



Edition
253



CATFIELD NEWS

Your village magazine

December 2024



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YOU CAN drop your competitions entries and /or ANY correspondence into the CATFIELD NEWS BOX inside the Post Office, Special thanks to Vish & Karthi.

All submissions to be posted no later than the 10th of the month.

Please address your envelope to Catfield News

If you would like to view the Catfield News online

it can be found on the

Parish Council website

<https://catfieldparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

and the Waterside Group website

www.watersidegroup.org.uk

Useful Local Contacts

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The Catfield News is an independent magazine with no affiliation to the Parish Council, Church or any other body. We are a self funded magazine, produced by a group of volunteers with the income from advertisers paying for the production costs.

Helpful Information

Staithe Surgery Stalham

www.staithesurgery.co.uk 01692 582000

Surgery Hours

Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.30pm

Dispensary Hours

Monday to Friday 8.45am - 5.30pm

Closed for lunch each day 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Ludham Surgery

www.ludhamsurgery.nhs.uk 01692 678611

Surgery Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8.30am - 6.00pm

Wednesday 8.30am - 1.00pm

Dispensary Hours

Monday, Tuesday and Friday 9.00am - 6.00pm

Wednesday 9.00am - 1.00pm

Thursday 8.30am - 6.00pm

Stalham Green Surgery

www.ludhamsurgery.nhs.uk 01692 580880

Surgery Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8.30am - 6.00pm

Thursday 8.30am - 1.00pm

Dispensary Hours

Monday 8.30am - 6.00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9.00am - 6.00pm

Thursday 9.00am - 1.00pm

Local MP

Steffan Aquarone

Steff.aquarone.mp@parliament.uk

02072197585

Local County Councillor

Richard Carey Price

07880791258 (work hours)

Richard.price.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk

Local District Councillors

Kevin Terrance Bayes

kevin.bayes@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Matthew Taylor 07557097597

matthew.taylor@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Local Police

PC Matthew Pritty

Beat Manager

Hoveton Police Stn

Matthew.Pritty@Norfolk.Police.uk

What's on in Catfield

Indoor Cycling

Join us for an invigorating workout in Catfield village hall,
Monday and Thursday evenings 6.45pm to 7.30pm.
Bring a bottle of water and a small towel. You remain in control of your bike so you can set the resistance to the level that's right for you. Then just cycle along to the music as the instructor guides you through the session.

Class costs £6 and pre booking is required.
Contact Jane Turner to book a bike.
M: 079 078 44433 Email: mailjaneturner@yahoo.com

Catfield Village Hall Friday 6th December 10.30 onwards

Come and join us for coffee and cake, a chat in a warm space and perhaps play a game of scrabble, dominoes or rummikub before finishing with a tasty bowl of soup.

This is a free event and all are welcome.
For more information contact Judith on 01692 615807

Catfield Stitching Group Tuesday 10th December 2pm to 4pm in Catfield Village Hall

We are a friendly group of like-minded people, all at different levels of experience. If you, like us, enjoy stitching and sharing creative ideas, we would love you to join us. Please bring your own project (embroidery, knitting, crotchet, patchwork or creative sewing). We have occasional, optional group projects and workshops.

**Please contact Pat Reid 07906 097007
for more information. £2.00 per session.**

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits included.
Free first/taster session.

Catfield Crafters
Wednesday 18th December
1pm to 3pm in Catfield Village Hall

At each meeting members share new ideas and techniques as well as making two card projects. All tools and materials are supplied. The subs for each session are £3.00 which includes refreshments. New members are always welcome.

Contact Jennifer Banham on 01493 740560
for more information

Parish Council Meeting
Catfield Village Hall
Wednesday 18th December, 7.00pm.

Mobile Library
Next visit to Catfield
Tuesday 24th December
Thorn Road 14:45 - 15.05 Village Hall 15.10 - 15.30

Some Christmas event date reminders

Murder Mystery
Who Killed the Director
Saturday 7th December
Catfield Village Hall
See page 17 for more info

Wreath Making Workshop
Tuesday 10th December, 10.00 - 12.30
The Old Rectory Catfield £15 per head.
To book call 07932 191558 or email
catfieldactionteam@gmail.com

Catfield Does Christmas
Saturday 14th December
Catfield Village Hall
See page 18 for more info

Quiz & Curry Night
Catfield Crown,
Tuesday 17th December
See page 17 for full details.

Catfield Community Christmas
Wednesday 25th December, 12.00pm - 4.00pm
Catfield Village Hall
See page 19 for more info



*The Catfield News Team
would like to wish all their readers, contributors
and advertisers
a Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year.
Thank you for your continued support.*

Ladies Swimming Group

Hi, I am Sylvia and I run a ladies Swimming Group
on a Thursday night 6 pm till 7 pm.
I am looking for some ladies to join us.

