



Edition
259

CATFIELD NEWS
Your village magazine
June 2025

★★★★ Catfield Action Team presents ★★★★★

Catfield FETE

@ THE OLD RECTORY ★ CATFIELD ★ NR29 5DA

SUN DAY JUNE 22nd 11AM - 4PM

FREE ENTRY

★★ MUSICAL PERFORMANCES by ★★
LOCAL BANDS including
AFRICAN CHOIR OF NORFOLK
THE MONDAYS
THE TROSHERS

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
Any enquiries to Email: catfieldactionteam@gmail.com
Tel: 07932 191558
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

★★★★ A GREAT DAY OUT! ★★★★★

Classic Cars
Vintage Tractors
Model Railway Display
Craft & Plant Stalls
Willow Weaving
Obstacle Course
Food & Bar
Parking



CATFIELD NEWS *Contacts*

Steve Beckley: Chair/Treasurer Tel: 582913 - e-mail: stevebeckley1@gmail.com

Heather Hollister - secretarycatnews1@btinternet.com

Judith Gardiner - Tel: 01692 615807 - e-mail judithgardiner5@aol.com

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
elainesmith364@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 - 12.30pm
2.30pm - 5.30pm

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,

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 £7 and pre booking is required.

Contact Sean Turner to book a bike.

M: 079 285 85838 Email: ptseanio@yahoo.com

Catfield Village Hall

Friday 6th June 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 and Tuesday 24th June

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.

Join the Catfield Action Team for their June walk

Tuesday 17th June, 6.30pm

Meet at the Ramblers Gift Shop, Thurne.

All welcome.

Catfield Village Fete

Sunday 22nd June 11am - 4pm

See front page

Sunday 22nd June

**Keith Bacon will be giving graveyard tours
at All Saints Church, Catfield at 12 noon and 2pm**

Catfield Crafters

Wednesday 25th June

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

Parish Council Meeting

Catfield Village Hall

Wednesday 25th June

7.00pm.

BINGO

Catfield Village Hall

Friday 27th June

See page 19 for more info

Look Out To The Sea - (For 'World Oceans Day', 8th) By Ciera Cree

To look out to the sea: to witness water sparkle like sequin
Glitter like the finest, unimaginable dust of gold to have ever formed

To watch the waves lap, shifting effortlessly to and from the shore
In a rhythm all its own
Not a care in the world

To see the birds diving
Dancing around the sky, calling out to one another
Until the sun fades

To feel the droplets
To smell the salty air
To go home
To reminisce about when you can surround yourself by it again

For Sale



**2 Carrera Vulcan E-bikes, £300 each. 6 years old.
1x 22" frame, 1x 18" frame. 27.5" wheels. Bosch motor and
batteries, (2x batteries & 1x charger for each bike).
Assist modes, off, eco, tour, climb, sport. 9 speed gear set.
Hydraulic disc brakes. Kick stand.
Condition as would be expected for 6 years old.
Mileage - 6385 and 5671.**

Contact: Paul, 07570233538

CATFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS WEDNESDAY 30th APRIL 2025

Public Update

- No issues raised

Councillors Bayes and Taylor Update

- Councillor Bayes and Taylor were unable to attend.

Councillor Price Update

- Councillor Price advised that Norfolk County Council (NCC) are asking for feedback regarding the proposed local government reform. Responses are due by 20th May 2025. He also advised that he is expecting to receive a start date for the bus shelter and disabled parking bay works on Friday.

Planning

- **PC's Planning Questionnaire Update**

A response had been received from North Norfolk District Council (NNDC) requesting details of the parish councils who had completed the questionnaire. The PC cannot supply these details as the parish councils had been assured that their responses would be confidential. The clerk will advise NNDC accordingly.

- **Store Galore**

Regarding the Grove Farm site, Councillor Price advised that he had been asked by a parishioner to investigate what the tenants are allowed to do on the land under the tenancy agreement as NCC is the landlord. A surveyor had visited the site and had confirmed that the tenants can diversify provided that the character of the tenancy was primarily or wholly agricultural, whilst complying with any planning requirements. Councillor Price confirmed that NCC is satisfied with the position but that he could not comment on NNDC's planning requirements. A Certificate of Lawful Use and Development has been applied for to regularise the position and the PC will await the outcome of that application.

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

The PC is awaiting the inspector's decision on the appeal.

