



**Edition
275**

CATFIELD NEWS

Your village magazine

July 2026



Photo by Gill Ebling

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>

Useful Local Contacts

Village Hall Booking Clerk - Elaine Smith 01692 580056
elainesmith364@btinternet.com

Catfield United Charities - Trustees 01692 660250
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Catfield Primary Academy - Emma Smithson, Senior Teacher
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Priest in Charge of The Waterside Benefice - Rev'd. Gary Noyes
01692 678842
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The Catfield News is an independent magazine with no affiliation to the Parish Council, Church or any other body. We are a self funded magazine, produced by a group of volunteers with the income from advertisers paying for the production costs.

Helpful Information

Staithe Surgery Stalham

www.staithesurgery.co.uk 01692 582000

Surgery Hours

Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.30pm

Dispensary Hours

Monday to Friday 8.45am - 12.30pm
2.30pm - 5.30pm

www.ludhamsurgery.nhs.uk

Ludham Surgery
Tel: 01692 678 611

Stalham Green Surgery
Tel: 01692 580 880

Ludham & Stalham Green Opening Times

	Ludham	Stalham Green
Monday	8.30am - 6pm	8.30am - 6pm
Tuesday	8.30am - 6pm	8.30am - 6pm
Wednesday	8.30am - 1pm	8.30am - 6pm
Thursday	8.30am - 6pm	8.30am - 1pm
Friday	8.30am - 6pm	8.30am - 6pm

Dispensary opening hours mirror the surgery's opening times, with the exception of a daily closure for protected time between 1.00pm and 3.00pm.

Local MP

Steffan Aquarone
Steff.aquarone.mp@parliament.uk
02072197585

Local County Councillor

Matthew Taylor 07557097597
matthew.taylor.cllr@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Local District Councillors

Kevin Terrance Bayes
kevin.bayes@north-norfolk.gov.uk
Matthew Taylor 07557097597
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Local Police

PC Matthew Pritty
Beat Manager
Hoveton Police Stn
Matthew.Pritty@Norfolk.Police.uk

What's on in Catfield during July

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: 07928 585838 Email: ptseanio@yahoo.com

Catfield Higashi Karate Kai

Saturdays 9:00 to 11:00 am

Catfield Village Hall

For more info or to book please call Dave on 07515 256092

First Friday Coffee, Games & Chat

Friday 3rd July 10.30am onwards

Come and join us for a coffee and chat and a game or two,
followed by a light lunch. This is a free event and all are welcome.

For more information contact Judith on 07826 848585

The Mobile Library will visit Catfield on Tuesday 7th July

Thorn Road - 14:35 - 14:55

Village Hall - 15:00 - 15:20

CAT accessible walk

Sunday 12th July

6.30pm start from Hickling Pleasure Boat

See page 15 for more info

Open Mic Night

Catfield Village Hall

Tuesday 14th July, 7.30pm.

Entry £3 BYO drinks and nibbles

What's on in Catfield during July

Catfield Stitching Group Tuesday 14th & Tuesday 28th July

Catfield Village Hall, 2pm to 4pm

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).

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

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits included

Catfield Ceilidh Saturday 18th July Catfield Village Hall 7.30pm - 10.30pm

See page 18 for more info

Catfield Crafters Wednesday 29th July 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 29th July 7.00pm

Please check Parish Council website for Agenda.

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

The Catfield News needs your help

The magazine is currently running at a loss and we need your help to keep it going. The income we get from our advertisers pays for the magazine printing costs. Over the last few years we have lost advertisers and not been able to replace them, which means we don't have enough money coming in to cover our printing costs. We are now looking for other ways to boost our income, such as donations, sponsorship and grants. If you would like to donate some money to help towards our printing costs or know someone who would be interested in advertising please let us know by emailing either stevebeckley1@gmail.com or secretarycatnews1@btinternet.com.

Any help you can give us will be greatly appreciated and help to keep the magazine going a little bit longer.

To help reduce our costs we will be reducing the number of pages in the magazine w.e.f. the August edition.

Thank you.

The Catfield News Team

One liner:- For the sake of comfort you give up seeing the world.

CATFIELD PARISH COUNCILLORS

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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.

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

CATFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

WEDNESDAY 27th May

Election of Officers

- Councillor Harris was elected as Chairman. Councillor Briscoe was elected as Vice Chair.

Public Update

- A parishioner suggested that due to the number of families with children in the village, that a community garden be provided. The Parish Council (PC) discussed the possibility of adding benches and planted areas to the new playground so this became a central area for the community. This would require further funding. Further discussions will need to take place.

