



Edition
254

CATFIELD NEWS
Your village magazine
January 2025



HAPPY
NEW YEAR
2025

CATFIELD NEWS *Contacts*

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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

Village Hall Booking Clerk - Elaine Smith 01692 580056
elainessmith364@btinternet.com

Catfield United Charities - Trustees 01692 660250
enquiries@catfieldunitedcharities.uk

Catfield Primary Academy - Lucy Amis, Senior Teacher
01692 580568
office@catfield.norfolk.sch.uk

Priest in Charge of The Waterside Benefice - Rev'd. Gary Noyes
01692 678842 granoyes@gmail.com

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 3rd January 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 14th and Tuesday 28th January 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 22nd January
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 29th January, 7.00pm.

Mobile Library
Next visit to Catfield
Tuesday 21st January
Thorn Road 14:45 - 15:05
Village Hall 15.10 - 15.30

BINGO
Catfield Village Hall
Friday 17th January
See page 18 for more info

Burns Night Themed Quiz
Catfield Village Hall
Saturday 25th January
See page 19 for more info

The Crown Inn, Catfield

We wish all our customers old and new a very happy New Year.

Please note our annual shut down is from Thursday 2nd January through until Wednesday 15th January, reopening on Thursday 16th January. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

**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



BROADLAND MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

It's been an eventful year in the Club, two successful shows, two smaller exhibits, guest appearances and all our layouts are being developed as we prepare for 2025. Our schedule of events for next year are published on our website as are the contact details for the Club Secretary if you are interested in finding out more about us and what we do. We are always open to applications from new members.

To all our friends we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

<https://broadlandmodelrailwayclub.co.uk/>

CATFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

WEDNESDAY 27th NOVEMBER 2024

Public Update

- A parishioner made the point that the PC, ideally the clerk, should have a key to the village hall.

Councillors Bayes and Taylor Update

- Councillor Taylor advised that he had been alerted to a possible environmental health hazard in the village but was unable to give any further information at this time. He also gave an update on North Norfolk District Council's (NNDC) financial position. Over the next 4 years NNDC is facing a £9 million "blackhole" in its budget. There have been over 1500 signatures to a petition to keep the public toilets open in Stalham and this will be scrutinised by an NNDC committee on 11th December.

Councillor Price Update

- Councillor Price advised that he had agreed with Norfolk County Council (NCC) highways department that a "SLOW" sign will be painted on the Plumsgate Road/ Wood Street junction in addition to new signage. He had attended the bus shelter meeting with members of the PC and a representative from NCC. In addition to discussing the bus shelter, the possibility of having one/two disabled parking bays in the village hall car park was also discussed. Councillor Price advised that there could be funding available to assist with the provision of the disabled bays.

Planning

Local Plan Further Consultation

NNDC has issued a further consultation document regarding the local plan. Councillors Briscoe and Jeffreys had done some initial work on this and presented a report to the meeting. The three issues covered in the consultation document are (1) the shortfall in housing provision; (2) Small Growth Villages (of which Catfield is one); Update of the Gypsy and Traveller data base. The major concern for Catfield is a proposed increase in the indicative housing allowance from 27 to 39 dwellings. There is some uncertainty as to whether the 21 dwellings that have already been granted planning permission at Milestones would be included in the 39. Councillors Briscoe, Harris and Jeffreys will work on the PC's response to the consultation. The closing date is 19th December 2024.

PC's Planning Questionnaire Update

The clerk had sent a chasing letter to those parish council's who had not yet replied. Councillor Edwards provided a preliminary report on the results to date. 23 responses had been received. The closing date would be extended until 31st December 2024 and Councillor Edwards would present a final report to the January PC meeting.

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

The PC had been advised by a parishioner that the mobile home had been moved into the curtilage of the main property and that NNDC now considered the matter closed.

