pilates classes

Thursday morning at Huntingfield HUB

- Mixed ability 9 to 9.40 and 9.50 to 10.30 am
- Beginner 10.45 to 11.25

Also available at various times during the week

- Zoom and pre recorded classes
- Personal training

Spaces available. Pre booking is essential .

Please contact me on

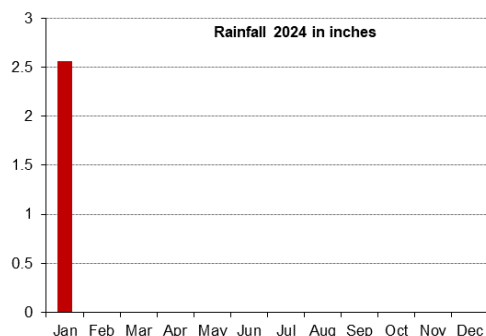
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## Weather report: December 23 - January 24



As expected, last year I recorded the most rain since I started keeping track in earnest back in 1991. In total there was 39.77" (1,010.23mm, or just a shade over a metre of rain!) which exceeded the amount recorded in 2008 when

there was 34.10" (866.03 mm) - around 5" (144mm) more. January 2024 is just slightly wetter than 2023 with 2.56" this year, as opposed to 2.31" (6.35mm).

Notably, there have been nine named storms from September 2023 until now. The last three, Henk, Isha and Jocelyn have largely missed East Anglia with just small amounts of rain. These storms were all generated near Florida when cold Arctic wind met southerly maritime winds, causing disturbances in the jet stream which have then travelled towards Northern Europe and Scandinavia.

The lowest air temperature I recorded in January (19<sup>th</sup>) was -4.4c and there have been quite a number of ground frosts. Sunshine totals for the last 3 months have been a bit below par. With warmer seas and air temperatures this may well continue, while the intensities of our storms may also increase, following the global pattern. What will the next few months bring? I think your guesses will be as good, or even better than mine!

*Richard Tyler*



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## ESTATE AGENTS

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**01728 724566**

## The Aurora Consort



With an exciting new performance of A Cappella music by English Composers, the popular Aurora Consort will be premièring at St Mary the Virgin, Huntingfield before a performance in Venice no less!

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March**  
**£10 including a glass of fizz  
and nibbles**

To book your place please call  
Emma on 01986 785343

## FITNESS WITH EILEEN

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HUNTINGFIELD**



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book your place!**

No experience necessary! Classes are usually taught term time only. Admission is £7. Zumba Gold is for ages 55+ or for anyone who enjoys a more relaxed lower impact fitness class.

**Contact: Eileen 07813 854 255**

[zumba-eileen@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:zumba-eileen@hotmail.co.uk)

## Nature Notes



The vernal equinox marks the start of astronomical springtime. It is the point when day-time and

night-time are of equal, 12-hour length. Usually, the first day of spring is around 20<sup>th</sup> March (although this year it occurs on 19<sup>th</sup>). To us it is just a few weeks away, but in the natural world there is no such clear delineation between the seasons. So, although we consider and feel that winter is still definitely here there are already early signs of warmer times appearing.

On sunny days in sheltered areas the warmth from the sun can start to be felt as it gets higher in the sky. Amazing when you consider that the sun is 93mn. miles away and it takes eight minutes for its light to arrive on earth. To put that in scale, if you were able to drive that distance at 60mph it would take around 180 years to get there or 4,000 years if walking!

This solar warmth, together with the lengthening daylight hours encourages Snowdrops, Aconites and even a few Daffodils to bloom locally, whilst many other bulbs and plants are beginning to show their green shoots. I have seen some Hazel trees in bloom and a few birds such as Robin, Mistle Thrush and Chaffinch are already singing. A Bungay-based friend tells me he had a Red Admiral butterfly in his garden.



Global warming is, no doubt, playing a part in these events with winter in the UK being generally milder now than previously. Signs of this locally were evident when a Cattle Egret was seen several times, following the plough on Alan Rush's Heveningham farm.



