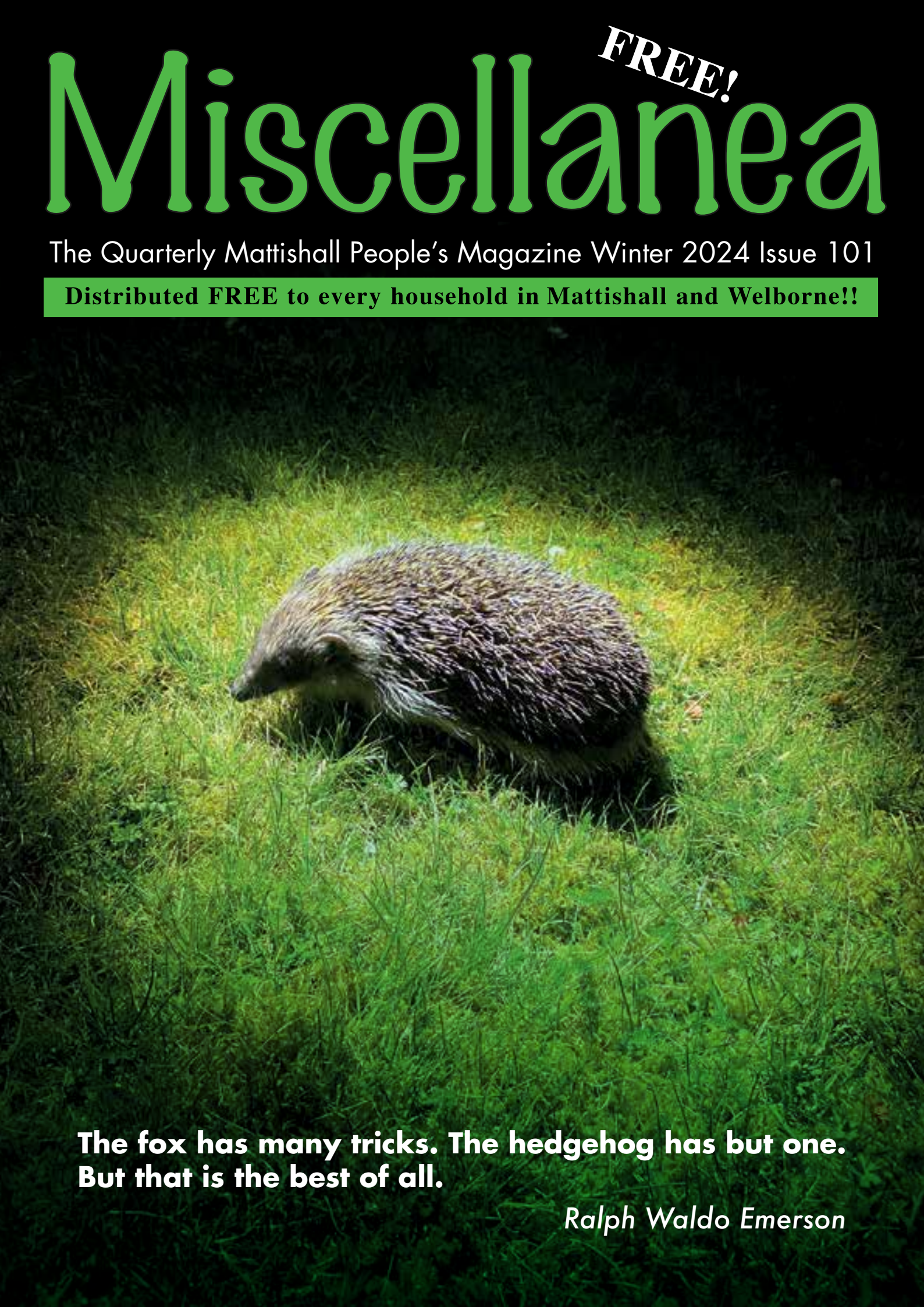
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Miscellanea

The Quarterly Mattishall People's Magazine Winter 2024 Issue 101

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The fox has many tricks. The hedgehog has but one. But that is the best of all.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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From the Editor



Anne Jackson

I love hedgehogs and, even in my 70s, I get very excited when I see one in the garden. So, I was particularly concerned when I read that British hedgehogs have declined by between 30-75% in rural areas, particularly eastern England, since the millennium. In fact, in October 2024 the hedgehog has moved from "least concern" to "near threatened" in the IUCN Red List.

We can all do something to help combat this alarming decline and the First National Hedgehog Conservation Strategy sets out steps that we can take. Please logon to The British Hedgehog Preservation Society; Hedgehog Street; or People's Trust for Endangered Species to find out more – we must work together to save these wonderful mammals.

