

Hatley Village Association

Update for year ending 31.03.26

The Hatley Village Association continued to be comprised of just three members in the past year. They strove to organise a range of events for the benefit of the Hatley community, including a quiz night, pop up pubs, and social gatherings for Easter, Harvest Festival, and Christmas. The hard work that is involved, including the planning, setting up, hosting and clean up, not to mention the home-made food and refreshments they made available, sadly were not always rewarded by attendance numbers. Therefore, for various reasons, but primarily the waning support for such events, meant that another group of wonderful volunteers have stood down.

Despite recent efforts by Micky Astor to revive a community spirit in Hatley, with the bonfire event in February, and the more recent drinks night held in the Village Hall, with help from Carole Cooper, no new volunteers have come forward to get the HVA going again, and so the onus now falls to individuals to consider hosting one-off events, should they wish to, outside of any formal structure and away from the supervision of the Parish Council.

The HVA has raised significant sums of money over the years, which has helped to finance some much-needed projects, including improvements to the Village Hall. The HVA account has over £1,000 earmarked for improvements to the play area, if needed. The closing balance for the HVA account as at 31st March 2026 was just over £1,900, although a small transfer of funds is due to Hatley St George Church from the Coffee Morning takings.

The absence of the monthly Coffee Mornings will possibly have the greatest impact in time, as it gave everyone, especially the more elderly residents, a chance to meet up and talk, over a warm cuppa and slice of cake. Hopefully someone will come forward to organise future Coffee Mornings, even if only every few months.

A huge well done and thank you to all previous members, for organising so many great events over the years and for all the funds raised for this community, with extra special thanks to the outgoing members in December 2025, being Amy, Sarah, and Steve.

Parish Clerk

In the absence of HVA members.

19.05.26