For more information call Sylvia
On 01692 583151 or 07470655799

**OLD TYME MUSIC HALL
Saturday 8th March 2025
At Catfield Village Hall
In aid of Catfield Church**

My LORDS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

Can you sing, tell a joke, dance or play a musical instrument
and would like to take part in our Music Hall then
please contact : Dianne Fernee on 01692 581409

CATFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS WEDNESDAY 30th OCTOBER

Public Update

- No issues raised

Councillors Bayes and Taylor Update

- The Councillors were unable to attend but Councillor Taylor had submitted a report. The Milestones pest control issue is now with North Norfolk District Council's (NNDC) Environmental Health Department. The Councillors had met with Mr Geoff Lyon, Development Manager at NNDC, to discuss the final conditions for the Store Galore site. These will remain the same as those agreed at the Development Control meeting when the planning permission was approved. The permission with the conditions should be issued by the end of the week. The Councillors had attended, and enjoyed, CAT's recent quiz. They had also purchased a tree pack from Norfolk County Council (NCC) and will donate a few trees to their three parishes. Any suggestions as to where these should be planted would be welcome.

Councillor Price Update

- Councillor Price was unable to attend but he will attend the bus shelter meeting on 1st November.

Planning

Meeting with Steffan Aquarone MP

Councillors Briscoe, Edwards and Harris had attended a meeting with the MP. He had listened to concerns regarding NNDC's planning department and the meeting had been constructive. He had requested further information regarding the section 106 monies for the Milestones site. He had also requested information on the Malthouse Lane site. Councillor Briscoe to draft a response.

Follow-up after meeting with Russell Williams (NNDC)

The questionnaire regarding the performance of NNDC's planning department had been sent to all the parish councils in the NNDC area. A small number of responses had been received. A chasing letter will be sent within three weeks. Councillor Edwards will collate the responses and provide a working draft at the November PC meeting. The full results will then be discussed at the December PC meeting with a view to providing a statement in the new year.

EDP article regarding new housing targets for NNDC's area

The article explained that there had been a revision to the housing targets in NNDC's draft local plan in response to comments made by the inspector. Catfield's quota had been increased to 39. There will now be a further six-week consultation period starting on 6th November. Councillor Briscoe to draft a letter seeking further information on the consultation.

Milestones

No further action required at this stage. Information to be provided to the MP.

Siting of mobile home on land off School Lane/Ludham Road

The mobile home had been moved but the PC are awaiting confirmation from NNDC.

Store Galore – Application for retrospective planning permission

See under Councillors Bayes and Taylor update.

(cont'd)

- **Malthouse Corner, Malthouse Lane, Catfield – Change of Use of the land to a caravan site for single caravan for Gypsy and Traveller Residential Use; hard standing, portacabin and installation of cess pit (part retrospective)**

NNDC had responded to the PC's letter reporting the removal of hedging from the site and the possible creation of an access onto Long Lane. The planning officer stated that he had been told that it was nettles that had been removed. Councillor Edwards to draft a letter reasserting that it was approximately six feet of hedging that had been removed not just nettles.

- **CL/24/1249 – Fenview, 3 Fenside Cottages – Lawful Development Certificate for existing use of land as residential garden**

The applicant is appealing NNDC's decision to refuse the application to the Planning Inspectorate who will issue a Start Date for the appeal. Anyone who objected to the application must be notified within 2 weeks of the Start Date and will be able to make representations. The clerk to write to NNDC asking for an update.

- **PO/24/1589 – Erection of single self-build dwelling (outline with details of access only – all other matters reserved) – Land adjacent to Landes, The Street, Catfield.**

A new application had been submitted because the first application was invalid. There was no change from the first application. The PC would object again on the same grounds.

- **Lea Road Pre-Planning Advice and previous land clearance**

A response had been received from the Forestry Commission stating that the previous land clearance is being reviewed and that a response can be expected in the coming months.

Highways & Road Safety

- **Village Hall Bus Shelter**

NCC Highways had cancelled the previous meeting because of rain. The meeting will now take place on 1st November.

- **Wood Street/ Plumsgate Road/Lodge Road junction safety issues**

A response had been received from Highways who had agreed to install a "Crossroads Ahead" sign. Councillors to submit any suggestions they had regarding the junction prior to the next meeting so that a response could be sent to Highways.

- **Parking on Long Lane**

A letter had been sent to Victory Housing – the clerk to chase for a response.