Store Galore – Application for retrospective planning permission

Planning permission with conditions had now been issued. The conditions must be implemented within three months. The PC will now send a chasing letter regarding the planning status of the other sites used by Store Galore.

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)

The planning application is being recommended for refusal. The District Councillors will now retract their request to call the application to NNDC's Development Committee.

(cont'd)

- **(CL/24/1249 – Fenview, 3 Fenside Cottages – Lawful Development Certificate for existing use of land as residential garden**
Objectors had not yet been contacted about the appeal.
- **IB/24/2429 – Pre-Planning Advice – Notification of intention to install fixed line broadband electronic communications apparatus (2 x 9M light wooden pole) – O/S No. 7 Chapelfield Close.**

No action required

Highways & Road Safety

- **Parking on Long Lane**

A very positive letter had been received from Victory Housing

Environmental

- **Catfield Action Group**

The group had been joined by members of the School Council to undertake a litter pick in the village hall play area. The proceeds from the Catfield Does Christmas event will be divided between CAT and All Saints Church. There will be Bingo on 17th January 2025 and a Burns Night themed Quiz on 25th January 2025.

- **Back Lane Lime Pollution**

A letter had been sent to the landowner but no response had been received.

- **Recreation Ground Inspection Report**

Councillor Jeffreys advised that she and Councillor Jordan had repaired posts and painted the strimmer damage. As there were no “red” areas in the inspection report, Councillor Jeffreys will obtain two quotes for the igloo ground protection and update at the next meeting.

Correspondence

- **Bus Request Stop Elderbush Lane**

Councillor Bacon advised that one of the bus companies, Connect, had not got back to him – he will chase this up.

- **Goal Nets at the Recreation Ground**

A letter had been received regarding the condition of the goal nets. Councillor Edwards proposed that the nets be removed completely and the goal posts painted in the spring.

Hedge Cutting Updates

- **Hedge surrounding the village hall play area**

The clerk had obtained 2 quotes. It was agreed to proceed with Garden Guardian for this year but to review alternative options for next year. The clerk to book.

- **Hedge surrounding the Ludham Road Recreation Ground**

Councillor Jordan advised that the hedge is still leafy. It will be cut before the end of February.

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

The PC had written to the property owners asking them to cut back the hedges at the junction as these belong to them and are not Highways's responsibility.

- **New Hedge on School Road and Ludham Road**

A letter had been received from the landowner. There is still concern that when the hedge grows it may become a safety issue.

(cont'd)

Village Hall

A sub-committee of the PC had been set up to review the position regarding the village hall. The sub-committee had met and Councillor Jeffreys presented a summary of the sub-committee's findings and proposed action. Councillor Jeffreys will discuss these with the village hall management committee at its next meeting in January 2025.

Discussion and Review of 2025/2026 Budget

The clerk had provided an initial draft budget prior to the meeting. The PC may need to include funding for the disabled bays in the village hall car park if funding from other sources cannot be obtained. There was also a discussion regarding funding for a new playground. It was agreed that finalisation of the budget should be deferred to the December meeting.

PLEASE REFER TO THE WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS OF MEETING MINUTES

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 18th December 2024



CATFIELD PARISH COUNCILLORS

Keith Bacon	01692 581314	keithbacon@broadland.net
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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.

JANUARY 2025

New Beginnings by Ciéra Cree

Whether you're hoping to reach the stars
Or spend more time gazing up at them

If you plan to become better at baking
Or take classes in singing or sport

If your heart's desire is improvement
For yourself and your future life

Or just staying the same
Enjoying what each day brings

May you find happiness
In this year unfolding

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

Murder Mystery Evening

Murder returned to the Catfield stage before Christmas and saw a play within a play and the Director stabbed on stage although, with a twist, it proved not to lead to his ultimate death. Two teams managed to collect the evidence and identify the murderers and all in the room enjoyed an action packed evening.

Thanks to all those who took to the stage, helped behind the scenes and provided a meal with those traditional Catfield desserts. If you didn't come make a note to come to the next one. £356 was raised for the Village hall funds.

