

# HAUGHLEY & WETHERDEN PARISH NEWS

**HAUGHLEY VILLAGE HALL**

**IS HOLDING A**

**GAM ROCK DISCO**

**(by All UK Best Discos)**

**ON SATURDAY**

**28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

**7pm - 11pm**

**Tickets £10 includes nibbles**

**Fancy Dress Encouraged - Dig out**

**your platforms and flares!**

Licensed Bar (Cash or Card payment accepted) and Raffle

Tickets available from Lynne Mahon 07941 116240

or Haughley Post Office

Funds in aid of Haughley Village Hall

**MARCH 2026**

# **PALMERS BAKERY** **HAUGHLEY**

*Established 1869 – Over 150 Years of Excellence*  
**TRADITIONAL HIGH CLASS ARTISAN  
FAMILY BAKERS & CONFECTIONERS**



**FRESH BREAD & CONFECTIONERY BAKED DAILY BY CRAFTSMEN USING  
LOCAL INGREDIENTS & BAKED IN ANCIENT BRICK OVENS**



**01449 673286**



*The Village Green~ Haughley*

**Largest Stockist of Tiptree Jams & Marmalades in East Anglia.  
Suffolk Honey, Free Range Eggs, Groceries & Local Produce.  
Freshly Made Sandwiches & Filled Rolls - Hot Drinks & Bacon Rolls**

*Also at Stowmarket, Woolpit, Stanton and  
Brett's Bakery Needham Market & Freshfills of Claydon*

*Seven Generations of Baking, Tradition & Service for Over 150 years  
Through the Reigns of Seven Monarchs*

# DATES FOR THE DIARY - 2026

## MARCH

Sat 7th	*Community Café, Haughley Village Hall	10.00am
Sat 7th	*Film Nights: "The Time of Their Lives", Haughley Village Hall	7.00pm
Tues 10th	Bingo, Haughley Pavilion	7.00pm
Sat 14th	*Parish Litter Pick	10.00am
Sat 28th	*Glam Rock Disco, Haughley Village Hall,	7.00pm

## APRIL

Wed 1st	* WI Open Evening, "Convicted", Haughley Village Hall	7.30pm
Sat 4th	*Community Café, Haughley Village Hall	10.00am
Sat 4th	*"Denial" - St. Peter at Easter, Drama, St. Mary's Haughley	4.00pm
Sat 4th	*Film Nights: "The Choral", Haughley Village Hall	7.00pm
Tues 14th	Bingo, Haughley Pavilion	7.00pm

## MAY

Sat 2nd	*Community Café, Haughley Village Hall	10.00am
Sat 9th	HUFC - St Elizabeth Hospice Charity day - more details to follow	
Sat 9th	Spring Quiz & Ploughman's supper, Haughley Village Hall,	7.00pm
Tues 12th	Bingo, Haughley Pavilion	7.00pm
Sat 16th	Parish Litter Pick	10.00am
Sat 30th & Sun 31st	Woolpit Steam	9.00am

## JUNE

Sat 6th	*Community Café, Haughley Village Hall	10.00am
Sat 6th	*Film Nights: TBC	7.00pm
Tues 9th	Bingo, Haughley Pavilion	7.00pm
Sat 20th & Sun 21st	*Haughley Open Gardens (more details to follow)	

## JULY

Tues 14th	Bingo, Haughley Pavilion	7.00pm
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## SEPTEMBER

Sat 26th	Parish Litter Pick	
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- See poster for further details

## REMEMBER

The copy deadline for the April 2026 issue is:  
**Wednesday, March 18 2026**



Submit to:  
The Editor, Oulton Cottage, The Folly, Haughley  
or (preferably) by email:  
[haughleynews@btinternet.com](mailto:haughleynews@btinternet.com)



## STOWMARKET AND DISTRICT CAMERA CLUB

12<sup>th</sup> January, Our talk was "Beat the judges", given by Wayne Davey AWPB BPE5\* DPAGB in his own inimitable style. Relaxed, humorous and useful are words which can be used to describe his presentation. The evening flew by!

He described how judges were selected and the way in which they assess the points to award to all images stressing that a judge's personal preference should not affect the score. The talk not only included pointers on how to engage a judge but also how to annoy them!

Perhaps one of the most informative talks we've had. Thanks Wayne and hope to see you again.

26<sup>th</sup> January. We were very fortunate to have local professional photographer Kevin Sawford judging our Open Three competition. His energetic style and detailed critiques were appreciated, in what was a high quality set of images. The P.D.I. competition had 50 entries, a record number of entrants!

Well done to Paula Irvine and Perry Andrews for scoring 20 for all 4 of their entries and also to Nigel Mann scoring 20 in his first entry!

For further dates and information please see our website  
[www.stowmarketanddistrictcameraclub.onesuffolk.net](http://www.stowmarketanddistrictcameraclub.onesuffolk.net)

New members are very welcomed. You do not have to be an 'Expert Photographer' all you need is a camera – any camera and a real interest in using it. Our members use DSLRs, mirrorless, compacts and bridge cameras. If you are interested in becoming a member, please email [Stowmarketcc@outlook.com](mailto:Stowmarketcc@outlook.com) or visit our website.



Airborn Attitude  
By Paula Irvine



I'm Looking at You  
By Nigel Mann



# Community Litter Pick

## *Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March*

**Time 10.00am**

### **MEET AT:**

- Haughley New Street
- Haughley Green, Fir Tree Lane  
at the air raid shelter
- The Green outside the Coal  
House

**Let us have a greener cleaner Parish**

### **Haughley Needs You**

Litter pickers and Hi  
Viz jackets provided

A chance to meet  
new people

Children supervised  
by an adult are very  
welcome!