- **PF/25/0636 – Bluebell Cottage, 3A Chapelfield Close, NR29 5AT – Convert the existing garage space to create an accessible ground floor bedroom**

The PC had no comments or objection.

- **Malthouse Lane site**

Following a letter from the PC, a response had been received from NCC's Highways Department. Councillor Bacon advised that the map included with the response showed that the newly erected fence and hedge are on NCC highways property. Councillor Price confirmed that NCC will liaise with the

(cont'd)

Landowner and will update both Catfield and Ludham PCs. Although there is currently an enforcement notice in place in respect of breach of planning control, the highways issue is a separate matter.

- **North Norfolk Local Plan Examination Hearing**

Councillors Briscoe and Harris had attended the hearing at NNDC's offices in Cromer. Catfield's housing allocation had been increased from 27 to 39 dwellings. Potter Heigham's and Sea Palling's allocation was zero as these villages were classed as being environmentally constrained. It was submitted that due to the water issues affecting Catfield, it should also be classed as environmentally constrained.

- **Other Planning Matters**

NNDC's website in respect of Milestones had been updated with information regarding tree and bat surveys.

Councillor Price advised that he will be attending a multi-agency group set up by Anglian Water.

Councillor Harris advised that as the PC had been denied an extension of time to comment on a planning application in respect of 11 Thorn Road, a decision had been made outside the PC meeting and it had been agreed that the PC had no objection. This action was approved in the meeting.

Highways and Road Safety

- **Bus Shelter and Disabled Parking Bay**

Discussed under Councillor Price's Report

- **NCC Bus Shelter Funding Proposal**

A new scheme had been introduced whereby the PC could apply for up to 80% funding for a new bus shelter. Applications had to be submitted by 30th June 2025. There was a discussion of possible locations for any new bus shelter. However, consultation with residents would be necessary before any decision as to location could be made. It was agreed that Councillors Briscoe, Edwards and Dr Harris should meet to discuss the practicability of any proposal within the time limit.

- **Bus Stop at Elderbush Lane**

A sign has now been erected in this location.

- **Other highway matters**

A parishioner had raised concerns that a resident had placed concrete blocks on the highway verge outside 18, Elderbush Lane. Councillor Price will discuss this with NCC Highways. Another parishioner advised of a full drain causing flooding outside 2 Lea Road. As this was also a highways issue, Councillor Price will take this up.

Environmental

- **Catfield Action Team Update**

CAT had revisited the school garden and pond and carried out further work.

CAT had held its AGM and a new committee had been appointed. Dina Croft

(cont'd)

had stood down as Treasurer and she was thanked for all the work she had done for CAT in the last three years. Bingo sessions are planned for 30th May, 27th June and 25th July.

- **NCC's Investigation Report into Flooding Across Norfolk in Storm Babet (including School Road and Elderbush Lane)**

Councillor Harris advised that the assessment did not take account of flood risk from groundwater. He will draft a letter setting out the issues for circulation.

Councillor Johnson to discuss the issues with the school.

- **FloGas Lighting**

A parishioner advised that tenants living in Elderbush Lane had complained regarding the high intensity of the lighting levels on the site and that the lights are on throughout the day. The clerk to send a letter to FloGas and its Head Office.

- **Village Hall Recreation Ground**

Councillor Edwards has been obtaining quotations for the playground. Once these have been received a public meeting will be organised to discuss the proposals. Although the PC are in the process of reviewing a potential upgrade to the playground, it was agreed that the annual inspection should go ahead.

- **Village Hall**

Councillor Roberson provided an update following the recent Village Hall Management Committee Meeting. It had been agreed, in principle, that the main priority was to replace the village hall roof, excluding the kitchen. The PC agreed that this should go ahead. Councillor Roberson will also obtain quotations for new windows and guttering and check whether planning permission is required for the new roof.

Poor's Trust

There is a vacancy for a new trustee and this will be advertised in Catfield News with a view to discussion at the July meeting.

PLEASE REFER TO THE WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS OF MEETING MINUTES



NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 28th May 2025

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE ON 28th MAY 2025.
THIS WILL COMMENCE AT 6.30 pm.**

All parishioners are welcome to attend.

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
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.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Notice is hereby given of a vacancy on Catfield Parish Council. The vacancy has previously been advertised, and no election has been requested. The Council is now able to fill the vacancy by co-option.