Black Arches *Lymantria monacha*

Wingspan 30-50 mm.

This attractive black and white species often shows traces of bright pink on the body, especially the abdomen, which however is normally concealed when at rest.

The males, which can be attracted to light, are smaller than the females, but have very large, feathery antennae.



Distributed mainly throughout the southern half of Britain, chiefly in woodland habitats, the adults fly in July and August.

The larvae feed in the spring, usually on oak (*Quercus*), but sometimes on coniferous trees

I photograph these in my Skinner moth trap, which is not actually a trap but merely attracts the moths at night, before releasing unharmed.

Alec Nisbet



Question – I think I could benefit from a wheelchair. Can I get one on the NHS? Do I have to pay for maintenance and if it needs repairing? How long does it take to get one and how do I find out if I am eligible?

Answer – Wheelchairs from the NHS are free and maintained and repaired by the NHS at no charge. They do however, remain the property of the NHS so cannot be handed on.

The eligibility is that an individual must, as a result of a permanent disability or medical condition, have a mobility problem that persists for more than six months or require palliative care. A wheelchair should be required for regular use (at least three days per week). The user must be functionally unable to walk and need to use a wheelchair for independent mobility

The first step to see if you can get a prescription for a wheelchair is to visit your GP and explain your needs. The waiting time can vary from a few weeks to three-four months.

The above information was provided by Angela Gifford, of Able Community Care



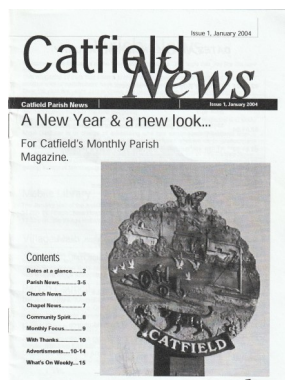
All Saints Church, Catfield and the other churches in the Benefice January Services

5th January	10am	Benefice Holy Communion	Ludham	
12th January	10am 10am	Joint Morning Prayer Holy Communion	Catfield Ludham	
19th January	10am	Joint Holy Communion	Catfield	
26th January	10am 10am 6pm	Joint Holy Communion. Morning Prayer Evening Prayer and Bible Study	Potter Heigham Ludham Catfield	
2nd February	10am 6pm	Benefice Holy Communion Evensong	Catfield Ludham	

I am sure many of our readers will remember Gill Jackson who sadly passed away on 1st December. She started the current version of the Catfield News on 1st January 2004 working it out on her computer at a time when not everybody was as computer literate as they are now. She also started Catfield Crafters and even after she moved to Horning, due in part to her health, she still kept in touch with the Crafters. Gill was also a parish councillor for a few years.

Gill was a good friend of mine and I will miss having a good chinwag at various times to catch up on all the news.

Jill Wickens



Resolutions.

2024 moves on to 2025. Out with the old, in with the new, some say. Have you made any new year resolutions? How are they going? Have you managed to keep them up?

The new year can be a good time to reflect on and evaluate various aspects of our lives, including our spiritual lives. Christianity, what's it all about? Some people think it's all about resolutions. "I must be this", "I must be that", "I must be more ...". Making the right resolutions and keeping them, is that what it's all about? Others think it's all about rules. You need to know the rules, obey them and everything will be ok. Is that what it's all about? Some think it's all about ritual. You need to say the right words at the right time and in the right way. Is that what it's all about? These things can play a part in a Christian's life but they are not what it's all about. Christianity is all about relationship. It's about starting and developing a relationship with Almighty God who is a loving father. This relationship is initiated by God and made possible through Jesus Christ who paid the ultimate price so that we don't have to. When Jesus was challenged by the religious leaders of his day asking "what's the most important thing in life"? He replied, "Love God and love other people. There is nothing more important than these". Love is a relationship.