Help improve your  
neighbourhood



### **Haughley Parish Council**

Clerk: [clerk@haughleypc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@haughleypc.co.uk)

Chairman: [gerald.brown@haughleypc.co.uk](mailto:gerald.brown@haughleypc.co.uk)

## WETHERDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 26TH JANUARY 2026

### Council Business

- Previous meeting minutes (10th November) were approved.
- Two new councillors, Mike Collings and Nicholas Mitchell, were co-opted onto the council.

### Reports

- **District Councillor's Report:** Noted new biodiversity grant fund (£50,000), support for Ipswich's City of Culture bid, increased sewage checks, and opening of a new Repair Cafe in Elmswell.
- **County Councillor's Report:** Covered river protection, review of Minerals and Waste Plan, SEN process improvements, new bus funding, Warm Homes grant (£1.38m), fire safety workshops, and unresolved drainage issues under the railway bridge.

### Finance

- Finance report and payments were approved; bank balance as of 20th January 2026 was £32,986.93.
- Expenditure and income details listed, including a notable £10,000 donation from Wetherden School Trust towards the new play equipment.
- Precept for 2026-2027 set at £14,180 (3.56% increase), Band D Council Tax £54.42 per annum.

### Policies and Projects

- Councillors' expenses policy adopted.
- Playground works nearing completion, delayed by weather.
- Village sign replacement progressing.
- Tree works on the Common discussed, with wildlife concerns raised and plans for a sub-committee.

### Community Initiatives

- Defibrillator cabinet and signage updated.
- Speed indicator device statistics shared, 2 volunteers are maintaining the equipment and gathering data; discussion on data sharing and potential for a new 20mph speed limit scheme.
- ANPR camera feedback lacking.

### Public Participation

- Sale of local wood and field confirmed as being to a village resident, village litter pick date set for 29th March 2026.

### Next Meeting

Scheduled for 23rd March 2026 at 7.30pm.

## TWINNING ASSOCIATION



**35 years of friendship!** This was an amazing achievement which was celebrated last year when 25 Haughley and Wetherden members of the Twinning Association crossed the Channel.

At the beginning of May, it is the turn of members from Noyelles les Seclins to receive a warm welcome from their host families in Haughley and Wetherden.

The weekend will include a Civic Reception, a trip to Norwich, a musical evening and supper, and a farewell brunch for our guests.

In next month's edition, you can find out how you can take part in the Saturday evening's event.

If you're interested in joining the Twinning Association, please contact our Chairman Richard Standen on 07760 165889.or email richardstanden@

I joined in 2024 and can confirm it's a great experience. We are a friendly group, you can get by without speaking French, and laughter and fun is had by all!

Julia Brook

### St Mary's Church Wetherden

Christina cordially invites everyone to a



**Coffee Morning**

on

**Thursday 26th March**

from

**1030am to 1200 noon**

at

**7 Apple Grove, Wetherden**

here will be tea, coffee & biscuits, a  
bring-and-buy table & raffle

All are very welcome:  
the more the merrier.



Like us on Facebook - Wetherden Church

### WETHERDEN VILLAGE HALL

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February was not unlucky for us by any means, as we had just over 10 tables in play at our monthly Whist Drive!



Everyone seemed to enjoy the afternoon a great deal, and our next Whist Drive is well and truly on the cards for Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm.

Why not come along???? You will be sure of a warm welcome!

In addition, we held a Charity Whist Drive on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January.

Eleven tables were in play, and a total of £250 was raised for a local charity.

## WOOLPIT STEAM

### **Corner Farm, Woolpit Road, Rattlesden, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, IP30 ORZ Press Release**

Woolpit Steam rally will be returning over the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> May to Warren Farm, Wetherden, IP14 3JX, by kind permission of R & P Baker. The 2025 rally was an incredible success with an incredible £40,000 being donated to local charities, community groups and heritage projects and we hope to be able to raise much needed funds again this year. This has brought the cumulative total raised by Woolpit Steam so far to over £395,000 and none of this would be possible without the support that we receive from local businesses and sponsors, the stewards and helpers and all of the people that join us for a great day out.

We are already being offered some very rare, interesting and historic exhibits, and it is this desire to present to the public such unusual machinery which makes Woolpit Steam different from many other shows. This encourages the true enthusiast to travel from all parts of the country but equally captures the imagination of the casual visitor.

Woolpit Steam has always been and is probably best known for its pre 1930 tractor display which rivals many of the largest shows in the country and we would expect to see around 20 examples on show again this year with a further 70 tractors built before 1965 anticipated.

Not to be outdone, the stationary engine section is likely to number 80 in total with several being over 100 years old. Many will be presented doing what they were originally designed for by driving an array of mills, pumps, dynamos and other machinery. This section includes the Bamford line shafting display where one engine is powering multiple machines for preparing feed for livestock.

The wood sawing display which has examples of steam, tractor and stationary engine driven saws producing planks, posts and fire wood will show people how things used to be done. The vintage earthmoving demonstration has proved to be an extremely popular feature of the show and anybody who witnessed this last year will know that this is not to be missed.

Other exhibits on show will include full size steam engines including examples of showman's engines, agricultural engines and even a portable engine designed towed between jobs.

Vintage cars, motorcycles, commercial and military vehicles are all represented and a number of models and displays will provide something of interest for everybody.

If you are looking for a gift or that elusive spare part then there are over 50 craft, trade and auto jumble stalls to tempt you. There is also hot and cold food, licensed bar and ice creams.