These small members of the heron family are white with a stubby yellow bill and, as their name suggests, feed on insects disturbed by the feet of large grazing animals such as cattle, oxen and even elephants. They often take a ride on the backs of these herbivores. They were once considered almost

tropical birds generally seen in large flocks in Africa. However, several pairs are currently breeding in the West Country as they can now survive our winters and are becoming more common.

This occurrence means that the three species of white egret regularly seen in the UK – the Great White, Little and Cattle - have all been spotted in our local parishes. Thirty years ago, this would have been quite an unbelievable phenomenon.



Having said that spring is on its way, there are still plenty of signs of winter remaining present in our local area, besides the windy storms. We still have several wintering species of bird around including large flocks of Fieldfare, Redwing, Wigeon and a new Wilderness Reserve record of 21 Goosander (including 6 males) on the main Heveningham lake during the recent frosty spell.

*Tony Howe*  
01986 785429



## Three Villages Youth Project (3VYP)



A huge Happy New Year to all of the families who joined us for sessions in 2023. We had a fantastic year with lots to celebrate as we added more groups and workshops for young people of all ages to enjoy.

In 2024 we hope to build on this thanks to continued support from our funding partners, the Co-Op. If you are interested in getting involved with any of our groups please get in touch. The Youth Club team are particularly keen to hear from anyone interested in helping out with some of the events and workshops planned for later this year.

Contact us at [ThreeVillagesYouthProject@outlook.com](mailto:ThreeVillagesYouthProject@outlook.com) for more information.



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## Kids Club & Eco Warriors



Kids Club kicked off 2024 with an exciting calendar of events and activities. Join us this spring

for our annual Science Fair, a February Half Term Movie Night and our first parents/carers feast where our budding young chefs plan to cook up a storm to share with their families (19<sup>th</sup> April, save the date!).

The Eco Warriors are also keen for first signs of Spring as we plan bulb planting, mammal tracking workshops, regular gardening sessions and begin to make plans for a wildlife activity day to take place in the Easter Holidays (5<sup>th</sup> April).

Kids Club is now at capacity but if you'd like to join us you can still register your child for a place on our waiting list. Eco Warriors has limited spaces so please get in touch if you'd like to book your child a place on one of our sessions later in the year.

Contact: [huntingfieldkidsclub@gmail.com](mailto:huntingfieldkidsclub@gmail.com)



## Huntingfield Parish Council

Huntingfield Parish Council recently met on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The main discussion surrounded the suggestions for spending the monies from the Community Infrastructure Levy, details of which can be found on p 3.

The issue of recent flooding in the village following the bouts of heavy rainfall was also discussed and assistance was offered from the Heveningham Estate to resolve the main causes. The minutes of the meeting can be found on the website:

<https://huntingfield.onesuffolk.net/assets/Minutes-10th-January-2024.pdf>

# Church Chat



Happy New Year to you all!

Firstly, I would like to thank all those who came to our Carol Service. It was fabulous to see the Church packed with happy faces. Many thanks to Chris Bracewell for organising so much and for bringing along some of the Choir from Laxfield to boost the volume. I came away feeling very festive... although that might have been the Smoking Bishop!?

On a sad note, we have held a couple of funeral services recently: those of Malcom Rackham, who was well known in the village and also Dr. Maureen Cain who was the most dynamic lady (see p 11). The funeral of George Marsh will take place on 31<sup>st</sup> January. He lived in Attleborough but is returning to be buried with his late wife, Elizabeth (Betty).

There are some dates for your diary. Don't forget our APCM at the Church on 21<sup>st</sup> March (p 3) and, by popular demand, the Aurora Consort will be visiting on Palm Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> March (p 4). Looking further forward, we will greet the Spring with a "Morning Chorus" 7.30am on 27<sup>th</sup> April. The bird identification walk will be led by Tony Howe, our local expert, exploring the Church grounds and then the village. It's also Brunch Day at the Hub so you can also enjoy a slap-up breakfast afterwards!

I would like to thank David, Jeff and Brian for their continued efforts in maintaining the Churchyard - it looks so much better. I'm looking forward to seeing the Snowdrops and Daffodils that are just beginning to sprout. Spring is on its way!

