

...YOUR FREE LOCAL NEWS

MARCH 2026

HALESWORTH HOOT



PART OF THE **TIDE COLLECTION**

ALDEBURGH TIMES WOODBRIDGE TALK SOUTHWOLD ORGAN SAXMUNDHAM NEWS LEISTON OBSERVER HALESWORTH HOOT

PATMORE WATER SOFTENERS



Non
Electric

Boiler
Friendly

10 Year
Guarantee

6 South Entrance
Saxmundham
IP17 1DQ

Ipswich

Braintree

01728 633007

01473 713600

01376 334949

www.patmorewatersofteners.co.uk

A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR



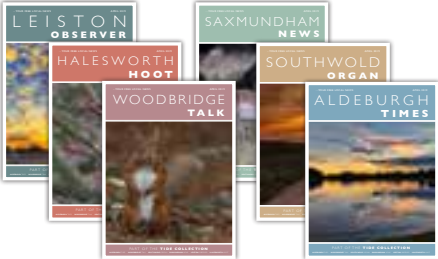
What a success the screening event for 'Cardiac Risk in the Young' was. So many youngsters turned out and several referrals for further investigation. Such a fitting way for Toby Chenery's family to honour and remember him, by potentially saving other lives. A lovely legacy.

I am sorry to say this will be the last edition of the Halesworth Hoot as we have made the decision to discontinue it. I would like to thank all our contributors, advertisers and readers, some of whom have taken the time to let me know how much they enjoy the publication. When I take copies round to outlets in the town and surrounding villages people have always been very welcoming and friendly, so I thank you. A lovely community.

Please feel free to still send me details of events, which I can include in our Southwold edition and maybe the others, space permitting.

Quote of the month

I trust in nature for the stable laws of beauty and utility. Spring shall plant and autumn garner to the end of time - **Robert Browning**



TIDE COLLECTION

A COLLECTION OF 6 FREE MAGAZINES

DISTRIBUTION OF 12000 DELIVERED
DOOR TO DOOR & TO MANY VARIED OUTLETS

CONTACT **LOUISE GISSING** FOR PRICES AND QUERIES

LOU@TIDECOLLECTION.COM
OR CALL 01728 833003

INSIDE YOUR MAGAZINE...

HALESWORTH DAY OF DANCE 5
- Another spectacular day of entertainment bringing colour, music and dance!

TOBY'S LEGACY 6
- Screening success – saving lives, in memory of Toby Chenery

HALESWORTH TO SOUTHWOLD 9
NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY CHARITY
- Come and see our progress at our first Open Day of 2026 on Easter Monday

HALESWORTH VINYL COLLECTIVE 12
- A group of local music fans, collaborators, and community activists

HALESWORTH DEMENTIA CARERS' FUND 14
- Heveningham Hall Country Fair Trust Awards £20,000 Grant

Shoes @ *Bulstrodes*

**1st Year Anniversary
of our NEW SHOE DEPARTMENT**

**Stockists of
RIEKER, REMONTE, LOTUS, LUNAR,
PIKOLINOS, BUGATTI**

**Professional Childrens Measuring
service for START-RITE**





27, Bridge Street Framlingham IP13 9AJ
01728 621152
billbulstrode@googlemail.com

19 Undercliffe,
Felixstowe



suffolk hideaways

coastal and country
holiday retreats

Thinking of letting your holiday home?

We know choosing an agency to let your property can be a big decision, let us make it easy for you.

A friendly and local team | Excellent occupancy levels
A Marketing or Managed service | Multi-channel marketing
Peace-of-mind damage cover | Professional photography
No restrictions on use of your property

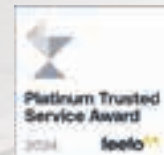
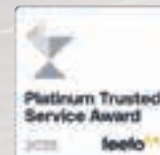
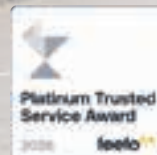
To find out more please phone, visit our website or pop into our office in **Aldeburgh** for a chat.

01728 666 300 | suffolkhideaways.co.uk |



attwells^{LLP}
Solicitors

Legal Services for Woodbridge and the Surrounding Areas



At Attwells Solicitors, we provide expert support in conveyancing, Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney and Probate, helping you make confident decisions at every stage of life.

We offer clear, practical advice with a friendly, personal approach. Whether you are moving home, planning ahead, administering an estate or updating your Will, our experienced team is here to guide you every step of the way.

With the opening of our Woodbridge office, we are proud to serve clients across Woodbridge and the surrounding areas with trusted, accessible legal support.



Call now on 01394 334500



attwells.com

Why Choose Attwells Solicitors?



Plain-English Advice

We avoid complicated terminology when communicating with you and adapt our service to suit your needs.



Same Day Call Back

Don't you hate it when your Solicitor never calls you back? We commit to returning your call on the same day if you call before 3pm. We will also provide you with regular updates on the progress of your matter.



Trusted Advisor

We promise to support you in achieving the best possible outcome and therefore if we can't help we will always recommend someone who can.

DAY OF DANCE RETURNS TO HALESWORTH

28th March, 11am – 4pm. A celebration of traditional dancing & music!



On Saturday 28th March the Day of Dance returns to Halesworth for another spectacular day of entertainment. The event will showcase 26 national dance groups from across the UK and their traditional dancing styles and music. The event starts at 11am in the Market Place with the procession heading up the Thoroughfare shortly after with massed dances.