This year we are pleased to announce the return of Mike Rule with his ever popular Steam Gallopers and big wheel which will allow you to get a bird's eye view of the show. These will be supported by side stalls, Punch & Judy and a full ring programme on both days to keep the family entertained.

Gates are open from 09.00 – 5.00 on both days and admission is Adults £9.00 Saturday / £10.00 Sunday, and children £2.00 on either day. (Please note we are unable to accept card payments.) Car parking is free and the show is easily accessible from Junction 47a on the A14 eastbound, or Junction 49 west bound.

For further information please visit the web site [www.woolpit-steam.org.uk](http://www.woolpit-steam.org.uk)

denial  
denial  
denial



**St. Peter at Easter**  
**DRAMA AT**  
**HAUGHLEY CHURCH**  
**EASTER SATURDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**  
**4 O'CLOCK**

**HAUGHLEY VILLAGE HALL  
SPRING QUIZ  
& PLOUGHMAN'S SUPPER**



**New Quizmasters,  
New Quiz!**

**Saturday 9th May 2026  
Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start  
Teams of 4-6**

**Tickets £8.00 per head  
(includes Ploughman's )  
*Vegan/GF options available*  
Bring a bottle**

**Tickets On Sale**  
From : Haughley Post Office  
Or call Lynne Mahon 07941116240



# COMMUNITY CAFÉ



**7<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**Hosted by St.Mary's Haughley**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**'Coffee & Chat' at the Green Room**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Dates for your diary:-**

**GLAM ROCK DISCO – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**\*See Separate ad for details**

**Spring Quiz & Ploughman's Supper  
9<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**FILM NIGHTS - Doors 7pm for 7.30pm start**

**Admission £5 including refreshments**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – 'The Time of their Lives' starring Joan Collins, Pauline Collins and Franco Nero. Determined to gate-crash her ex-lovers funeral on glamorous French hideaway Ile de Re, former Hollywood siren Helen (Joan Collins) escapes her London retirement home with the help of repressed English housewife Priscilla (Pauline Collins)

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April** – 'The Choral' starring Ralph Fiennes, Roger Allam, Mark Addy. As World War 1 rages on, Dr Henry Guthrie takes over a British Choral society that's lost most of its men to the army. The community soon discovers that the best response to the chaos of war is to make beautiful music together.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** – NO FILM NIGHT (hall in use by Haughley Twinning Association)

**\*To find out more about 'What's On' at Haughley Village Hall visit our webpage at [Haughley.org.uk](http://Haughley.org.uk)**

## ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB - MARCH 2026

Our first speaker of the year was the knowledgeable Tim Fuller, co-founder of The Plantsman's Preference in South Lopham. Tim shared his passion and 30 years' experience of growing grasses at the nursery. He talked us through the types of grasses from the very large statement grass *Stipa gigantea* with flowering stems reaching up to 8ft tall to the small evergreen sedges and rushes that can create a carpet effect in a border. Tim's general rule is if you know where a plant originated from, it will give you a good idea as to whether it will thrive in your garden. His ultimate tip for growing grasses is to treat them mean...grow them on poor soils, no feeding or mulching or adding of manure.

Our speakers for the next few meetings are:

**March 17<sup>th</sup>** – TBC (sadly our planned speaker has had to cancel but the Committee are working hard to find a replacement)

**April 21<sup>st</sup>** – Chris Wiley 'Hellebores'

All meetings start at 7.30pm in Wesley Chapel, School Road.

Whether you are an experienced home gardener or just starting out there is always something new to learn or ideas to take home to your own garden. Non-members are always welcome and you may make some new friends. There is a small fee for non-members of £5 for each meeting, but membership for the year is a bargain at just £20 for all ten meetings.

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing our passion for gardening.  
Wendy

For Information contact [elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com)  
or Wendy on 07748 442951



**DON'T FORGET ...  
CLOCKS GO FORWARD  
BY 1 HOUR ON  
SUNDAY MARCH 29TH**



# HAUGHLEY VILLAGE HALL COMMUNITY CAFÉ



Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
10am – 12 noon

Hosted by  
**St. Mary's Church, Haughley**

Join us for freshly ground coffee, a selection of teas or hot chocolate,  
cold drinks and delicious homemade cakes and savories.  
Browse the stalls selling a variety of handmade items.

**PLEASE COME ALONG - EVERYONE WELCOME**

## **Wetherden Village Hall**

### **Quiz Nights**

**Last Friday Every Month**

**Come on the night**

**7:30 pm Start**

**Hall open from 6:30 pm**

**Book a Table by Email to -**

**[Wetherdenvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:Wetherdenvillagehall@gmail.com)**

**Text or Call to - 07528 065250**

**Bring your own Refreshments or  
Come early & Grab a Gourmet Burger**

**HAUGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 17 February 2026.**

**County Councillor Andrew Stringer** submitted a written report, the lead item of which identified the Government has announced that County Council elections have been reinstated for May this year. The Cabinet approved the budget for 2026-27, being an increase of 4.99% over the current financial year. Cabinet approved a new 20mph policy with the aim of making it easier for communities to apply to 20mph speed limits, but still not straight forward.

**District Councillors Janet Pearson and Dr Agnes Watson** submitted a written report. Organisations can apply for a new Nature Recovery grant subject to conditions. Further information at [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding). The District Council passed a resolution calling for tighter regulation over the content of sewage sludge often used by farmers. Applications for Rural Support Grant remain open.

David Evans, chairman of the **Gallowsfield Wood Working Group** provided an update in addition to a written report that had been received. He thanked the volunteers who help with woodland management. The harvest during recent months has been the first proper harvest subsequent to previous thinning. Revenue from the sale of the timber will support future management of the Wood. Further harvesting of timber is due to be undertaken on a cyclical as trees regenerate and reach maturity. It is proposed to apply for grant funding under the Rural Payments Scheme. An additional ride has been exposed.