Councillors Bayes and Taylor Update

- District Councillor Matthew Taylor advised that he had a few items to report. Regarding Store Galore, he was waiting for written confirmation of an on-site meeting with planners from North Norfolk District Council (NNDC). Unless there is movement on the fencing situation, the case may proceed to a civil dispute. He had met with NNDC planners regarding the Malthouse Lane site and advised that the new planning application was addressing the nutrient neutrality issue. A new community funding scheme, available to District Councillors, will be introduced in a couple of weeks. He had made representations to Konnectbus regarding the new bus schedule. The company recognised the need for the service and, although the service is stretched, it will be discussed internally. He will keep up the pressure.

Councillor Taylor Update

- Councillor Taylor was congratulated on his election as County Councillor for the Stalham area. He has had a meeting with all head teachers and will visit Catfield Primary School in a few weeks. He advised that there is no overall control at Norfolk County Council (NCC) and they are in the process of forming a new administration.

Planning

- **Store Galore – Appeal against conditions imposed on retrospective planning permission**

As discussed under District Councillor Taylor's Update – no further action by the PC at this time.

- **PO/26/0036 – Land South of Lea Road Catfield – The erection of up to ten dwellings and associated infrastructure with all matters reserved except access**

A parishioner advised that a few more responses are awaited from NNDC. No further action at this time.

- **PF/26/0036 Malthouse Lane, Catfield**

It was agreed that all previous objections to the development still apply. Councillor Briscoe to review the application and draft an appropriate objection.

- **Fenview – 3 Fenside Cottages**

Councillor Harris advised that the PC had received a letter which comprised two complaints, one regarding the PC and another regarding an individual. The PC had taken guidance from NALC who had advised that the letter did not have to be read out at the meeting and that the contents should be discussed in a closed session at the end of the meeting. This was agreed.

Highways and Road Safety

- **Changes to Bus Schedule and Route**

It was agreed that the PC had done everything that it had agreed to do and was awaiting

a response from Konnectbus and Councillor Taylor. If the matter is not addressed by the bus company, the PC will take further action. It was agreed that research needed to be carried out to ascertain whether Konnectbus was funded in part by NCC. Councillor Taylor will chase for an update in June.

- **Parish Partnership Scheme Bus Shelter Application**

Councillor Edwards advised that there is further funding available for bus shelters this year. It was agreed to postpone any decisions regarding the possibility of applying for another bus shelter until there was an update from Konnectbus. With regard to the positioning of the new proposed bus shelter on the opposite side of the road from the village hall, a parishioner's request regarding a slight relocation of the bus shelter, will be discussed after the Konnectbus update.

Village Hall

- **Recreation Ground**

Councillor Edwards confirmed that contractors will start work on 17th June (please note this has now been changed to 22nd June). The car park should still be around half open. The playground will be fenced off. He had been trying to obtain quotes for the igloo ground cover. It was agreed that the Village Hall Management Committee be updated regarding car parking, Councillor Briscoe to chase NNDC regarding the Milestones section 106 funding and that the concrete posts near the village hall bus shelter be removed.

- **Village Hall Renovations**

Councillor Roberson advised that he is arranging for the new door and front windows for the village hall. He will check if the door has to open outwards.

- **Arrangements for management of Village Hall**

Councillor Briscoe proposed that the PC apply for the gold level service with Community Action Norfolk to address the management arrangements for the village hall. Clerk to action. Councillor Johnson had researched bin and collection provisions for the village hall in response to the recent food hygiene inspection. She will summarise the position and present to the next PC meeting.

- **Outside Lighting at the Village Hall**

Councillor Roberson to carry out research on this.

- **Removal of glass recycling bank**

The clerk had requested its removal and was awaiting a removal date. A request had been received from Catfield News to keep the bank. The PC agreed that, due to the amount of broken glass around the bank and its proximity to the playground, the bank should be removed.

Environmental

- **Sandholes**

The PC discussed the three quotes that had been received in respect of the tree work at Sandholes. It was agreed to proceed with Target Trees to carry out the work.

- **Hedge Cutting**

Councillor Harris advised that the PC had previously written to NCC Highways regarding hedge cutting and excessive grips in Catfield. Councillor Briscoe advised that the Catfield Action Team were looking into the issue of the cutting of highway verges.

Correspondence

The PC had received a letter asking whether the PC would be open to exploring opportunities to support a children's football team. Councillor Edwards agreed to meet the correspondent and discuss further.

