



Edition
262

CATFIELD NEWS

Your village magazine

September 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 - 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

The Catfield News Team need you

We are looking for someone else to help
with the production of the magazine.

Roles within the team are secretary, editor,
accounts and advertising, and we would
really like someone who can help with
the accounts or advertising.

If you feel you could help ,
or would just like to find out a little more
please contact
secretarycatnews1@btinternet.com

Advertising space available in the Catfield News

For just £50 p.a. you can place a business card size advert
in the magazine for a year. Larger spaces are available if required.

We would love to help promote local businesses by advertising them in
the magazine, and if you do you will be supporting your local magazine
as the income from advertisers pays for the printing cost.

The magazine is delivered free to every house in Catfield and is
produced by a small team of volunteers.

If you are interested in placing an advert please contact
stevebeckley1@gmail.com or
secretarycatnews1@btinternet.com

VILLAGE HALL UPDATE—Apology to all Hall users

May I apologise on behalf of the Management Committee of Catfield Village Hall for the sudden notice of the new roof being unable to go ahead. One or two problems suddenly came to our knowledge and we felt they needed to be investigated before going ahead including the payment of a very large bill for VAT on the work completed with no fault of the builder.

Please bear with us and we will keep you informed.

Judith Gardiner
Chairman

Pen To Paper (For World Letter Writing Day - 1st September) By Ciéra Cree

Ink flows freely from the nib of your pen
As you note down 'hello's' and long overdue 'how-are-you's'

Words about your days and how the kids have been
How the weather is getting warmer but may at any moment snap

You ask about holiday plans, beloved pets,
If Aunt Sherly is still as stubborn as she has always been

And you ponder the future: when you will next meet again,
The next season, upcoming birthdays

A world opened up from putting pen to paper.

Tip:- Need to BBQ something extra, say something vegetarian that you don't want fat splashed on? Improvise a second grill by building a fire in a large old cooking pot. Cook on a wire cake rack placed over the pot. After you have finished, put the pot's lid on to put out the fire and save the charcoal for another outdoor cooking session.

What's on in Catfield during September

The Mobile Library will visit Catfield on Tuesday 2nd September

Thorn Road - 14:35 - 14:55

Village Hall - 15:00 - 15:20

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

First Friday Coffee, Games & Chat

Friday 5th September 10.30pm onwards

Come and join us for a coffee and chat 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 9th and Tuesday 23rd September

2pm to 4pm in Catfield Village Hall

We are a friendly group of like minded people, all sharing 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, crochet, 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.

Tes, Coffee & Biscuits included

Free first/taster session

What's on in Catfield during September

Quiz & Curry Night
The Crown Inn, Catfield
7pm, Tuesday 16th September
See page 18 for more info

Catfield Crafters
Wednesday 24th September
1pm—3pm 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 always welcome.
Contact Jennifer Banham on 01493 740560

Parish Council Meeting
Catfield Village Hall
Wednesday 24th September, 7.00pm.
Please check Parish Council website for Agenda.
<https://catfieldparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

Macmillan Coffee Morning
The Crown Inn, Catfield
Thursday 25th September
See page 19 for more info

Monthly BINGO
Friday 26th September
7pm
Catfield Village Hall

CATFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS WEDNESDAY 30th JULY

Public Update

- No issues were raised.

Councillors Bayes and Taylor Update

- District Councillor Taylor attended the meeting. The Parish Council (PC) congratulated Councillor Taylor on his appointment as Vice-Chairman of North Norfolk District Council (NNDC). This is a civic, non-political role. Councillor Taylor advised that he had met with Konectbus to discuss the possibility of extending the night service. He will update the PC on the outcome.

Councillor Price Update

- Councillor Price had spoken to some of the Parish Councillors about the bus shelter. Although this has now been completed, there is a potential trip hazard and he will contact Westcotec to try to resolve this. The Community Funding Project is proving to be successful and many applications have been received. However, Councillor Price reminded the PC that the budget is limited to £5000. With regard to the proposed drainage works on Elderbush Lane, Councillor Price suggested that he arrange a meeting between the PC and Norfolk County Council (NCC) Highways. He also advised that NCC Highways will be issuing enforcement notices with regard to the concrete blocks on the verges along Elderbush Lane. The possibility of upgrading the current SAM2 to SAM3, which the PC are in favour of, was discussed. Councillor Price has repeated his request to Anglian Water to investigate the Lea Road junction drain.