The Council considered **Planning Application DC/26/00421 for 24 Denny Avenue, Haughley** seeking if Prior Approval is required for a home extension. This follows a similar application last month which the Planning Authority refused. The Planning Authority approved **applications DC/25/04954 and DC/25/04940 – 58 Old Street, Haughley** to vary a condition. They also determined that Conservation Area Consent would be required in respect of **DC/26/00359 – 34 Old Street, Haughley**.

The Council received a written report on a recent **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group** meeting, noting and agreeing with the proposed strategy being considered. Further information to be made available in due course.

The Council received a written and oral report on the **Pavilion Regeneration Project**, including progress with planning and applications for grant funding. The Council agreed to underwrite from a previously agreed reserve for part of the cost pending applications for alternative funding. The Council agreed to install an additional bollard between the playing field and the Steggall Road estate.

The Council agreed a sum for **The Cricket working group** to acquire hand tools etc to help with the management thereof. It is expected that these should be available for use elsewhere in the Parish, such as Gallowsfield Wood and vice versa. The Council accepted an estimate to cut hedges at **the Allotments**. It is also proposed to reduce the access width to the car park area to reduce the risk of unauthorised encampment.

There used to be an active **Neighbourhood Watch** in Haughley, but this has largely fallen into abeyance. Please contact the Chairman or Clerk to the Parish Council if you would be interested in helping to re-establish Neighbourhood Watch (es) in various parts of the Parish. It is proposed to invite a Neighbourhood Watch organiser at County or District level to provide additional information to the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

The Council noted receipts and agreed a schedule of payments for this month. The Council considered correspondence, including **drug distribution in the Parish and County Lines**. It is proposed that this matter should be considered at the Annual Meeting of the Parish in May. Communication about the speed camera in Fishponds Way and about dog poo left in various places around the Parish. The Council thanks responsible dog owners/ handlers who clear up after their dog has performed and request that others do likewise. **Leaving dog poo is hazardous for others**, not only transferring dog poo on their shoes, increasing the risk of slips etc, but also increasing the likelihood of disease such as Toxocara to others, including children.

### **Dates of meetings**

- Saturday 28 February 2026 County and District Councillor Surgery, Stowupland Village Hall
- Saturday 14 March 2026 – Parish Litter Pick
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7.00pm Parish Council Meeting
- Monday 11 May 7.00 for 7.30 Annual Meeting of the Parish at the Village Hall.



**Chairman:** Mr Tim Hart  
**Secretary:** Vacant

**Vice Chair :** Mrs M Buttle  
**Email:** [acsargent48@gmail.com](mailto:acsargent48@gmail.com)

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Do you know of a veteran in the Haughley area who needs our help? We provide lifelong support for the Armed Forces community - serving men and women, veterans, and their families. If so please get in touch via our website or via the email above.

Branch socials are held every **SECOND** Thursday of the month in the Maxwell Room (next to the post office) from 7.30pm.

To view our full calendar of events go to our website:

[www.britishlegion.org/branches/Haughley](http://www.britishlegion.org/branches/Haughley) Or  
search Haughley Royal British Legion

[www.thehaughleywarmemorial.wordpress.com](http://www.thehaughleywarmemorial.wordpress.com)

**Haughley Playing Field and Pavilion News**  
King George's Field, Haughley charity No. 304761

**Cub leader or helpers needed – if you or anyone you know would like to help please get in touch with Richard Stacy or Carly Banthorp** Carly Banthorpe 07976294616 or Richard Stacy 01449 673311.

**Playing Field 50/50 draw, an easy way to support your local playing field –** Thank you to the existing members that have already renewed their numbers for 2026. I still have a few numbers available. If you would like a number for our quarterly draws held in March, June, September and December please get in touch. £10 a year and half the money goes in the prize pot. **First draw for 2026 is at the Parish Council Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**Junior Bowls sessions –** part of the sports grant criteria was 'how we would increase participation in activities?'. The Bowls club have been hosting some trial carpet bowls sessions for school PE lessons and for the three scout groups, with a view to setting up junior bowls, both indoors and outdoors (in the season) as a longer-term goal. These have proved very popular. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity, and we hope they continue to take an interest in the sport. **DOG POO on and around the field. This is really causing a problem for matches and field maintenance.** Dogs must be kept on a lead and poo removed even around the edges of the field. We need to trim, mow and cut hedges as well as maintain the pitches and staff should not have to work around dog poo.

**Pavilion regeneration project –** Expression of Interest for the Sports Infrastructure Grant for the bowls club extension has been submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council; we expecting to hear something end of February. Design plans for pavilion have been submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council as pre-application prior to a formal planning application being submitted; initial discussion with the planning officer has taken place and we should get a written response before end of March.

**Quiz Night 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026 – sadly this was postponed due to illness. A new date will be arranged.**

**SHOPPING ONLINE - THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT US WITH NO COST TO YOU.**

**<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kinggeorgefldhaughley/>**

Or go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and select King George's Field, Haughley as your chosen charity.

**Advertising board at the entrance to the Ron Crascall pavilion.**

If you would like to advertise your business, please contact us via the parish clerk. Clerk@haughleypc.co.uk. The charge will be £250 a year for an A5 size advert, money raised will help the upkeep of the Pavilion, playing field and equipment.