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

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IS 24th June 2026



Broadland Model Railway



Stalham Show 24.5.26

A blisteringly hot sunny weekend outside threatened to dampen the proceedings at the indoor show but thankfully a lot of promotion by many club members helped pull people through the door.

There were four guest layouts on display plus five club layouts. 'Herrington' N gauge took centre stage along with David Crowe's 'Staleast', an O gauge model based on Stalham itself. At one end 'Broad Oak' entertained all day with the 'Snowy Pines' Xmas model doing its best to help people cool down - thankfully its snow didn't melt! The Loco Doctor was on hand for any locomotive patients and was kept busy with some challenging problems. Next was the tiny 34 inch 'Ingoldsby' 09 model from Chris Seago, showing what you could achieve in a small space. Phil Carver's 'Mardling Mawkin Transport Museum' has a name based on Norfolk expressions and even had a rocket tram moving around. That rocket was competition for 'Rampage' the robot next door, which performed throughout the day among the steam effects. 'Hamstal Green' was showing great progress since its initial outing in 2025, and 'Clearpoint Haven' would have made its previous owners proud displaying next to the doorway one side as people came in.

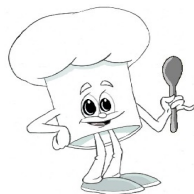
The heat did effect most layouts with reports of operating issues but everyone managed to keep things running so that it didn't notice.

The BMRC Second-hand Models and Book stall braved the heat to do really well for the club, and Geoff Hiscock's second-hand stall did well too. Karen Ray kept everyone fed and watered throughout the day so we didn't wilt too much.

A successful day and a good time was had by all, exhibitors and visitors alike. Keep a look out for our next Show on Sunday August 30th in Hoveton Village Hall and our display at the Stalham Street Fayre on July 19th.

As always, if you are interested in our Club, please contact us via the details on our website <https://broadlandmodelrailwayclub.co.uk/>

Chef's Specials



Raspberry Cheesecake

Ingredients

75g unsalted butter
150g digestive biscuits
135g pack of raspberry flavour jelly
200ml evaporated milk, chilled
200g soft cream cheese
100g raspberries
A few raspberries for decoration

Method

1. Line the base of a 20cm round loose-bottomed sandwich tin with baking paper.
2. Place the biscuits in a food bag and crush with a rolling pin (or this can be done in a food processor)
3. Melt the butter in a saucepan and stir in the crushed biscuits. Press into the tin and chill.
4. Break the jelly into pieces. Then, in a heat proof jug, put the jelly in 100ml boiling water and stir until dissolved.
5. In a large bowl, whisk the milk until light and fluffy and doubled in volume. Whisk in the cream cheese until the mixture is smooth. Whisk in the jelly.
6. Roughly chop the raspberries and stir into the mixture. Pour over the biscuit base and leave to chill for 2 hours. Serve decorated with the extra raspberries.

D.S.

Nature's Quiet Triumph at the Churchyard

If you've wandered past the church on School Road lately, you'll know it's been putting on quite the show. The ox-eye daisies — those cheerful, iconic meadow plants — have burst into bloom. When the light shines through, they create a dreamy gold - and - white haze. They're the sort of flowers that seem to smile back at you, even on a grey Norfolk morning. Loved equally by bees and butterflies, they're also known as the "moon daisy" or "moon penny" for their glowing appearance at night.

But it's not just the flowers doing their bit. Listen for a moment and you might catch the sharp squeaks and whistles of nuthatches, or the unmistakable rapid drumming of a great spotted woodpecker staking its claim. Both species have quietly set up home here this spring, and both have successfully raised their chicks — a small triumph worth celebrating.

The nuthatches, usually fussy about finding a proper tree hole, clearly decided the church itself would do nicely. They tucked themselves into a crevice in the stonework and got on with family life. If you've spotted a small bird shimmying down a tree trunk headfirst — slate-blue back, rusty-orange belly, bold black eye-stripe — that was one of them. They're the only British bird with the acrobatic confidence to descend a trunk like that, thanks to a specially adapted back claw that stops them tumbling. It's a clever trick that lets them find insects hiding in bark crevices and on the underside of branches, where other birds never look.

The great spotted woodpeckers have been less discreet. Their black-and-white youngsters, splashed with that unmistakable red cap, have been easy to spot in nearby trees, calling loudly for food. The nuthatch chicks are doing well too — taking their first flights, staying close to home and relying on their tireless parents for several weeks before they're ready to venture out on their own.