In September, Miscellanea was short of one of its distributors so I offered to do the round. It made me realise how hard this team work and I really appreciate them so a very big Thank You from me and all our readers. If anyone would like to join Lizzie's team of volunteers, to help out when someone is unavailable, please contact her - then I might not have to help out again!

A second Thank You goes out to the committee at the Sports & Social Club for organising such a wonderful Fireworks night. It was a sell out and enjoyed by all. This group of volunteers are organising a full range of events for the village to try and cater for all interests, so please support them by attending these events when you can.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2025.

Anne

Norfolk County Council has introduced a booking system for Norfolk recycling centres

From 18 November 2024 a new booking system has been introduced for all Norfolk recycling centres.

- You must book a 15-minute time slot to visit a Norfolk recycling centre and you will need to arrive within the time you have booked.
- You can book up to one week in advance of your visit.
- There is no charge to make a booking and you can make as many bookings as you need. Charges still apply for trade waste and household DIY waste over the free limit.
- You can only book one slot at a time. But as long as they are available, you can book as many slots as you need each day.

Book online at Norfolk Recylcing Centre Bookings

When you book you will select the recycling centre, date and time you want to visit. You will need to enter the following details:

- Your name
- Your address
- Registration number of the vehicle you will use when you visit
- Your email address
- Whether you are bringing DIY waste

We will send you a booking confirmation by email.
You will need to enter these details each time you book. You can make the process quicker by registering for a **MyNorfolk** account which will automatically fill in some of these details.

You will also be able to change or cancel your booking if needed.

Norfolk libraries also provide internet access for anyone without the internet at home.

Book by phone

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Brainteasers Issue 101

Brainteaser 1 of 5

Oliver and Arnold are walking home from the factory on payday and each has the same amount of money as the other.

How many pounds must Oliver give Arnold so that Arnold has £10 more than Oliver?

Answer inside back cover

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DESERT ISLAND DISCS



Tracey Palmer
Welborne Village Hall Committee Member



Hello everyone!

My name is Tracey and I moved to Norfolk five years ago with my husband James. We have enjoyed everything about it from the beautiful countryside to our wonderful community. We are now both retired and enjoying our hobbies together. I worked in the retail sector for 28 years. This was an interesting career as you meet so many different people along the way but also could be quite challenging, but nevertheless enjoyed it all. I have a few hobbies. I like gardening, walking, hobby craft and most importantly my seven grandchildren.

I have been asked what my best top ten music pieces are and found this quite difficult as I have so many but here goes. You will see it is quite an eclectic list as there are so many different genres but I could not list them all. These are ones that hold some incredibly special memories in my heart.

1. Tale as Old as Time from Beauty & the Beast (played in harp, cello & violin). This was played at our daughter's wedding as she signed the register and it was a film we loved watching together (still do).

2. Pretty Woman Roy Orbison. Just always dreamed of walking the boardwalk (think that time has missed me now). Just a feel-good song.

3. Smile Nat King Cole

4. Pomp & Ceremony Elgar. Great memories of open-air concerts, makes you stand up and be proud.

5. That Old Black Magic Rod Stewart. Reminds me of my 50th birthday, I was on a ship visiting Rome so every time I hear this I drift back to Rome (I wish).

6. Oh What a Circus David Essex. He was the first person I saw in concert, he was amazing.

7. Bat Out of Hell Meatloaf

8. Mr Bojangles Robbie Williams. Just makes you tap your feet

9. Last Christmas Wham. Just because we love Christmas

10. So, this is Christmas John Lennon. We always played this as we put our children to bed on Christmas Eve and on Christmas day morning as they opened their presents

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Bewtiful Vew.

The Norfolk accent is something really special. Anyone who was not born here, or who has not lived in the county for a long time, can replicate it.

When I first moved away to College nobody knew where I came from. One lad from Sunderland and others from Yorkshire and Bristol, who are still my best mates, thought I was American of all things especially when I called the Dereham and Fakenham Times, which my mother used to send to me, the local Noose Paper.

When my eight grandchildren started coming along I took great delight in teaching them at an early age to say "thas hooge" when the big dragon appeared in their stories. Or we'd gaze out of the window and with great delight exclaim "look at that bewtiful vew". Needless to say that their parents were delighted with those early elocution, or should I say elocewtion, lessons.

In the last edition of Miscellanea I rambled on about all the varied and ancient stuff we keep in our handbags and wallets. Well I came across yet another one of my discarded and tatty bits of fake leather the other day and inside was a folded up extract from the Eastern Daily Press dating from the 1960s which had some good old Norfolk yarns which made me chuckle. So, rather than rely on your Christmas crackers for seasonal jocularity I thought I'd share them.