Planning

- **Store Galore – discharge of conditions on retrospective planning permission and application for a certificate of lawful use and development**

Councillor Bunting declared an interest in this matter. An application had been made to vary the conditions attached to the planning permission. The PC was of the view that the original conditions were satisfactory and had been imposed for a reason, mainly residential amenity. The amended conditions involved replacing the acoustic fence with a higher non-acoustic fence, two alternative drainage options and a change from gates to security cameras. Councillor Harris proposed that the PC write to NNDC stating that the PC are reluctantly prepared to accept the change to the fencing but do not agree to the other two proposed changes. Councillor Harris to draft the letter.

(cont'd)

- **Malthouse Lane Site – Appeals against refusal of planning permission and the enforcement notice issued by NNDC**

The appeals hearing will be held by a planning inspector on 12th August 2025 at Cromer. Councillors Briscoe and Harris will attend and will speak if this is permitted. Councillor Briscoe will circulate a list of the points to be raised at the hearing.

- **PF/25/0715 – Formation of a new 8m access track from Plumsgate Road with a hardcore gated access and grass track – Land to the south of Three Gables, Sutton Road.**

Councillor Harris declared an interest in this matter and Vice-Chair, Councillor Briscoe, chaired this item. The PC had no objection to this application and was in support of it as a sensible solution. A hard access would provide a much cleaner and safer access to the junction. The clerk to notify NNDC.

- **PC's Planning Questionnaire**

Councillor Edwards advised that he and Councillor Dr Harris had drafted a response to NNDC which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Once all references to any PC that could identify that PC had been removed, the letter could be sent. A copy of the report and NNDC's response should be sent to all the parish councils and they should be invited to submit any comments to the clerk.

- **New Flagship Planning Application for 26 houses on Catfield Road, Ludham**

Councillor Harris raised concerns about sewage from the development affecting the rivers. Although the application related to a site in Ludham, not Catfield, Councillor Harris to draft a letter requesting that assurances be given regarding sewage from the site.

Highways & Road Safety

- **Proposed drainage works at Elderbush Lane**

See under Councillor Price's report. Councillor Bacon volunteered to attend the proposed site meeting.

- **Village Hall Bus Shelter and Disabled Parking Bay**

Councillor Briscoe questioned why there was still an area where the grass had been removed at the end of the disabled parking bay. The signage has now been installed and the disabled parking bay was now the correct size. The PC will also write to Westcotec regarding the potential trip hazard – see Councillor Price's report.

- **Additional Bus Stop Funding**

Applications for the new Parish Partnership Scheme, which could provide a substantial contribution to the cost of another bus shelter, had to be submitted by 31st October. Councillors Briscoe, Edwards and Dr Harris were tasked to identify a suitable location for a potential new shelter and report back to the PC.

(cont'd)

Environmental

• Catfield Action Group

The Catfield Village Fete had raised £2,524. Donations were being made to the Village Hall, the Church, the Friday Coffee and Chat Group, Catfield Christmas Lunch, the cadets who had helped with the parking and the three bands who had performed. CAT will water the school garden during the school holidays. Bingo sessions have been scheduled for 26th September and 31st October.

• FloGas Lighting Response

The request for a meeting will be chased up.

Appointment of a new Catfield United Charities Trustee

There had been two applications, one from Dr Bacon and one from Dr Wilson. Dr Wilson was appointed.

Village Hall Recreation Ground

Councillor Edwards had sent all the quotes to the other Councillors prior to the meeting. He advised that even with the grants applied for, only half the cost was covered. He will apply for more grants where possible. If the balance cannot be covered, then the project might not succeed. Councillor Briscoe advised that work appeared to have started at Milestones and that a letter should be sent to NNDC reminding them that the section 106 monies should be used as a contribution to the playground. She will draft a letter.

