

All about

Holton St Mary

2026 update

Holton St Mary is a small village in terms of size, but it has always had a big heart. There is always loads going on and every organisation loves to see new faces. So if you're a new arrival or if you've been here for years, here's an updated list of what's going on and who to contact if you need more information.

Our monthly village magazine is called '**The Quartet**' and serves four villages locally. It contains details of local traders, news about social stuff that is coming up and public announcements.

Editors; Anne Priestley and Jane Lelliott
quarteteditor@hotmail.co.uk

There is also a (closed) **Village Facebook page** called "Holton St Mary Group" and there are questions you need to answer to be admitted! But it's very useful for knowing what's going on.



The Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Faye Hall
clerk@holtonstmary-pc.gov.uk
Chairman; Oliver Greene.

The Parish Council oversee public spaces like Church Square and are the voice of the village in planning and local government issues.

Contact the clerk if you would like to be involved.



*Link to the
Parish
Council
Website*

The Mobile Library bus stops every 4 weeks on Tuesdays at Church Square - 9.30-9.45 a.m.

Feb 17, Mar 17, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 7 etc.



Dog walkers - The Village Dog Poo Bin is just behind the letterbox in Church Square!



The Parish Church

There has been a church in Holton St Mary since at least the 13th century, though the building may well be on the site of much older ruins.

St Mary's is part of the Higham, Holton St Mary, Raydon and Stratford St Mary Benefice. We worship as a community with our rota containing at least one service a month in each parish with occasional evening services mainly in the summer months. Services in St Mary's Church, Holton St Mary, usually take place on the third Sunday of the month at 10.00 am. Please see our main noticeboard or the Quartet for current services, at which you are always welcome.

Benefice Priest in charge:
Rev. Manette Crossman
revmcrossman@gmail.com.

Churchwardens:
Paul Torrington
pgtorrington@hotmail.com/07711093111
Richard Noel
noel@btinternet.com

Your Parish Church is here for you for the occasional offices like Weddings and Baptisms and when you need to arrange a loved one's funeral. Please get in touch with Rev'd Manette or with one of church wardens if you have any questions or if we can help in any way.

More information is on our benefice website with this link



The Village Hall

Our village hall masquerades as a bungalow, but is a lovely place to hire out for events and meet friends.

The village **defibrillator** can be found on the front of the building.

Village Hall Committee - Secretary; Sally Thurlow hsmvhall@gmail.com 07721 625313. Contact her in the first instance if you would like to book the hall for an event.

there's a lot going on in the Village Hall, including the following:

Holton St Mary Social Club are very active in the village. Come down for a drink in the Village Hall on Fridays from 5.30pm. Check the Quartet HSM Pages for forthcoming events such as bonfire night, Secretary; Sally Longmate secretaryholtonsmc@gmail.com

First Friday of the Month Lunch Club - (12.30-2pm in Village Hall) A very well priced meal and some company - what could be better! Organisers; Sally Thurlow salthurlow@gmail.com 07721625313 and Frances Torrington familytorrington@btinternet.com 07711080658

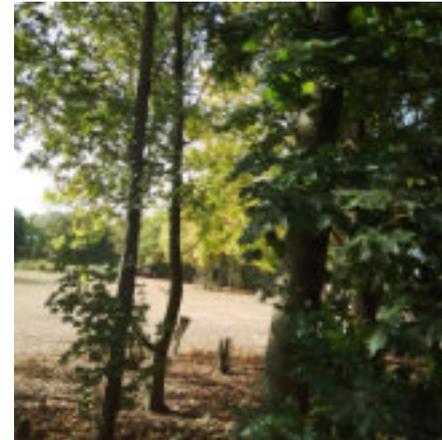
Do come and join in, meet your fellow villagers and have a good chat over a light lunch. Please let Sally or Frances know so they can make sure they cater for you.

Slow Stitch - is an informal drop in group that meets every third Thursday in the village hall in the winter months and in the cabin in the Well Piece during the summer months. 2pm -4pm. Whether you are a beginner or have been stitching for many years, you are all very welcome. We are happy to help repair items and welcome donations of wool and fabric. Organiser; Jeanette Appleton jeanetteappleton@hotmail.com 07768 418942

The Millennium Green Trust

A fantastic resource for our village, the Millennium Green is accessed from the back of Church Square. It's an open space for all of us to enjoy. There is a little library and some play opportunities for children as well as picnic benches and somewhere to walk your dog. We run a Century Culb draw every month to fund expenses on the Green. Contact Marjorie to be included in the chance to win cash prizes.