Both these species — and many more besides — rely on mature trees and a good supply of dead wood, where they can forage for insects and find the cavities they need to nest. As the youngsters strike out to find territories of their own, they'll depend on places that can shelter them and sustain them through the extremes of weather. Leaving dead wood standing or on the ground, valuing older trees, and giving nature a little breathing room are simple but vital steps.

So if you're passing by, pause for a moment. Between the daisies nodding in the breeze and the busy comings and goings of these woodland birds, the churchyard is full of small, uplifting stories — reminders of how much life thrives when we give nature just a little space.

Jane Madgwick



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

Sunday 5th July	10am	Benefice Holy Communion	Ludham
Sunday 12th July	10am	Joint Morning Worship with Potter Heigham	Catfield
Sunday 19th July	8.30am 11am	Go with the Flow day at How Hill Holy Communion with Bishop Ian followed by refreshments. Songs of Praise <i>Bring a chair and sit and enjoy, let the family join in with many different activities. Event finishes at 3pm so why not bring a picnic lunch. share time and fellowship with others and enjoy the beautiful surrounds of How Hill Gardens.</i>	How Hill
Sunday 26th July	10am 10am 3.30pm	Joint Holy Communion with Potter Heigham Morning Worship Service at St Benets Abbey with Bishop of Norwich	Potter Heigham Ludham St Benets Abbey
Sunday 3rd August	10am	Benefice Service	Catfield

"Lord, take this place
and fill it
with Your blessing."

Sitting here on my bench in the garden I marvel at the beauty of our flowers. The erbaceous borders filled with colour, the lawn covered with Lesser Hawkbit, yes yellow dandelions to some people and roses galore especially the Rambling Rector (not the Vicar!) climbing up the walls of the Vicarage. Bird song from our families of Tits, and Blackbirds and not forgetting our Thrush as they search for food. Peace and Tranquility are my thoughts.....

The sound of cars from over the wall remind me that despite the beauty of other People's gardens, fields and hedgerows and even the churchyard, the world we live in still exists.

The world is in turmoil whether the message given is of war, natural or man made disasters, it encroaches through the media into our lives causing anxiety to many people. This country of ours appears disjointed and various groups are using it for their own ends. Our precious young people face ever increasing difficulties in finding jobs, homes, and many see no future and feel forgotten by society.

On Sunday 19th July in the garden of the How Hill Trust (beautiful) there is to be a day of Worship led by the Bishop of Thetford and Music by the Scratch Band and friends! As well as Communion and a bacon butty at 08.30 there will be a Service supported by local Churches at 11.00am . Activities for children and do bring a picnic to share in fellowship with those of us from the community.

In the Gospels we read that Jesus often spoke to crowds of people either from the hillsides or next to water. Speaking in parables of the Love of God the Father for us, knowing that our pain and suffering could be shared in a relationship with Jesus, it is perhaps an offer too good to ignore.

On Sunday 19th July from How Hill overlooking the Broads, we wish to invite you to our FLOW day, as we have 'Fun, Laughter or Worship' and hopefully receive the stream of love that comes with being together in the beauty of Creation given to us by God.

Blessings to Everyone from April Noyes

Catfield Action Team - It has been a busy and rewarding few months for the Catfield Action Team (CAT), and we are thrilled to share some updates.

A Blooming Success - Our Plant Sale held on May 17th was a resounding success for both the Catfield Action Team and the local sellers taking part. We were extremely fortunate that the threatened poor weather forecast didn't arrive until after we'd completely packed up! It was wonderful to see so many Catfield residents supporting the event, alongside visitors who travelled from far and wide to browse and purchase from the fantastic selection on offer. Because of your incredible support, **it is hoped to make this an annual event on the CAT calendar.** A huge thank you to everyone who came along, bought plants, or helped out on the day.



An Update on Our Last Countryside Walk

Our most recent countryside walk around Catfield's footpaths was very well supported. It was a lovely evening out in the local landscape, ending up at the Crown Inn for some well-needed (and thoroughly enjoyed!) refreshments.



Next Walk: Sunday 12th July at 6.30pm (Hickling Accessible Walk)

For our next outing, we are changing things up to ensure everyone can join in.

- **The Route:** This will be an **accessible walk** taking place around the quiet, flat lanes of Hickling.
- **Start & Finish:** We will be starting and finishing at the **Pleasure Boat Inn.**

Whether you want a brisk stroll or a gentle wheel or walk, everyone is welcome to join us for some fresh air and good company.