Environmental

- **Catfield Action Group**

Following on from the last PC meeting, when parking during the Garage Sale had been discussed, a letter had been received from the organiser of the last event explaining that it was likely that CAT would be organising the next event in 2026 and that the group would discuss traffic management with the PC. There will be a Christmas wreath-making workshop on 28th November and the Catfield Does Christmas event will be held on 14th December.

(cont'd)

- **Back Lane Lime Pollution**

Two complaints had been received from parishioners. Councillor Jeffreys explained that when the lime spreading had taken place, the wind had been blowing towards the road, causing substantial levels of lime dust. Concerns were raised by residents about inhalation of the substance and this was a health and safety issue. Councillor Jeffreys to write to the farmer to make him aware of the situation.

Recreation Ground Inspection Report

Councillor Jeffreys had reviewed the report. There were no red areas but there were several yellow and green minor areas that could easily be resolved at an estimated cost of around £450. There was money to do this in the allocated playground budget. One of the minor risks identified in the report was that the gate is unlocked. However, the PC did not consider this to be a risk. Councillor Jeffreys will obtain additional quotes to repair the patch under the swings and to repair the swing shackles. Councillor Dr Harris expressed concern regarding the protective surface under the climbing frame. The clerk to clarify the required depth and diameter of the woodchip under the climbing frame.

Correspondence

- **Bus Request Stop Elderbush Lane**

Councillor Bacon had spoken to the two bus companies that used this route. Sanders stated that they considered this to be a request stop and the bus will stop if flagged. Connect said they needed to check and confirm the position.

- **Hedge cutting – Ludham Road and Village Hall Recreation Ground**

The clerk had contacted five contractors for quotations but only one had responded. Councillor Jordan volunteered to cut the football field and invoice the PC.

- **New Road/Potter Heigham Road junction**

The PC had written to Highways who had advised that the hedge was the property owner's responsibility. Clerk to write to the property owner.

- **Hedge by School Road and Ludham Road**

This had been planted up to the corner and would potentially become a safety issue. Clerk to write to landowner asking if it could be set back.

- **Neighbourhood Watch Group**

Councillor Plowman had not heard back from PC Pritty. As the PC had decided not to take ownership of a NHW group, it was agreed not to pursue this further.

**PLEASE REFER TO THE WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS
OF MEETING MINUTES**



NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 27th November 2024

CATFIELD PARISH COUNCILLORS

Keith Bacon	01692 581314	keithbacon@broadland.net
Janet Briscoe	07747 033056	janet.catfieldpc@gmail.com
Graham Edwards	07885 297213	premtelnet@aol.com
Jennifer Harris	07842 553478	jenben.harris@gmail.com
Tim Harris (Chairman)	01692 580220	tim.catfieldpc@gmail.com
Nicky Jeffreys (Vice Chairman)	07966 362762	nixsjeffreys@gmail.com
Angie Johnson	07770 581706	angiejohnson4@hotmail.com
Neil Jordan	07818 451907	neil.j.jordan@btinternet.com
Polly Plowman		pollyplowman80@gmail.com
Ian Roberson	07876 193547	robey6815@gmail.com
Scott Snelling	07522 238858	scott.catfieldpc@gmail.com
Clerk of Parish Council	07555197530	catfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com

Parish Council website <https://catfieldparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

All current Catfield Parish Councillors reside in Catfield and have been democratically elected. All Cllrs are happy for you to contact them at the above details.



CATFIELD UNITED CHARITIES **(Poors Trust)**

Applications are invited from parishioners who qualify for inclusion in the annual distribution of money from Catfield United Charities.

To qualify you need to:

- Be in financial need.
- Have been a resident in Catfield for 3 years or more.
- Adults of any age can apply to be included in the annual distribution list

If you think you, or another parishioner, are eligible to be included on the list, please contact the Trustees by **9th December 2024**.

