

HEATHLANDS

NEWS

Issue 1

Blofield Heath, Pedham and Hemblington

April 2025

Free



HEATHLANDS

A warm welcome to our first edition of Heathlands News! Read on for:

- Heathlands Social Club & Community Centre updates
- News from groups in our local area
- Useful local business information

Welcome from Heathlands Community Centre Chair

Welcome to the first edition of Heathlands News!

Members of the Heathlands community have been concerned for some time about the future of Focal Point.


Last month's was marked clearly as the "Final Issue", with no indication of the future.

Heathlands and its community benefits from a Parish magazine to advertise current events, provide information to the community and to bring revenue to Heathlands, which is a fundamental and integral part of the village.


Focal Point was started originally by Heathlands in the '70s, and therefore we felt it should be carried on in a new re-branded format which will continue to give focus on forthcoming events and news surrounding the Parishes of Blofield Heath, Hemblington & Pedham.

Whilst news and events will also continue through Facebook, we feel that with your help and the continued support of all our advertisers and users of Heathlands, we can continue to make this important contribution to village life work, going forward together.

Claire Norton - Chair of Heathlands Management Committee




 heathlandscommunitycentre.org.uk
facebook.com/heathlands.socialclub

 Heathlands News editor: news@heathlandscommunitycentre.org.uk
For general Heathlands enquires: jill.heathlands@yahoo.co.uk



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Heathlands Community Centre

Dates for your diary!

Monday 7th April 6:00pm - Heathlands Social Club Committee meeting

Tuesday 8th April 7:30pm - Heathlands Management Committee meeting

Sunday 13th April 9:00am - Blofield Heath Garage Sale

Join us for our annual village garage sale! Maps will be on sale from 9am at Heathlands. Garages open from 9am till 1pm. To get your place on the map, please complete the form on the back page, and return the form and £5 contribution to 58 Mill Road to get your place on the map! Any questions, please contact Jill on 01603 714164.

Tuesday 15th April 2:00pm - Tea & Chat

Enjoy our lovely cakes, a prize raffle and a cuppa! In the main hall.

Sunday 4th May 2:00pm - VE/VJ Day Celebrations

Big Band playing from 3-4pm. Tea and cake will be available, and the bar will be open. If you have any memorabilia that you'd be willing to loan for us to show on the day, it would be much appreciated. Please contact Claire Norton on 01603 713101.

Our next bingo dates are Friday 11th April and Friday 25th April, eyes down at 7:30pm. Cash prizes and a raffle!

Many thanks to everyone that attended our jumble sale - we raised a brilliant profit of £553.



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Welcome from Heathlands Social Club Chairman

Welcome all to our first edition of Heathlands News! This is a double first as this is also my first month as the new chairman of Heathlands Social Club and I'm very much looking forward to working with the rest of the committee, volunteers, staff, members and wider community to look for ways to further develop the club even more. A few things to mention:

- We should have a new chalkboard arriving soon which will help advertise events we have planned for the coming month. Keep an eye out for it.
- Our new bar quiz was popular last month and we will be continuing with it monthly. Let us know if you'd like to enter a team - spaces are limited.
- We have some music organised for the bar soon, details to follow.
- We're looking at Easter opening hours and updates will be put on the chalkboard, Facebook and website.
- We have a number of other ideas and suggestions which were raised at the recent AGM and we are working through these and will update soon.

If you're a member who uses the club regularly, a member who hasn't been for a while or somebody who has never been, we'd really appreciate your views:

- Would you like to see different opening hours?
- What other events would you like to see at the Social Club, either in the hall or bar?
- What other drinks or facilities would you like to see in the club bar?

Please do drop in and speak to one of us, complete a questionnaire available in the bar or e-mail jill.heathlands@yahoo.co.uk.

Paul Grainger - Chair of Heathlands Social Club

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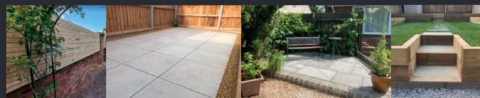
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Heathlands Social Club

Your club is open from Tuesday through to Sunday - come and join us!

We usually have three ales on tap from various local breweries (currently Lacons Encore, Grain Best & Woodfordes Great Eastern) plus Lagers (Birra Moretti, Stella Artois, Carlsberg), Guinness, Woodfordes Adder, Lacons LGR and Camden Pale Ale. We also have lots of wines, spirits, soft drinks and snacks.

Members benefit from cheaper bar prices. New memberships are always welcome and forms are available in the Bar.

Opening Hours:

Tuesday - Thursday, doors open 7:30pm

Friday - doors open 4:30pm

Saturday - doors open 5:30pm

Sunday - doors open 2pm

Our second bar quiz was very successful with the next one on Thursday 10th April, 7.30pm for 8.00pm start. Entry is free, max six people per team. First prize is a round of drinks, plus there's a raffle. At time of writing, we have four confirmed teams with room for another seven, please let us know if you'd like to book a slot.