Old Fred the marshman took aim at a lone duck overhead. "Jist yew watch this" he commanded a group of onlookers. He fired. The bird flew on. "There you are my bewties" said Fred, "Thass a miracle yew're a seein' – a dead duck still a'flyin!"

Ethel was surprised to receive a visit from her younger sister who had moved away from Norfolk many years ago. "Dew yew know" exclaimed Ethel, "If that hent ha'bin yew, I wunt ha' known who that wuz!"

Horry had a sign outside his house which read "Beware of the canary". A newcomer to the village asked "Why should anyone be scared of a canary?" Horry replied "Cors this one whistle for the dawg."

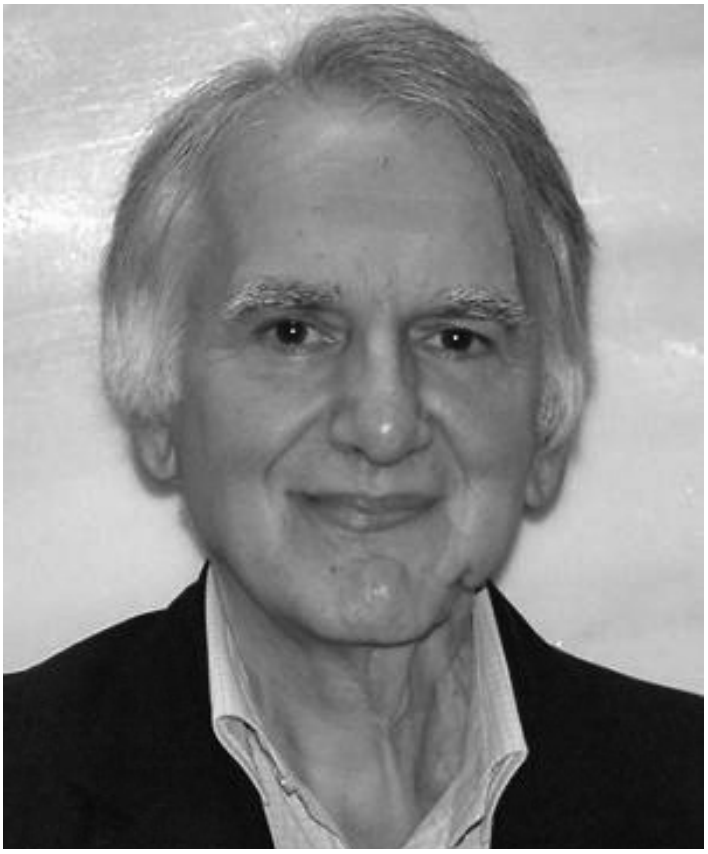
On a job application form beside the question regarding marital status, a Norfolk labourer wrote "Nut speakin'."

Arthur and Jack were picking apples when Arthur's ladder slipped and he crashed to the ground. Jack ran to his aid shouting "Hev yew hat yarself bor?" "I dunno" replied Arthur. "I carnt speak yit!"

An item on a Norfolk restaurant menu was marked "The Chef's Special". Underneath someone wrote "So he myte be – but his grub ent up to much."

A bishop visited Mattishall church and found a smaller than usual congregation. "Did you tell them I was coming?" he asked the old verger. " No ole partner" he replied, "but news must hev got out somehow."

Lady teacher:- "Consider this sentence – I don't have no fun at the weekend – How should I correct this?" Billy – "Git yarself a boyfriend".



John Norton

But my favourite story of all is that you can have a conversation in Norfolk using just two words. It took place on Yarmouth Market when an old lady went up to a stall selling umbrellas which opened when you pressed a button. She opened the umbrella and said "Do that do that?" The stallholder replied "That do!"

Happy Christmas

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MATTISHALL COMMUNITY HUB

Promoting social contact & community projects

What a great time we all had at Mattishall Community Hub's November session! Over 30 local residents turned out to enjoy an afternoon of tea, cake and chat with a special, live music, guest appearance. The Wayland Men's Shed Shanty Men choir sang their wonderful songs with gusto and, with their enthusiasm and appropriate props (including a, not real, parrot!), got everyone in a nautical mood and singing along.



The Wayland Men's Shed Shanty Men choir entertained us at the November MCH session.