Tel: 01692 660250

Email: enquiries@catfieldunitedcharities.uk

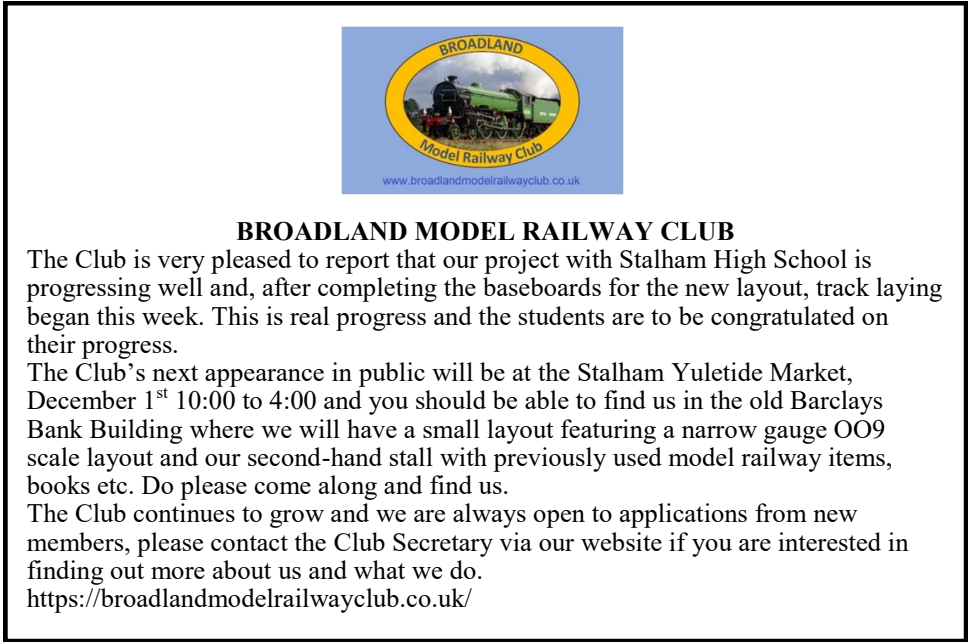
Snowflakes
By Ciéra Cree

There's something so exciting about the snow falling down
Cloaking the world in a crystal-like state
A cold embrace, that brings onlookers warmth
Which is somewhat ironic, but irreplaceable

The last time it happened to snow around Christmas
I was a child and felt disbelief
That the world could look so beautiful
And what festive cards depicted finally made full sense

People say every snowflake ever made is different
Intricate and unique in its own special way
And I kind of think that's exactly like us walking under them now:

Intricate, unique. Something special, in all our special little ways.





All Saints Church, Catfield

and the other churches in the Benefice

December Services



1st December	10am	Benefice Holy Communion Patronal Festival	Potter Heigham	Rev'd Gary Noyes
	5pm	Remembrance Service for loved ones	Ludham	Rev'd Gary Noyes
8th December	10am	Joint Carol Service with Potter Methodists	Potter Heigham church	Judith Gardiner LLM
	10am	Holy Communion	Ludham	Rev'd Gary Noyes
12th December	7pm	Carol singing outside Catfield Crown with Scratch Band	Catfield Crown	
15th December	10am	Joint Holy Communion.	Catfield	Rev'd Gary Noyes
	3.30pm	Carols by Candlelight	Potter Heigham	
21st December	5pm	Carols around the tree	Ludham Churchyard	
22nd December	10am	Joint Holy Communion	Catfield	Rev'd Gary Noyes Judith Gardiner LLM
	3pm	Concert & carols by candlelight	Catfield	
	6pm	Service of lessons and carols	Ludham	
24th December	3pm	Nativity and Crib Service with live donkey	Catfield	Judith Gardiner LLM
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion	Potter Heigham	Rev'd Gary Noyes
25th December	10am	Benefice Christmas Communion	Ludham	Rev'd Gary Noyes
29th December	10am	Morning Prayer	Catfield	Judith Gardiner LLM

CHRISTMAS AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, CATFIELD

Friday, December 6th

10.30am - 12.30

Christmas Coffee and chat with soup and sandwiches in the Village hall. All welcome.

Thursday, December 12th

Carols outside/inside (depending on weather) at Catfield Crown at 7pm.

Sunday, December 22nd

Concert and Carols by Candlelight in the church at 3pm.

Christmas Eve

Start your Christmas with a fun Nativity and Crib Service with real donkey at 3pm.

Wanted Angels, Shepherds, Kings, Mary and Joseph. Just come along at 2.30 and dress up.....costumes provided.



Midnight Service is at Potter Heigham church at 11.30pm

Christmas Day Communion Ludham church at 10am.

Tip:- Cold sparkling mineral water with a dash of bitters will work wonders on an upset stomach that is caused by indigestion or a hangover.

Christmas Message 2024

Much has happened over this past year- prime ministers and governments come and go, presidents and other world leaders change, and many familiar landmarks and patterns that we assume will always be there just seem to melt away into something else...

Change can be good, of course, as well as challenging, but it is something that has a kind of 'baked-in' capacity; it can be seen as part of God's overall plan for us as the people he made to inhabit his world and grow in it. However, as we come into Advent and, eventually, Christmas, we can see that in all the natural change that happens, there are points at the centre that never change. It's a bit like the quiet, still centre of a spinning top, perhaps - knowing in our hearts that God has always been, and always will be in control, whatever we think we may see to the contrary in the world around us.

