

HEATHLANDS

NEWS



Your community newsletter

Cover: The Two Friends pub, Blofield Heath, in the early 20th century

Issue 9

December 2025

Blofield Heath, Pedham, Hemblington, Little & Great Plumstead

Free

Merry Christmas!

We've been delivering you Heathlands News since April and hope that you've found it a useful resource to keep you up to date on village life. Many thanks to all our advertisers and contributors - we couldn't have done it without you!

We'll be printing January's issue of Heathlands News in the new year - please note our final submission date is the 5th December, to account for the Christmas period.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a happy new year from everyone at Heathlands.

Ben Garrod – Heathlands News Editor



What events would you be interested in attending at Heathlands? Please complete our questionnaire to help shape our upcoming events. Your responses are anonymous.

Scan or go to tinyurl.com/heathlandsevents

Hire Heathlands for any occasion!

Perfect for Wedding Receptions, Special Occasion Celebrations, Sports, Music or Business Meetings. Call Jill on 07947881969 for details.



Social Club Regular Opening Hours

Check our Facebook page/website for latest updates



Tuesday – doors open 7.30pm

Thursday – doors open 7.30pm

Saturday – doors open 5.30pm

Wednesday – doors open 4.30pm

Friday – doors open 4.30pm

Sunday – doors open 2pm



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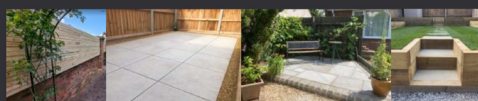
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Heathlands Social Club

Welcome to Heathlands Social Club! Members benefit from cheaper bar prices, and guests are always welcome to visit. Last chance to get our current club membership prices before the end of the year: £7.00 family, £4.00 single.

Come and join us!

Sky Sports throughout the week on our two TVs - check our Facebook for listings.

I'm pleased to let you know that we have finalised our Christmas opening hours for the bar and you'll see these in this edition of the News. We look forward to seeing you over the festive period.

Our recent one-off reduction on ales was very successful and you have asked if we can do this again. The good news is that we are going to repeat it, but this time, all draught ales, lagers, cider and Guinness will be reduced to £3 per pint (£1.50 per half pint) for a whole week from Tuesday 2nd December to Sunday 7th December inclusive (subject to availability and while stocks last) as a thank you for your ongoing support. I do hope you'll come along and make the most of this fantastic offer.

I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Paul Grainger – Chairman Heathlands Social Club

Heathlands Christmas & New Year Opening Hours 2025

Tuesday 23 December – 7.30pm to 10pm
Wednesday 24 December (Christmas Eve) – 3pm to 8pm
Thursday 25 December (Christmas Day) – 12pm to 2pm
Friday 26 December (Boxing Day) – Closed
Saturday 27 December – 5.30pm to 11pm
Sunday 28 December – 2pm to 6pm
Monday 29 December to Wednesday 1 January – Closed

All other dates follow our normal opening hours.

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Updates from Heathlands Community Centre

Community Fundraising Update

A big thank you to everyone who helped with or attended our recent jumble sale, which raised £660.

We have also received £962 from the Bottle Bank. This support is greatly appreciated, especially as Heathlands has recently needed a new boiler for the main hall.

Please continue to use the Bottle Banks, and remember the Textile Bin is next to them.

Heathlands Car Park

Heathlands Management Committee are very pleased to confirm that all the works to build the new car park are now completed, including all the new fencing and we would like to thank Ovamill Ltd for all their help with this project.

A Polite Reminder

Please clean up after your dogs. Several incidents have been reported along Mill Road and Blofield Corner Road, making the route difficult for children walking to school. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bingo at Heathlands

December bingo sessions will be held on Friday 5th December (Christmas Bingo) and Friday 19th December. We return in the New Year on Friday 2nd January 2026. Eyes down 7.30pm.

We also hope to run another afternoon bingo on Friday 28th November at 2pm. Afternoon bingo is expected to continue next year, starting Friday 9th January at 2pm. For more details please call 01603 714164.

Tea and Chat

Join us on Tuesday 2nd December, 2–4pm, for an afternoon of refreshments, a raffle and friendly company.

The next session after Christmas will be on Tuesday 20th January, 2–4pm. Everyone is welcome – feel free to bring a friend.

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Upcoming Events at Heathlands

Crib Night

Friendly crib evenings take place every Tuesday in the Social Club at 8pm. It's a relaxed evening, open to all.

Upcoming Meetings

The next Heathlands Social Club meeting is 7pm on Monday 1st December and the Heathlands Management Committee meeting is 7.30pm on Tuesday 2nd December. Please contact before attending.

Short Mat Bowls

Short Mat Bowls is held in the main hall every Thursday at 7.45pm. A friendly activity open to all abilities.