### **Clubs and Regular activities at the Playing Field & Pavilion**

- **Indoor Bowls Monday afternoons 2-4pm October to March**
- **Yoga – Bethany** [serenityyogabethany@outlook.com](mailto:serenityyogabethany@outlook.com) **Wednesdays 9.30-10.30am** Upstairs function room.
- **Yoga – Claudia** [Claudia@yogadia.com](mailto:Claudia@yogadia.com) **Tuesdays 6.15pm Gentle 7.30pm** Dynamic upstairs function room.
- **Bingo Every second Tuesday of the month, 7pm for 7.30pm eyes down.** Upcoming dates: 10<sup>th</sup> March, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 9<sup>th</sup> June, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> August, 8<sup>th</sup> September, 13<sup>th</sup> October, 10<sup>th</sup> November, 8<sup>th</sup> Dec.

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### **Club Contacts**

- **Beavers, Cubs & Scouts** [Carly Banthorpe 07976294616](mailto:Carly.Banthorpe@haughleyfc.co.uk) or Richard Stacy 01449 673311.
- **HUFC** –Senior football contact – Lee Forsdyke 07472902302
- **Haughley Youth Football** contact – Carly Banthorpe 07976294616
- **Bowls Indoor or Outdoor** - contact Peter Mead 07845068679 Indoor/ carpet Bowls Wendy 07773972746
- Thirza Shaw, Chairman & 50/50 Club Administrator, Email [trtinker@aol.com](mailto:trtinker@aol.com) or [Thirza.shaw@haughleyfc.co.uk](mailto:Thirza.shaw@haughleyfc.co.uk) Phone 07786375441

**Dogs are welcome at the playing field.**

**Please keep them on their leads and pick up your dog's poo.**

**Ron Crascall Pavilion, King George's Field, Haughley**

**There are three rooms for hire at the Pavilion**

Upstairs Function room

14m x 8m approx with 10 tables & 60 chairs

Contact Thirza Shaw – [trtinker@aol.com](mailto:trtinker@aol.com) or 07786 375441

Access to kitchen facilities on the ground floor

Haughley Football club bar room ground floor

Contact Ian Wilkinson 01449 773399 or Lee Forsdyke 07472902302

Access to kitchen facilities

Scouts Hall or folding table & chairs – Richard Stacy 01449 673311.

At Woolpit Health Centre we are proud to operate a 'total triage' model. Every patient access request, whether online, telephone or walk-in, is clinically assessed and triaged by our 'on the day' GP team. A senior GP mentor who is always available to guide clinical decisions.

Requests are prioritised based on their level of urgency, then assigned to the healthcare professional best suited to meet individual needs. This may result in an urgent or routine call or appointment or self-care/signpost to other services.

In the 12 months since we switched our online request service to Anima, we have received over 45,000 requests, an average of 175 per day (Monday – Friday). Approximately one third of these requests are completed by our reception team on behalf of patients who telephone or walk-in.

### **Andi, our new Virtual Care Navigator!**

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026 we launched a new automated system called Andi, designed to help improve how we manage patient requests and phone calls.

Andi is a Virtual Care Navigator and has been created by the same team behind Anima. We will be trialling over the next 3 months.

### **What is Virtual Care Navigation?**

When you call the surgery, instead of waiting in a queue, you can speak to Andi, who will ask you questions, take down your request and send it to the triage team for review.

### **Benefits for Patients**

- No need to wait in a call queue.
- A quick and easy way to submit your request.
- Fast and efficient triage.

### **Benefits for the Health Centre**

- Frees up staff time to focus on patient care.
- Helps us manage requests fairly and efficiently.
- Reduces waiting times and phone line pressure.

**A quick note: Andi isn't a robotic sounding voice – he sounds quite natural! This may feel a little unusual at first, but we encourage you to give it a try.**

Thank you and best wishes from Woolpit Health Centre



## ORCHARD BARN

### Getting to Know Elm – a quiet day of learning and making

At Orchard Barn, elm has been part of the story for centuries. Mature elms still stand in the landscape, young ones quietly regenerating along hedges and margins, and parts of the main barn itself — built in the **1790s** — were crafted from elm timber. It is a place shaped by trees, time and careful use, making it a fitting setting for a day spent getting to know this remarkable species.

On **Saturday 7th March, 10am–4pm**, Orchard Barn will host *Getting to Know Elm* — a gentle, immersive workshop exploring one of our most resilient native trees. This free workshop is part of a developing **series of seasonal gatherings**, designed to help people reconnect with the natural world through the **Wheel of the Year**, marking moments of change, renewal and attention in the landscape.

Once common in our countryside, elm still persists, regenerating and adapting, offering lessons in endurance and quiet strength. Indoors and outdoors, we'll explore how to identify elm, how it grows and renews itself, and the habitats it supports. We'll look at historical uses of elm in tools, buildings and daily life, and spend time in quiet observation, shared reflection and gentle making. There will be opportunities to draw elm, notice early signs of flowering, and work hands-on — perhaps crafting a simple mallet, wand or staff, or working with elm bast to create a small binding or wrist band.

This is a calm, unhurried day shaped by the group and by the trees themselves. No prior knowledge is needed — just a willingness to slow down, notice and listen.

#### **Practicalities:**

- Indoor and outdoor activities (please dress warmly)
- Tools and materials provided
- Bring a packed lunch
- Free event, with a suggested **£10 donation** to cover materials

#### **10 places available – pre-booked.**

If you're drawn to trees, craft or stillness, you'll be very welcome.

To book your place please email [sarah.orchardbarn@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.orchardbarn@gmail.com)

Orchard Barn is technically Ringshall, but actually on the south-west edge of Battisford. It is a volunteer run centre for environmental learning in low tech, hands-on, natural, off-grid ways.