Dancing spots are spread across Halesworth and include the white Swan on London Road, St Mary's Church, who will be hosting the Folk Orchestra and a Ceilidh in the Rifle Hall in the evening.

The Day of Dance brings much joy, music, colour and dancing to Halesworth and we hope you will turn out to enjoy this fantastic and unique event!

Audiences can enjoy Morris and Molly dancing alongside many other regional and contemporary styles, offering something for all ages and interests.

Whether you are a dedicated folk enthusiast or simply looking for a joyful day out, this event promises a warm welcome, a festive atmosphere and a true celebration of community, culture and shared tradition.



HELPING HOUSE MARTINS

'House martins' was a popular topic for the February meeting of our local Suffolk Wildlife Trust group, and Martin Tickler brought his expertise to explain how we can support the declining numbers of these charismatic birds. The reasons for the reduction of house martins are many and complex: the dangers of migration, habitat loss, lack of invertebrate food, and most particularly, changes in house building design. They are a summer visitor to the UK, arriving from Africa in late April, and leaving again in September. They choose sheltered spots, under the eaves of buildings, and their mud nests require a rough surface for secure attachment. Martin offered suggestions that can help. House martins need wet, sticky mud, and in droughts this can be a challenge, so in some places, an area of mud can be kept watered for the birds to use. The prevalent use of PVC fascias and soffits are unsuitable for nests, and Martin brought examples of nest cups made from sustainable material, that can be fixed in place under eaves.

House martins are quite sociable, and there are often numbers of nests close to each other, with birds repairing or adding to old sites. They will adapt an artificial nest if need be, adding mud to make the entrance smaller, hoping to keep unwanted visitors out. There are dangers. Sparrows are known to invade and evict resident birds and chicks. Great spotted woodpeckers can rapidly destroy many nests, searching for food. Predators such as hobbies and sparrowhawks can snatch the unwary.

In a good season, house martins will have two, and sometimes three, broods a year, with two to six chicks.

Both parents raise the young, helping them to fledge and juveniles can be seen feeding younger chicks, so it is very much a family affair.

It was an entertaining and informative talk, and for those wishing to learn more, House Martin Support Suffolk can be found at www.suffolkbirdgroup.org.

The details for our next meeting are a little different. We will be at Wenhaston Village Hall, IP19 9EQ, on Wednesday, **March 11th** at 7.30pm. Steve Aylward, from the SWT, will be taking us on a Botanical Tour of SWT reserves. The cost is £5, to include refreshments, under 25's free. Everyone is welcome.

Penny Mansfield

Email: swtblythvalley@gmail.com



HELPING SAVE LIVES IN TOBY'S MEMORY

More than 210 young people aged between 14 and 35 have been screened for undetected heart conditions during a very special memorial event held at the Pear Tree Centre. The screening took place in memory of much-loved footballer Toby Chenery during February. Over two days, 211 young people had an electrocardiogram, with 11 then referred on to a GP or hospital for further investigation – potentially saving their lives.

The event was organised by Toby's family in partnership with CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young). The screenings were paid for with a portion of a staggering £49,433 raised in Toby's memory after the 23-year-old passed away suddenly in his sleep last February. Sadly, Toby suffered with an undiagnosed heart condition and had been asymptomatic his whole life.

The event at the Pear Tree Centre was the first in a series of screenings that Toby's family are funding to detect similar conditions in other young people. They said: *"It was a very emotional weekend for us all as none of it would have happened if we hadn't lost our beautiful boy almost a year ago. Toby was a kind, caring and generous soul and the legacy we've been able to create is a tribute to him in every way."*

"We'd like to say thank you to everyone who has donated – we appreciate every single penny. We'd also like to thank the Pear Tree Centre for letting us use the building. It couldn't have been more perfect and gave a lot of people the opportunity to visit the centre who had never been before."

During the weekend, Toby's family also raised more than £550 by selling CRY wristbands and collecting donations, all of which will help pay for future screenings. To make a donation, visit www.c-r-y.org.uk/toby-chenery. Toby's memorial page is available by searching for 'Toby's CRY page – forever 23' on Facebook.

The Pear Tree Fund offers vital information, advice and holistic support to people with life-changing illnesses or who have been bereaved. Please visit www.peartreefund.org for more information or call 01986 899655 if you'd like to discuss holding a similar event at the centre.



The Pear Tree Fund

Local support when you need it most



Providing information, advice and holistic support to people facing life-changing illnesses, long-term conditions and bereavement

If you or a loved one could benefit from our support, please get in touch

01986 899655 info@peartreefund.org www.peartreefund.org

Charity Number 1155419
(England and Wales)

KINDA WILLOW DOME

What began as a gift of woodland hut, has evolved into a Willow Dome, a willow alley and a desire to weave with willow at Kinda Forest School, in Holton.

Rachel, the landowner, explained: *"I offered my woodland cabin as a raffle gift to raise funds for Thorington Church. The person who won the prize turned out to be Lin Carter, who I now know as the great weaver of beautiful objects. Willow, I said to her. I am interested in willow and creating a willow patch to grow willow to weave with. 'Come and help me harvest', she said to me this time last year."*

Planted as an alley on the Agro forestry part of the land, willow with wonderful names was planted out last February: Britzensis (yellow) / Daphnoides / Whissender / Black Marl / Dicky Meadows / Dark Dicks / Green Dicks / Packing Twine / Welsh White. It was a tough year, the year of drought. But some have survived.