60s Night

The December 60s Night by The Offenders is now sold out.

Book Club

Our new Book Club is proving very popular. The next meeting is on Thursday 11th December at 7.30pm in the Committee Room. The group meets once a month and new members are always welcome.

Jumble Sale

The next Heathlands Jumble Sale will be held on Saturday 17th January 2026 – a perfect chance for a clear-out after Christmas.

Pilates with Jo Buckley

Tuesdays: 9.25am – 10.25am for improvers *and* 10.30am – 11.30am for beginners
Thursdays: 9.15am – 10.15am for improvers *and* 10.20am – 11.20am for beginners

For more information email Jo on jopilatesyoga.co.uk or text 07554 780591.



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Upcoming Events at Heathlands

Yoga with Lisa Angel

Wednesday mornings 10am-11am. £10 drop in or £8 when booking a block of six classes. Bring your own mat. For more information contact Jill from Heathlands on 01603 714164.

Chair Yoga

Join us for chair yoga at Heathlands, on Wednesdays 11am – 12pm. For more information, please call Jill from Heathlands on 01603 714164.

Fi Fitness

Friday mornings: 9.15am – Legs, bums, tums (a workout to tighten those wobbly bits and to make you feel good); 10.15am – Forever Fit (a low impact, slow workout for those wanting to remain mobile and independent longer). For more information contact fifitnessnorwich@gmail.com.

Broadbeat Choir

We're open to all abilities and meet at Heathlands on Wednesday afternoons from 1.30pm, finishing at 3pm which is an ideal time if you need to collect children from school.

If you'd like to give us a try contact Sandra on 07899 676560 or just pop in. You'll get two free sessions then it's £7 when you come along.

Sunday Afternoon Soul at Heathlands Sunday 15th February 2026 1pm – 6pm

With free entry, a large dance floor and a bar, don't miss this afternoon of traditional northern soul music.

In charge will be former Backstreet Soul Club DJs Paul Brister and Terry Starling assisted by Willow T (supported by warm-up DJs Ivan and Nick).

Christmas Bar Quiz

Join us for our Christmas Bar Quiz at Heathlands. On Thursday 18th December, 7:30pm. Free entry, max six per team.

STREET DANCE CLASSES
MONDAYS AT HEATHLANDS BLOFIELD HEATH



Mini street 4-6yrs
Junior street 7-10yrs
Senior street 11-16yrs

Book a trial or join now!

Starting from Monday 8th September

To book a trial please email dancingdimensionsuk@gmail.com

dancingdimensions.co.uk

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Wednesdays 5.45pm till 6.30pm

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Our Local Churches

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS, HEMBLINGTON

Details of Hemblington's Christmas services are included in the poster enclosed with this issue of Heathlands News and on the church website. The candlelit carol service will be held at 4pm on Sunday 14th December.

Once the winter is nearing its end, the Friends will help to organise a churchyard working party, so please keep a look out for the details. Although we will not be holding a formal birdwatch at the church during the RSPB's Garden birdwatch weekend in January, we will be continuing to organise a one-hour wildlife survey each month. Please let the secretary know if you are interested in joining in with this.

Please also think about becoming a Friend of the church. The group helps to keep the building watertight and in good condition plus supports the work in keeping the churchyard as a wildlife haven. Whether you visit the churchyard to remember family or friends, enjoy the peacefulness of the church and churchyard, or are fascinated by the wall painting and other pre-Reformation architecture, we would welcome your support.

Membership is just £10 per year and would mean a lot to the whole team. With all good wishes for the Festive Season, the Friends Committee.

Friends' Secretary - Tel: 01603 715804, Email: hemblington@gmail.com

Website: hemblingtonchurch.org.uk

All Saints Church, Church Lane, Hemblington near Blofield NR13 4EF

BLOFIELD CHURCH

Blofield Church presents a Christmas concert

Join us for a Christmas Concert by Mundesley Community Choir on Sunday December 7th at 3pm, bringing a Christmas repertoire and some audience participation. Tickets are £10 at the door, including afternoon tea (payable by card or cash).

A quiz for winter evenings

A light-hearted quiz for you, your family & friends to enjoy. Why not enclose one with a Christmas card?

Quiz £2 ~ prize £20. Proceeds to Blofield Church. Available from the side porch at The White House, The Street, Blofield and Blofield Church during services and events.

Keep up to date on blofieldchurch.org.uk or find Friends of Blofield Church on Facebook.

Our Local Churches

BLOFIELD HEATH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Blofield Heath WI met on 14th October 2025 and enjoyed an informative talk from two Horsey Seals volunteers, covering everything from mating to pupping. Members were very engaged, and many donated unused towels, which were gratefully recieved. Our AGM on 11th November was followed by a Christmas cookery demonstration.