How does he do this? We don't have room to go too deep into this, but there is that incredible prayer that we pray every year on Advent Sunday, which you may be familiar with. That prayer boldly reveals the heart of God's love and care for us in sending Jesus to actually become one of us, so that, when Good Friday and Easter finally comes, we can know deep down that he has overcome the old order of sin and death to make all things new, including, and perhaps especially, our lives.

May God bless us this Advent and Christmas, and all those around us whom we love, and may we all know that renewal of our lives, which is, maybe, the greatest change of all.

Here's a version of that prayer that I mentioned: 'Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life...and now, Lord, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from darkness to the light of your love and holiness, that we may be ready to meet you when the time comes. Fill us this Christmas with faith and hope, and instill in us true joy for the new day that has dawned' Amen.

May we wish you a Happy and Peaceful Christmas - with our love and blessings,

Gary and April

Farming News

Although this is early November may I wish everyone in the village a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I woke up on Halloween morning and had the feeling I'd been robbed. It took a while before I realised what was missing, then the full implications of Rachel Reeves Budget the day before started to dawn on me. Inheritance tax for farming businesses changes in April 2026 and I have to adapt to these new rules or the next generation will have 10 years to pay off 20% of the farm. Having recently finished paying for the land I bought over the years, I now have to plan to pay for 20% of it again but this time the price per acre will be four times higher. If her plan is to reduce the value of land and prevent wealthy people sheltering capital in farmland, then I don't think I have too much of an issue. In theory with less interest in farmland the price should drop and annual rents will decrease, this should bring down the cost of food production but farming is almost impossible to predict and anything could happen. So, the reaction is that farmers will march in London, led by Jeremy Clarkson, to explain that the Treasury's data, on which this decision was based, is flawed and the plan should be re-assessed. This coupled with a further reduction in BPS has got farming families very angry because there is little point in carrying on farming. There is plenty of advice out there to be bought but the best of which is don't die in the next 5 years. We can give assets to the next generation (and just pay Capital Gains Tax on the non-farming assets). We can take out more life assurance on both generations but it looks certain, unless the rules change, that the family farming is about to take a massive downward turn.

All the winter cereals have been drilled, the later we drilled the better the conditions were. A few Sugar Beet have been lifted, awaiting collection. The winter bird food mixes in SFI are full of little birds, even flocks of birds are here but I never seem to have my binoculars with me to identify them, maybe I'll try my bird song app. We've started some ditch maintenance in preparation of drain jetting, there is actually a lot of groundwater near the surface at the moment and poorly drained patches could get quite wet quite quickly as the winter progresses. All the new stretches of hedge planting are in the process of preparing the land, this involves killing brambles and other weeds that will compete with the young hedge plants and flattening the banks as hedges don't like to grow on the top of a bank because the plants dry out. The saga of Fenside Road drags on with none of the Authorities involved knowing what to do. This is all about nutrients getting into the silt trap and green algae growing. Over the next few weeks leaves will fill the road turning it into slurry as the water can't get away, so we have lost another year with still no action being taken. At least the Environment Agency have given a clean bill of health to the water discharges from the school and neighbouring properties with zero septic water.

The local red deer population seem to be camped on my neighbour's farm but I suspect once they have eaten his crops they will arrive on my farm and we are ready with all the correct licences. So, if you want to try venison, get in touch, make room in your freezer its really heathy, its low in fatty acids, I'm told. With beef at £20-50/kg, venison is much cheaper with virtually no food miles. Tell all your friends as the Authorities want 3000 deer culled this winter to stop them eating the protected plants in the protected sites.

Perhaps a venison joint over Christmas, rather than a turkey, or better still both.

AWA 10.11.2024

News and happenings – Catfield Action Team, **December 2024**



Catfield Does Christmas!

As the year comes to an end, we are delighted to present the return of our Catfield Does Christmas event!

This year we're again running a fun-packed evening of food, a quiz, a raffle, a licensed bar and live music from The Mondays. The date for your diaries is Saturday 14th December at the village hall. Tickets will be £15 each and proceeds will be split between Catfield Action Team, for use on projects around the village, and Catfield Church, who will use their portion on Catfield Church projects.

Tickets must be booked in advance by contacting us at catfieldactionteam@gmail.com or calling 07932 191558, and we'll need to know any dietary requirements.

We have been really pleased with the response to our Christmas wreath-making workshop on 28th November, which has been over-subscribed. We will now be holding a second Christmas wreath-making workshop on Tuesday 10th December.