*Emma Ward, Churchwarden*

## Bingo

Unfortunately, support for the Bingo evening has diminished recently so I have decided to give it a rest for a while. Maybe there is someone out there who would like to take it on, perhaps liaise with other villages, maybe on a quarterly or ad hoc basis?

I still have bingo tickets so please let me know if you would like to volunteer.

Thank you to those who have supported us in the past.

*Julie Collett*



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0777 5706002

# Coming Soon!

## TO FIRE FEAST

### April Workshops ...

17th: Woodfire Cooking - Beginners Workshop  
15th: Woodfire Cooking II - The Ember Edition  
21st: Spoon Carving Lunch

Featuring Fay The Woodland Haberdasher

**May:** 18th: Foray & Fire Cooking with Vivia (Sciapod Dairy)

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## Mobile Library



The mobile library visits monthly, calling at:  
Heveningham, Forge House at 10.30-10.50  
Huntingfield Hub 15.10-15.30

Dates are 20th February and 19th March. Details can also be found online at:

<https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/mobile-libraries/saxmundham-mobile-library-route-13/>



## Neighbourhood Planning

Neighbourhood Planning was introduced by the Localism Act in 2011. It allows Communities to create their own plan and set their own planning policies. Currently, the Parish Council can only make “comment” on planning applications. However, once “made”, a Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the development plan and the policies carry equal weight with local planning policies. The plan is created by the community alongside the Parish/Town Council. It must be approved (*made*) by the District Council.



Neighbourhood Plans can help determine the location of new development, provide guidance for what new buildings should look like and grant planning permission for particular types of development. Also, a greater proportion of the Community Infrastructure Levy is passed on to the Parish Council at 25% (uncapped) vs the current 15% (capped at £100/dwelling/yr). The community can also protect things which matter to them, be it buildings or green spaces.

There is funding available to help us develop our Plan and we can also work in conjunction with other villages close by, such as Heveningham and Ubbeston to produce a joint Plan. Having listened to other groups who have gone through this process we have been made well aware of the time and effort involved.

A planning group will need to be formed to consult people locally to find out what is important to them about where they live, what they would like to improve and what their vision is for the local area. The group will also need to gather evidence to back up these ideas. Using this feedback and evidence, they will write the planning policies that will help to make the vision a reality. At all junctures the community must be consulted and kept informed.



Once the plan has been agreed by the community it is submitted to the district council who will check that the correct procedures have been followed and then carry out a public consultation before any approval.

There will be a lot of hard work involved in developing the plan and it will be time

consuming. However, once completed it will allow our community to make our own decisions for the future of our village(s). We intend to hold a meeting for all three villages in order to decide if we move this proposal forward. Please keep an eye out for details.

More detailed information can be found at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/neighbourhood-planning/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/neighbourhood-planning/)

*Helen Cannon*



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# Plant Sale



This coming year the Millennium Green Trustees will be organising a Plant Sale to be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May at The Hub.

*'Oh no, not another Plant Sale'* I hear you all groan! Well, this one will be different - mainly because we want to enlist the help

of everyone in the Community who can assist us, even in a small way. We will also be pricing the plants very cheaply (at around one-third of the prices of the Garden Centres) so there will be every incentive to come and buy.

There is quite a lot to organise for which we are appealing for help:

- Advertising the event geographically and, more importantly, on social-media to ensure we reach not just the local villages but also the surrounding communities. I suspect we will need a "young person" to do that?
- Setting up a system to accept card payments.
- Serving tea, coffee and bacon butties.
- I can (already have) potted up about 450 plants. It would be nice to have twice that number so all contributions and assistance welcome.
- We will have a stall selling any unloved/unused garden equipment – donations of any kind would be much appreciated.
- Transporting the plants from Towranna Farm (where I am storing them) to the Hub and then back again if unsold.
- Cardboard boxes will be required on the day for buyers to transport their purchases. Please save any (flat-bottomed) boxes.
- Please save any old empty plastic pots you may have which we can use for the sale.