Undeterred, a creative Kinda Education facilitator, Louise, took up the baton this January, and has led this second willow project - A willow dome.

The willow she needed was tall (too overgrown for weaving willow), which she sourced on the top field of Peter's in Chediston, planted no doubt by his father-in-law, the veritable willow weaver Wil Berry.

Wil Berry was the husband of Jan Berry, who has a bench in her memory in the town park and in whose name we will be planting an orchard on the land.

With the children and facilitators for Home Ed and Alternative Provision on Wednesday, we planted 25 stems into a circle in the earth. They went down into the wet clay earth easily. Each child added their name to their stem on a wood cookie. A duck joined us, enjoying the weather.

Our next stage is to weave in the diagonals. If you'd like to be involved in our creation, come along to explore the joy of willow. Forest Family School is open to all ages, and children also welcome other days too, details below.

While many of us may long for the rain to end and mud to ease, the Willow loves it.

Home Education: Wednesdays

Family Forest School: Once a month on Saturdays

Alternative Provision: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays

<https://www.kindaeducation.org.uk/>
<https://kaliwood.wordpress.com/2026/01/29/willow-projects/>

Kinda Forest School, Kaliwoods, Holton, IP19 8NQ



HALESWORTH & DISTRICT U3A

The next monthly Halesworth and District u3a event at the Cut Art Centre, Halesworth, is on **Tuesday 17 March** at 2pm when we welcome Martin Lloyd to present his talk entitled *'Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies.'* Martin worked for HM Immigration Service for 24 years and now writes books, appears on television and radio, and is a sought-after presenter to many various groups across the UK.



He will provide a dramatic account of how three passports have played an influential role in the course of history; How an attempted assassination altered passport regulations; How the capture of a spy caused a worldwide modification to passport design and why for one person the passport itself turned into a killer!

The talk is free to members . £4 for non-members. Why have a delicious meal in the Cut Cafe first?

BAWDSEY RADAR MUSEUM

The Museum re-opens on **Thursday 2nd April** ready for Easter and will once again be running the Easter Trail, which will run on each open day over the Easter holidays. Don't forget – children get in free! The Museum will then be open every Thursday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday until the end of October.

A number of very informative podcasts about the history of radar at Bawdsey called *'Echoes of Bawdsey – The Story of Radar'* have been produced. The first series is now available to listen to on the website.

Tables are still available for our fund raising quiz on **Friday 13th March**. (Newbourne Village Hall).

Book tables via info@bawdseyradar.org.uk. Entry is £7 per person, payable on the night.

Further details of all our activities may be found on our website: www.bawdseyradar.org.uk. For more information contact info@bawdseyradar.org.uk or phone 07821 162879.

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE

**25% off
HOUSE BLINDS**



Call 01953 544 041

norwichsunblinds

T&Cs apply, please visit: www.norwichsunblinds.co.uk

**Protect and
transform your
home with
Anglian Rooftrim**

Stylish fascias, soffits and guttering that last year after year. Made in Britain, low maintenance, and built for all weather.



Call today for your free quote

0800 876 6408

REF: LP1125



Fri 6th Mar at 4.30pm
Sat 7th Mar at 2.00pm & 4.30pm
Sun 8th Mar at 11.30am

GOAT PG

Sun 8th Mar at 2.00pm

OTHELLO 15

Fri 6th, Mon 9th, Tues 10th, Wed 11th & Thurs 12th Mar at 7.15pm

COLD STORAGE 15

Sat 7th Mar at 7.00pm

**JAMES ACASTER
CINEMAGOERS WELCOME** 15

Wed 11th Mar at 2.00pm
Sun 15th Mar at 3.00pm

H IS FOR HAWK 12A

Fri 13th & Sat 14th Mar at 7.15pm
Sun 15th Mar at 6.00pm
Mon 16th Mar at 1.00pm & 7.15pm
Tues 17th & Wed 18th Mar at 7.15pm
Thurs 19th Mar at 2.00pm & 7.15pm
Fri 20th Mar at 7.15pm
Sun 22nd Mar at 3.00pm
Mon 23rd Mar at 1.00pm & 7.15pm
Tues 24th & Wed 25th Mar at 7.15pm
Thurs 26th Mar at 2.00pm & 7.15pm

MOTHER'S PRIDE 12A

Sat 21st Mar at 7.30pm. LIVE ON STAGE

**THE STADIUM
ROCK EXPERIENCE**

Wed 25th Mar at 3.00pm
Sun 29th Mar at 6.00pm

**EPiC: ELVIS PRESELY
IN CONCERT** 12A

From Fri 27th Mar ...

HOPPERS PG
HOW TO MAKE A KILLING TBC

High Street, Leiston, Suffolk. IP16 4BZ
Tel: 01728 830549, or visit:
www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

HALESWORTH TO SOUTHWOLD NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY CHARITY

We are very pleased to say that we have passed two major milestones over the last few weeks. Firstly, we have been granted planning permission for our replica double-armed signal, which is erected in its original socket, which we discovered by onsite archaeology. And at the same time permission was granted for a Heritage Visitor Centre to be established at Blythburgh Station. We have long wished to provide better facilities for our visitors at the station, and to ensure that our staff's needs are looked after as well. The sectional building, obtained from Essex, will be clad in vertical timber, to represent the 'third goods shed' which was at the station between 1879 and 1908 (Blythburgh was such an important goods centre that there were, unusually, three goods sheds here in Victorian times). Inside the building will be a WC and washing facility, a small shop, and museum displays of our original artefacts and photos, to tell the story of our iconic and unusual railway. There will need to be a great deal of fundraising to complete this project. We have to provide a base, deliver the building to the site, comply with all Building Regulations, connect up all the services, and fit out. Although we hope to have the basic facility ready for the 2027 season, full completion is likely to take some considerable time.