Our 2025 programme

We have already had lots of ideas for the coming year. The first of these is a Burns Night-themed Quiz at the village hall on Saturday 25th January; all details will be in your next Catfield News.

We're also hoping to continue with regular monthly bingo nights throughout the year. The first of these will take place on Friday 17th January, 7 pm at the village hall as usual.

Other projects

The bulb-planting season is over for us this year, but we are already making plans for further planting in 2025. In the spring we will review our current sites and decide where else we can plant - suggestions are welcome!

PS We're squeezing in our November bingo session on Friday 29th - all welcome!

Contact Catfield Action Team at catfieldactionteam@gmail.com, call 07932 191558 or find us on Facebook and Instagram.

WHO KILLED THE DIRECTOR?



MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

Saturday, December 7th
7 for 7-30 start
In Catfield Village Hall

£10 a head with meal

Shepherds pie,
Sausage Casserole
or Cheese and
Potato pie and Desserts
(Bring your own drinks)

To book choice of meal and seat
please ring
01692 615807 or text
07826848585

In aid of Catfield Village Hall

THE CROWN INN,
THE STREET, CATFIELD

TEL 01692 580128, EMAIL:- thecatfieldcrown@hotmail.com



TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2024

QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT

7.00PM FOR 7.30PM START

MAXIMUM 6 PER TEAM

£7.00 PER PERSON

AN ALTERNATIVE TO CURRY ALWAYS AVAILABLE
BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Gatfield Does Christmas



EAT
DRINK

SING
&
BE
MERRY!

Sat
14th
DEC

An Evening of
Festive Feast
& Frolics...

Bar

Food
Raffle



Prize Quiz ■ Music

from 6.30 pm

till 11.00 pm

@ Catfield
Village Hall
NR29 5AA

TICKETS £15 available from
Catfield Action Team
07932 191558



*Would you like some company this Christmas?
You are welcome to come to*

Catfield Community Christmas

Free Christmas Lunch
with afternoon entertainment and games

Catfield Village Hall
Wednesday 25th December
12:00pm – 4pm

Please book in advance by December 15th

Email: dianarackham@hotmail.com
Phone: Monica and Barry 01692 581587

*If you would like to help or support this event in anyway,
please also use the contact details above*

stationerytree.com

Catfield Primary Academy

I would like to begin by sharing a huge success which we are extremely proud of. Our end of key stage 2 (year 6) results for the academic year were yet another fantastic triumph. Our combined scores (reading, writing and maths) were the highest in the St Benet's trust and we were one of the top performing schools for Maths higher standard in Norfolk. An amazing well done to the whole team at Catfield as combined work from when the children join us in nursery all the way through to Year 6 allows for this ongoing success.

This week we gathered our thoughts for Remembrance Sunday. Our youngest children created some poppy art and our oldest children performed Remembrance poems. During our 2 minute silence, we reflected on what others had sacrificed so we can enjoy the lives we have today.

As we move into December, our Christmas festivities begin and we welcome you all to join us for our Church events. Our Christingle is on the 2nd December starting at 2:30pm, our Christmas Church service is on the 17th December at 2:30pm and our KS2 Carol Concert will be on Thursday the 19th December at 6pm. We hope you can join us!

Last half term our School Council wanted to make more links with the community. They have been gathering ideas of how to do this and have started with making some positive postcards. They wanted to share some positive messages and share some happiness in the community. We hope those that received one enjoyed them just as much as the children enjoyed making them! We have placed a basket of some in the Church for you to help yourselves to. To further support the community, our school council will soon be taking part in a joint Litter Pick with the Catfield Action Team, which they are very excited about.

We would like to say a massive thank you to the Catfield Action Team who continue to support us at school, tending to our flower beds, pond and creating new wooden flower beds to replace those falling apart! Thank you!

Lucy Amis
(Senior Teacher)

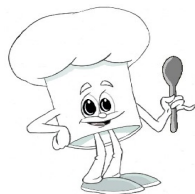
Articles for the Catfield News

If you have an article for the magazine we would love to receive it, but please remember to include your name as we do not print articles if we do not know who the author is. We don't have to print your name, but we need to know who you are.

Do you have a picture that you think would look good on the cover, or maybe an old picture of an area that has been redeveloped. Articles and pictures can either be e-mailed to one of the team or dropped into the Catfield News box in the Catfield Stores.