The Homes for Swifts Project Gains Momentum

Our village Swift project is now officially underway! Swifts are facing severe habitat loss, and we are working hard to give them a helping hand in Catfield.

To date, we have installed a total of 11 boxes and swift callers:

- 2 at Catfield Primary School
- 9 at various properties in and around the church vicinity.



We are also absolutely delighted to announce a brilliant local partnership. A major Catfield employer, **Trend Marine**, has kindly stepped in as part of their community outreach programme. Their team has designed and is manufacturing a custom-made, stainless steel frame to hold a further **8 nesting boxes at All Saints Church**. We want to extend a massive thank you to everyone

who has worked so hard to make this project possible!

Could you host a box? If you think your property might be a suitable location to host a swift nesting box in the future, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

We are always working on new ways to improve our village and support local and community projects. For more information about CAT, our ongoing projects, or upcoming events, please get in touch with us at: catfieldactionteam@gmail.com

JOIN US!

E-MAIL: membership@catfieldactionteam.co.uk

FACEBOOK: [CatfieldActionTeam](https://www.facebook.com/CatfieldActionTeam)

www.catfieldactionteam.co.uk

**Only £5 per year to become a
Catfield Action Team supporter
and member.**

CATFIELD ACTION TEAM

A voluntary group whose aim is to
maintain and improve the Catfield
environment and community.

Catfield Poppy Project

Hello is there anybody out there who loves to knit or crochet. We are looking to produce a large installation for the church of poppies cascading down the wall similar to that seen in the photo.

So we are looking for lots of lovely people to produce lots of poppies for us. Patterns can be found on British Legion site at <https://storage.rblcdn.co.uk> for both knitted or crochet patterns. Or you can contact Dianne Fernee on 01692 581409 or ferneed252@gmail.com



Would you like to help with the production of your village magazine?

We are looking for a couple of people to help with the production of the Catfield News.

Roles within the team are secretary, editor, accounts and advertising.

If you feel you could help in any of these roles, or would just like to find out a little more

please contact secretarycatnews1@btinternet.com

“The Catfield Ceilidh”

with

**The Occasional Ceilidh Band
and caller, Rod Purdy**

18th July 7.30-10.30 pm

Catfield Village Hall



**Tickets £12 to include supper
and legendary puddings!**

Raising funds for All Saints Church, Catfield

**For catering purposes, please pre-book
tickets from Monica/Barry
Tel: 01692 581587**



SUNDAY 19TH JULY

HOW HILL NR29 5PG



8:30am
Holy Communion

Services led by Bishop Ian of
Thetford and followed by
refreshments



11:00am
Songs of Praise

Bring a picnic and a chair!

Also on offer:
Until 3:00pm

Face painting — Prayer Space — Craft

Games — Stories — Music — Reflection



Bringing good news to the Broads

Contact: flowwaterside@gmail.com Rev Gary Noyes 01692 678 842



NWT Hickling Broad and Marshes Newsletter

The early days of summer are upon us. Following a very dry spell where water levels on the Broad remained low, we have recently experienced much more in the way of precipitation, some of it bordering on biblical. Consequently, water levels are much nearer the expected level and the surrounding countryside is blooming.

Swallowtail season is in full swing and whilst numbers since the start of the wet period have declined somewhat there are still plenty of these beautiful butterflies on the wing. Amongst all the insect excitement on the reserve a more secretive visitor has also been enthralling visitors. The reserve holds around four calling male cuckoos each year. One of the most fascinating evolutions in the natural world, nest-parasitism evolved over countless generations perfecting the replication of cuckoo egg patterns to match a particular host species. This allows eggs to be laid only in the host species nest, thereby minimising the physical effort of rearing young and at the same time improving the chances of genetic furtherance by laying many more eggs than there would be in a single nest. The timing of egg-laying is critical, and the advanced and rapid development of the embryo at laying stage and subsequently during incubation combine to enable the cuckoo chick to hatch first thereby allowing it to use a specially developed hollow in its back to aid the eviction of the host species eggs from the nest, thus securing the full attention of the doting host adults; a truly remarkable series of events.

Our summer season boat trips continue (weather permitting). These trips can be booked by telephone through the Hickling Visitor Centre (01692 598276). The full schedule of evening boat trips running from June-August is underway, as is the more limited schedule of weekend (and Bank Holiday) trips from The Pleasureboat. Please visit our website www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk for further information and to see what other events are on offer at Hickling and across other NWT sites.