The Men's Shed movement was started in the 1980s in Australia and soon spread around the world. There are now well over 1,000 Men's Sheds in the UK. The philosophy behind the movement is to provide safe spaces for men to 'connect, converse and create. The Men's Sheds help reduce loneliness and isolation but, most importantly, they're fun!' It would be an excellent resource for us to have here in Mattishall so if anyone thinks that they would be interested in helping to set one up, all of the details can be found online at menssheds.org.uk

As Remembrance Day was only a few days later,. we had poppies for sale at the November session and we chose to pass all of the donations that we collected, towards the refreshments for the event, on to the British Legion Poppy Appeal. We were also very proud to be able to lay a poppy wreath at the Mattishall Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 10 November.

For our next session, on Tuesday 3 December, we will be kicking off the Yuletide festivities with Christmas fare, music and quizzes. We will have our regular Give & Take Table (swap one small item for one other item eg plant cutting, home produce, book etc. optional) and anything Christmas-themed would be great. We will also be having a Christmas Craft Table where we will provide natural, recycled and recyclable materials, as well as some inspiration and guidance, for anyone who would like to, to create your own tree or house decoration, free of charge.

It is fantastic that we have built up a membership of so many regular attendees and we are very pleased that, after two years, we are still welcoming newcomers. MCH is open to all residents of Mattishall and surrounding villages especially to anyone who may be feeling lonely or isolated or is simply in need of a bit of time out from their daily routine to enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

We are now making plans for 2025 but we would be able to offer a wider range of events and activities if we had more people to help us. If you think that you would like to get involved in volunteering with MCH for future community projects then, please, get in touch at our contact details below, we'd love to hear from you. Meanwhile, the MCH Team sends our very best Christmas Wishes to everyone and hope to see you in the New Year.

Regular MCH social sessions are held at Mattishall Memorial Hall, South Green, Mattishall every first Tuesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm.

Helen Brook (Project Coordinator)
mch23@btinternet.com 07467 945200





After the library...

At time of writing we are beginning to feel the pull of Christmas. I say "pull" but dragged kicking and screaming would be closer to the mark. The Christmas hold has been exerted since August round here when mince pies went on sale. Now Robin loves a mince pie but even he has scruples and November is the earliest he'll partake. It's pretty much an every day event after that but August? No.

We are not entertaining again this year. Like last December, we are being treated to a festive meal and all the trimmings at my sister in law's. We will be a party of fourteen plus two large dogs. I imagine that it will be eventful. I shall don my Christmas slippers in anticipation.

Christmas as a child was magical, of course. We spent a lot of Christmases in Yorkshire with my parents' families. I loved those because I got to see grandparents and cousins aplenty. I can now sympathise with my parents at the upheaval travelling up the A1 with excitable children in the back of the car. We split our own small children's Christmases between Norfolk and Essex. It didn't seem any less far than Yorkshire.

When we had Christmas at home during my childhood, I would play out in the afternoon and we'd compare presents with the kids on the road. Then we would shoot each other with our respective weapons and cuddle each other's dolls. I'm not sure if we watched Sinbad the sailor, but I'm sure he was on.

Of course there were the flu dominated festivities. One year Robin's grandmother suffered a bout and left the giblets in their plastic bag inside the turkey. When my mother had flu she poured too much wine in the gravy and we all fell asleep after lunch which was a rather miserable affair.

My sister and I played out on Boxing Day, me in my new minidress and white tights (very Mary Quant) and I fell over in the snow and ripped it. Mum was not best pleased and I didn't get any tea.

Not all our Christmases have been communal affairs, far from it. We had a pretty private celebration on our first Christmas as newish weds. I was on duty Christmas morning, bedecked with a tiny piece of tinsel on my nurse's uniform. It was my first placement as a trainee - men's medical. All our patients who could swallow were served a full Christmas meal at noon after the consultants had been round in their civvies with wives and children in tow to wish their patients the compliments of the season. We didn't run baths that day if I remember rightly, as a treat. For whom I'm not sure.

I walked home from my early shift to find a roasted chicken and a proud husband. I proceeded to cook vegetables and we dined alone. We lived in university Halls in Newcastle as Robin was doing his PhD and was a resident subwarden that year. The halls were empty for the holidays but for a scattered few. We had "married quarters" which meant that the bedroom would take a double bed. It wouldn't take much else, mind. The next two Christmases were also based around my shift patterns but I was lucky enough with rotas that I worked Christmas mornings and lates on New Year's Day. We always managed to watch Sinbad on the television whichever year it was. He was inescapable.

Once we were parents and I wasn't nursing anymore it was a family gathering for Christmas Day at my parents' house and Boxing Day at his. This suited the grandparents and children alike but presents were a problem. We had to organise which grandparents were buying the relevant gifts as we needed to avoid duplication. If we'd had spreadsheets then it would have been handy. And Father Christmas was another problem altogether: we had to tread very carefully. Once Kate noticed that he used the same wrapping paper as daddy, "They probably used the same shop as the North Pole ran out of paper more quickly…" was my hasty explanation.