Deadline for receipt of articles for January magazine is 10th December

Chef's Specials



Sausage meat Stuffing

Ingredients

2 slices white or brown bread (about 50g) in total, crusts removed
4 tbsp stock or milk
1 egg, lightly beaten
2 shallots, finely chopped
1 tbsp chopped sage, plus whole leaves to garnish
450g pork and apple sausages, skins removed
Salt and pepper
Fresh cranberries, to garnish

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180C. Tear the bread into pieces and place in a mixing bowl. Sprinkle with the stock and allow to stand for a few minutes. Mash the soggy bread with a fork then stir in the beaten egg.
2. Add the shallots and sage. Add the sausage meat to the bowl and season to taste with salt and pepper. Mix until well combined.
3. Press the stuffing mixture into a greased shallow ovenproof dish and bake for 30 minutes.
4. Garnish with cranberries and sage leaves and serve hot.

Cornbread Stuffing

Ingredients

300g cornbread, cut into small cubes	60g butter
1 small onion, chopped	1 celery stick, chopped
½ red pepper, deseeded and chopped	1 garlic clove, crushed
4 tbsp chopped sage	Salt and pepper
1 egg, lightly beaten (optional)	4 tbsp stock (vegetable or chicken)

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180C. Place the cubes of cornbread on a baking tray and toast in the oven for 15 minutes, or until golden. Allow to cool, then transfer to a mixing bowl.
2. Melt the butter in a frying pan, add the onion, celery and pepper and fry over medium heat for 5 minutes or until softened. Add the garlic and fry for a few more seconds.
3. Transfer the contents of the pan to the bowl with the bread. Stir in the sage and season to taste with salt and pepper. Add the egg (if using) and the stock, and stir until combined.
4. Press the mixture into a greased shallow ovenproof dish and bake for 30 minutes.

Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat



The Crew attended the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 10th November at St Margaret's Church in Sea Palling. It is always an honour for our Crew to be able to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that lost their lives in the line of duty.

Don't forget Santa will be visiting Sea Palling beach on Sunday 15th December at around 10.00 before he departs on his journey to Lapland. The elves tell me he's very excited to see you all again.

The Lifeboat Inn, Sea Palling, will be holding a Christmas Carols evening on Friday 20th December at 7pm in conjunction with the St Margaret's Church. Donations will be split between the church and the Lifeboat. We hope to see you there.

On behalf of all the crew at Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat, I'd like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year and we look forward to your continued support in 2025.

Rita Galbraith
Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat
Fundraising Team

Registered Charity No. 267211

One Liner:- Life may look greener but wherever people go, they carry their baggage with them.



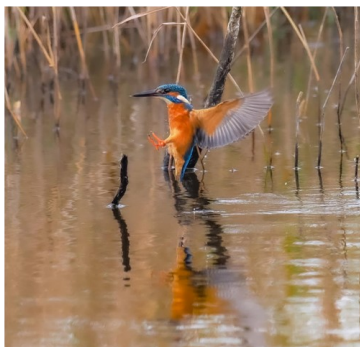
NWT Hickling Broad.

I'm writing this piece on a beautiful bright November day of which there have not been many recently. It's a reminder that winter can be a great time to get out and explore, to breathe in the cold crisp air, clear the mind. Once again, as we had two years ago many visitors have been watching kingfishers from Bittern Hide and a family of otter are being seen across the reserve. For the second year running the visitor centre is open throughout the winter months seven days a week from 10am – 4pm, so do come and see us for a walk, browse around our beautiful gift selection or even for a change of scenery and a cuppa. (We're closed on 9th December for staff training and 24th – 25th December, to give the team a Christmas break).

It's a year since we delivered the news that we'd purchased the Pleasure Boat Inn. If you haven't yet paid a visit please pop in and give it a try, you can be sure of a warm welcome great coffee and plenty of choice if you prefer something a little stronger. Check out their website for opening hours and dining options, thepleasureboathickling.com

Our popular guided winter walk "Ramble to the Roost" is back on selected Sundays from Nov- Feb, please check out our website to book and for further details. norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Rachel Frain – Senior Visitor Centre Coordinator Hickling Broad.



Kingfisher seen at Bittern Hide by Lynne Warner.

Museum of the Broads

Looking ahead as well as looking back at some decidedly December memories!

Looking ahead as well as looking back is very much what being a museum is all about. It's certainly true of us at The Museum of the Broads. We're committed to preserving and celebrating the stories and history of the Broads, but to do that we have to plan ahead to ensure that the Museum evolves.

With the future in mind we'll be spending time over the coming winter months developing our Oulton Building. And part of that development will mean you'll soon be able to see a new display around our steam boat Falcon.

Built in 1895 she has a fascinating history. A real workhorse, and that includes wartime service, she's now a museum favourite and loved by visitors who take trips on her.

Near to the display in the Oulton building you'll be able to see some fascinating exhibits featuring ice skates and ice yachts.

