

Houghton Village News

Annual Report Houghton Annual Parish Assembly 2025

Background

Houghton Village News has existed in its current format since September 2021 and is delivered free to every home in the parish. This is possible through the grants made by The Houghton Community Benefit Fund and Houghton Parish Council and the rates businesses pay to advertise. Advertising rates for 2025 are unchanged from last year, and I do not see a need to increase them for the 2026 season.

Editions

There are 10 editions each year (no January or August editions). These average 60 pages printed full colour on A5 paper.

Content

Each month, there are around 10 regular contributors that provide fresh content for the magazines. This is augmented by reports from village organisations such as All Saints' Church and Houghton Village Hall. We try to vary content through local news stories, local history and local events and welcome ad hoc contributions from parishioners. Fresh content is always welcome, and we rarely turn anything away.

Adverts for charitable events or organisations are placed in the magazine free of charge.

Distribution

We have 12 delivery rounds, each averaging 20 homes. Distribution is made possible by a team of around 20 volunteers who collect magazines from Sandra Harper, who receives the copies from our printer. Deliverers then collect from her home and deliver, usually by the end of the previous month. Without such a band of willing volunteers, the magazine could not exist.

Continuous Improvement

After 4 years, we now have a well-honed process that seems to resonate strongly with the community as most feedback is positive about the value of the magazine. However, we are always keen to improve and make the magazine one which everyone enjoys and wants to engage with. To that end, all suggestions for improvement are keenly accepted.

Acknowledgements, Without Who...

- Our columnists and contributors
- Our Advertisers
- Our Distribution Team
- Editing/Proof Reading Support - Alistair Dougall
- The residents of Houghton & Bossington

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