- If you are able to split or divide any shrubs or perennials or else take cuttings of any good-looking plants in your garden and then grow them on, that would be a brilliant contribution.
- A month or so before the sale we will need to organise a meeting to make sure that the plants are all presented at their best and everything is in order. All volunteers will be welcome to attend.

From my own experience in a previous location successful plant sales take several years to establish themselves and gain a reputation. But once that happens, they can be a great way to fundraise going forward.

All proceeds from the sale will be going to maintain our Millennium Green so your hard work will be helping a very good cause.



If you can help with any aspect of the sale please contact me or speak to one of the Trustees (listed on the back page).

*Many thanks in advance.*

*Crozie Jenkins (07711 887510)*

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## St Margaret's Church, Heveningham with Ubbeston



I find that the quieter month of January is a time to reflect on the past year and look forward to what the new year may bring. I've enjoyed my past year as Church Warden. It's had its challenges and there has been a lot to learn, but meeting a lot of new people, both at our services and our fundraising events has been rewarding.

The past year has seen the church once again open every day, providing a warm welcome to new visitors.

For this year, I am looking to introduce monthly tea and toast mornings for families with young children and also coffee and craft mornings on a regular basis as well as other fundraising events.

Due to my current work commitments, I am currently looking for someone who may be able to help out with Sunday services. If you are able to spare a Sunday morning once a month, or even just occasionally, please get in touch. Even if you cannot spare the time, do pop in and see us, we still have a good range of books available to borrow or buy.

You are always guaranteed a warm welcome, even if the weather isn't being that kind and your support and donations will help towards keeping the Church open.

*With thanks, Jeanette, Church Warden*

[stmargarechurch11@gmail.com](mailto:stmargarechurch11@gmail.com)

01986 798280

## Petanque







The Hares played three games in December: two were league games, lost 3-0 and won 3-0 and the cup game before Christmas was an excellent 2-1 win.



The only game so far this year was the next Cup round which, although a close game, we lost 2-1. There are three more games in the winter league, followed by, hopefully warmer weather ready for the summer league.

We should close this season around mid-table but, it should be noted that we have played the majority of our games away! Sam, Simon and Steve entered a triples competition and had the opportunity to play alongside competitors from all divisions. They did well, winning 2 and losing 3, but still a great experience!

*Julie Collett, Captain, Huntingfield Hares*



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# Maureen Elizabeth Cain: 10.3.1938 – 5.12.2023

*Many of you may remember Maureen, a long-standing resident of Huntingfield, living at Town Pightle, the cottage opposite the Church, attached to The Old Schoolhouse. In more recent years she moved to Halesworth but still regularly came back to visit the village she loved. Sadly, she passed away in December last year. Her son, Danny, has kindly contributed the following in tribute to his remarkable mum.*



Born in Ipswich at the outbreak of war Maureen was from a staunchly middle-class Ipswich family. Determined from an early age not to be constrained by the social norms of the time which had thwarted her mother's ambitions and having sailed through school she

resisted the push to go to Cambridge University, opting instead for the more radical London School of Economics and the freedom that the capital offered her and her burgeoning socialist beliefs.

From undergraduate she moved into the academic world, teaching stints at universities in London and Manchester. At the age of 27 she gave birth to her son, Dan. She rarely talked of the family and societal pressures on her as an unmarried woman to give him up for adoption, focussing instead on the support and friendship she found amongst her friends and in the newly arrived West Indian community for whom such things were of much less significance.

In 1970, as much to her own surprise as anyone else's, she began the search for a house in Suffolk, and settled on the cottage in Huntingfield that she called home for the rest of her life. One of only a few "outsiders" in the village it took a bit of time for her to find her place. The village was more than ready to welcome her but her habit of shutting herself away puzzled the community. She would later say that only when her PhD was published and she was interviewed on Look East was an understanding of her behaviour reached. Or as she put it, society needs labels and found one for her; "oh..... She's a writer".