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Village Updates

WEA Blofield branch

Many people enrolled for and thoroughly enjoyed the “History of Art in 100 Paintings” course held at The Blofield Court House during March. The branch intends to hold a further course in the autumn. Details of the course will be publicised in the usual local outlets and on the WEA website: www.wea.org.uk Hope to see you there!

The Friends of All Saints Church, Hemblington

What a great deal of fun was had at the Music Quiz at Heathlands in March. Many thanks to David Bryant for organising all the rounds and to all who came along and took part. The profits from the evening were donated to the Friends fund, to help care for the fabric of the church.

Sunday 13th April – the village garage sale: we will have a pitch at the Bird in Hand on Mill Road (grateful thanks to Mr & Mrs Norton). If you have any items you think will sell to help the church repair funds, please contact Catherine 01603 270360 or Jennifer on 01603 716970 to arrange collection. Alternatively, items can be left in the porch of No. 1 High House Lane, Blofield Heath. Thank you.

Work has been done over the past few weeks to ensure the churchyard is accessible and safe for visitors, whilst continuing to ensure it is also a haven for wildlife. This will be celebrated during Great Big Green Week in June, with a free illustrated talk about the local wildlife and a community birdwatch for one hour. More details soon.

If you would like to know more about the activities of the Friends group, please contact the secretary on 01603 715804.

Dates for our upcoming Make & Mardle sessions are:

Tuesday 15th April, Thursday 22nd May, Thursday 19th June from 10am to 12 noon at the back of All Saints Church Hemblington.

Come along for coffee, cake, chat and optional craft - everyone will be most welcome.

For more information, call Catherine on 01603 270360.

Keep Blofield Special

Keep Blofield Special are a small group of volunteers who like to keep our villages looking reasonably free of litter. We meet monthly for about an hour's litter-picking. Litter-picks for April take place on:

Monday 7th April, meet at Heathlands, Blofield Heath at 9.30am

Monday 14th April, meet at the Old Court House, Blofield at 9.30am

Anyone is welcome to join us, there is never a shortage of litter unfortunately!

Blofield and District Gardening Club

Thanks to all who came to the Club's AGM in March. Lots of interesting talks to look forward to, and of course the Annual Summer Show on 12th July. Membership subscriptions will be due at meetings from April onwards. £10 per person please in an envelope with your name, address and telephone number on it. You will be asked to complete a form confirming whether you wish to receive information from the club via email.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday evening, 9th April (7:30 pm) at The Margaret Harker Hall in Blofield. We are very pleased to welcome Simon White from Peter Beales Roses, Attleborough, to speak about "Highlights of Chelsea and Hampton Court Shows". The company has very successfully competed at these important events, and Simon will discuss and illustrate their award-winning entries. The members' competition will be "3 spring flowers in a vase".

The May meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, 14th May, when Sarah Hammond will be discussing "English Peonies". The members' competition will be "A stem of a flowering shrub". On Saturday morning, 24th May (10 am - 12 noon) the Club will hold a Plant Sale at Blofield Church. Do come along to help fill up the gaps in your garden - and enjoy refreshments too.

All very welcome to our meetings – members free, visitors £2.50 which includes light refreshment. Enquiries to 01603 715804.

Website: www.blofieldgardeningclub.org.uk



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Blofield Heath Women's Institute

On Tuesday 11th March 2025, Blofield Heath held its March WI meeting.

The scheduled speaker unfortunately had to cancel due to illness. At very short notice, our Committee member, Sheila, who organises our speakers, stepped up quickly and organised Frank Hume. Frank gave a very interesting talk entitled Murder in the family. This true story is about Dr. Crippen, who allegedly murdered his wife. Where the family connection comes in is Frank's Great Aunt, a lady called Ida May Kirkham whose stage name was Melinda May and worked with Dr. Crippen's wife in the theatre. A fascinating story not only in words, but in photographs too. I won't spoil the true ending to the murder as it will spoil it for those readers who do not know it. The afternoon finished off nicely with refreshments and delicious cakes and savouries.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 8th April 2025, which is the 60th Birthday of Blofield Heath WI, where we will be entertained by Jane Bishop, who will tell us all about her life as a Bluebell Girl.

Join our 50/50 lottery at Heathlands!

A great way to have fun and support Heathlands.

We currently have 158 members, generating a pot of £79 per month. 50% goes towards Heathlands, 5% goes towards the Christmas draw and 45% is paid out in the monthly prize draw.

Ask for more details inside the Social Club!



Our February winners:

N Newstead - £19.75

Ben Gardner - £11.85

Russell Hill - £3.95



Thank you for reading our first edition! Many thanks to our delivery teams and everyone involved. Adverts start at £15, with revenue going towards the production of this newsletter. Please send submissions and adverts to news@heathlandscommunitycentre.org.uk by the 12th of each month. Submissions are at the discretion of the editor and subject to space available.

Heathlands Village Garage Sale Application Form

On Sunday 13th April there will be a 'Village Garage Sale' around Blofield Heath, Pedham and Hemblington. Map and refreshments available from Heathlands. If you would like to be included on the map please fill in this form and return it with £5 entry fee.

Name _____

Address _____

Please return to: 58 Mill Road, Blofield Heath, NR13 4QS, enclosing £5