Our meeting was last month turned out to be a bit more entertaining and enlightening than we expected as we had a lovely, and very patient, lady line dancing instructor – Caroline. She certainly put us through our paces!

We all dusted off our boots, jeans and check shirts but soon learnt that most of us still don't know our left from our right! The steps all had wonderful descriptive names such as the grapevine (nothing to do with wine...) and the rocking chair to name just two!



Caroline teaches a range of classes across Suffolk but for us she stuck with Absolute Beginners – but at times it was rather more like absolute chaos! Much fun and laughter ensued – especially from a couple of our ladies who couldn't join in the dancing and were watching from the side-lines...

We then spent the remainder of our evening discussing the resolutions that the national WI are wanting to support for the forthcoming year. There were 5 possible resolutions covering a wide range of subjects from giving nature a hand, women's homelessness to accessible toilets and we each had to vote for the one that we wanted to support.

Our monthly lunch club goes from strength to strength, with new venues being tried and tested all the time. It's amazing how many pubs we have in our area that are willing to put up with a visit from a lively WI!

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March marks International Women's Day (IWD) and the WI theme for this year is Give to Gain. For anyone thinking of joining our WI, if you can give your time you will gain new friends! You are always welcome to come as a guest to any one of our monthly meetings.

Mandy Watson



Please check out our Facebook page for more information or call Jane on 07815 143490.

Haughley WI Open Evening

# “CONVICTED”

Landmark cases that made  
British Criminal History

Talk by Gary Powell,  
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Wednesday 1st April

Haughley Village Hall

7.30pm

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Mid Suffolk

**My council tax bill is due in March, and I'm dreading it as it seems to rise every year. My income hasn't increased, but everything else costs more, leaving very little left over. I'm worried about how I'll cope if my payments go up again.**

Many people are feeling the same pressure as bills increase. You're not alone, and importantly, support is available.

Some people are entitled to council tax discounts depending on their circumstances. Your bill may already include an automatic reduction, or you can contact your local council to check if you qualify.

If you're the only adult living in your home, you should receive a 25% single person discount. When councils calculate how many people live in a property, certain people are not counted. These are known as "disregarded people" and include under-18s, student nurses, apprentices, and others. You can find the full list on the government website: [www.gov.uk/council-tax/who-has-to-pay](http://www.gov.uk/council-tax/who-has-to-pay).

If someone has recently moved out, it's important to tell your council, as this could change your eligibility. Any discount you're entitled to can be backdated to the date they moved out, even if you inform the council later.

If you're on a low income, you may qualify for a Council Tax Reduction. This applies whether you're working or receiving benefits, although having other adults living with you can affect how much support you get. Only one person in the household needs to apply. The council will assess your income and circumstances and issue an updated bill if you're eligible. You can apply via [www.gov.uk/apply-for-council-tax-discount](http://www.gov.uk/apply-for-council-tax-discount).

Extra support may also be available if you've reached State Pension age. The rules differ depending on whether you or your partner receive certain benefits such as Universal Credit, income-related ESA or pension credits. Details are available at [www.gov.uk/state-pension-age](http://www.gov.uk/state-pension-age).

Even if none of these apply, councils can sometimes reduce or cancel council tax through a discretionary reduction if you're experiencing severe financial hardship. This is available even if your immigration status restricts access to public funds.

Council tax is a priority bill, so it's important to stay in contact with your council if you're struggling. Citizens Advice can help you explore your options and find a way forward, without judgement, and alongside you every step of the way.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at [midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us](http://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us). Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Dear Friends:

Spring is in the air, and are you ready to spring forward, yes, the clocks go forward on March 29th, and the hours of daylight start to lengthen. Do you make the most of this extra daylight perhaps you're a gardener or DIY is your passion or perhaps it gives you the opportunity to enjoy a visit out. Yes, our routines change, and our outlook brightens as the summer comes closer.

For one man however this date heralds the end of his life. March 29<sup>th</sup> this year is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy week. Eight days which will include his arrest, trial, crucifixion, and resurrection. It is a day when we remember our Lord Jesus Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem riding on a colt. Springing into the last days of his earthly life with the knowledge of his impending death upon a cross along a road covered with cloaks on the ground with the joyful crowd waving palm branches and shouting 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!' The crowd's adoration was based on a misunderstanding, and their loyalty was fleeting. The same people who praised him would soon call for his death highlighting the contrast between their earthly expectation and his divine nature.

Will you spring forward and join us each Sunday as we explore more of the life of Jesus Christ. You will be most welcome.

Blessings

John Webb (Stowmarket Elder)

# Nearly New Sale

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### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2026

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## HAUGHLEY OPEN GARDENS

### JUNE 20TH & 21ST 2026

Would you be interested in opening your garden to the public on these dates?

Here are some of the many reasons you may want to open your garden:

- Showing your flowers, trees, vegetable plot, or lawn
- Displaying a water feature, such as a pond
- Demonstrating ways to encourage wildlife
- The garden may have historical interest
- You may have statues, garden ornaments or artwork
- You may have animals to view: fish, chickens etc.
- You may want to sell plants or garden produce



Please contact [Josephine.Gibson@talk21.com](mailto:Josephine.Gibson@talk21.com), or phone 01449 774657 if you are interested in taking part!

## ST MARY'S HAUGHLEY AND ST MARY'S WETHERDEN

**Rector: Revd Andy Buttress Tel. 07749265571**

**Curate: Revd Alison Roberts Tel. 01449 613037**

**<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2082/>**

**<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/1938/>**

**Traitors** – the show that everyone is talking about. It is a high-stakes, reality TV series hosted by Claudia Winkleman in Ardross castle, Scotland. Contestants split into "Traitors" and "Faithfuls." The traitors secretly "murder" Faithfuls nightly, while the group tries to banish Traitors in daily votes. It's a great watch!