Correspondence

• Footpath opposite Elderbush Lane

A parishioner had written to the PC advising that the footpath had been filled with rubble, including broken glass. Councillor Harris had walked the path and Councillor Bunting had picked up half a bucket of glass and sharp objects. The PC will write to the owner of the footpath advising them of the situation and cc NCC Highways.

Village Hall

Councillor Harris read out a letter which had been received from a parishioner who had raised concerns about the necessity of replacing the village hall roof. The PC would pass the letter onto the Village Hall Management Committee. The clerk had had concerns about the PC invoicing the builders for the works, receiving a donation from the Village Hall Management Committee and then reclaiming the VAT. She had contacted NALC and had been advised that this was not a possible course of action. Therefore, if the Village Hall Management Committee wished to proceed with the roof replacement, they would have to carry out the project and pay the VAT. The PC also needed to have more information regarding the insurance policy for the village hall and assurances that the insurers had been notified of the proposed works. Councillor Edwards to summarise the PC's discussions for the Village Hall Management Committee and Councillors Briscoe and Johnson to assist with the insurance.

(cont'd)

Purchase of the surveyor's allotment

An area of Sandholes was currently leased to a parishioner who had requested that they be allowed to purchase it. The PC did not agree to selling the land at this time. Clerk to advise the parishioner.

Allotments

Councillor Johnson advised that work is ongoing to clear the area and there have been requests for new allotments. Councillor Bunting will assist Councillor Johnson to measure the plots.

PLEASE REFER TO THE WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS OF MEETING MINUTES

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 27th AUGUST 2025



CATFIELD PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Polly Plowman		pollyplowman80@gmail.com
Ian Roberson	07876 193547	robey6815@gmail.com
Scott Snelling	07522 238858	scott.catfieldpc@gmail.com
Glen Bunting	07799 216533	gbunting50@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.



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

7th September	10am	Benefice Holy Communion Catfield Pet Service	Potter Heigham	Rev'd Gary Noyes
	3pm		Old Rectory Garden	April Noyes
14th September	10am	Morning Worship	Catfield	Judith Gardiner LLM
	10am	Holy Communion	Ludham	Rev'd Gary Noyes
20th September	10.30am	Norwich Cathedral Licencing of Ros Bingham as Licensed Lay Minister. All Welcome		
21st September	10am	Holy Communion	Catfield	Rev'd Gary Noyes
	10am	Morning Worship	Ludham	Stephen Pitkethley AWA
28th September	10am	Harvest Festival Service	Potter Heigham	Rev'd Gary Noyes
	10am	Morning Worship	Ludham	Linda Savage AWA
	6pm	Evening Worship and Bible Study	Catfield	Rev'd Linda Shuker

Catfield and Potter Heigham churches have weekly joint services and all churches in the benefice welcome you to stay for refreshments and fellowship after each service.

Homily

Since June there have been some amazing opportunities for outside worship in the Waterside Benefice - on the wherry Albion with the Bishop of Thetford, to launch our mission to reach more people in the area which we called Flow. The highlight for me being the 8am Holy Communion at How Hill surrounded by the tranquillity and peace of the water and the accompaniment of the birds, including a cuckoo.

The next Flow event was an opportunity to join the Leavers from Catfield School and their families and friends in the Old Rectory Garden for a picnic and activities. We finished with sharing a short service led by the pupils themselves singing songs and readings - well done to each of you - then being presented with their Bibles by Lady Dannatt and Bishop Ian.

You may also have joined the Bishop of Norwich at the annual service at St Benets.

Church does not have to be stuffy! And does not actually have to be inside a building but it offers a time of fellowship, reflection and a chance to pray together.

Sadly, our world seems to be going astray. There will always be people whom think their way is right to the detriment of thousands who are dying in war torn areas.

I think of our wonderful pupils at school and then ask myself how can young people, only two or three years older, think it's right to not only stab someone but even record it on their phones? What has happened to knowing right from wrong and the influence of a happy family life?