Tina Cooper

I don't recall the time when Father Christmas stopped calling at our house, but it was natural and organic, never blurted out as a falsehood. I do remember that he called at my childhood home until I was nineteen and yes, of course I believe in fairies: I've been to the pantomimes.

It's too easy just to say that Christmas isn't like it used to be. Most things aren't and just as well. But Christmas with children always excites me more both as a child and as a parent and this Christmas in particular, as a grandmother. Young Charlie William Cooper arrived in Dundee, in a blur of haste on January 9th and we will see him again just after Christmas. He will be old enough to enjoy tearing off the wrapping and crunching it as well as trying out his new toys. We've had pointers from the parents. No Chinese plastic is good enough for him. I thrived on it but we know better now. Buying books is always a pleasure but in this case it's a necessity. I mean, I'll be reading them to him. He's going to taste turkey and maybe even sprouts (he loves avocados) so why not? We will see in the New Year celebrating the Scottish way with board games and shortbread.

If Christmas is not the same as it used to be, why worry? For me, it's going to be infinitely better.

Wishing all you gentle readers a peaceful Christmas.

Tina Cooper

Our New Play Area at Welborne Village Hall

On the 28th & 29th October we were delighted to open our new play area, unfortunately the weather wasn't on our side for the two days (but it was October).

The play area was funded by The National Lottery Awards for All and we would like to say a big Thank You to them for helping us with our project.

Most importantly we would like to thank the children for coming along and enjoying the new play equipment as well as the sweets and treats.

People from the community attended and enjoyed tea, coffee and cake all supplied by the Trustees of the Village Hall over the two days, all having a catch up and enjoying our new venture.











Mike Hamill

Mike's Scribblings



The Fallen. I have been asked by one of the veteran organisations to see if they can use the poem "The Fallen" at a veterans service in St. John The Baptist cathedral next year!

We are the fallen. Who hears our cries?
No breath remaining, no lasting sighs
Those who loved us joined in grief;
only in their hearts lives the belief.

We are the fallen, we march in eternity.
Once 'twas them and us, but now just we
Kindred souls, comrades at last.
Joined by the memories of battles past.

We are the fallen, but not all of us lie
Under the soil or monument high.
We still stand, though the battles remain,
And we, broken in body and the mind in pain

We are the fallen, in some foreign field
Our bodies never found, never revealed
But we are there together, in unity
As you stand proud. And remember me.

Mike Hamill

Winter's Tale

The clouds billow like fresh washing on a windy day,
as they dance across pale skies that are wintery and grey.
The leaves all fall and the piles grow mouldy and deep,
as the insects and creatures lay down, to a winter's sleep.
The morning light creeps slowly, as dawn drags in;
almost as if its attendance is but a whim.

Daylight is inconsistent neither light nor dark
but listen at nightfall for the fox's sharp bark
as he hunts the hedgerows and searches his prey
snuffling, rooting, watching the badgers at play
Snow comes, at first sparkling in the moons pale light
that turns to a deep ocean of shimmering white.

Now people huddle around flame filled fires
as life scurries past in ale fuelled hours.
Hear the night owl call as its silky wings
from the skies, silently, death does bring.
Hear the evening song of nightingale and thrush,
and in the morn, the day birds bring their joyous chorus.

Hedge The Hedgehog

There's been a little visitor, but I'm not sure if it's he or she
But they've been in my garden and left a gift for me!
I know not where they've been, throughout the long dark night;
But now they will be sleeping in the day's brightest light.

I have had a little visitor; they've not been here for a while.
So even their little deposit brought forth a warming smile.
Hopefully, I will hear it, snuffling in the evening's chill,
And no matter if boy or girl, the sound will be a thrill!

I have had a little visitor; I'm calling them Hedge.
I'll enjoy their company, this is my honest pledge!
I'm sure now that Hedge is male. Now, this is not a slur!
But, if Hedge was a female, she'd clean up after her!



How do hedgehogs make decisions? They don't, they just hedge their bets

Facts about hedgehogs

The British hedgehog is scientifically known as Erinaceus europaeus

In Britain it is found almost everywhere except the Scottish islands

The hedgehog's back and sides are covered in 25mm (1 inch) long spines (which are really modified hairs)

There are approximately 5,000/7,000 spines on an average adult hedgehog

Hedgehogs tend to 'do the rounds' and visit several gardens within an area.

Hedgehogs are mostly insect eaters.