Whether we feel far from God or close to him at this time, perhaps a good resolution for 2025 might be to get to know Jesus better. Happy New Year.

Stephen Pitkethly AWA.



ThinkWilt on the Climate Crisis

Yes, it IS a crisis. ThinkWilt, in the company of respectable scientists and commentators the world over, is in no doubt that extreme meteorological events in the last few months have been caused, or made worse, by the heating of our atmosphere caused by the burning of fossil fuels. These disasters have taken place not in remote parts of the world whose locations we're unsure of and whose names we can't spell, but in places that we know and may even have visited - in Italy, in Central Europe, in Spain - and most recently *in our own country*.

So how do we react? A passage from a *Guardian* article by Jonathan Watts, the paper's environment correspondent, is worth quoting : ... *the world's reaction to the floods in Spain [last October] will be similar to that of motorway drivers at a crash scene: slow down, take in the horror, outwardly express sympathy, inwardly give thanks that fate picked someone else – and foot on the accelerator*.

Later in the same article, Mr Watts asserts that *..[governments] have been slow to reduce the risks and prepare societies, but many, including the UK, have been quick to lock up those who scream warnings and who hold up traffic**. *The legal system is effectively compelling citizens to accept catastrophe*. In other words, we are being conditioned to normalise the consequences of climate change, to regard them as inevitable, without even the paper umbrella of the 1960's Civil Defence leaflet, which (it) famously advised us: "in the event of nuclear attack, turn off the gas; otherwise there may be an explosion".

If Mr Watts is right, then the climate snowball is already rolling down the hill, is unstoppable, and will engulf anything and anybody who, like the innocent motorist, is unfortunate enough to cross the path of the runaway juggernaut. Individual events, even those as serious as those in Europe last year, are survivable, except of course by those who die as a direct result, but ThinkWilt wonders how long it will be before the cumulative effect of successive catastrophes will render the fragile infrastructure of our society - banking, communications, transport, food and water supplies, health , you name it - *unsustainable*. Will we then see, *in our own country*, streams of refugees, trundling their salvaged belongings in wheelbarrows, but with nowhere to go, just like in those places in the Third World?

How long, then, before this breakdown of civilisation as we know it? How soon will it happen? Probably not in months, possibly in years, *certainly* within decades. There are plenty of stories set in a post-nuclear situation, but ThinkWilt does not know of one whose background is a post-climate apocalypse. Maybe somebody should write that story and send a copy to every delegate at the United Nations.

Meanwhile, enjoy your celebration of the New Year. There may not be many more.

*Those imprisoned include - full disclosure - a member of ThinkWilt's family.

ThinkWilt is the pen-name of Richard Reid. The views expressed are his own.

Farming News

January is the month to plan the coming year and look further ahead in farming. This year I'm going to try not to die and to disappoint Rachel Reeves who is after 20-40% of my business in inheritance tax. Planning to avoid the worst of that tax is proving to be very difficult. So, let's carry on farming, chin up and concentrate on what I can do better. Having said that, sugar beet contracts are down by 18%, maize is down 5%, wheat is in the doldrums despite a poor harvest in 2024, there will be minimal BPS and no capital grants, higher taxes on double cab pickups and increases in employer NI. So, my strategy is to grow the crops as cheap as possible which is easier said than done, not do any capital works with the exception of some hedge planting which was agreed a year ago with RPA and not to buy any equipment or more fields. The properties are in pretty good order and there are no large expenses looming, with the exception of my lounge wall.

I do need to do some maintenance to trees and hedges over the winter and next summer look at replacing some fences on the marshes, so there is plenty to do while the builder pulls out my lounge wall. It's occurred to me that this job will be done during the 6 Nations so I might have to spend Saturdays at the rugby club and watch the games there from where my kids can collect me. Not a bad swap in return for giving them a farm 20 years earlier than planned to avoid Rachel's tax.