May we help all our young people continue on their journey and I pray that their life may be full of love, laughter and Christian fellowship.

Judith Gardiner,
Licenced Lay Minister



Catfield School
Leavers' Banner

PET SERVICE

Come and say thank you for your furry, feathered or
scaly friends and bring them with you
(cuddly toys also welcome)

Catfield Old Rectory Garden

Sunday 7th September

3:00pm

A short, informal celebration for all ages
Followed by tea, cake and dog biscuits!



At this year's Easter Garden service every member of the congregation was given a sunflower seed and the challenge to see how well they could get it to grow. There have been reports of varied success, stories of snails, slugs and wind along with sightings of one taller than their garage. Here is my mum's sunflower with one of the biggest sunflower heads I have ever seen. I wonder if anyone else has had such success with sunflowers this year? Each sunflower started in a small pot with a quote from Audrey Hepburn written on, 'To plant a garden is to live for tomorrow.' These sunflowers have certainly shown that nature is a wonderful thing.
Diana

Photo of Sunflower including my cat's tail for scale!



Catfield Action Team – News and happenings September 2025



Ideas wanted to help improve the village

We want to say a big thank-you to everyone who has taken part in the community events our group has put on in the village since we started, whether that's our plant sales, bingo evenings, the village fete or something else. We hope you've had as much fun as we have, but we want to thank you because your involvement has helped us successfully raise funds that we can use to improve our village.

We are now on the lookout for your good ideas! Is there something you think is missing in Catfield, or is out-of-date, or just needs to be replaced? Have you got a local project that you need to get off the ground? We might be able to help. Have a think as you go about the village and let us know what we could do to help improve our surroundings and facilities or perhaps provide some new opportunities. We can't guarantee we can help with what you suggest but we promise we will consider any ideas carefully. We think young people in the village aren't very well served and would particularly like to hear about ideas that would benefit them.

Contact us on 07932 191558, catfieldactionteam@gmail.com or find us on Facebook/Instagram.

Litter pick

Our second litter-pick of the year will be taking place on Saturday 27th September and we would love to have your help. We'll be starting from the village hall at 10 am and will be finished by 12 pm, but you don't have to stay the full two hours – just half an hour of your time will be appreciated and useful and you don't have to walk far if you don't want to. Children under 16 are welcome but must be accompanied by a responsible adult. All equipment is provided, just bring your own gloves and wear sturdy shoes.

Daffodils and other bulbs

We are starting to put together a plan for more bulb-planting around the village to start in October, this time aiming for small pockets of planting and a variety of bulbs. Do let us know if you can think of a corner or two that need a bit of colour in the spring (think signposts and verges).

School garden

We plan to gather at the school garden on Monday 1st September to trim and clear the wildflower area, tend to the raised beds and decide how to add colour for the coming spring.

Planters and wildflowers

We hope you have enjoyed the changing colours and vegetation in both the planters and the wildflower areas. We will continue to mow the grass to ensure access to the benches and aim to sow more annual wildflower seed and plant more bulbs on the site in the coming months.

Fundraising

Bingo

Our next bingo session is on Friday 26th September, with the following one on 31st October

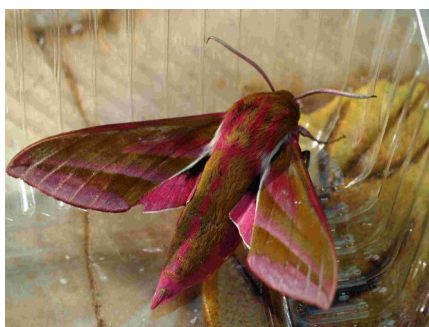
A Tale of two caterpillars

Yesterday I was digging out the footings for one of my ceramic mushrooms in my front garden, this is a way of replicating nature with stone, concrete and ceramics. People are interested, and an amusing event the other day was a car stopped and a lady got out to take photos of the mushrooms, 'Where can I buy one' was the question, she was very surprised when I told her they weigh several hundred weight, the tallest being as tall as a person ! It will be noticed there is a gnome under each mushroom, despite being a 'marmite item' these are interesting to cast and paint. There is no room in this nature article to describe the building, ceramics and casting of these garden ornaments and gnomes, but I could do another time if there is interest.