In January, one of our volunteers bought a rare locomotive from a private owner in Essex, for the use of the railway charity. It is a 1957 Ruston and Hornsby diesel mechanical, which is - unusually - already to our three-foot gauge, and it is planned that this will provide a back-up for our battery-electric loco 'Helen', now we plan to start passenger services. Much engineering work needs to be done on the Ruston, with electric start and air brakes the most important. Also, in the context of the passenger services, and our planned extension, we are designing a second coach.

We are still working through the re-application (our first application having been turned down in 2025) for the track extension westwards from the station with all its added environmental conditions. Unfortunately, Suffolk County Council have recently granted a PROW (Public Right of Way) order on part of the original trackbed, which makes any railway re-instatement there difficult, if not impossible.

We have possible solutions and are working hard on finding a compromise with the local authorities: as a registered charity, we have a legal duty to restore the railway where it used to be.

Volunteers re-started clearance at Walberswick Station in February: we hope that this year we can complete this project - to present this original Victorian station in a way that is interesting to the public.

It's not that long now to our first **2026 Open Day on Easter Monday** at Blythburgh Station (opposite the White Hart on the north side of the village). Opening is from 10.30 'til 15.45. It's free to enter and all Halesworth people are particularly welcome. Who knows - if all goes well, you may be one of the very first passengers to ride (over a very short distance!) on the railway since it closed in 1929. You can join our Charity at the event for £10, and thus be part of this exciting project to restore an important part of the Blyth Valley's history.

James Hewett, Trustee



HALESWORTH IN BLOOM

On 11 February at the corner of Durban Close and Bramfield Road, Town Council Chair Joyce Moseley, Lisa Simmonds and Alan Witherby planted a new oak tree, grown to mark Charles III's coronation on 6 May 2023.

The rain respectfully held off and everyone present joined a group photo to celebrate a job well done!

The photo shows (L to R):

Gillie Coulson, Sue Bullough, Lisa Simmonds, Nicki and Kevin Finan, Town Council Chair Joyce Moseley, Alan Witherby, Rachel Kellet & Liz Wooster

Photo: Stephanie Hammond



RSPB Minsmere Nature Reserve
Wildlife - Shop - Café - Events - Family Activities



rspb.org.uk/days-out/reserves/minsmere

PEARCE & KEMP LIMITED

Tel: 01986 872130
enquiries@pearce-kemp.co.uk • www.pearce-kemp.co.uk
Unit 20, Halesworth Business Centre, Norwich Road, Halesworth IP19 8QJ

DOMESTIC • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL • STREET LIGHTING

**REWIRING • LIGHTING • EXTRA SOCKETS • SHOWERS
ECONOMY 7 HEATING • PORTABLE APPLIANCE TESTING
INSPECTING & TESTING • DATA CABLING • EMERGENCY LIGHTING
FIRE ALARM INSTALLATIONS • FREE ESTIMATES
PART P INSTALLERS**

OVER 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Aldeburgh Museum MOOT HALL
REGISTERED CHARITY 1166357

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are in need of volunteers to help with our small heritage museum. We don't just need help with 'front of house' but behind the scenes also. It really doesn't matter how much time you can spare or what you can offer; we'd still love to hear from you. We are a friendly team of all ages and abilities and can't wait for you to join us.

To keep the museum open and flourishing we need help with:

- Front of House
- Assisting with our activity programme



The museum will open daily 1-4pm from 30th March until 31st October. There will be activities for children during the Easter School Holidays – please check our website for information.

E: Enquiries@aldeburghmuseum.org.uk
P: 01728 567767
www.aldeburghmuseum.org.uk/help

SAIL LOFT WINTER SPECIAL OFFER

2 COURSES FOR £15

AVAILABLE 12-3PM

MONDAY - FRIDAY

NOT AVAILABLE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

END EASTER 2026



HALESWORTH BRANCH OF CANCER RESEARCH

January is a quiet month for us as we don't have any events, however two very brave ladies did organise a fundraising event which we were very happy to go along to and support.

Christine and Linda hired the i-Chameleon pop up shop for their head shave on Saturday 17th January. They had a cake stall, Tombola and The Ukulele Band played for the large crowd that came to watch. After the head shave we presented Christine and Linda with a beanie hat so hopefully they won't feel the cold quite so much. We were so pleased that their hard work organising this event was so successful and on behalf of Cancer Research we would like to thank everyone involved.

We will have completed our first event of the year by the time you read this and I will let everyone know how we got on at our Jumble Sale on 14th February.

Our next event will be our Big Breakfast on Saturday 21st March in Holton Village Hall, 9.30am - 1pm. We will be serving a Full English with fruit juice, tea/coffee, toast; Bacon baps; Sausage baps or Beans on toast. We will also have a cake stall, a raffle and a gift/Easter stall etc. We are sorry for the inconvenience but as usual all our events are cash only.