Trustees - Secretary; Marjorie Haste marjorie.haste@gmail.com 07855 691674



Other things that happen regularly around the village are:

Holton St Mary Womens' Book Club meets first Thursday, monthly. Organiser; Liz Norton liznorton1973@gmail.com

Green Gym (horticultural tidy ups around the village monthly) meets in Church Square every 1st Saturday of the month Organiser; Richard Appleton richardappleton55@hotmail.co.uk

Litter Picking team – We pick litter as and when we find time - there's always plenty to do! Organiser; Richard Appleton richardappleton55@hotmail.co.uk

The Oil Syndicate organises a bulk buy of heating oil a couple of times a year. email Rob - rj-clarke@outlook.com if you want to join. Next order in August/September. There's no obligation to buy, but if you use oil, this is a good way to get the best price.

The Well Piece Community Garden

Sited on a piece of land between the churchyard and Millennium Green, the newly established Community Garden is a great place to meet friends, potter, and maybe do a bit of gardening.

We run a crop swap stall, an Apple Day, Summer BBQ's and we're open every Tuesday morning 10 til 12 for coffee and a natter.

Organisers; Bill and Anne Priestley thewellpiece@hotmail.com

You can also get involved, or find out what's happening, by joining the Whatsapp group here:



Or become a 'Friend' of the Well Piece and join this whatsapp group for information on upcoming events and what goodies you can find on the stall



Village Local History Recorder - Sally Thurlow is our current recorder and keeps details of village events to add to the Suffolk Archive. salthurlow@gmail.com 07721625313

Other Useful links and info

Our District Council is Babergh <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk> (they share things with Mid Suffolk hence web site misleading address) and our elected representative is John Ward <https://baberghmidsuffolk.moderngov.co.uk/mgUserInfo.aspx?UID=164> email john.ward@babergh.gov.uk

We are in **Suffolk**, despite the Colchester postcodes!

Suffolk County Council - they lead on environment, waste, highways and refuse sites. <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk>

Our County Councillor is Georgia Hall <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/councillors-and-elected-representatives/find-your-councillor/georgia-hall/>. Email georgia.hall@suffolk.gov.uk

You can report footpath and road problems yourself (hint; zoom right in on the map to drop your pin in the right place) and find maps of footpaths via this link <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-rights-of-way-in-suffolk/>

Refuse collections

The calendar of collections is via Babergh site <https://www.babergh.gov.uk/waste-services/collection-days/> - usually Mondays unless there has been a public holiday and brown bins (optional and chargeable) are Tuesdays,

Check here - things are changing in May



Recycling centres at Hadleigh or in Manningtree (the latter is Essex) - check if you need to book - here is a link that also contains a leaflet of what you can recycle in your blue bin <https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/where-to-recycle/recycling-centres/suffolk-recycling-centres-booking-page>. All domestic black bin waste is incinerated and separated so that less than 2% goes to landfill

Bottle-banks at East Bergholt School, recycling centres, Magdalen Road Car park in Hadleigh and Manningtree Co-op

Doctors - by default Constable Country Medical Practice (East Bergholt and Capel St Mary surgeries) <https://www.constablecountrymedicalpractice.co.uk> - they have a Facebook page too. The next closest is Hadleigh Medical Centre but they do not (usually) accept HSM residents

Pharmacies - Capel surgery (not weekend), Hadleigh (next to the Medical Centre is open Sun am), Boots in Hadleigh, East Bergholt (closed weekend), Dedham (opposite the Church), Manningtree Boots, Tesco at Copdock

Post Offices - East Bergholt Co-op, Hadleigh and Capel Co-op. **Sorting Office** Manningtree

Water and Sewerage - Anglian Water are the supplier. <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk> They have adopted the mains drainage many are connected to (some are private) you can see current issues locally and sign up to be alerted to known problems (mains pressure, eg) via this link <https://inyourarea.digdat.co.uk/AnglianWater>

Electricity UK Power Networks Contact for power cuts phone 105 or via Twitter or FB <https://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/power-cut/contact-us>

Police Suffolk constabulary we are in Hadleigh neighbourhood <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area/hadleigh>

Hospitals - We are covered by East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust. Normally if referred, you would go to Ipswich Hospital <https://www.esneft.nhs.uk> but it may now be Colchester.

Dentists There are dentists in Capel St Mary (private), Dedham (NHS & Private), Hadleigh x 2 (High St private, Meadows Way NHS & Private) and Manningtree (NHS & private), in addition to Ipswich and Colchester options.