Determination to both drive and be part of change fired her; having started her academic career teaching

sociology of law at Brunel University she switched to criminology. Immersing herself in reading, lecturing and writing about the groups in society that are disproportionately impacted by justice systems. Never an apologist, she was not about defending individuals for their actions; rather she sought to understand the paths that took people to the choices they made and how those paths could be altered for future generations.

In the following years her writing and lecturing took her around the globe including two years at the European University in Florence, one in Melbourne and nine in Trinidad, with stints at Cambridge in between before finally returning to the UK to work in Birmingham.

When she did retire from academic life it was, of course, to Suffolk and her beloved Huntingfield. At home with her dogs (first Judy & Rosie then Muffin) she appeared at peace walking the fields and living a simple life, but she wasn't quite done. Having found her faith once more whilst in Trinidad she started a theology degree and, through the church in Halesworth, she worked to help set up the Halesworth credit union so that those in need of short term loans but with poor credit history could borrow at a rate that was affordable. Life she felt, had come full circle.

Whilst doing the theology degree she found that, for the first time in her life, academic work was a struggle; then came the diagnosis of dementia. It comforted her in some way, helping her understand what was happening. In those later years she would often express her amazement that she could feel so contented by filling her days with Muffin, shopping and cooking.

A dotty old lady she would say. Another label, and an irony not lost on her given her lifelong work to understand people for what they were, rather than the labels society attaches.

*Danny Cain*





## Arms Events

We're now well back into our routine following the festivities and are cheering the gloomy days with plans for spring and summer events.



"Special dates" upcoming include Valentines Day (14<sup>th</sup> February for those who need a reminder..). We are offering a 'Supper at Home' so please contact us for a menu and get your booking sorted. Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March is Mothering Sunday for which we

currently have very limited availability but do give us a call as we occasionally have cancellations. Takeaway bookings for this date are all full!

Our Charity Quiz nights are proving very popular. Join us on 15<sup>th</sup> February and 14<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm. It costs £2.50 per player (+ free chips) with teams limited to a maximum of four. The winning team then chooses the charity which will receive the monies.

Easter will also soon be upon us. On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March we are bringing back the Shop on The Green so do come along and browse our goodies both on the Green and in the shop.



Our traditional Easter Egg hunt will see us hiding lots of plastic eggs all around the village. Have a lovely Sunday walk, find a plastic egg and exchange it for a chocolate version at the pub. Only one egg per person please!

We are really looking forward to the Murder Mystery Dinner which has been fully booked almost since we announced the date last year. We will be sending out details to the attendees very soon.



Looking further forward we have already booked live music for the, hopefully, more balmy summer afternoons later in the year.

*Sara & Steve*



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# History Corner



In the early days of the Second World War it was thought beneficial to send children away from the big cities which were more vulnerable to bombing. The destination was the countryside with all the culture shocks that that entailed. Here are extracts from accounts by Laxfield evacuees.

John Maclanaghan from Dagenham, Essex: 'At the time I was evacuated I was eight years old and went with my two brothers, Victor, who was twelve and Ronald who was ten... I had a ticket pinned on me with my name and address and I was carrying my gas mask. We were put on a coach and given a bar of chocolate. We then went on a train and eventually ended up in Laxfield Village Hall. I can clearly remember us all sitting in a line and people walking up and down looking at us to see who they would take home...

'We went to school the next day and couldn't believe how small it was...' I don't ever remember hearing of an evacuee being badly treated. They all seemed happy and looked on their guardians as if they were their parents. We were certainly very lucky to be living at the Mill [Goram's]... The Ministry of Food paid us to collect rose hips for making syrup. They also gave us a penny for every magpie egg we found as they ate the farmers' crops. Also, a penny for a mouse tail and

sixpence for a rat's tail. I have wonderful memories of riding the Suffolk Punch horses in the harvesting and haymaking season.' John was a happy evacuee. Not everyone felt the same way about the experiences of being uprooted from their home and family.