Applicants should note that Councillors are expected to attend regular monthly meetings on the last Wednesday of each month and any additional meetings as may be arranged, and to represent the electors of Catfield in raising and discussing those issues of interest and concern on which the Parish Council is empowered to act. Applicants should also note that membership of the Council is open to electors:

Whose residence is in Catfield or within three miles of Catfield, or

Whose principal place of work is in Catfield and

who is not disqualified (by reason of a criminal record, bankruptcy, or involvement in corrupt practices).

APPLY

Please complete an application form available from the Parish Clerk. The successful applicant will be chosen by the Parish Council following due consideration of all applicants.

Closing Date: 20th June 2025

Susie Cunningham

Clerk to the Parish Council

Email: catfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com

APPOINTMENT OF A TRUSTEE FOR CATFIELD UNITED CHARITIES

Catfield United Charities have a position up for appointment in July 2025 for a term of 4 years.

The Charity provides money for residents of Catfield who find themselves in need. The role involves attendance at regular meetings, the upkeep and management of local properties, collecting rents, managing accounts, contact with the public and giving out of grants. More recently the management and running of Catfield Staithe Boatyard has been taken in house.

The charity team consists of 6 appointed representative trustees and 1 ex-officio trustee.

Catfield Parish Council would like to invite anyone interested in applying to contact Catfield United Charities at enquiries@catfielduntiedcharities.uk for more information on the role.

Applications to Mrs. Susie Cunningham at catfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com

Applications need to be submitted to us by 23rd July 2025. It would help if you could send us a summary of why you want to do this role and the qualities you possess to do it. You will be invited to present your case at the Parish Council meeting and if there are more than three candidates the Parish councillors will vote to decide who to appoint.

**The appointment will take place at the Parish Council meeting Wednesday 30th July
7pm at Catfield Village Hall.**

CATFIELD VILLAGE HALL AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Are you looking for a location for an event or a class?

If so, Catfield Village Hall is available for hire.

Contact the Village Hall booking Clerk for more details

Elainemsmith364@btinternet.com or call 01692 580056



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

1st June	10am	Benefice Holy Communion	Potter Heighm	Rev'd Gary Noyes
8th June PENTECOST	10am 10am	Holy Communion Morning Worship	Ludham Catfield	Rev'd Gary Noyes Judith Gardiner LLM
Weekend 14th & 15th June Launch event: Mission to Broads (more info on p13)	8am	Benefice Holy Communion	How Hill	Rev'd Gary Noyes and The Bishop of Thetford
22nd June	10am 6pm	Holy Communion Evening Prayer and Bible Study	Potter Heigham Catfield	Rev'd Gary Noyes Rev'd Linda Shuker
29th June	10am 11am	Songs of Praise Joint Service at Methodists	Catfield Ludham	Judith Gardiner LLM Rev'd Gary Noyes/ Shaun Cushion

Can you imagine 12 members of Scratch band and Catfield congregation sleeping in hammocks on the Wherry Albion? Well, that's what is happening on the night of Saturday June 14th! So perhaps FLOW stands for Fun and lots of Laughter.....I'm sure there really should be an S for snoring. Come along and join us, bring the whole family and a chair or rug and see what we are doing. Lots of crafty activities, have a look inside the Albion and each venue ends with a light hearted Songs of Praise.

Just as a reminder:-

Potter Heigham Staithe 10-12

How Hill 4-6

How Hill Holy Communion 8am

Ranworth Staithe 12-2

Just think you could drive from one venue to another and follow our progress along the river.

p.s The wise Bishop is not sleeping on board but will be with us on both Saturday and Sunday so do come and meet him and hopefully join in the fine weather for outside worship.

See page 18 for full details of the Waterside Churches Wherry Tour.

MISSION TO THE BROADS

This month sees the start of an exciting new initiative by the Waterside Group of churches (those in Catfield, Ludham and Potter Heigham).

This new venture has been in the planning stages during the winter months with Bishop Ian, Bishop of Thetford joining the meetings, as well as Revd. Richard Lamey, Director of Mission and Ministry, Diocese of Norwich, our Vicar, the Revd. Gary Noyes and members of the church communities.

The new Mission has adopted the acronym FLOW, to find out what it stands for, come along and ask.

There has already been a pre launch event, on Sunday March 23rd, when the Bishop of Thetford joined a packed St Catherine's church, Ludham for an afternoon "Songs of Praise" led by St. Catherine's church choir and the Waterside Scratch Band.

The launch event of Mission to the Broads will take place over the weekend of Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th June when the wherry Albion will be sailing the waterways that connect the 3 parishes. On board will be a special guest, the Rt Rev, Bishop Ian, Bishop of Thetford.