Alternatively, we farmers can go on the offensive. Have the Government not heard that we produce food in the countryside? If deliveries slowed up what would the Public think? Some farmers take sewage sludge to spread on their fields, as the by product of eating is s**t which goes to the sewerage works and is processed. What would happen if that process stopped? We had a bit of that last winter when Holly Farm pumping station packed up and flooded. Imagine that on a national scale! Having been conned into providing Public goods for Public money, then having the Public money removed, what are farmers left with? Inheritance tax and compliance to some mad ideas which don't resemble modern farming methods. We would be left in a mess. I have been attending cluster group meeting recently. They are very interesting. The idea is that a group of farmers can achieve more together than as individuals. Or put another way the consultants can target more farmers in the same amount of time. Most of the farmers attending have stewardship agreements and SFI agreements, so it's difficult to see what more can be achieved to enhance the environment. In the meetings that I have attended all the farmers want to cull deer and control badger numbers. These animals have no natural predators and are thriving, eating species that are protected. The Broads Authority have made no secret that they want deer culled to prevent damage to the protected plants in the protected sites. Now the conversation is turning to what's happened to the wading birds, especially the ones protected by the Special Protection Area (SPA) like Bitterns, Bewick Swans and Hooper Swans and what's happened to the hedgehogs which are protected? The answer is badgers have eaten their eggs and we all know badgers eat hedgehogs. So, the solution is to reduce badger numbers, but they are protected. How do we protect the protected birds, this is conservation legislation gone mad. Leave it up to the people who know how to manage the countryside- we provide Public goods- remember Rachel?

Can it be possible that one protected species is eating another protected species? Never.

AWA 10.12.2024

News and happenings – Catfield Action Team,



A Happy New Year from all at Catfield Action Team!

Thank you for all your support and ideas in the past year, and we're looking forward to our new programme of events and projects to benefit the village and all who live and work here.

Our 2025 programme

Our first event is a Burns Night-themed Quiz at the village hall on Saturday 25th January, starting at 7 pm. Alongside the quiz we'll be serving a haggis taster plate, so come along and bring your own bottle to get into the spirit of things. We're inviting you also to wear 'a touch of tartan' - or more than a touch if you fancy. Tickets are £8 from catfieldactionteam@gmail.com or 07932 191558.

We've now scheduled regular monthly bingo nights on Friday evenings from January through to April. These are always really fun and light-hearted and help us raise funds for all our activities (for example the hedge planting mentioned below). All our bingo nights take place at the village hall starting at 7 pm, and the dates for your diaries are: 17th January, 21 February, 21 March and 25 April.

Other projects

We're delighted to be able to tell you that we have had permission to plant some additional hedging to fill a gap along the fence bordering Trend Marine's property on Sutton Road. The hedge will comprise hawthorn, dog rose and field maple and will be planted by local landscaper Chris Cook of Green Gardens early in the new year.

Thank you to the lovely members of the School Council at Catfield School, and their adult helpers, who came and joined us on a litter pick on 22nd November. Their enthusiasm was infectious and the play area by the village hall was spick and span after their visit. We hope to be able to join forces with them again soon.

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

The Scratch Band is looking for new members.
If you are interested please contact
David Frost on 07907679630 for more information.



Glass takes one million years to decompose, which means it never wears out and can be recycled an infinite amount of times.

Gold is the only metal that doesn't rust, even if it's buried in the ground for thousands of years.

Your tongue is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end.

If you stop getting thirsty, you need to drink more water. When a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off.

Zero is the only number that cannot be represented by Roman numerals.

The song, Auld Lang Syne, is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the New Year.

Drinking water after eating reduces the acid in your mouth by 61 percent.

Peanut oil is used for cooking in submarines because it doesn't smoke unless it's heated above 450F.

Nine out of every 10 living things live in the ocean.