Pauline Teesdale: 'I'm afraid my memories are not very happy ones. I was almost nine years old and my younger brother, Gordon, just six when we were billeted. That was the first upset as my mother expected Keith, my older brother, to be with us and look after us. We hardly ever saw him and I was left to be mother to Gordon. I never really settled and was always hoping to go home the next day. [Our guardians] were good and kind to us and treated us just the same way as their own children...although I didn't appreciate it way back in 1939. We corresponded until she died... I never did get over the horror of the outside loos.'

One account describes the dangers of war even in the countryside, especially for fearless, curious children. Robin (Spider) Webber from Hammersmith, London: 'I used to visit Horham, one of the airbases, with friends...I don't remember any tight security. We'd cycle right on to the airfield... There was live cannon ammunition everywhere. We'd collect the shells and take them back and hide them in the outbuildings... First we'd remove the shells and collect all the explosives in the form of a cartridge. This was piled into a heap with a small trail across the cart shed floor, touch the end with a match and watch the firing snake shoot across the floor... I'll never know how we avoided injury.'

One boy was not so lucky: 'Occasionally bombs would be dropped. We understood these were German planes who were dumping their load to return home as quickly as possible. We'd bike to the crater to look for shrapnel... Occasionally dozens of incendiary bombs

would be dropped in the fields... Some of the older lads would collect the unexploded incendiaries and try and remove the explosive. Peter was tragically blinded.'

The countryside offered some less perilous pursuits too. Keith Parker from Dagenham, Essex: 'Spring and summer were better times for getting about and we roamed the countryside. I remember cycling to Halesworth to see Walter Smith, who was stationed there with the army. We went to the woods at Ubbeston and I marvelled at the masses of primroses. We had never seen anything like it and with

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## History Corner cont..

permission we uprooted some plants, put them in a shoebox and sent them home to Dagenham for planting in our own garden. I returned home in the summer of 1940 when I reached the age of fourteen. Ironically, I started work in London at the height of the blitz but that, as they say, is another story!

Finally, from a letter to a newspaper in 1990, someone who really appreciated his time in Laxfield. James Orr, Essex: 'I and my older brother were delivered to the back door of an ancient timber framed farmhouse late at night after travelling from the village of Laxfield, Suffolk – my first ride in a car. The night was dark, there were farm cats, wind in the trees, no electric

light, only candles. An old lady in a funny shaped wide but low door, a brick floor. I was seven years old. The old lady had a shawl over her head which she held on one side. This very kind old lady I stayed with for three years. She must have been so hurt as that first night, over the noise, I was screaming that I wouldn't live with a witch. We have laughed about it since. I soon learned to be a farm boy and feel privileged and stronger to know the ways of old.

*Hope to see you at the Laxfield & District Museum next season starting on Good Friday. Opening times are 2-5pm every Saturday & Sunday & Bank Holiday. Additional opening from 9.30am-12.30pm on Community Market days.*

*Lynne Ward*

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## Your Parish Council

### Ubbeston Parish Council



The last Ubbeston meeting took place on 8<sup>th</sup> January. The Council agreed to move their meetings back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every other month, dates for which are on the website along with the reports received from Cllrs Julia Ewart and Stephen Burroughes.

The possibility of a Neighbourhood Plan was discussed: the council decided to look at it in more detail as it is a process that will need a lot of input from the residents. There will be a joint meeting in the near future for anyone interested (see p 8). The council agreed the budget for the forthcoming financial year with a small increase in the precept to £219.

A request for £5,412 was put in to East Suffolk Council. In November we applied to a company that was offering 100 free defibrillators. Unfortunately, we didn't get one but we have been offered the option to purchase one at half price. The council agreed to go ahead and we are delighted to say that the cost will be met by DCllr. Julia Ewart and the Enabling Community Grant. Hook2Sisters have given us permission to place this on one of their outbuildings and are willing to cover the cost of the electric. This means that we will have a defibrillator at both ends of the village. Let's hope it's never needed.

Finally, Ubbeston PC were delighted to appoint Angela Colbridge as the new Clerk & RFO as from 1<sup>st</sup> February. So, this will be my final report. I would like to say that I have enjoyed working with the Councillors and residents of Ubbeston. Thanks to all.