We hope to see you at one of the locations which the Wherry will visit, where there will be much to take part in for all the family (see programme on the poster on page 18). At each venue there will be an exciting and varied programme of activities, whether it be face painting, crafts and games and refreshment, an opportunity to sing your favourite hymns or just to have space and time to relax, reflect and worship.

This first event in the Mission to the Broads will be followed by others throughout the Summer and Autumn. Come along on 14th or 15th June to find out more.....

Christine Wall, AWA

**If you are planning a visit to the Catfield Village Fete
on Sunday 22nd June**

**there is an opportunity to find out the history of some of the people
buried in All Saints Church, Catfield graveyard.**

**Keith Bacon will be giving tours round the graveyard
at 12 noon and 2pm**

Catfield Action Team – News and happenings June 2025



Tuesday evening summer walks – next 17th June

Our walks programme started off in great style on 6th May with a well-attended, beautiful evening walk around How Hill.

All our walks are open to all, whether CAT members or not. Please do come and join us for our next event on Tuesday 17th June. We'll be meeting at the Ramblers Gift Shop in Thurne for a 3-mile walk starting at 6.30 pm.

Further ahead, we are planning a walk on quiet Catfield roads on 15th July that will be accessible for wheelchairs and buggies, and another local walk on 19th August. Details to follow in the next Catfield News, and we will need you to let us know in advance that you're coming.



Planting

We hope you've enjoyed the various flowers, in particular the tulips and the camassia, which have put on a great show on the corner of The Street/New Road. The planters have now been restocked with foxgloves, cosmos, cornflower and marigolds for some summer colour, and the grass has had its first cut of the season.

We are also planning maintenance of the hedge on the playing field and the hedging outside Trend on Sutton Road and assisting with the much-needed watering at Catfield School garden.

Fundraising

Bingo continues this month on Friday 27th June and the following session will be on 25th July.

Volunteer help is still needed for the village fete on 22nd June, and don't forget to note in your diaries our Afternoon Tea event on Thursday 17th July, when we'd love to see existing members as well as anyone wishing to find out more about us and maybe join.

Contact: catfieldactionteam@gmail.com and 07932 191558. Find us also on Facebook and Instagram

The secret world of sewage treatment in Catfield



Protozoas and other micro organisms in our sewage treatment.

These are the organisms that contribute to the health and well being of residents and also the environment in the Catfield and Broads area.

These tiny creatures are invisible to the naked eye, and only visible through a microscope which I have done in the laboratory, but are essential to the treatment of the waste water of Catfield.

I have had the opportunity to be involved in the treatment of waste water for many years in this area.

It might not be known that sewage treatment from Catfield takes place in Ludham.

People may have noticed the rotating arms spraying liquid on to beds of stone when passing the treatment works on their way to Ludham.

Within these beds of stone or porous material reside tiny creatures of many different types, it's a jungle in there, they live in the dark and cling to a slimy layer on each individual stone, or media as it is more correctly called, they have complicated life cycles, and they grab and consume tiny particles of matter which is suspended in the sewage and also hunt each other.

Also a special type of worm makes its home amongst the media and also snails and pea mussels, and on the surface, birds. I once saw a flock of reed bramblings feeding on the insects contained within the surface moss.

This moss is a problem, as the effluent nourishes it, but it can prevent the arms rotating. An amusing event occurred one day when I took some of the moss home for surrounding house plants in pots in the bathroom, next morning the bathroom was alive with many types of insect!

The media is of a special type with holes plus irregular surface, therefore each individual piece of media has a surface area of many times its size, this is to accommodate the seething mass of many tiny creatures.