Farming News

We finally received an inch of rain over the last week and, for the time being, everything looks acceptable but we need more rain for the Spring crops. Maize suffered badly from one cold night about 3 weeks ago and is only now recovering, potatoes are emerging and will require irrigation shortly, cereals had two weeks of hot dry weather but have recovered well after the rain at Catfield. Sugar beet are three weeks ahead of normal and growing rapidly. We now wait for the attacks from insects.

The mainstay chemical of regenerative farming is Roundup and it's up for its approval by the HSE as the current approval end is December 2026. It appears that Roundup is turning up in food and there are claims it is causing other issues. I do agree that it should not be used as liquid sunshine to aid crop maturity leading to an earlier harvest. I do agree that those who are using it should be trained. We professional growers spend hours on courses being trained, machinery is assessed annually and our agronomists only recommend the product when it's justified. The problem seems to be that untrained people can buy it almost anywhere, so it doesn't surprise me it's turning up in unexpected places. I read an article that an organic wine producer was convinced Roundup had caused his cancer. What he had done was walk barefooted round a neighbour's field pruning and developed a rash over his body. One thing we are all told when attending H&S refreshers events is wear stout boots at all times, mostly to prevent twisting ankles but also to protect us from what is lurking in the undergrowth such as stinging weeds, ticks, snakes etc. So, from this person's folly and other similar accounts Roundup is getting bad publicity- it's not justified.

The PM wants us to join the EU again and that means we will have to conform to their rules, not our sensible forward-thinking current rules. Roundup might just be the first casualty of that decision. The King has a solution for us, the flame weeder, which his staff use to control weeds in his organic garden. Not to be used on dry or breezy days. Deep rooted plants, like those which Roundup kills, need additional applications. If farmers are to use this modern technology it will have to be upgraded to an industrial flame thrower capable of covering many hectares a day. Oh, and we'll need more fire engines.

The farm reservoir is completed and starting to be used. This stores sustainable high flow winter water and delivers it to farms via underground pipes to all the farms. You will have noticed a change in cropping around the village with salads, cabbage, baby stem broccoli etc being grown. Potatoes will be irrigated using trickle, booms and rain-guns ensuring that crop quality is the best. This project was only possible due to the co-operation of three farmers, the RPA and East Coast Growers Ltd who have expanded their operation which is based at Martham.

So, who has watched the latest season of Clarkson's farm? He's questioning if driverless tractors are the future. There is one currently working outside Church Farm planting lettuce. Not quite what Clarkson was thinking about but the cab is empty when its working. Technology is creeping into farming, it's in the tractors, it's in my phone, it's in my car, it's replacing staff-Clarkson is right- it will take over but it still relies on phone and GPS signals and that's not perfect in Norfolk. Being rather busy on the farm for the last three months, I hadn't noticed how much my garden had grown. So, this weekend it's out with the chainsaw and Roundup to get it under control.

AWA 7.6.2025

How Hill Trust

Education team

Our Education Team not only have school visits, but also groups under both the Scouting and Guiding umbrellas as day/evening visits and residentially. When not working with children they can be found helping in the garden, doing maintenance or helping out at functions so are multiskilled and go wherever needed. The education team can also lead adult groups and we have recently been asked to arrange a How Hill style adult education course so watch this space for more details. Don't forget to book your tickets for our Summer Family events running from 20th to 23rd July. As well as the activities led by our education team there is always plenty to do at How Hill with walks, Toad Cottage and the Wherry Hathor to explore and our big field perfect for games. Tickets from our Ticket Source site. www.ticketsource.com/how-hill-trust.



Chinese Water Deer can be seen around the Norfolk Broads area (as well as Suffolk, Essex, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire) where they like the marshy environment. They were introduced from China to Woburn in the late nineteenth century but some either escaped or were released. They are a gingery brown colour, with a black nose and fluffy teardrop like ears which make them easy to distinguish from other similar sized deer from a distance. They have no antlers but have tusks, with the male's being bigger than the female's, giving them the nickname vampire deer. The Chinese Water Deer are more popular with our gardening team as they don't eat the plants in the gardens!

Adult Visitors

The last few weeks have seen us welcome a new yoga retreat, celebrate birthdays and corporate evening meal hire, as well as our new director leading an adult group of visitors on a garden course where the group visited various gardens around Norfolk and also enjoyed an evening instruction on terrariums and willow weaving. All of these extra activities allow all ages to enjoy what How Hill has to offer helping to fund the continued education of children.