Their front feet are shorter and broader than their back ones.

Each night (when not hibernating) hedgehogs must forage in search of food and will routinely travel between 1-3kms (up to 2 miles).

They have small bright eyes but cannot see very well. At night they will use their excellent sense of smell and hearing to guide them.

They have a short inconspicuous tail, small ears and relatively long legs – about 10cms (4"), and these enable them to run as fast as we can walk.

They are mostly active at night or after heavy rainfall, and use their keen sense of smell to find food and alert them to danger.

Between November and the end of March, when food is scarce, hedgehogs hibernate to conserve energy, remaining largely inactive.

Their weight will be largely determined by the food they get; adults may weigh from about 800g to well over a kilogram, but most one-year olds will weigh between 450-680g (1-1½lbs).

Self-anointing is an activity only hedgehogs do. It seems to be connected with strange smells or tastes which cause them to produce large quantities of frothy saliva. They then spread the foam over their spines by flicking it with their tongue.

Generally, they lead solitary lives and tend to go out of their way to avoid other hedgehogs, except during the mating season.

In the mating season the male may be attracted by the different smell of the female and commence a rather prolonged and noisy courtship with her.

Hedgehogs do not pair bond and the female raises her young unaided by the male.

Litters of young, called hoglets, are generally born from May to September and average about 2 to 6 in number.

When the hoglets are about 6-8 weeks old they leave the nest and wander off on their own – they weigh around 250g (9oz) at this stage.

If a young hedgehog survives its early life in the nest and then its first hibernation, it can expect to live for 4 or 5 years longer.











Tackling the rural decline of our hedgehogs

The First National Hedgehog Conservation Strategy was launched to tackle declining hedgehog populations and aims to combat the alarming decline of hedgehogs, particularly in rural areas where numbers have dropped by 30 – 75% since 2000 and the eastern half of England appears to be the worst.

Greater awareness of the need for conservation, and individual and community actions such as hedgehog highways, may have turned the decline of hedgehog populations in urban areas. To do the same for rural populations, we need greater understanding, awareness, and action.

So, what can we do to help?

Ensuring hedgehogs can pass freely through your garden is one of the most important things you can do to help them.

One of the main reasons hedgehogs are struggling in Britain is because our fences and walls are becoming more and more secure, reducing the amount of land available to them.

We can make their life a little easier by removing the barriers within our control – for example, by making holes in or under our garden fences and walls for them to pass through.

No single garden is large enough for a hedgehog population, and no single garden can offer everything they need. Think of your garden as part of a local network.

The best way to provide a nesting option for hedgehogs is by creating a natural feature, such as a compost heap or log pile, as this has the added benefit of encouraging insect prey too. Artificial hedgehog houses (or hibernacula) are also used by hedgehogs and can be really fun to make.

Many people put out a saucer of meat-based pet food for their garden friends. Always make sure that a dish of water is available especially during the summer months or in extreme weather conditions.

Offer meaty hedgehog food, meaty cat or dog food or cat biscuits and fresh water. NEVER COW'S MILK.

There is lots on the website to help us all contribute to preventing the hedgehog decline. All the above information was taken from:

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society; Hedgehog Street; and People's Trust for Endangered Species

Please read it and do what you can for one of our best-loved mammals before it is too late.

Roots
By Kim
Unisex Hair Salon
01362 850380
5 Mill Street, Mattishall, NR20 3QG

ROWING IN NORFOLK

I have spent a huge amount of my time in Norfolk rowing. As a lawyer I used to do it for a living. There was a time when, at a meeting, I was rowing with a lawyer up from London. So vigorously did I row that the poor man stood up, all colour drained from his face, muttered 'You have made yourself very plain Mr Barr', and left for the station never to be seen again.

On another occasion I was rowing with a solicitor from King's Lynn who had won the prized Most Pompous Solicitor in Norfolk award three years running. My client feared that things were about to get out of control and so he passed me a note telling me that all I needed to do when looking at my opponent was to know what he had done with the man's daughter on the back seat of his Rolls Royce. In no way relevant to any matter under discussion, but I never looked at that solicitor in the same way.

Then there was the evening at a friend's house over a pleasant light conversation about not so very much when one of the other guests got up, told me that I was so odious that he had to leave, and was gone. And we had not even got to the stage of rowing.

But this delightful little essay was actually meant to be about the kind of rowing that red faced people do in entirely unpractical small boats. Rowing is a sport for people who don't have enough co-ordination to play football or cricket and so it suited me fine. It is also a sport designed for people with tendencies towards obsession and so once again it suited me fine.