Alec Nisbet

Farming News

I think it's been 10 weeks now with only 10mm of rain and no rain in the forecast. So, it's hardly surprising that all the crops and grass are struggling to grow. The exception to this is weed beet which seems to thrive in all conditions, luckily the two places where I've spotted them, I have a surprise for them. The beet are "Smart" and they are not. So, we'll give them another month then apply an ALS herbicide. The Smart beet are ALS resistant! The maize has been drilled at Catfield into excellent seedbeds but on light land where there is no moisture, I've abandoned the crop and will drill SFI options instead. We really need warm nights and lots of rain, otherwise I think we are looking at a disaster on many farms. Crop commodity prices continue to fall and US & UK have had a deal which includes the importation of 1.4 billion lts of Ethanol. In the UK we make about 0.5 billion lts of Ethanol out of surplus wheat in Hull and Teeside and surplus sugar beet at Wissington. These UK plants have the ability to remove surplus in times of plenty but now it looks like the market place could be oversupplied all of the time. The US Ethanol comes from plants which take corn maize and extract the carbon (ethanol) leaving the waste product to be fed to chickens around the World when mixed with GM Soya. The idea was that the Ethanol was used by cars but with the change to electric cars, its not all wanted in the States. Here we have Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation (RTFO) target of 12.15% this year. So, by importing more Ethanol we can attempt to hit the Government's RTFO target. Oh, the maize it came from is GM. Farmers just can't compete with this and I am concerned what effect this will have on wheat commodity prices. The Government did stop short of importing chlorinated chicken but has allowed a tit for tat beef agreement- we export quality Aberdeen Angus steaks and import feed lot quality meat. So why is it important to ban chlorinated chicken? Well, the simple answer is that the NHS could not cope with the ill people who would eat it, in the US there are four times as many deaths (pro rata) than UK from food poisoning.

The Environment Agency keep appearing on the farm and on neighbour's land. We now have a suitcase full of electronics recording water quality in one ditch and they have even put some dye in one septic tank to see if it comes out anywhere. This is a bit odd because the week before different people from the Environment Agency tested the septic tank in question and reported that all was in order. The water quality in the ditch is excellent.

We are now a month into the new financial year at Defra and there have been no announcements on when environmental schemes are to open again. I'm also hearing stories of Defra/NE/RPA looking at agreements and checking compliance, there can only be one reason for this- they have no money and need to claw some back. Still while there is no rain, the rivers are actually looking quite good. Ditches, on the other hand, are almost dry and one at Holly Farm is dry for the only time that I can remember.

The Broads Authority have published the results of their annual deer survey. Red Deer numbers are up considerably, Chinese Water Deer are now the most numerous of all the deer species. These deer are eating their way though the protected species in the protected sites. If I had 200 red deer on my farm near a protected site, I'm sure I would have a visit from some agency telling me their by-products were causing a problem to the protected site- but its not a problem with them living in the protected site, eating farmers' crop then resting and s**ting in the marshes. Poachers are about in vehicles, so be careful when walking in the evening and early morning. My stalkers sit in high seats and are legal.

AWA 10.5.2025.

News for Norfolk Wildlife Trust – Hickling Broad and Marshes



As we head towards high summer a long spell of bright, clear blue skies has led us to thoughts of halcyon days of seemingly endless daylight and warm evenings. As a constant reminder that nothing is written on stone regards to weather these days, the nagging wind from the north-easterly quarter has at times inhibited the rising temperatures.

The spring sun, doubtless combined with the relatively mild weather the previous winter, has led to a remarkably early emergence of swallowtail butterflies on the reserve. I was fortunate enough to see the first that emerged on the seemingly ridiculous date on May 1st, since when small numbers of our most beautiful of butterflies have been on the wing almost every day since. This date is almost two weeks in advance of the emergence date in 2024 (May 12th), and almost a full month on that in 2023 (May 29th), this breaks the previous reserve record of May 6th. Early emergence brings its own issues for the butterflies as flowering plants are at a premium at this time. Flag iris, pink campion and even hawthorn can supply much needed nectar for these insects at this early time. If you would like to see a swallowtail, visit us in June, the 'best' month for swallowtails, when peak numbers will likely be on the wing on warm, sunny and windless days.

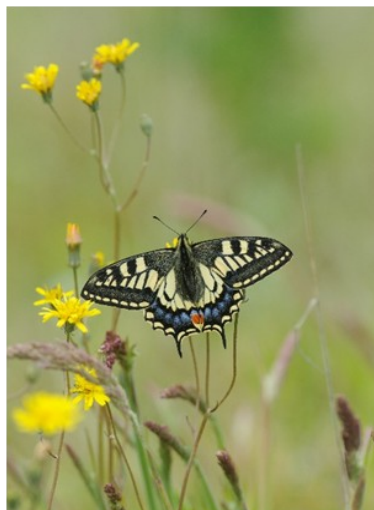


Image by Terry Whittaker

In addition to our regular summer schedule of boat trips at the reserve we will be launching our weekend "Introduction to Hickling Broad" 45 min trips from the Pleasure Boat and commencing our evening boat trips on Tuesdays and Thursdays during June. Please do visit our website www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk for further information.