There is no December meeting at Heathlands, but a Christmas lunch will be held at The Hotel Wroxham. Our next full meeting is Tuesday 13th January 2026. The Committee and members wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

MELODY MEMORIES CAFE - SUPPORTED BY PLAYING FOR CAKE

Come sing for pleasure in a relaxed setting, have a cuppa and make new friends. All welcome to this dementia-friendly event. Free entry, donations kindly received.

2.30pm – 4pm at Blofield Courthouse on the last Thursday of the month (mostly):
27th November, 18th December and 29th January.

Contact Suzanne on 01603 716268 or email zanniewilliams@gmail.com.

KEEP BLOFIELD SPECIAL

We're a small volunteer group helping keep our villages tidy with monthly one-hour litter-picks. December and January dates are:

- Monday 1st December, 9.30am at Heathlands, Blofield Heath
- Monday 8th December, 9.30am at the Old Court House, Blofield

As the year ends, we thank walkers, dog-walkers and everyone who picks up litter informally. Wishing you a peaceful Christmas and New Year.



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Latest from our local groups

WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION BLOFIELD BRANCH

The WEA Blofield branch is pleased to confirm that a slightly different course format has been agreed for a six-week course starting in January 2026. "Why do we say that?" is the intriguing title of the course to be led by Janet Wilson. It will be held at Blofield Court House but, instead of the tutor being there in person, she will appear 'on the big screen' and we will still be able to speak with her.

The course will run on Tuesday mornings starting 13th January 2026 (10am - 12 noon). Further information and enrolment are available on the WEA website: wea.org.uk. The course reference number is Q00024509. The cost for the six-week course is £96 per person.

The course format is called 'Hybrid' by the WEA and it allows a range of courses to be offered to rural branches where there are few tutors available in their area. Do, please, come along and try this course. Your branch volunteers will be present to ensure all goes as smoothly as possible, and we'll all have a chat over coffee as usual.

Local contact for general information - email: blofield.branch@wea.ac.uk or phone 01603 537029.

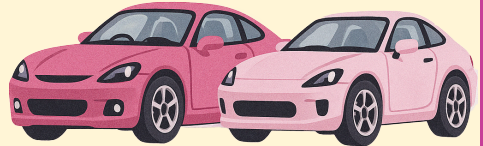
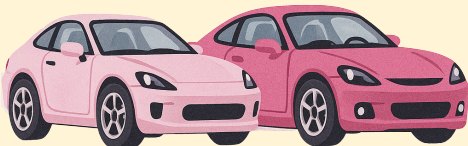
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Heathfield Cars Blofield Heath

Latest from our local groups

HEMBLINGTON CHURCH MAKE AND MARDLE

We're taking a break in December. Our next meetings are Tuesday 27th January and Thursday 26th February at Gables Farmhouse, Hemblington Hall Road, from 10am to 12 noon. The usual format applies: coffee, cake, chat and optional craft. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, call Catherine on 01603 270360.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SOUTH WALSHAM - CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Join us at St. Mary's Church in South Walsham for our annual Christmas Tree Festival, from Sunday 7th December until Monday 5th January. The church is open daily from 10am till 4pm. A wonderful display of different trees representing local organisations.

For information contact Sue Hitchcock on 01603 270212 or email suehitchcock6@gmail.com.

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BLOFIELD AND DISTRICT CONSERVATION GROUP

BADCOG is a volunteer group managing 14 wildlife sites in and around Blofield. Without regular work the habitats would decline and become less accessible.

We hold fortnightly Saturday work parties from 10:30am to 1pm. Everyone is welcome, whether to join in or simply see what we do.

Upcoming dates:

- 6th December – Walsham Fen
- 20th December – Railway Wood
- 3rd January 2026 – Lingwood Pond

For updates, visit badcog.co.uk. Friday evening talks resume in January 2026.

BLOFIELD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

The Club is now hibernating until our next meeting on Wednesday evening, 11th March 2026. These quieter months are a good time to enjoy early bulbs, plan spring planting, or rethink parts of your garden. If you have ideas for future talks or topics, please share them via our website: blofieldgardeningclub.org.uk. The Club supports all aspects of gardening, indoors included. Wishing you all the best for the Festive Season, the Blofield & District Gardening Club committee.

Join our 50/50 lottery at Heathlands!

Only £6 a year to enter!



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 Heathlands' Social Club.

October Winners: Jo Flood - £17.75, Sarah Forster - £10.65, David Carver - £3.55

November Winners: Alan Lockwood - £17.75, Michael Mcmanus - £10.65, James Porter - £3.55

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

 **Contact Ben Garrod, Heathlands News editor:** news@heathlandscommunitycentre.org.uk
Contact Jill Willott for general Heathlands enquiries: jill.heathlands@yahoo.co.uk

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(Subject to the discretion of the editor and available space.)

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