But did you know that the origins of the show are Dutch and it was to be called *The Mutineers*, set onboard a ship, with contestants forced to jump overboard upon elimination. Why a ship? Because behind the idea is a true story.

The Batavia, the flagship of the Dutch East India Company, had been wrecked on the Houtman Abrolhos Islands near Australia in 1629. Around 300 of the 341 people on board made it ashore. When the ship's captain sailed off in search of help, he left in charge his deputy, Jeronimus Cornelisz.

Yet Cornelisz had been planning a mutiny, and he and his followers began murdering any remaining survivors loyal to the captain. But no one knew who was in favour of the mutiny or not. So, they all lied to each other, because they didn't trust anyone.

Oh, by the way. If you are thinking of applying for the next Traitors TV series there may be almost half a million other applicants too - so good luck!

This time next month Easter will be upon us. The Easter story is a story of a Traitor and Faithfuls. No prizes for guessing who the traitor was but the sad thing is that the Faithfuls become less than faithful to the innocent victim who gets tortured and killed. Like the Dutch shipwreck story, it's undoubtedly a true story and one which has reverberated around the world for centuries. You might want to have a read of it in the Bible in one of the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke or John)?

So, here's an invitation. If you want to come along to any of our services/activities during Lent (a 40 day period before Easter) it would be great to see you. All the details are on the list adjacent to this article. If you come I very much hope that no one will lie to you, you will be able to trust everyone, and no one will get "murdered"!!

Please do contact me, Alison. Ann or Sue and we will give you more information about any of the services or events if you need them.

All the best,

Revd Andy Buttress

**PRAYER:** God, I am sometimes a bit up and down. But you are faithful. Help me to trust in you with all the things that I struggle with. Amen.

**LENT LUNCHEES:** Lent Lunches begin on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February – a simple meal of soup, bread and cheese on Wednesdays from 12-1pm in the Maxwell Charnley Room (attached to Post Office), Haughley.

**LENT COMPLINE SERVICES:** Night Prayer every Tuesday at Wetherden Church from 24<sup>th</sup> February – 31<sup>st</sup> March at 9pm. This is a short, simple, reflective service at the end of the day.

## PARISH CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH 2026

Benefice of Haughley with Wetherden and Stowupland  
 (For more information please contact Revd Andy Buttress:  
 email [revandybuttress@gmail.com](mailto:revandybuttress@gmail.com))

<u>Date</u>	<b>Stowupland</b>	<b>Wetherden</b>	<b>Haughley</b>
Sunday 1st	9.30am Parish Communion	11.00am Morning Worship	11.00am Sunday Praise
Tuesday 3rd		9.00pm Compline (Night Prayer)	
Sunday 8th	9.30am Worship for All	11.00am Morning Worship	11.00am Parish Communion
Monday 9th	11.00am Service at Steeple View		2.00pm Service at Mere View
Tuesday 10th		9.00pm Compline (Night Prayer)	5.00pm Pizza Church
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> (Mothering Sunday)	9.30am Morning Worship	11.00am Worship for All	11.00am URC/ Anglican Service
Tuesday 17th		9.00pm Compline (Night Prayer)	
Sunday 22nd	6.30pm Evening Prayer	11.00am Parish Communion	9.30am BCP Said Communion
Tuesday 24th		9.00pm Compline (Night Prayer)	
Sunday 29th (Palm Sunday)	11.00am Benefice Service		
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00pm Compline (Night Prayer)		
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March		9.00pm Compline (Night Prayer)	

### WINNERS OF HAUGHLEY CHURCH'S MONTHLY £40 DRAW

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Colin 07708062435

Keep eye on our Facebook page for fixtures and events at the club

### SMALL ADS

**Deadline for the APRIL 2026 issue is**

**Wednesday March 18, 2026**

There are no small ads this month

All small ads, max 20 words,  
should be sent to:

Email: [haughleynews@btinternet.com](mailto:haughleynews@btinternet.com)

or

Anne Ardley, Oulton Cottage,

The Folly, Haughley IP143NS

The following Terms and Conditions apply to all ads in this section: The Parish News takes no responsibility for the quality, safety, condition or true value of the items placed in the Small Ads Section. The Parish News Editors maintain the power of veto on the suitability of the Adverts. Ads will be placed on a first come first served basis and held chronologically for space in the magazine.

Please note that the 'Small Ads' service has been introduced for the benefit of Haughley and Wetherden residents. Commercial advertisers may advertise in this section on payment of a fee, only if there is no advertising space available elsewhere in the Parish News.

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For more information contact Alison Hasselder  
**Telephone** on 07974650343  
**E mail:** alison@whitehousefarm.co.uk  
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# DIRECTORY

## **PLACES OF WORSHIP**

### **Parish Churches of Haughley and Wetherden**

Revd Andy Buttress - Rector -  
revandybuttress@gmail.com  
07749265571

www.achurchnearyou.com

Curate: Revd Alison Roberts Tel.  
01449 613037

Haughley Ch Warden: Dr J Gibson  
Wetherden Ch Wardens: Ann Cooke  
& Elizabeth Elbourne

### **The Baptist Church Wetherden**

Minister: Hugh Davis:  
email pastorhughdavis@gmail.com  
Secretary: J W Rushbrook:  
01359-240118