Whilst removing the turf I spotted an Elephant Hawk Moth caterpillar on the grass, most hawk moth caterpillars look similar, but the elephant has two spots each side behind its head and are a varying shade of green. Other hawk caterpillars have one or several eyes or dashes, mostly with the rear horn, when disturbed they twist their body sharply from side to side, as this one did, this together with their pretend eyes are their defence. The next day I found another much larger one making its way across my garage floor, I presumed it was ready to pupate and so I put it in our wood-pile, first it twisted its head to orient itself before proceeding, then it made its way into the depths through the logs towards the darkness.

Elephant Hawk moths are not the most flamboyant of our hawks, although a pleasing colour, however any hawks are a pleasure to see, not often seen and do come to my light source at night, as the pictured one did, they get their name from the shape of the caterpillars head, which resembles a trunk.



Alec Nisbet

Farming News

Cereal harvest is complete, probably the earliest harvest for years and it's been a very mixed bag. Nitrogen levels are high and the maltsters have 2024 crop in store and some even have 2023 tonnage in store. Nitrogen level in malting barley is important as the protein level affects yeast activity, fermentation and the colour of the beer. A protein percentage of just under 10% is ideal which equates to a Nitrogen percentage of 1.65. So, contracts where the barley is destined for the highest quality markets such as local breweries and Guinness tend to be under 1.65. The problem is only 20-25% of the Spring barley crop of suitable varieties is under 1.65 and only 50% of suitable winter barleys have made the grade. The rest will end up as feed barley at a much lower price than farmers were expecting. The good news is sales of Guinness are up 30% whereas most sales of beer and lager are down, so Diageo, who malt for Guinness, want their contracted barley and I supply Diageo. The difference between supplying a contract and feed barley is some £150-200/acre and that's enough for all sorts of underhand tactics by firms to supply. I mentioned above that there is a lots of 2024 crop in store and that barley was very low Nitrogen. It must be very tempting to mix these together and come up with the top-quality barley.

Yields and quality on light land have generally been poor but the better-quality land is where the best barley is and Catfield have Grade 1 land.

I have just over 100 acres in cover crops and a further 100 acres of sugar beet in the ground. The theory is that these crops will suck the remaining available nutrients out of the ground leaving nothing to be leached from the fields. Any nutrients will be held in the plant material until its ploughed down ready for the next crop. This is my second year of winter cover crops and the conclusions that I have come to are its expensive, perennials weeds thrive, it adds to work load during harvest and I'm not convinced the next crop benefits much. On the other hand, the birds love it and the eco warriors now think I'm on side. The question is when SFI/Mid Stewardship ends- will I carry on with cover crops? Well, the answer to that lies with whether Rachel Reeves thinks the Countryside is a benefit to society. Right now, she is focussed on her £2.8 trillion debt where the interest is twice the figure for 2024. Its equivalent to having a 100% mortgage and the monthly payments never make a dent in the sum borrowed. Defra's latest thought process is not to renew Environmental Schemes when they expire at the end of 2025 and make 10% of the staff redundant. 10 days ago, I attended a meeting with Defra staff present, they all looked stressed, not focussed and had lost the drive they used to have for their job satisfaction. It's not looking positive for the Environment. I think Rachel wants the countryside managed for free-watch this space.

It's been another year when hedgerows have grown well with an excellent year for brambles and blackberries. My plums all took up the mid-July rains and promptly split which then attracted the wasps which have nests in the ground all over the place. No doubt in September the badgers will find them and dig them up after they have eaten the young hedgehogs and ground nesting birds' eggs.