One of Norfolk's most obsessive rowers was a famous architect called Simon. He was huge and hairy, and had there been grizzly bears along the banks of the Yare, which in my day, at least, there were not, then they would have taken one look at him and shrunk off to their lairs. Simon's greatest achievement was winning at the Commonwealth games in a pair. In the final they crossed the finishing line well ahead of the opposition but Simon's blood was up and he would not stop despite the protests from his partner. Two hundred yards later the boat disintegrated when it hit the wall at the far end of the course and even among the wreckage Simon tried to row on.

The oarsmen of Norwich competed all over the country but the local events were much enjoyed, especially the summer regatta at St Neots. By far the greatest pleasure of that event was to see newcomers being lured into the web of Big Larry. He would wander down to the river as proceedings were winding up and challenge the fittest looking competitors to a foot race. You could say that Larry was a big boy but that would undersell the scale of his vast bulk. He was huge and unhealthy. He wobbled like some vast jelly and was well over sixty. Years and possibly stone.

His challenge to the poor lambs who hadn't been fleeced by him before was a twenty yard foot race subject to two conditions. The first was that he would choose the course and the second was that he would have a head start of one yard. The £20 stake would now be the equivalent of £100, but every year someone would take the challenge.

With great ceremony Larry would lead his victim to the old part of town where there was a twenty-yard passageway just wide enough for him to pass down. With his head start the oarsman behind had absolutely no chance of



overtaking and so Larry despite a few bruises on his back could look forward to a fine night out at the pub.

The late seventies were days when hair was worn long and even a figure as important as the Mayor of Norwich had not learned proper respectful behaviour towards women. A Cambridge College eight had won the women's event at the Norwich Regatta and the Mayor came to present the winners with heir prizes. His eyes lit up when he saw these young women who were all in at least one sense hot and fit. As he handed over the prize to each he kissed them all until he came to the coxswain whose face was hidden by long curly locks. Too late did the Mayor discover that a cox in a women's crew can be a man. In this case a heavily bearded one, who gave the Mayor a long and vigorous kiss back. The crowd hooted for joy and the oarswomen whistled and chanted and for some reason the mayoral car was soon speeding up Whittlingham Lane leaving someone else to present the rest of the prizes.

Sadly, rowing and rowing went hand in hand. There was a major row when the First Eight turned up in London for an important race only to find that the one supposed to take the boat had forgotten it. But that was nothing compared to the row that erupted when I challenged that same eight to a race from Lowestoft to the Norwich boathouse, a distance of about 26 miles by road for the runner and by water for the oarsmen. I had learned from Big Larry and my condition was that I chose the date and time. The second week of November that year saw a tidal flow of such intensity running against the eight that by the time they got back I had gone home eaten lunch and watched a couple of hours of television. So important to learn from the lessons that life offers.

William Barr



LITTLE ANGELS

TODDLER GROUP

Are you a parent/carer at home with pre-school children?

Would you like to meet up with others to chat, have refreshments and let your children play in a safe, warm and happy environment?

If so come and join us – we would love to see you!

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, CHURCH PLAIN, MATTISHALL

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN TERM TIME

9.00 AM – 11.30 AM

Cost £1.50 one child or £2.00 two or more children.

We have a team of volunteers who are ready to welcome you and your little ones.

Further details from Sue Cossey.

Email: sue.cossey@matvchurch.uk

Tel: Church Office 01362 858873

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/LAMattishall

Come along to a

family fun time at

All Saints' Church, Mattishall



2nd Sunday each month

(no meeting in August)

4.00 pm—5.00 pm

Everyone welcome

Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer

For further information contact

Church Office 01362 858873 or
contact@matvchurch.uk



FIRST SATURDAY - EVERY MONTH

9.00 am—10.30 am

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

MATTISHALL

Calling all dads and male carers.

Come and have a fun time with your children.

Bacon rolls/snacks/hot and cold drinks to enjoy and plenty of toys.

Ages 0 to School Yr 2.

£2.00 per family.

Do join us. We look forward to seeing you.

For more details, contact
alan.cossey@matvchurch.uk

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For Further Details Please Contact:

Louise or Julie on
01362 850947
Or visit our website at
www.bishybarnabees.co.uk

Youth! Miscellanea

The Centre Section Dedicated To Young People in Our Area

1st Mattishall & District Scout Group

Scout HQ – On the grounds of the Mattishall Primary School

Through a fun youth activity programme we try to prepare young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more.