### **United Reformed Church, Stowmarket**

Secretary: Brian Hewitt,  
07500734113

Ass Secretary: Mary Durrant,  
01449 672608

Treasurer :Anne Scarff:  
01449 774792

annescarff11356@btinternet.com

### **Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady, Stowmarket**

Fr. Simon Leworthy 01449 612946

## **PARISH AND DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **Haughley Parish Council**

Chairman: Gerald Brown  
Gerald.brown@haughleypc.co.uk  
M: 07969 654520

Clerk: Mrs Kathleen Peacock  
07535 515077

### **Wetherden Parish Council**

Chairman: Cllr Duncan Perry, email  
duncanper-

ry@wetherdenparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk: Christine Mason: 07545783987  
clerk@wetherdenparishcouncil.gov.uk

### **Member of Parliament:**

Adrian Ramsay: 07534 933 356  
WaveneyValleyOffice@parliament.uk

### **Mid Suffolk District Council:**

Agnes Watson: 07599 828819

Agnes.Watson@midsuffolk.gov.uk,  
Janet Pearson: 07928 512592

Janet.Pearson@midsuffolk.gov.uk,  
**DOCTORS, SCHOOLS, &**

## **ESSENTIAL SERVICES**

### **Citizens Advice Bureau:**

01449 676060

### **Haughley Post Office:**

01449 676789

### **Health Centre, Stowmarket**

01449-776000

### **Health Centre, Woolpit :**

01359-240298

### **Health Centre, Mendlesham**

(Chapel Rd):01449 767722

### **Bacton Manor Farm Surgery:**

01449-781777

### **Combs Ford Surgery, Stowmarket**

01449-678333

### **Haughley Crawfords VCP School**

01449-673253

### **Stowupland High School:**

01449-674827

### **Haughley Pre School Playgroup:**

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**Anglian Water:** 03457-145-145

**British Gas:** 0845-609-1122

**UK Power Networks:** 0800 31 63  
105 (power cuts)

**Refuse Collection:** 0845 606 6067

### **Wetherden Street lighting:**

0800 591055

## **HALL BOOKINGS**

### **Haughley Village Hall:**

Lyn Allum 07837 953266 or email:  
lynnallum@hotmail.com

### **Maxwell Charnley Community**

**Room:** booking: 01449 676789

### **Ron Crascall Pavilion:**

Thirza Shaw: trtinker@aol.com  
or 07786 375441

### **Haughley Scout Hut:**

Richard Stacy 01449 673311

### **Wetherden Village Hall:**

Keith Watts 07528 065250  
wetherdenvillagehall@gmail.com or  
www.wetherdenvillagehall.com

## **LOCAL VOLUNTARY CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS**

**Beavers, Cubs & Scouts** : Carly Banthorpe 07976294616 or Richard Stacy 01449 673311.

**Bellringers Haughley** - practice 1<sup>st</sup> Mon evening in month

Richard Coe: 07913 588914

**Bellringers Wetherden** - practice Tues evening at church:

Basil Hart: 07894555348

Email: MrBHart@hotmail.com

**Bowls Indoor or Outdoor Haughley**

contact Peter Mead 07845068679

**Indoor/carpet Bowls Wendy** 07773972746

**Choir Haughley** - Thurs evening: Janet Sheldrake 01449 737247

**Mid Suffolk Folk Dance Group:**

Ron Coxall Hall 01449 672658

Thursdays Haughley Village Hall  
Thursdays 7.30 Wetherden Village Hall, Margaret/John Doy  
01473 742015

**H.A.T.S. Haughley Amateur**  
Theatrical Society:

Alex Ball: 07746231114 or email

Haughley.pantomime@gmail.com

**HUFC** –Senior football contact – Lee Forsdyke 07472902302

**Haughley Youth Football** contact – Carly Banthorpe 07976294616

**Haughley Football Club:**

Ian Wilkinson 07802 647674

or Lee Forsdyke 07472 902302

**Haughley History & Parish Archive:**

Kieron Palmer: 07583081797

**Haughley Hoofers Clog Dancers:**  
practice Sunday 7.30 at Village Hall,  
Gill Brett: 01449-673518

**Haughley IT Squad:**

haughleyhitsquad@gmail.com

**Haughley Parish in Bloom:**(HPIB)

Alison Pepper: 07714 415148

alison.pepper@haughleypc.co.uk

Yvonne Tricker: 07415 230088

yvonne.tricker@haughleypc.co.uk

**Haughley Royal British Legion:**

Branch Chairman:

Tim Hart 01449 613680

**Haughley Singing for Wellbeing Group**

Lynn Elliston, 07979832980

**Haughley and Wetherden**

**Twinning Association:**

Chairman, Richard Standen

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

07760 165 889

**Wetherden Baby & Toddler Group**

Sarah Chukwu: 01449 674101

slchukwu37@gmail.com

**1<sup>st</sup> Wetherden & Haughley Scout**

**Group:** Group Scout Leader:

Catherine Winter 01449 781372

[catherine.winter@outlook.com](mailto:catherine.winter@outlook.com)

**Wetherden FC** - Jonathan Lewis

(Manager) 01449-678234

**Wetherden History Group:**

Pat Tuffin 01359 240396.

**Wetherden Table Tennis Club:**

Dawn Gibson 01359 240 259

**Wetherden Tennis Club:**

Sara Parker, Membership Secretary,  
07515 160840

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

**Whist Drive** - monthly, Wetherden Village Hall:

James Rand 07549824735

**WI Haughley** - 1<sup>st</sup> Wed in month,

7.00pm, in Haughley Village Hall:

Jane Thompson: 01449 677079

**HAUGHLEY & WETHERDEN**  
**PARISH NEWS**

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