Our program of guided walks and talks, including *Birds of Hickling* and *Plants of Hickling*, continue during June. All booked via our website, where further details can be found.

John Williamson – NWT Senior Boat Operator

Waterside Churches Wherry Tour

Weekend of 14th/15th June

Meet us on the Wherry Albion



Saturday 14th June

Rt Revd Bishop Ian of
Thetford on board

Potter Heigham Bridge

10:00 — 1:00

How Hill

4:00 — 6:00

Sunday 15th June

How Hill

8:00 - Holy Communion

Ranworth Staithe

12:00 — 2:00

Please note these are approximate times

Bringing ministry to the Broads

Songs of Praise — Crafts — Face painting

Games — Stories — Reflection

Refreshments



www.watersidegroup.co.uk



As part of
North Norfolk
Open Studios

([https://
www.northernorfolkstudios.co.uk/](https://www.northernorfolkstudios.co.uk/))

Chris Cook Art is opening on
Saturday 24th May, Sunday 25th May,
Saturday 31st May and Sunday 8th
June.

10 am - 4.30pm

Range of paintings in oils and
watercolours and linocut prints
Framed and unframed artwork

Facebook : chriscookart
Instagram : chris_cookart
at Holly House, The Street, Catfield.
NR29 5AZ

BINGO

7pm @ Catfield Village Hall

An event organised by

FRIDAY 27 JUNE
Any enquiries call
07932 191558

£6 Raffle & Refreshments available during Interval • Cash prize on last game!



Open Mic Night @ Ca...



THE OPEN MIC AT CATFIELD IS ON TUESDAY
17th JUNE 7.30pm

AT CATFIELD VILLAGE HALL, NR29 5AA,
MESSAGE TO CONFIRM A SLOT, OR JUST TURN
UP. LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!
AUDIENCE WELCOME.

The Open Mic Night
POSTPONED UNTIL SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 7.30pm
17th June
Catfield Village Hall

£3 admission
bring drink, nibbles
and of course your songs!

CATFIELD
VILLAGE FETE
SUNDAY 22ND JUNE
The Old Rectory, School Road
11am till 4pm
Come and join us for a
fun afternoon

Dianne is still looking for
donations of bottles for
the BOTTLE TOMBOLA.
stall at the fete.

If you can help please contact
Dianne on 01692 581409

BROADLAND MODEL RAILWAY CLUB



Exhibition season is well underway, we had a small display at the Stalham Town Meeting and actually got included in their photos which can be viewed on the Stalham Town Council website.

Our next Club show is on Sunday May 25th in the Hoveton Village Hall, there will be a number of club and visiting layouts on show plus traders and second-hand stalls; refreshments will be available and there is free parking.

Next we will have a single layout at the Catfield Village Fete on June 22nd, then at the Stalham Artisan Street Fayre on July 20th. We will be holding a full exhibition on August 24th (bank holiday Sunday) at the Poppy Centre in Stalham, watch for the posters with full details and as ever check out our website for the latest news.

The Stalham High School team are busy, we will be track testing, painting and ballasting in the coming weeks as well as starting work on the scenery and kit building of the railway architecture (station, goods shed, loco shed etc.) The students have already painted many of the miniature figures, including holding a "people painting pasta party" during the Easter break.

As always, we are interested in hearing from potential new members, full contact information is on the website:

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

BROADLAND BELLS

New Ringers Needed

We have 41 beautiful bronze handbells and our music has ranged from The Teddy Bears Picnic to The Dam Busters via Musical Theatre and Light Classical Music.

The sound is gorgeous!

If you would like to ring or learn to ring please contact

Judith Gardiner (07826848585 or judithgardiner5@aol.com) or

Bruce Moffat (01692 678281 or 07880 573947 or brucemoffat@btinternet.com).

We practise every second, fourth and fifth Minday, 10.30 to 12.15 in Ludham.

An ability to read one or two notes at a time from printed music would be helpful.



Catfield Primary Academy

We hope you all had a wonderful Easter! We would like to begin by saying a massive thank you to the Catfield Action Team for coming in over the Easter holidays and improving our peaceful area. They have added new soil, gravel, trimmed and tidied our hedging and plants and planted lots of lovely new plants in our flower beds. Our children are super excited to see the plants grow and bloom and it has made such a difference to the area. Thank you!