The Red Deer hinds are back in Catfield, the large stags have arrived ready for the rut in a few weeks' time. Last year's spikers (2024 born stags) are everywhere but are in season now. The Broads Authority 2025 survey put red deer numbers at 753 hinds plus males and fawns. Why are there about one third of this number in Catfield right now? My feeling is that they feel safe in the marshes during the day and come onto arable land at night to graze. Yields of wheat where they have been grazing range from 11.5t/ha to 2t/ha, a cost to the farmer of some £1750/ha. So by culling 12 deer per hectare, we should break even.

AWA 11.8.2025



**AND CURRY NIGHT
AT
THE CROWN INN, CATFIELD
TEL 01692580128
EMAIL THECATFIELD-
CROWN@HOTMAIL.COM**

TUESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

7PM FOR 7.30PM START

MAXIMUM 6 PER TEAM

£7.50 PER PERSON

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

**AN ALTERNATIVE TO CURRY ALWAYS
AVAILABLE**

**THE CROWN INN
THE STREET, CATFIELD
TEL 01692 580128
EMAIL THECATFIELD-
CROWN@HOTMAIL.COM**

Supporting

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

**MACMILLAN COFFEE
MORNING**

THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

10AM – 12PM

**CAKES, SAVOURIES,
TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE**

**PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT THIS
GREAT CHARITY**

**IF ANYBODY WOULD LIKE TO MAKE US A
CAKE IT WOULD BE VERY MUCH
APPRECIATED BUT PLEASE DO LET US KNOW
THAT YOU ARE BEFOREHAND.**

BROADLAND MODEL RAILWAY CLUB



The Club had planned to take part in the Stalham Artisan Street Fayre on July 20th, but we had to cancel at the last minute; the weather was unpredictable and indoor model railways and rain do not mix.

The Stalham High School team have completed the term and the layout is well advanced, it will be finished off during the school holidays with the students completing the remaining buildings and the BMRC getting the whole thing ready for display. This has been a very rewarding experience for both the students and the club and we are looking forward to continuing to develop the layout during the next school year.

We currently have two new members who are already working on Club projects and adding their skills to the teams There is still room for more so, if you are interested in visiting and/or joining us, full contact information is on the website:

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

WROXHAM & HOVETON MONTHLY NEWS FOR AUGUST 2025.

The Wroxham Village Charity Fete took place on Sunday 3rd August. The weather, always critical to outdoor events was kind up until 1.00 pm, when the heavens opened and it poured with rain, accompanied by thunder, for about fifteen minutes. Long enough for some of our visitors and stall holders, as well as classic cars and their owners, to get rather wet. However, after that little demonstration, the rain stopped, the clouds blew away, and weak sunshine returned. From my position at the entrance to the Village Hall selling admission tickets, the event was very well supported by residents and holiday makers, so a big thank you to all those who turned up. Many of the Craft Stall holders reported that they had had a good day, thanks also go to them. Local author Alli Carter said she had beaten her record for selling her crime novels and was well pleased with her day.

Lion Andy Speight of Wroxham and Hoveton Lions Club presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Gary and Eddie Firmin, aka the Countryside Litter Pickers, for their work in keeping the surrounding areas as free from litter as they can make it. They were pleased to be recognised for their community spirit and willingness to keep our land litter free. Keep up the good work lads!

More news next month! If any of you feel that you would like to join us in raising money for deserving local causes and can spare a few hours a month, do get in touch with us, via our website www.wroxhamandhovetonlions.org, where you will find details of the club and how to volunteer.

Derick Bowler

How Hill Trust

How Hill Trust

Education team



Our education team have been busy running family events over the start of the summer holidays with bee themed crafts and activities together with the chance for children and their grown-ups to try their hand at thatching. This is an activity offered to children and young people taking part in our educational visits with their schools and groups, and we believe that we are the only centre in the UK to offer this. It's always fun to see how good the thatching has been when tested with a bucket of water thrown over the roof made on our purpose-built frame.

Heading into the Autumn term we look forward to schools returning for residential and day visits. We will also be offering an Autumn Family Nature Walk in October half term. Keep an eye on our Facebook, Instagram and web pages for more details.