Julie Collett, [ubbestonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ubbestonclerk@gmail.com)

### Heveningham Parish Council



Heveningham PC met on the 17<sup>th</sup> January. At this meeting the budget and precept for the coming financial year

were agreed. Reports were received from Cllrs Julia Ewart and Stephen Burroughes and both can be seen on the website [heveningham.onesuffolk.net](http://heveningham.onesuffolk.net).

Cllr. Jenny Feeney recently planted about 350 daffodil bulbs around Bell Meadow. Well done, Jenny! There are still a few left if anyone else would like to help. Thanks also go to Richard Sheldrake who has done a lot of research into the flooding issues, details of which can be seen on the website.

The possibility of a joint Neighbourhood Plan was discussed which the majority of the council were in favour of taking forward. There will be a joint meeting in the near future for anyone interested (see p 8).

There was much discussion regarding the triangle of land where the pump and bench are situated. An extraordinary meeting was requested which has been scheduled for Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

Heveningham PC have agreed to join forces for a traffic survey along Heveningham Long Lane which is due to take place soon.

Finally, the council were delighted to appoint Angela Colbridge as the new Clerk & RFO, as of 1<sup>st</sup> February. So, on that note, this will be my final report. I would like to say I have enjoyed working with the Councillors and the residents of Heveningham. Thanks to all.

Julie Collett, [heveninghamclerk@gmail.com](mailto:heveninghamclerk@gmail.com)



## Walk the Way of the Cross



From 16<sup>th</sup> March, in each of the fourteen churches which comprise the Blyth Valley Benefice, there will be exhibited a 'Station of the Cross', depicting a moment on Jesus' journey to Calvary drawn by the artist Iain McKillop. Please call in at any of the churches listed to view the painting(s).

To see Iain's work visit <https://mckillop.weebly.com/>.

### Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March from 10am

Team rector, Dominic Doble and colleagues will lead a pilgrimage presenting a short contemplation at each parish church in the benefices:

10am	Jesus in agony	St Peter, Holton
10.30am	Jesus Betrayed	St Mary, Halesworth
11am	Jesus Condemned	St Peter, Spexhall
11.30am	Peter's Denial	St Andrew, Wissett
12pm	Jesus Judged	St Mary, Chediston
12.30pm	Jesus Scourged	St Margaret, Linstead
1pm	Jesus carries the Cross	St Mary the Virgin, Huntingfield
1.30pm	Jesus helped	St Margaret, Heveningham
2.30pm	Jesus meets the Woman	St Michael, Cookley
3pm	Jesus is Crucified	St Mary, Walpole
3.30pm	Jesus' Promise-	St Andrews, Bramfield
4pm	Jesus on the Cross	St Peter, Thorington
4.30pm	Jesus Dies	St Peter, Wenhaston
5pm	Jesus is Buried	All Saints, Blyford

Everyone is welcome to join us at 1pm, St Mary the Virgin, Huntingfield.

*Sally Clarke*

## Garden Club



The last meeting in the Hub was hosted by Dunstan, who gave us an interesting slideshow and

insight into his newly constructed shade border.

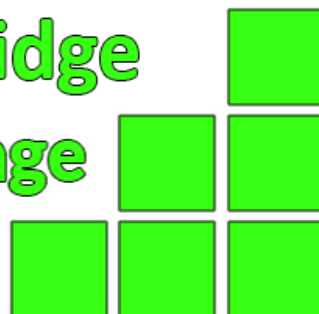
Many thanks for sharing some of your research into the best plants for such a site.

The next meeting is Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at The Hub. We will be hosting an online talk on Designing Borders and there will also be a fun quiz with a small prize... don't panic, you don't have to be an expert to take part, the emphasis is on "fun"! We will also play host to some representatives from Walpole who will be providing us with some information on their upcoming Open Gardens.

By popular demand we are hoping to have someone to give us a talk on ponds and their maintenance at the 6<sup>th</sup> March meeting. Watch out for details.