Our final Stay and Play session of the school year is on Monday 2nd June 1:30-2:30pm. If you have any children aged 2-4

years looking for a pre-school place, come and join us for some fun activities and see our wonderful school in action!

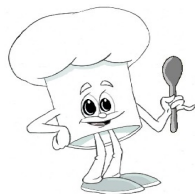
This year we are raising money for our school by holding Bag2School collection on 23rd June. If you are throwing out any old clothes, shoes, coats, hats and bags, please drop them into the school office by Friday 22nd June. The more we collect, the more money we raise! We would really appreciate your help.

Are you having a clear out and throwing away any old toys? We are always looking for donations of lego, duplo, magnetic building toys, toy cars, building blocks, small world toys, car mats, babies, toy baby clothes, play kitchen items, tykes cars and much more. If you can help, please send an email to the school office (office@catfield.norfolk.sch.uk) with a photo and we will arrange collection/drop off. Thank you.

Lucy Amis
(Senior Teacher)

Tip:- Stop a squeaking door hinge by putting petroleum jelly on the hinge pins.

Chef's Specials



Tea Time Treats

No-Bowl Choc-Chip Slice

Ingredients

90g butter, melted
100g plain sweet biscuit crumbs
285g dark choc chips
70g shredded coconut
140g mixed nuts
395g can sweetened condensed milk

Method

1. Preheat oven to 160C. Grease 23cm square baking tin; line base and sides with baking parchment.
2. Pour butter into prepared tin; sprinkle evenly with biscuit crumbs, choc chips, coconut and nuts. Drizzle with condensed milk.
3. Bake in the oven for about 30 minutes. Cool in the tin before cutting into slices.

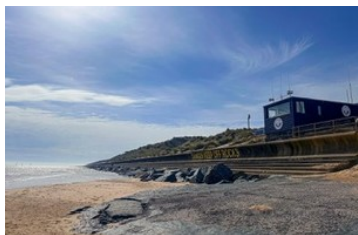
Snickers Rocky Road

Ingredients

4 x 60g Snickers bars, chopped coarsely
35g rice crispies
150g toasted marshmallows, chopped coarsely
150g toasted unsalted peanuts
400g milk eating chocolate, chopped coarsely
2 tsp vegetable oil

Method

1. Grease 19cm x 29cm slice tin. Line base and two long sides with baking parchment, extending paper 2cm above sides of pan.
2. Combine Snickers, rice crispies, marshmallows and nuts in a large bowl. Stir chocolate and oil in small saucepan over low heat until smooth. Cool for 5 minutes.
3. Pour chocolate mixture into Snickers mixture, mix until well combined. Spoon rocky road mixture into prepared tin; refrigerate, covered, for about 30 minutes or until set. Remove from tin, trim edges of mixture, cut into 3cm squares. Store, covered in the fridge.
D.S.



Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat

As we write this, the sun is shining, the sea breeze is warm, and summer evenings are making their welcome return. With the season comes a rise in visitors to our beautiful coastline — and with that, a timely reminder of the vital role your volunteer Lifeboat Crew plays.

During a recent routine training exercise, our crew were called to assist two swimmers dangerously close to a rip current. Thankfully, we were able to return them safely to the beach. It was a close call and a clear example of how quickly the sea can change — and why we remain ready 24/7, in partnership with HM Coastguard.

Our newly acquired Launch Vehicle for the Canon Portal lifeboat has completed rigorous testing and is now fully signed off and in service — a major step forward in ensuring we can launch quickly and safely in all conditions.

Behind the scenes, station maintenance has been full steam ahead with post-winter repairs and pre-summer checks.

We were proud to support the official naming ceremony of The Lifeboat Inn in Sea Palling — a wonderful event with a fantastic turnout. Local artist Karen H Leveridge unveiled her beautiful new sign for the pub, perfectly capturing the spirit of our coastal village.

Want to take a piece of us on your summer adventures? Our beach stall is open most Sunday mornings throughout the summer where you can make a purchase and support your local lifeboat. We'd be thrilled to see your holiday snaps showcasing our gear — please tag us on social media so we can see where in the world they travel!

As always thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Many thanks.

Kind regards

Rita Galbraith
Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat
Fundraising Team

Registered Charity No. 267211

How Hill Trust

Education team

The Wherry Hathor has returned to How Hill Staithe and our school groups have enjoyed looking around and learning all about the history linking How Hill to Hathor! Named after the Egyptian goddess of love, beauty, music, dancing, fertility, and pleasure, Hathor was built in memory of Alan Colman, a young son of the famous Colman's Mustard family. He contracted tuberculosis and his doctors suggested that the warm air of Egypt might help him. His family chartered a dahabeah called Hathor to take him down the Nile, but he sadly died just after reaching Luxor. This wherry was commissioned in his memory in 1904 by his heartbroken sisters and it contains a lavish



Egyptian themed interior to commemorate Alan's final journey.