Food for Thought brought to you by **WHERRY PROBUS**

For more information on this active Probus club for semi-retired / retired professional gentlemen just phone Malcolm on 01692 580581 **OR** send him an email to pvn777@outlook.com



Catfield BINGO Nites

Come and join us for a
night of Bingo fun on



FRIDAY

17th JAN

7pm at Catfield Village Hall

- FUN
- PRIZES
- RAFFLE

Any
enquiries call
07932
191558

£6

raffle and
refreshments
available
during Interval

Come and join us - it's sure to be a Full House!

Money raised from this event will support Catfield Environmental Group and will help fund projects within Catfield Parish

Burns Night *themed* Quiz



Catfield Village Hall

**Saturday 25th
January @ 7pm**

£8.00
per person

*Price
includes*



An event organised by



Haggis
taster plate

Don't forget to wear a touch of tartan!

To book contact Edwina at
catfieldactionteam@gmail.com or 07932 191558

Catfield Primary Academy

Happy New Year from everyone at Catfield Primary Academy!

In November our School Council joined with the Catfield Action Team to carry out a litter pick at the park. Our School Council were very enthusiastic and enjoyed the responsibility of making their community a better place for everyone. Lots of rubbish was collected and they look forward to joining the Catfield Action Team in the future to continue supporting them and our community.

Christmas at Catfield was a busy one as always. We started our December with our Christingle in the Church. Our children always enjoy making Christingles and learning about the story behind it. Our younger children performed amazingly in our Nativity and our KS2 executed a fantastic carol concert in Church that got us all in the Christmas spirit. Thank you to everyone who joined us.

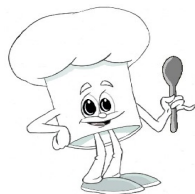
Our children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Norwich Theatre Royal to watch the Pantomime Aladdin. We were extremely proud of their behaviour and it was lovely to join with Sutton Academy and Hickling Academy to share the experience.

We would like to invite any 2 or 3 year olds in the area to join our EYFS class for our Stay and Play sessions on Tuesday 7th January at 1:30pm-2:30pm and Monday 10th March at 1:30pm-2:30pm.

Lucy Amis
(Senior Teacher)



Chef's Specials



Lentil Soup

Ingredients

1 tbsp olive oil
2 onions, finely chopped
2 celery sticks, finely chopped
2 carrots, finely chopped
2 garlic cloves, crushed
1-2 tsp curry powder
150g red lentils
1.4 litres vegetable stock
120ml tomato juice
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

1. Heat the oil in a large pan over a medium heat, then add the onions, celery and carrots. Cook, stirring for 5 minutes or until the onions are soft and translucent.
2. Add the garlic and curry powder and cook stirring for a further 1 minute then add the lentils, stock and tomato juice.
3. Bring to the boil then lower the heat. Cover then simmer for 25 minutes or until the vegetables are tender. Season to taste with salt and pepper and serve hot.

Simple Rolls

Ingredients

500g strong white flour
2 tsp light soft brown sugar
7g sachet fast-action dried yeast
2 tsp salt

Method

1. Place the flour, sugar, yeast and salt into a large bowl. Add 275ml tepid water or enough to form a soft, pliable dough. Knead well for 10 minutes. Place in a lightly oiled bowl and loosely cover. Leave in a warm place to rise for 1 hour, or until doubled in size.
2. Turn the dough out on to a lightly floured surface and knead briefly. Divide it into 16 pieces and shape into balls. Smooth the tops and place on to 2 lightly oiled baking trays. Leave enough space for them to spread out without touching. Leave to rise in a warm place for 30 minutes or until doubled in size.
3. Preheat the oven to 200C. Bake the rolls for 20 minutes or until they are brown on top and sound hollow when tapped on the base.
D.S.

Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat



Happy New Year to you all!

Where did 2024 go? It only seems like yesterday we were starting the winter maintenance run for 2024!

Last year was a steady year for Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat. Our first shout came in March assisting Bacton Coastguard Rescue Team and Happisburgh Lifeboat, it then went quiet until mid-summer when over a three week period they came in thick and fast. Not that it makes much difference for the crew who are constantly on standby ready to go.