Winter on the Broads can be chilly and there are many stories of ice and skating.

There's the heart rending story, recorded by historian Ernest Suffling, of the drummer boy who ventured on the frozen water every night to meet his sweetheart. They told him not to go, but still he went, drumming as he skated. Only his ghost made it....

That was long ago, on the eve of the battle of Waterloo.

Much more recently the winter of 1947 saw skaters taking to the frozen Broads. And the legendary big freeze of 1963's white out winter was another occasion when the Broads delivered frozen fun before the summer's sailing and holidays.

And here we are in December 2024. A white Christmas is everyone's dream although they happen less frequently than you think. Whatever this December brings we wish you all the happiest for Christmas and, in 2025, from Easter onwards, here at The Museum of the Broads we look forward to seeing you. If it's your first time we hope you'll come back. And for our regulars we look forward - to welcoming you back!

SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9

9	7						2	6
	8	2		1		4	3	
5	1						4	7
		9	3		7	1		
7	6						9	2
	5	7		9		2	1	
1	2						8	3

Last Months Solution

2	7	8	6	4	5	1	3	9
4	3	9	8	1	7	6	2	5
5	6	1	2	3	9	7	4	8
8	1	4	9	5	3	2	6	7
7	9	6	1	8	2	4	5	3
3	2	5	4	7	6	9	8	1
9	4	7	5	6	8	3	1	2
6	8	3	7	2	1	5	9	4
1	5	2	3	9	4	8	7	6

Wroxham and Hoveton Lions report extract detailing Santa Sleigh visits

Our Sleigh has been serviced and is now ready for Santa to make his visits to the local villages and several schools in our area, as well as being outside Roy's in Wroxham, Tesco's Stalham and Lidl North Walsham on various dates (see below and on our Facebook page for details) He will also be at Bridgestone's in Potter Heigham on four mornings for their "Breakfast With Santa" event.

You can follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wroxhamandhovetonlions> or our website <https://wroxhamandhovetonlions.org>

Santa Sleigh Dates

Dec 1 st Lidl North Walsham	Dec 2 nd Salhouse	Dec 4 th Hoveton
Dec 5 th Horstead	Dec 6 th Tesco Stalham	Dec 8 th Tesco Stalham
Dec 9 th Hoveton	Dec 11 th Coltishall	Dec 12 th Tunstead School
Dec 14 th Roy's	Dec 15 th Roy's	Dec 17 th Rackheath
Dec 19 th Wroxham	Dec 20 th Roy's	Dec 21 st Roy's

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

Church of England All Saints' Church, Catfield	Services – See page 12 for details.	Rev'd Gary Noyes - 01692 678842 e-mail granoyes@gmail.com Judith Gardiner - Licensed Lay Minister and Church Warden judithgardiner5@aol.com or 01692 615807 Dr Keith Bacon - Church Warden 01692 581314
Baptist Baptist Chapel, Stalham	See www.stalhambaptist.org.uk for latest updates	Pastor – Rev. Ron Skivington – 01692 582091
Roman Catholic Saint Helens, Hoveton Sacred Heart, N. Walsham	See www.sacredheartnorthwalsham.com for latest updates	Father Peter Raj - 01692 403258 E-mail parishpriestfrpeter@gmail.com
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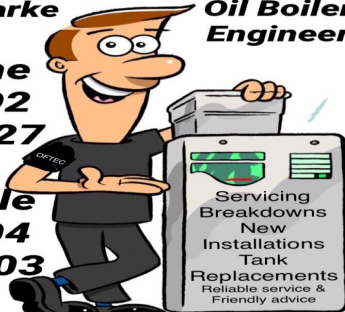
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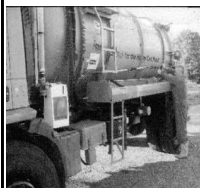
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Items for inclusion need to be received no later than **10th** of each month. Items can be e-mailed to the team, *contacts detailed on page 2*, or left in the Catfield News box in the Village Shop. Articles should be no more than 400 words and have the contributor's name attached, but the name does not have to appear in the magazine.

The Catfield News aims to be a magazine of local news and events and although we cannot always guarantee to include all items received, we will always give priority to Catfield news and events. If you have something you would like published in the magazine, please contact one of the team. For Business advertisements or small Classified Ads., please contact one of the Catfield News Team for details.

Catfield News items are published in good faith with every effort made to ensure accuracy of content as given to us. No liability can be accepted for inconvenience arising from error or omission. *The views expressed in Catfield News are not necessarily the views of the Team.*

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The pigs making an appearance at last year's Christmas Nativity