On your next visit to How Hill take a walk down to the river to board 'the Egyptian wherry' Hathor. It will be moored at How Hill Staithe until the end of September so don't miss out.

Adult Visitors

How Hill has been busy over the last couple of months with residential groups doing yoga, lacemaking, singing and embroidery sandwiched in between the children's residential and day visits. All adult visitors are extra income streams to support the children staying with us. Additionally, our charitable work is supported by The Friends of How Hill which is an independent charity. They organise fundraising events throughout the year and have been able to fund items such as life jackets, education team wet weather gear and replacement boardwalks. New members are always welcome. Annual membership entitles you to attend exclusive Friends events and receive regular newsletters keeping you in touch with what is happening at How Hill as well as 10% discount off our courses. For more information about joining please email friendsofhowhill@yahoo.com.

We have a few spaces left on our Churches Course which runs from Monday 18th August to Thursday 21st August Norfolk has more round towered churches than any other county and this year we will be visiting only round towered churches. We will meet a local expert at every church ensuring we get the maximum from each visit. If you would like more details, please contact Zenda by emailing secretary@howhilltrust.org.uk

Museum of the Broads

Summer time is holiday time on the beautiful Broads.

Bringing the stories of the Broads alive is what we're all about. And one of the most magical stories of the Broads is the history of boating holidays.

The history of boating holidays on the Broads is a litany of famous names. If you go all the way back to the 1870s, thirty years or more after the railways had made the area so much more accessible you'll find **John Loynes** starting to offer small yachts and converted trading wherries for hire.

By 1906 **Harry Blake**, who had spent his holiday on the Broads, was joining forces with **Ernest Collins** to hire out holiday boats. It would lead to the formation of **Blakes Holidays**.

By the 1940s Norfolk harbourmaster, **Wally Hoseason**, had started hiring out boats at Oulton Broad. They were the days of petrol shortages and the early post war years. By 1946 he had a holiday brochure; the beginnings of **Hoseasons** as we know it today.

The two legendary names would help define Broads holidays and by the 1980s most used either Hoseasons or Blakes to hire out their holiday boats.

Our new display area in the Oulton building celebrates this fascinating aspect of Broads history. Find out about how holidays used to be. Come and visit soon.

Check out the summer trails

Get up close and involved with the Broads! Our paddle trail is a great way to explore. Find the museum's oldest boat. Discover what life was like on a wherry.

What goes 'crunch!' in a Barn Owl's lunch?

Find out! And much more, in another of our brilliant interactive trails. All included in your museum entrance.

And of course there are boat trips....

What better way to celebrate the history of Broads boating holidays than with a boat trip? Come over and take a boat trip to bring the stories of the Broads alive.

Everything you need to know about The Museum and what's on is always available on our website at www.museumofthebroads.org.uk



SUDOKU

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

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

Last Months Solution

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

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
Methodist Ludham	See www.eangliamethodist.org.uk or facebook pages for latest updates	Rev. Andrew King – 01493 750799 Alan Croft - Steward - 01692 582104
Saint Fursey's Orthodox Christian Centre, Sutton	See website – www.saintfursey.uk	Rev. Stephen Weston – 01692 580552

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Sunday	Food Bar	12pm through to 7pm 12pm through to 10.30pm	

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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 July magazine is 10th June

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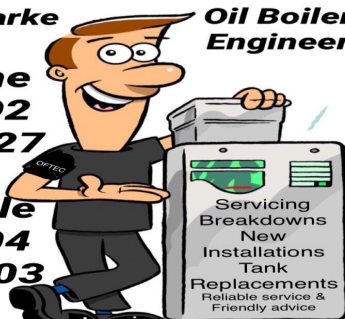
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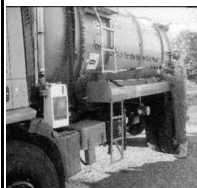
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Items for inclusion need to be received no later than **10th** of each month. Items can be e-mailed to the team, *contacts detailed on page 2*, or left in the Catfield News box in the Village Shop. Articles should be no more than 400 words and have 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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