If you know of any youth groups who would be interested in finding out more about what we can offer, please get in touch with education@howhilltrust.org.uk

Adult Visitors

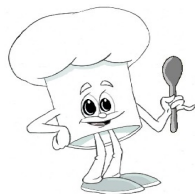


Summer has seen us run lots of our own adult courses between external adult groups staying with us. Our course guests enjoy full board stays using our en-suite rooms as a base whilst travelling out on excursions led by our director, Simon. Guests have been visiting gardens not usually open to the public, sailing on the Wherries Norada and Hathor, and visiting round towered churches. We have welcomed a mix of familiar faces from previous courses and first-time visitors, many of whom have promised a return visit. We will soon be putting together our programme of adult courses for next year and are planning on offering more one-day activities in the future. If you have any ideas for courses you would like to see offered then please do get in contact with us.

Our education team can also offer day activities including thatching, bird watching, exploring nature and looking further afield by boat to adult groups.

For more information, please contact the office by emailing secretary@howhilltrust.org.uk or telephoning 01692 678555

Chef's Specials



Quick and Easy Tea-time Biscuits

Ingredients

125g unsalted butter

100g caster sugar

50g light muscovado sugar

1 medium egg

½ tsp vanilla extract

175g plain flour

½ tsp baking powder

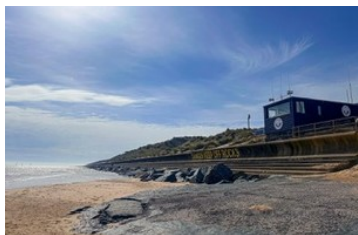
Flavourings: up to 100g in total of chopped chocolate, nuts, dried fruit etc

Method

1. Preheat oven to 170C
2. Gently melt the butter in a pan large enough to hold all of the ingredients. Remove from the heat and stir in both the sugars.
3. Using a fork, beat the egg and vanilla extract in a small bowl until thoroughly combined, then stir in to the butter and sugar.
4. Sift the flour and baking powder into the pan and stir in.
5. When thoroughly combined, add your chosen fillings.
6. Using a tablespoon, scoop the mixture onto a greased baking tray, setting the biscuits well apart to allow for spreading.
7. Bake in the oven for about 10 to 12 minutes, until the biscuits are a light golden brown and just firm.
8. Remove the trays from the oven and leave to cool for 3 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.
9. Store in an airtight container.

D.S.

One Liner:- All disappointments arise from inflated expectations.



Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat

As we write this, we're looking out over this beautiful stretch of coastline. The weather is fine, and both tourists and locals are making the most of everything it has to offer.

Our volunteers have had a busy start to the holiday season, with three call-outs from our tasking authority, the HM Coastguard. The crew trains hard throughout the year to ensure they're always ready. When the call comes, having solid skills and a strong understanding of the local area is absolutely essential.

With that in mind, the crew has spent multiple training sessions around the Waxham area recently. This part of the coastline can be particularly challenging, so the opportunity to build local knowledge there has been invaluable.

We're always keen to welcome new people who would like to give something back to the community—whether that's as boat crew, shore crew, support crew, or in a fundraising role. If you're interested, do get in touch. Even if you'd just like to meet the team and have a tour of the station, we'd love to hear from you.

By the next time we catch up, our Lifeboat Day will have passed—keep an eye on social media for some great photos from the event! We look forward to telling you all about it soon.

In the meantime, stay safe.

Rita Galbraith

Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat

Fundraising Team

rita@seapallinglifeboat.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 267211

The Museum of the Broads

September - such a special time of year. And nowhere more so than at The Museum of the Broads.

Some might say that September signals the end of summer but there are no signs of slowing down at The Museum of the Broads.

Hurry - there's still time to catch the last of this year's Kingfisher Cruises in September. They run at 5.30 and 6.30 pm so although we're not saying that summer is over do remember to dress appropriately for the possible chill of evening.

You'll cruise along aboard Marsh Harrier enjoying the wildlife, with your eyes peeled for a Kingfisher. Cameras at the ready for that tell tale and fabulous flash of blue. No promises - but there's a good chance you'll see one.