We do now have a date for our AGM, which is Thursday 5th March 2 - 4pm in the meeting room at Halesworth Co-op. Everyone is very welcome to come along to meet us and see what we do.

Please continue to support our events as we continue to raise funds for the incredible work carried out by Cancer Research UK.

We can't do it without you all. Thank you. For more information please contact, Dawn Davis: 01986 873640.

Dawn Davis

From Christine & Linda...

Thank you, Tash from Twiggy's Hair Cabin and Aimee from Cabello for shaving our heads, Brenda and Alan for allowing us to use the i-Chameleon shop and the wonderful Halesworth Ukulele Band for playing in The Thoroughfare and starting the money flowing into the collecting bucket. Thank you to everyone who came out on a cold January day to support us and who gave so generously. We raised £1244 on the day, which was added to our Cancer Research UK 'Just Giving page' currently standing at £4499.13.



**Christine and Linda - before and after their head shaves.
Well done ladies.**

MARCH AT HALESWORTH LIBRARY

Celebrate the National Year of Reading with us and spring into a new book! Did you know that the library can deliver books and audiobooks straight to your door? If you're unable to visit the library, please contact us on 01986 506062 for more details.

Courtesy of The Friends of Halesworth County Library and East Suffolk Council, we are still offering you a very Warm Welcome! We provide a warm space with hot drinks and snacks available, alongside hygiene products on request too. The library also hosts regular activities and drop-ins. **Tuesdays, 10 – 11.30:** Free Rhyme Time & Play session to sing fun songs, followed by free play with our toys. Refreshments also provided for parents; **Wednesdays at 10am:** Time Out sociable group for older people meet for tea and biscuits; **Alternate Tuesdays, 2-4pm:** Knit & Natter group; **Saturdays, 11am-12noon:** Lego Club; **Sundays, 10.30-11am:** Family Fun Time; **Tuesdays, 10am-4pm:** Drop-in for advice from the East Suffolk Council customer services team; **Alternate Tuesdays, 10am-12noon:** Citizens Advice. Please ask a member of staff for more details.

With **World Book Day** on the way, come and join us at the library on **Thursday 5th March, 3.15 - 5pm** for some after school fun!

We would love to see you there in your World Book Day costumes. Children's crafts and snacks are kindly provided by the Friends of Halesworth County Library. This event is run in collaboration with The Halesworth Bookshop who will be providing your free World Book Day books!

The Friends of Halesworth Library are inviting you to join us for Sociable Sundays on **8th and 22nd March** between **10.30am – 12.30pm**. Join the Friends for their Board Games Cafe on **30th March, 2 – 4.30pm**. There are plenty of games to choose from, or bring along your own favourites. Meet new friends and enjoy tea and cake! Suggested donation £1 to the Friends of the library who kindly volunteer to run these events. The Friends will also be hosting a book talk on **March 19th at 2.30pm**. The speaker is Carsten Clovelly, who is working on the final book of a trilogy, having published *'The Importance of Being Peter'* and *'After the Peter'*.

As well as telling us about his books he will be investigating the art and science of creating a novel, and the publishing options and their complexities. He describes his books as "a one-man campaign to bring back whimsy. Think Jeeves and Wooster if Jeeves was a Wolfhound"

HALESWORTH VINYL COLLECTIVE

HVC is a group of local music fans, collaborators, and community activists working with like minded partners, friends, and family. Our shared passion is simple but powerful: to support grassroots cultural activity, create community managed spaces, and use underused indoor and outdoor locations to bring people together. We are building a progressive, sustainable model of social entrepreneurship rooted in community activism, holistic education, health and wellbeing and local pride and cultural identity. Our work is grounded in the belief that music is a universal connector - a way for people to express themselves, to feel heard, and to belong.

The partnership between HVC and The Cut has become a valued part of the local cultural landscape. Together, we have created a welcoming, inclusive space where people can gather, learn, reminisce, and connect through the music that has shaped their lives.

We are strongly rooted in our community. We know the people, the partnerships, the stories, and the histories that shape this place. As musicians, facilitators, and people working for change, we use this knowledge to connect with people in ways they have helped identify as important.

Our ethos of 'Collective' is about shared ownership. We seek to disrupt traditional organisational structures in favour of more democratic, participatory processes. Everyone involved - from long standing members to first time attendees - contributes to the culture we create.

We build musical projects around people through active musical co creation and form relationships that guide the direction of each session. People show us what they want to do through the music they choose, the stories they share, and the ways they express themselves - verbally or otherwise. When obstacles appear, we change the environment, not the person. We pay attention to how relationships and musical enquiries evolve, and we grow opportunities around what we learn. Young people and those with lived experience are involved in decision making at a strategic level and everyone is responsible for creating, developing, and owning the musical space we share. This approach underpins every event we deliver at The Cut.

Between June 2023 and December 2025, HVC delivered a rich and varied programme of themed listening events, deep dive explorations, and open participation evenings. These sessions combined musical history, personal storytelling, curated vinyl selections, and community dialogue - from Kosmische to King Crimson, from reggae to local music heritage, from open mic style sharing to guest led punk activism. Across the two year period, HVC events attracted a steadily growing and increasingly diverse audience.