We had no major breakages or mechanical problems and have further developed the station's potential with the addition of two new storage containers and hopefully by the time you are reading this, the works will be completed and we will have a back-up launch vehicle for the main lifeboat.

The fundraising team have been busy this year out and about at various events and they look forward to seeing you at the merchandise stall on the beach most Sundays during the summer.

As always, we would like to thank all our supporters and anyone that has purchased items of merchandise from us, as without your support we cannot operate.

With all best wishes for the New Year from all the crew at Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat.

Rita Galbraith
Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat
Fundraising Team

Registered Charity No. 267211

One Liner The world's leaders have a staggering capacity for misery and self-inflicted

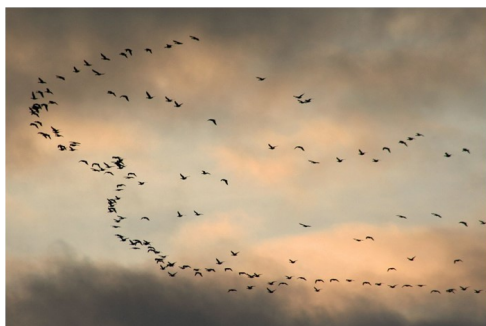
NWT Hickling Broad and Marshes



Another year is upon us, and with it will come more trials and tribulations for our beleaguered wildlife. In the last 40 years or so the growing numbers of Pink-feet have become a welcome addition to the county avifauna over the winter months. Their soft, '*wink, wink*' flight contact calls betray the skeins presence overhead, even on the darkest of winter nights, or the foggiest of days, their delightful call can be heard.

These visitors, primarily from Iceland, come to Norfolk each winter to avoid the harsh weather that engulfs their breeding grounds. There are distinct wintering areas within the county, but they are all linked by a common factor; the availability of sugar beet as a food source. It is the remnant beet crown of the harvested sugar beet that provides the sugar and other nutrients that see these hardy creatures through the winter months. At night, these birds sometimes gather to roost together on Brendan's Marsh, Hickling, or on nearby Horsey Mere.

Sadly all is not well in the world of the Pink-footed Goose. Modern beet harvesting techniques are leaving less beet crown for the geese to feed on, and souring of the remnants of some beet varieties on the soil surface is enforcing farmers to plough in the beet tops soon after harvesting. Coupled with less sugar beet being grown as a result of the UK Government removing sugar beet subsidies, and subsequently imposing sugar taxes on foodstuffs and soft drinks, the geese are struggling to find enough food to survive the winter months in good condition. Consequently, success on the breeding grounds is more limited and goose numbers are in decline. If you are interested in learning more about the plight of this species and other geese, may I suggest reading "The Meaning of Geese by Nick Acheson." An eloquently written account of how a love for Norfolk's geese aided the author through a winter of lockdown isolation: a celebration of one of the finest wildlife spectacles in the county, from a true goose fan. Copies can be obtained from our visitor centre.



Pink-footed geese Phillip Ashton

Wroxham and Hoveton Lions report

Well that is Christmas done for another year and we now look forward to 2025. I would like to wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year.

January marks the end of the first six months of my year as President and it is amazing how quickly it has passed.

During December, Santa joined us on his sleigh, but unfortunately due to the very wet weather early in the month, several of our sleigh runs to local villages had to be postponed. We are sorry for any disappointment this caused, but thankfully many of you managed to see Father Christmas and the sleigh, with your children, during our visits to the supermarkets. Santa also visited several schools in our area.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas collection and we will announce the total collected in the next issue.

January starts the 50th anniversary year of our Lions Club and, it is also the 25th year of our Charity Shop. Thanks to all your donations and support we have been able to make a substantial difference to numerous groups and individuals who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Our annual Charter Lunch takes place at the end of January and I am looking forward to meeting many old friends.