The Museum itself won't be open, but our shop will be. You can buy hot and cold drinks, pre-packed snack items and ice creams. You're welcome to bring a picnic to enjoy beforehand.

Kingfisher Cruises are great value at just £9 per adult and £6 per child/young person.

Sunday 14th September 2025

Heritage Open Day

As part of the National Heritage Open Days Festival this event is your chance to really discover the stories of the Broads, see our Story of Peat exhibition, enjoy our special exhibition on artist, Philippa Miller, and take a boat trip to explore our unique Broadland landscape.

Get on board for boat trips to get up close to the Broads. Each trip lasts around 50 minutes. Tickets are just £9 per adult and £6 for a child/young person, and we recommend that you pre-book.

But - there's no need to book museum entry. That's free as part of the National Heritage Open Days Festival!

We love giving you the chance to sail, cruise and explore with us. But always remember to call in to visit our superb collection. The Museum of the Broads holds almost 6000 items, each one of them helping to bring the story of The Broads alive. Boats, bikes, brochures, holiday memories and household items are all brought together to celebrate and educate. It's a must see museum.

News Report

Just to let you know, if we might be so bold and brassy, that our July evening with Taverham Brass Band in July was a great success. Yes, it was a little damp for a while but we didn't let it rain on our parade (to coin a phrase) of the fantastic musical medley from 'Stage and Screen.' It was a great night!

And remember....

This year we've opened more days in the holidays, and we've not increased our prices from last year. And - you can pay once and come back as often as you like.

Come and see us in September.

Find us at The Poor's Staithe, Stalham, NR12 9DA and check out all the upcoming events - and more - online at -

<https://www.museumofthebroads.org.uk>

There's just so much to see and do at The Museum of the Broads



NWT Hickling Broad and Marshes.

While the birds take a break after raising their young, insects step into the limelight. Wasps, an order containing a huge variety of species, some solitary, some colonial, all voracious predators are much maligned. They do an enormous amount of good in the garden, collecting larvae of all kinds of garden pest to feed their developing young. This is the time of the year for wasp nests and we have several, all carefully signed to avoid surprise discoveries. If you have any areas of bare, relatively soft wood in your garden, take a close look at the surface, particularly if it is in full sun. A garden seat, or a fencing rail or post will be a likely contender. If you can observe 'stripes' of paler wood on the surface this will be the work of a wasp. If you are really lucky you may see the master architect at work. Walking across the surface, in lines along and between the grain of the wood, wasps chew at the soft wood, mixing it with their saliva to form the intricate and extraordinarily beautiful paper globe nests. The outer surface can be striations of different colours which indicate collection of wood from different sources, often stained a different colour by our desire to make our gardens 'attractive' with chemical preservatives.

Another spectacle to watch out for at this time of the year is the beautiful wasp spider. Abdomens of the large females are lined in black, yellow and white, the danger signals of nature, mimicking a wasp or a bee to deter predation. The females, which have a body length of up to 20mm, spin their webs amongst grasses with a tell-tale zig-zag section near the centre. Here they wait in anticipation of a meal. We have been fortunate to find a number of these stunning spiders on the reserve in recent years. I suppose the theme this month is one of 'release your inhibitions'. Don't be afraid, wasps and spiders are simply things of great wonder. Watch them (from a safe distance) and you will be beguiled by their beauty and intricate lives.

John Williamson - Senior Boat Operator.

SUDOKU

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

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

Last Months Solution

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

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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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 October magazine is 10th September

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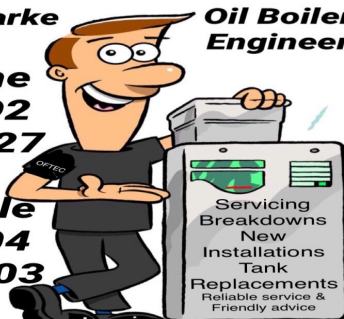
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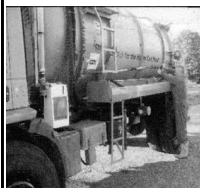
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CATFIELD NEWS – Contributions & Advertisements

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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