Many attendees returned month after month, creating a sense of continuity and community. People came not only for the music but for the atmosphere: relaxed, welcoming, curious, and intergenerational. Audience feedback consistently highlighted the joy of discovering new music, the pleasure of revisiting old favourites, the value of shared listening in a communal space and the importance of social connection and belonging.

For some, these evenings became a regular social anchor - a place to meet friends, share memories, and feel part of something.

The HVC programme has contributed significantly to local cultural life, strengthening community identity through shared musical heritage, creating a space for intergenerational dialogue, supporting wellbeing by reducing isolation and encouraging participation, celebrating local stories, (especially through events like The Lowestoft Music Scene), providing a platform for guest presenters, collectors, and musicians.

As well as The Cut's café bar setting being central to this impact (informal, intimate, and conducive to conversation), The Cut has also provided a welcoming venue, technical support, marketing reach and staff expertise.

Guest presenters - including Eagle Spits, local historians, and specialist collectors - have enriched the programme with expertise and lived experience.

HVC operates on a modest, sustainable model supported by ticket income, donations and volunteer time. Costs include venue hire, equipment, and promotional materials. The programme offers strong value for money, with high cultural impact relative to expenditure.

In the next two years HVC hopes to expand open participation formats, strengthen youth involvement and lived experience leadership, develop new themes and cross genre explorations, enhance documentation and evaluation, explore funding to support growth and sustainability and deepen collaboration with The Cut and other local partners.

The 2026 season features five standout sessions exploring artists and eras that shaped modern music - from *Mark Knopfler's* narrative guitar craft and the raw energy of *Grunge's Big 5* to *Bob Dylan's* poetic legacy, the vibrant soundscape of *80s Part 2*, and the winter lit world of *Nick Drake*. Thoughtfully curated and culturally rich, each event offers an engaging journey for music lovers across Suffolk. Visit The Cut website for details and tickets.

SIBTON COUNTRY SUPPLIES LTD.

GARDEN MACHINERY

New Season Deals

Deals available on Lawnmowers, Strimmers
and all types of garden machinery

Wild Bird Food also available

The Forge, Sibton IP17 2JH | Tel. 01728 660 349

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAR 7 Ecotherapy East tree planting event in Foxtail Meadow, Bramfield.

Come along and see what we've been doing over the past 6 years, help plant some saplings and enjoy some fresh air and exercise. Drop in between 10 and 3pm and bring work gloves, trowel or spade and lunch if you're staying for longer. Families welcome but children must be accompanied at all times. Email/RSVP: ecotherapyeast@gmail.com as we might need to book some car parking spaces at the village hall.

MAR 8 & 22 Halesworth Harmony rehearsal at The Cut. Come along for a free taster session - no experience is necessary, everything is taught by ear, and you'll receive a warm welcome. 10.30am – 12.30pm. For further details, email: halesworth.harmony@gmail.com.

MAR 11 Blyth Valley & Southwold Wildlife Group Botanical Tour of SWT Reserves. An illustrated talk by Steve Aylward. 7.30pm at Wenhaston Village Hall. Admission £5 inc. refreshments. (Under 25s free). Raffle. Everyone welcome.

MAR 21 Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research Big Breakfast. Stalls, Cakes, Raffle, Gift/Easter stall etc. 9.30am - 1pm at Holton Village Hall, IP19 8RZ

MAR 28 Halesworth Repair Cafe @The Cut Arts Centre, 2 - 4pm

MAR 28 Wenhaston produce and craft market. Handmade cards, jewellery, jams, cakes, honey, handbags and much more. Tea, Coffee and Homemade Savouries and Cakes. Please park with care so as not to cause any obstruction. For further details contact Carol at: cazmike@outlook.com. 10 to 12.30pm at Wenhaston Village Hall.

MAR 28 Halesworth Repair Cafe @The Cut Arts Centre, 2 - 4pm

MAR 28 Spring River and Reedbed Ramble at Snape Maltings. Join RSPB Minsmere's expert guides as they help you to enjoy spring wildlife. This walk starts and finishes at Snape Maltings, IP17 1SP. Meet on the Quay at Snape Maltings. 10am – 1pm. Email: minsmerer@rspb.org.uk, phone: 01728648281

MAR 31 Family Wildlife Walk at Snape Maltings. A fun family stroll along reedbed and hedgerow in search of Snape's birds, butterflies and dragonflies, beetles and bugs. Meet on the Quay at Snape Maltings, IP17 1SP, 10am – 12.30pm. Email: minsmerer@rspb.org.uk, phone: 01728 648281

APR 11 Halesworth Ukulele Band Concert. 2 – 4.30pm at St Peter's Church, Holton. Refreshments available Raffle. Tickets £5 available from 01986 873575 or Halesworth Bookshop (cash only please)



POP-UP MINI-MUSEUM & CAFÉ

LAXFIELD VILLAGE HALL
The Link, Laxfield High Street
SATURDAY 28TH MARCH
10.30 - 3.30pm

Come and enjoy coffee and cake and view photos, local finds, small displays etc

RoughCast will be touring with two shorter plays by the late Tom Stoppard, directed by Paul Baker

'*The Real Inspector Hound*' is a farcical Agatha Christie-style murder mystery which two theatre critics, Moon and Birdboot, have come to review.....or have they? They have demons of their own to deal with and, in a riot of love triangles, deaths, ludicrous card games and mistaken identities, who is the 'real' Inspector Hound? Moreover, how does he make it through the fog, and whose is the body on stage?