Sunday 12th July Pantaloons Outdoor Theatre Presents Sherlock Holmes and the Hounds of Baskerville. How can one show possibly contain so much action and adventure? Elementary, my dear. Bring something to sit on and a picnic. Tickets £16 per adult, £10 per child under 16. (this is a Friend's Event contact Jeanne Flett on 01692 678560 – email mikeandjeanne@btinternet.com)

Saturday 18th July Wonders of Wherries at How Hill. Join us for a fun day jointly organised with the Wherry Yacht Charter. Wherries on display and trips available with the Wherry Yacht Charter, How Hill House and House Gardens open, stalls, refreshments and live music. Free entry.

Monday 27th to Thursday 30th July Luxor to Ludham. We have a few spaces left on this year's Wherry Course. Two full days sailing aboard the magnificent Wherry Hathor and uncover the fascinating story behind her Egyptian-inspired design. Evening talks will be given by Egyptologist Faye Kalloniatis and Wherry Yacht Charter's Wherry Consultant Peter Bower, offering unique insights into this historic vessel. £750 full board.

Sunday 5th September Pudding Evening. The return of our ever-popular pudding evenings. One savoury course followed by four delicious desserts. Which one will be the favourite? £30 per head.

For all adult events contact our office for more details and to book.

Email secretary@howhilltrust.org.uk. Tel. 01692 678555

A WHERRY MERRY NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM AND A WONDER OF WHERRIES EXTRAVAGANZA

Wherry Yacht Charter is collaborating with both the Museum of the Broads and How Hill Trust to bring a unique opportunity to enjoy the very best of the Norfolk Broads for one week only this July.

Starting on **Tuesday 14 July**, one of the three remaining wherry yachts will be stationed at the Museum of the Broads, Stalham. Guests can book a **two-hour experience** that offers a full package: a sail on a wherry yacht to Barton Broad, a ride on the museum's steam launch *Falcon* or electric launch *Marsh Harrier*, and access to the museum itself. Tickets are on sale now for just **£38 per person** at www.wherryyachtcharter.org. The wherry will remain at the museum through **15 and 16 July**, available for viewing free of charge.

On **Thursday 16 July**, *A Wherry Merry Night At The Museum* promises an exclusive evening of fun at the museum from **5pm onwards**. A Wherry Yacht will be open for tours and fifty-minute boat trips will be offered on *Falcon* or *Marsh Harrier*, followed by musical entertainment from the wherry charity's resident lounge singer, **Andy G**. Delicious, freshly baked pizza from *Monzu Pizza* will be available to purchase on site, and a bar will be close at hand. Tickets cost **£12 per person**, and places are limited, so early booking is advised at www.museumofthebroads.org.uk.

Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 July see the return of the ever-popular *Wonder of Wherries* event. This year it will be hosted at the majestic **How Hill**, just outside Ludham, and, due to overwhelming interest, will run for the full weekend.

All **five** wherry yachts and pleasure wherries will come together, making for a spectacular occasion on the staithe. Short sailing experiences will be offered from **10am daily** on the wherry yachts for just **£15 per adult** or **£7.50 per child**. Three-hour *Cake & Sail experiences* will run both morning and afternoon on the pleasure wherry *Ardea* for **£45**, which includes tea, coffee and, of course, a delicious selection of cakes. Advance booking is highly recommended to secure your place at www.wherryyachtcharter.org.

The beautiful Egyptian-themed wherry *Hathor* will also be available for the public to view free of charge, although small donations to support the maintenance of these historic vessels are always welcome.

How Hill House will be open to explore, including its beautiful gardens. There will be live musical entertainment in the grounds, together with various stalls selling the best of Norfolk produce, arts and crafts.

To bring the celebrations to a finale, **Sunday 19 July** will feature special guest performances on the staithe from **Sirens of the Helm** at **3pm**—Norfolk's only female shanty group—and vocalist **Sandra B** at **5.30pm**, entertaining audiences with musical covers spanning the decades. This entertainment is free for all to enjoy.

WYC Trustee Director Judith Keogh says:

"Wherry Yacht Charter is indebted to the support of both the Museum of the Broads and How Hill Trust. We are especially grateful to all the wonderful people who are supporting our charity this summer. I urge members of the public to join us at How Hill to celebrate our wherries in such a stunning riverside location. Bring a picnic, and hopefully the weather will be kind to us! There is no charge, but donations towards the charity's running costs are always welcome."

Wildlife Pond Part 2 The fish



**Three
spined
Sticklebacks
with nest**

Goldfish unfortunately are not suitable for a wildlife pond as they are greedy eaters of all the interesting creatures in the pond.