As usual, we will be having our craft fairs during the year, as well as our August Charity Fete. Please keep an eye out for upcoming dates and further details.

The shop is now back open after the Christmas break, but please note the daily hours are now 10am to 4pm, until the end of March, after which they will return to 9am to 4pm Mon to Sat, 10am to 4pm Sundays.

Our 2 for 1 offer (cheapest free) on clothes is still on, so it is a good time to pick up an even better bargain!

We welcome donations of good, clean ladies and men's clothes, bric a brac, books and other household items and small, fully working, electrical items in good condition. If you are not able to get to the shop, collection can be arranged by telephoning the shop on 01603783737.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our shop volunteers and staff for their hard work throughout the past year and all of you, for your support and donations. If you are interested in volunteering to help in the shop, please pop in and speak to the shop manager.

We are always looking for new members to help us raise funds to support the local community. If you have some spare time and feel you would like to make a difference please contact our Membership Chair, via the "contact us" page on our website (below) You can follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wroxhamandhovetonlions> or our website <https://wroxhamandhovetonlions.org>

Lion President

Ron Hill

Wroxham and Hoveton Lions Club. Cio

Tip:- To treat a bad case of dandruff, wash your hair with your usual shampoo then rinse with an alcohol based mouthwash. You can follow with an ordinary conditioner.

The Museum of the Broads

Suddenly it's 2025. January on the Broads can be cold, and at the time of writing the weather has delivered some bizarre variations. We've gone from snow to unseasonably mild.

In December we mentioned the harsh winters of 1947 and 1963. It got a lot of you talking about those now long ago Januarys. Many of you pointed out that whilst 1963 was by far the colder there was much more snowfall in 1947. Neither of those winters saw the Broads at their most welcoming. But those harsh days are all part of the history and the stories of the Broads - and sharing them is what we're all about.

The other subject we touched on last month was the fact that now, in the months when we're closed, we'll be busy preparing the museum for 2025. We've started in earnest. Dust sheets are draped, tools and kit are in place and our willing band of volunteers has commenced operations.

Nowadays of course delivering a great experience to our visitors isn't all about the old school skills. Right now we're looking for more volunteers, specifically people who would be interested in joining our new volunteer engagement team or being a crew member on our electric or steam boat. If you or someone you know, is interested in helping do get in touch by contacting our Operations Manager, Tanya, at operationsmanager@museumofthebroads.org.uk or Susie, our Volunteers Manager at volunteersmanager@museumofthebroads.org.uk

In the meantime we're already well ahead with planning for our 2025 Easter Trail, our Steam and Sail Days and a visit from the Wherry Albion.

Albion is very much in mind as we come to January. It's a grim anniversary as it was in January 1929 that she was nearly lost. She sank near Great Yarmouth bridge that month. Thankfully she was raised and saved three days later.

On a happier note Albion will be part of our 2025 programme. And it all begins when we reopen on Sunday March 30 2025.

Until then it only remains to say a very Happy New Year to you all from all of us at the Museum of the Broads.

SUDOKU

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

			9	5	3			
		6				2		
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	5	8				4	1	
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Last Months Solution

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

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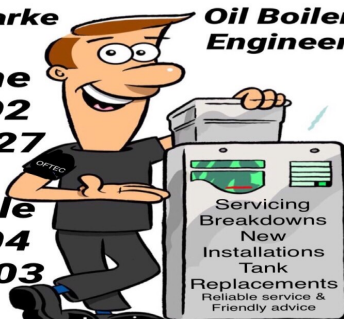
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If you have an article for the magazine we would love to receive it, but please remember to include your name as we do not print articles if we do not know who the author is. We don't have to print your name, but we need to know who you are.

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

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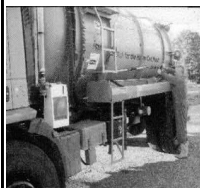
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CATFIELD NEWS – Contributions & Advertisements

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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