'*A Separate Peace*' is set in a nursing home late at night. John Brown turns up to book himself in, despite being perfectly well. He is willing to pay in cash for residency, but can he be allowed to stay, and what is his real secret? Where did he get all that money from? Is he dangerous andwhy is he here?

Performances are at Diss Corn Hall (19th), Seagull Theatre, Lowestoft (20th), The Cut, Halesworth (21st), Chapel Hall Arts, Fressingfield (26th), Fisher Theatre, Bungay (27th) and Wingfield Barns (28th)

All performances start at 7.30pm, tickets are £13 and £7 (students)

For booking details and further information www.roughcast.co.uk or tel 01379 586745



HALESWORTH ANGEL BOWLS CLUB

Bowls – the sport of Kings – Part 2

Charles II helped draw up Bowls Laws 300 years ago. And now we have Charles III on the throne! I wonder if he knows that his forefather put down his own bowling green at Windsor Castle in 1663? In fact, his love of the game almost led to an early death. After escaping in disguise from his defeat at the Battle of Worcester he tarried to watch a game near Bristol but felt he was being watched by a rebel so quickly made his exit.

Some of the laws of bowls today are based on a set he drew up. For example, his rule 1 states *“The party who hath the highest die shall lead the jack, keeping his foot on the trig (the equivalent of our mat) which must be placed at least one yard from the verge of the green. No cast shall be less than 30 yards”*. Also, he says *“If the jack be bowled off the green there shall be fresh cast and the same party again lead”*. There were 20 rules in all and the last of them read: *“Keep your temper! And remember he who plays bowls must take rubbers”* meaning that hobnailed boots aren't allowed on the green!

If Charles III wishes to play he would be welcome, as are you, to our two Open Days on **Saturday 25 April** and **Saturday 2 May**.

Everyone, with or without experience is welcome. We will look after you.

We are happy to tell you that we have been given financial support for a few of our initiatives with a grant from the Pargiter Trust, whose mission is to ensure older people have the support they need to maintain independence and live healthy. We're good at doing that!

We are concerned though, that the majority of our members are OAPs so we are also looking to spread the word to primary school aged children. 20 years ago Dr. Jean McHeath successfully involve Halesworth children in the sport. We are giving kits to Edgar Sewter and Holton St. Peter that will introduce pupils to the sport. We hope that come the end of summer they will compete against each other on our green. Halesworth Town Council are supporting us in this venture.

Finally, you will appreciate that the heart of any bowling club lies in its green and to keep it healthy we need a good irrigation system. Ours is over 25 years old and needs refurbishing. We are grateful to the Country Fair Trust, run by Heveningham Hall, for supporting this.

HALESWORTH DEMENTIA CARERS' FUND

Halesworth Dementia Carers' Fund (HDCF) is thrilled and deeply grateful to announce that we have been awarded a generous £20,000 grant from the Heveningham Hall Country Fair Trust, whose continued support is making an extraordinary difference to families across our community who are living with dementia.

This significant funding will enable us to expand and strengthen our services, ensuring that people affected by memory loss throughout Halesworth and the surrounding villages can access support, meaningful activities, and vital respite care.

The grant will directly contribute towards the running of our Friday Day Centre at the Patrick Stead building, a safe, welcoming and stimulating space where people living with dementia can enjoy companionship, engaging activities, and freshly prepared lunches, while their carers are able to rest, recharge, or simply take some much-needed time for themselves.

It will also help sustain our wider programme of weekly groups and services, including our Memory Café, Singing with Friends, carers' support groups and in-home respite care with trained dementia carers.

Together, these services reduce isolation, build confidence, and provide reassurance and continuity at every stage of the dementia journey.

As a small, independent charity run by volunteers, support from organisations such as the Heveningham Hall Country Fair Trust is essential to everything we do. Everyone at HDCF, our members, carers, volunteers and trustees, extends heartfelt thanks to the Heveningham Hall Country Fair Trust.

For more information about Halesworth Dementia Carers' Fund visit: www.halesworthdementia.co.uk

This issue was designed, printed & published by Leiston Press.

Halesworth Hoot is your free local paper, 2000 copies are printed every month.

We distribute the magazines door to door and to many varied outlets. The next issue will be published on Wednesday 1st April copy deadline is 14th March - but the earlier the better to ensure inclusion. Contacts/Advertisers/Editorial: Louise Gissing at Leiston Press, Unit 1b Masterlord Industrial Estate, Station Road, Leiston, IP16 4JD

lou@tidecollection.com Tel 01728 833003

Reports, press releases; letters and other editorial contributions with news value are all welcome but are accepted on the understanding that there is no guarantee of inclusion and that they will be selected and edited at the editor's discretion.

PROJECT UPDATE

MARCH 2026

We thank you for your patience during the recent weekend A12 closures

These have enabled important works on drainage and kerb alignments for the roundabouts that are being constructed along the A12.

We are on schedule to open them in early April, and whilst the works will not be fully complete, this will improve the traffic flow and the safety of the roads at these important junctions. Once the full work on the structure of the roundabouts is complete, the community will start to see traffic management in the immediate areas reduced. Later in the year landscaping and planting of flora will begin.

Both the Southern Park and Ride (Wickham Market) and Northern Park and Ride (Darsham) will be opening in phases with full openings due in late summer.

