

|  | History:        |   |
|---|-----------------|---|
|   | Topic:          | Post Office Raiders Strike Twice – 1985   |
|   | Date of Record: | October 2021  |
|   | Author:         | Nicholas Newman   |
|   | Notes:          | The gang who struck at Hargrave and Wickhambrook could be responsible for more than 30 similar raids. |

## Post Office Raiders Strike Twice - 1985

Hargrave an idyllic rural backwater where nothing happens. Not in 1985 when organised crime strikes.

**The following was published in the Bury Free Press on 8th November 1985**

### *Post Office Raiders Strike Twice*

*Suffolk police are hunting a gang who struck at two Post Offices and escaped with a safe containing several hundred pounds.*

*Senior detectives believe that the same gang of professional burglars – who struck at Wickhambrook and Hargrave on Tuesday – could be responsible for carrying out more than 30 raids at village post offices in Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex.*

*At Wickhambrook that was raided only three weeks earlier, the thieves forced a door before escaping with a safe thought to contain several hundred pounds. Telephone wires had been cut and the handset in the kiosk outside had been damaged.*

*About 40 subscribers were cut off as cables dangled from poles outside the post office and general stores.*

*Just a few miles away at Hargrave Post Office, the thieves were unsuccessful. Bury St Edmunds Head Postmaster Mr Alan Munro, told the free press that the raiders had entered the building via a window, but were unable to take anything.*

*Again telephone cables outside the building had been cut and around 15 lines in to Hargrave disconnected. A kiosk a few hundred yards away had also been vandalised.*

*Police are appealing for witnesses who may have seen anything in the Wickhambrook and Hargrave areas suspicious late Monday or early Tuesday.*



The Old Post Office



The Post Office and shop as it used to be.  
Picture courtesy of **Alex & Cheryl Hart**.