There is a type of fish that can be kept in a wildlife pond and one that we have kept for several years which by the way in my youth I caught with a net.

The male develops a bright red chest area during the breeding season and as children we called them 'Red Throats'. The three and seven spined Stickleback are ideally suited to small ponds and are a very interesting fish as they make a nest which the male guards.

In the local area the seven spined are the most common.

Years ago Graham Makepiece bless him, allowed me to catch some in his ditches behind the garden centre, and it is fascinating watching the male chase away pond inhabitants from his nest and he is quite fearless.

I have found unfortunately they are not immune from fish lice.

These lice attach themselves to the skin and draw from the fish, and being a small fish they are greatly troubled by this parasite.

There is a treatment available however in tablet form which, when dropped in the pond slowly dissolves the louse.



Alec Nisbet

Tip:- Thumb through papers with ease by wrapping a rubber band around your index finger a few times the next time you need to shuffle papers.

July - a massive month for The Museum of the Broads and Norfolk!

July pops up all over Norfolk's past and present.

A way back in July 1549 Robert Kett, a Norfolk farmer, led the uprising we know now as Kett's Rebellion. It started on July 8th as a protest against the enclosure of common land. Thousands joined him and they rallied to his call in the waterways and marsh lands before marching on to Norwich where they lay siege to the city. Once seen as a traitor Kett has been repositioned as a folk hero. It's such a 'Norfolk' story.

Someone else who's key to our history, and very much connected to the story of the Broads, is P.H. Emerson. Born in 1856 Emerson was a writer and, importantly, a photographer. His 1886 book '*Life and Landscape on the Norfolk Broads*', was a collection of 40 platinum prints that helped elevate photography into an art and enshrine life on the Broads at that moment. Why the July connection? It was July 10th last year that a very rare first edition of the book emerged from a house clearance and went to auction. It sold for over £50,000.

Don't forget Norfolk Day - July 27th.

And of course it's July when, every year, we celebrate everything about Norfolk and why it's such a glorious place to be!

The Museum of the Broads in July is definitely the place to be!

Check out our packed agenda of things to see and do.

Saturday 11th July - 12.30-2.30pm - The Seaside do the Broads!

You'll love this. Songs and music, live, and with a Norfolk Broads twist, from Winterton-on-Sea's hugely popular ukelele band. What's not to love?

Tuesday 14th July - Steam & Sail! - 10am – 4pm

Take a trip on our electric boat, Marsh Harrier. Falcon, our steam boat, will be part of the day too. Then 'jump ship' and board a Wherry to Barton Broad! It's the very best of all the Broads' worlds.

Wednesday 15 & Thursday 16th July - All Aboard a Wherry! - 10am – 4pm

It's Wherry Week and time for you to take a step back in time. Step aboard a Wherry and discover what life was like for a wherryman and his family in days gone by.

Wednesday 15th July - 10am - 4pm - Crafts by the River - 'Crafty' Mouse'

Come and see textile artist, Jo Couldrey at work. She'll show you how to fashion a mouse out of scraps of fabric!

Saturday 18th July – Wednesday 2nd September - 10am – 4pm - Summer Trail - Fun & Frolics!

It's a museum trail. It's tricky. It's got trials! Complete them all to win a prize!

See what we mean? It's massive! There's a lot going on in July and we're so looking forward to seeing you. We're at - **The Poor's Staithe, Stalham, NR12 9DA**

That's just off the A149 at the turning to Richardson's Boatyard.

We're open six days a week - Tuesday to Sunday. You're welcome. The kids are welcome (and if they're under 12 they get free entry to the Museum). The dog is welcome. What are you waiting for?

Check out all the details 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

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

Last Months Solution

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

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

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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
Methodist Ludham	See www.eangliamethodist.org.uk or facebook pages for latest updates	Rev. Lay Pastor Shaun Cushion – 01493 740237 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 August magazine is 10th July

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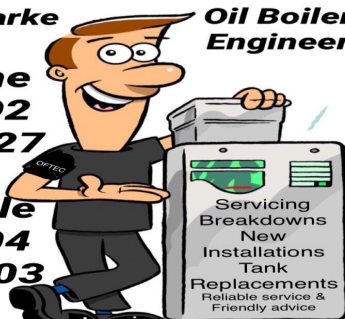
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Items for inclusion need to be received no later than **10th** of each month. Items can be e-mailed to the team, *contacts detailed on page 2*, or left in the Catfield News box in the Village Shop. Articles should be no more than 400 words and have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

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