The roundabout that links the A12 to the Darsham Park and Ride is being linked to the A12 in phases. The bottom of the roundabout will be connected at the end of February and fully operational by the end of March. The access road to the Park and Ride at Wickham Market is due to open in March. Sizewell C workers are being allocated parking space, which will alleviate local roads.

Our bus fleet is increasing and will be transporting workers to and from the Park and Rides, using the A12 and B1122.

Improvements to the Saxmundham to Leiston rail line continue, with construction of the branch line to the Temporary Construction Area continuing at pace.

Level crossing improvements and construction will require small road closures, you can see these on the Sizewell C Works Tracker. Engineering trains will start running along the line from early March.

During March the temporary Main Bulk Import Facility (MBIF) will continue to be constructed. The MBIF will extend approximately 500 metres from the Main

Construction Site into the North Sea, supporting our strategy to deliver 60% of construction materials by rail and sea. A jack-up barge has arrived to facilitate marine works for the jetty. Whilst construction on the beach end is carried out, there will be weekday beach closures at the northern end of the construction site. The closures will be lifted from 06:00 Saturday to 22:00 Sunday. The footpath will fully reopen once construction progresses into the North Sea. We anticipate this work will be complete by the end of March 2026 and will keep you informed of progress.

Thank you for your patience as we work towards the completion of many of the road schemes and as always if you need to speak to us, please contact us via the **FREEPHONE 0800 197 6102***.

FORUM

SCHEDULE

Forum timings

2026 | 18:00 - 20:00
(Arrival from 17:45)

Southern Transport Forum

Wed 4 March

Stratford St Andrew
Riverside Centre

Community Forum

Thurs 19 March

Sizewell Sports
and Social Club

For more information and for more forum dates visit [sizewellc.com/community/forums](https://www.sizewellc.com/community/forums)

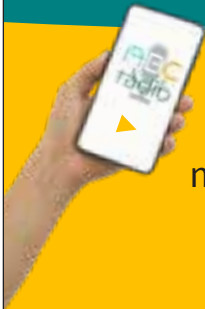
*Calls to 0800 numbers are free from UK landlines. Call costs from mobile and international numbers may vary.

VISIT THE WORKS
TRACKER SITE



Sizewell C
The power of good for Britain

Hello Halesworth



We are your local community radio station, broadcasting online to bring you a varied mix of music programmes, stories and information about what's on in our area.

Have you discovered us yet?



Listen online at: www.abcradio.co.uk



via the app and on Alexa

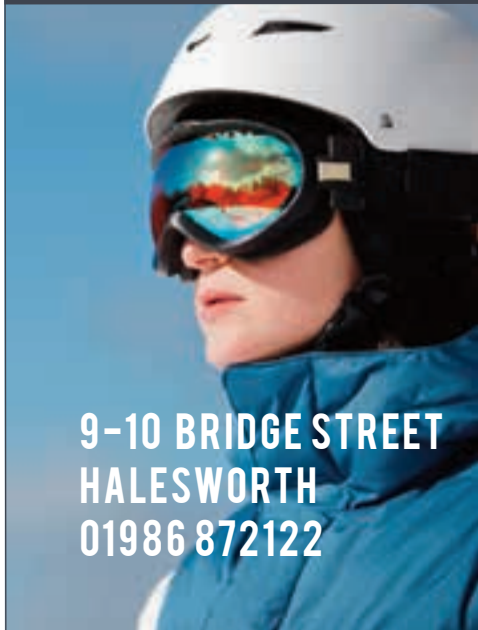


CECILAMEY.CO.UK

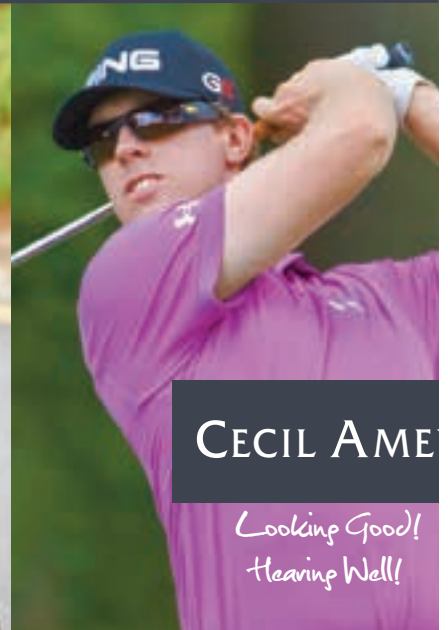


HIGHER, FASTER, FURTHER!

Prescription Sports Glasses and Sunglasses



9-10 BRIDGE STREET
HALESWORTH
01986 872122



CECIL AMEY

*Looking Good!
Hearing Well!*



ALLVAC

SERVICE & REPAIR
KIRBY & DYSON SPECIALIST

HAVE YOUR VACUUM CLEANER
COLLECTED FULLY SERVICED AND
RETURNED AT YOUR CONVENIENCE FOR

£35

ALL MAKES AND MODELS

PAUL LAYTON
01379 871095 OR 07866 549642

A1 Carpets ^{4U}

By Gary Burden

For the complete A1 Home Selection Service

Carpets, Vinyl & Luxury Vinyl Tiles
Professional, reliable and competitive
Save ££££'s - We will beat any genuine retailer quote!

Tel: 01728 604396 Mob: 07419 375720
www.a1carpets4u.co.uk