*Helen Cannon, Dunstan Moore*

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# What's on – dates for your diary

## February

6<sup>th</sup> Garden Club, The Hub, 6.30pm  
15<sup>th</sup> Charity Quiz, The Arms, 7pm  
20<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library (p 7)  
22<sup>nd</sup> Curry Night, The Arms  
24<sup>th</sup> Hub Brunch, 10-11am

## March

6<sup>th</sup> Garden Club, The Hub (p 15)  
8<sup>th</sup> Half Term Movie Night (p 6)  
11<sup>th</sup> Ubbeston PC, The Hub, 7pm  
13<sup>th</sup> Huntingfield PC, The Hub, 7pm  
14<sup>th</sup> Charity Quiz Night, The Arms (p 15)  
19<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library (p 7)  
20<sup>th</sup> Heveningham PC, The Hub, 7pm  
21<sup>st</sup> APCM, St Mary's Church, 6.45pm (p 3)  
22<sup>nd</sup> Kids Club Science Fair (p 6)  
23<sup>rd</sup> Brunch at The Hub, 10-11am  
23<sup>rd</sup> Walk The Way of the Cross (p 15)  
24<sup>th</sup> The Aurora Consort, St Mary's, (p 4)  
30<sup>th</sup> Shop on The Green (p 15)  
31<sup>st</sup> Arms Easter Egg Hunt (p 15)

## Regular events at The Hub

Kids Club Every second Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb, The Hub, 4-5.30pm  
Baby & Toddler Group Every Friday during term times, 9.30-11am, £1 per family  
Pilates Thursday a.m. (contact Orchid Fitness for details 07899 888778, [nikkihambling@gmail.com](mailto:nikkihambling@gmail.com))  
Yoga Tuesday, 6.30-7.30pm, £7 per class. (Contact Hayley 07776184943)  
Tai Chi Monday, 2-3pm (contact Cindy Engel, [cindywildhealth@gmail.com](mailto:cindywildhealth@gmail.com))  
Zumba Every Thursday, 11am-noon, £7 per PAYG session  
Relaxation Class with SarahLou Third Monday of the month, £15 pay as you go. £50 for the 4 sessions

## Upcoming Events

5<sup>th</sup> April Eco Warriors Wildlife Activity Day  
19<sup>th</sup> April Kids Club parent/carers Feast  
27<sup>th</sup> April Morning Chorus bird walk  
17<sup>th</sup> May Millennium Green Plant Sale

## Parish Councils \*

### Heveningham

Chair: Cllr. Sam Fairs  
Clerk: Angela Colbridge [heveninghamclerk@gmail.com](mailto:heveninghamclerk@gmail.com)

### Huntingfield

Chair: Cllr. David Blackmore  
Clerk: Carol Hume [huntingfieldclerk@gmail.com](mailto:huntingfieldclerk@gmail.com)

### Ubbeston

Chair: Cllr. Carl Walker  
Clerk: Angela Colbridge [ubbestonclerk@outlook.com](mailto:ubbestonclerk@outlook.com)

## Parochial Church Council

### Churchwarden:

Emma Ward, Huntingfield

### PCC Members:

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

## Three Villages Youth Project Committee (3VYP):

Charlie Yule (Rep. Young Writers & Youth Club)  
Mark Hitchings (Rep. Kids Club)  
Kat Bailey (Rep. Baby & Toddler Group)  
Louise Ferrario (Rep. Eco Warriors).  
Linda Hitchings - 3VYP Treasurer.

## Millennium Green Trustees\*

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### Treasurer & Secretary:

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Julie Collett	Bridge Cottage	899719
Alex Dipple	10a Holland Rise	798481
Sheila Freeman	The Longhouse	798774
Christopher Jenkins	Towranna Farm	

**Associate Members:** Danny Feeney, Ryan Jordan, Carla Kruger, Lauren Moloney.

## The Hub \*

Web: [www.hub4all.org](http://www.hub4all.org).

Email: [enquiries@hub4all.org](mailto:enquiries@hub4all.org)

Phone: 799130

**Caretaker** Alex Dipple 798481

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\* Unless specified phone numbers are prefixed 01986.