****** Scouting is for GIRLS and BOYS aged 6 – 14 ******

GROUP NEWS

Beavers: So, a new school year and new Beavers plus visitors, as we had 3 owls come to see us. The best bit had to be the owl poo on the floor - yes, it did get cleaned up but it was exciting. We did our Emergency Aid Badge, visited Lush in Norwich and began planning for our sleepover. We'd like to congratulate William C on his Bronze Award (highest in Beavers).





Cubs: Cubs spent two weeks earning their equestrian badge at a local stables. They also brushed up on their first aid skills and had a joint meeting with Beavers in Norwich learning about sustainability and the processes involved in production of beauty products.



Scouts: Some of the older Scouts completed their expedition challenge in October, hiking from East Lexham back to Mattishall over two days, camping at Beetley overnight. The group were hosts to scouts from Swaffham one evening and shared skills of wood splitting/sawing, fire lighting and smore toasting. Over half-term they enjoyed a camp at Garvestone cooking on fires, creating woggles, wood whittling and a night hike spotting fireworks.





Group News: During our camp weekend our Scout Leader, Daniel, was presented with his Wood Beads Award in recognition of the completion of his leadership training.



BEAVER SCOUTS - GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 6 - 8 **TUESDAYS 6.15 – 7.30PM** Contact Su McKinnell on 07514 032678
CUB SCOUTS - GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 8 - 10 **WEDNESDAYS 6.15 – 7.30PM** Contact Emma Day – email: eeyore41983@aol.com
SCOUTS - GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 10 - 14 **MONDAYS 7 – 9PM** Contact Ann Futter – ann.futter@live.co.uk

Mattishall Primary School

Staff from Reception and Year 1 were delighted to welcome visitors Rod, John and Andrew from Holt Rotary Club. Rotary BookAid aims to improve children's literacy by either recycling books donated by the public or funding new books to suit local schools' needs. We are grateful to have received a bundle of books to support 'Talk Through Stories', an initiative which will extend and deepen our youngest children's vocabulary. Reception welcomed their parents in for a Reading Workshop.



They started by showing their brilliant phonics knowledge in a Read Write Inc demonstration and then completed lots of fun reading activities with their parents.



Year 2 children went to Norwich Cathedral to explore the story of our local hero, Edith Cavell.



Year 3 took part in a fun-filled day about 'Neolithic Britain' at Gressenhall as part of their history focus 'Through the Ages'. The children took part in four different activities: hunting and gathering; farming; building shelters and exploring artefacts. They had a great day and learnt lots of new information about the Stone Age and how people lived.



Mattishall Primary School

During Science, Year 4 learnt about different types of teeth and how to look after them. They were lucky enough to have a visit from Clare Burton, a dental therapist, who shared information about how to keep teeth healthy by brushing carefully twice a day and avoiding foods that have a high sugar content.



Year 5 children have been exploring the Science topic of 'Forces and Mechanisms'. They enjoyed investigating the forces of gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction.



Year 6 children conducted a science investigation to see the effects of different types of exercise on heart rate. They started by taking their own resting heart rate using the radial pulse, then measured their heart rates after four different types of exercise (aerobic, stretch, balance and strength). The children compared their heart rates to see which type of exercise had the greatest effect on their heart rate.







What do you call a hedgehog that doesn't eat worms?
A hedgetarian







Mattishall Youth Club (Juniors)

TUCK SHOP

Friday 5.00pm-6.30pm
Age 5-11 years
Entry- FREE

To book or for more information please
email: youthclubs@ymcanorfolk.org
Telephone: 07907960621

Rockinghorse Daycare

Rockinghorse Daycare, in Mattishall, provides quality care for children between the ages of 3 months and 5 years. We also provide additional facilities for school-age children in the form of 'Stallions' our Breakfast, After- School and Holiday Club.
Open 8.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year (excluding Bank Holidays.)
15 & 30 hours Early Years Free Entitlement available.
Tax free childcare and childcare vouchers accepted.





Contact
Debbie or Ruth on
01362 850409
rockinghorse.daycare@yahoo.co.uk

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Please visit my website

chrisbaile.com



Roundabout

Community Pages, News from Community Groups & Societies, Social and Church Events. What's on in and around Mattishall

Loades from Lizzie



DROP IN - We continue to meet weekly, Thursdays 10-12, and usually have between twenty and thirty people come along for a social morning with a chat over a cuppa. We normally meet in All Saints Church, Mattishall but while we had an issue with the heating in the church, we made a temporary move to the church rooms (next to the surgery) - warmer but not so much space.



CRAFTY - We offer the chance to bring your knitting/crochet/embroidery along to chat about with others and for people to have a go at knitting etc and to learn from each other.

BOOK SWAP - We also have some books available to take away. There are usually some left from the book club and we like to give others a chance to read them. Just call in to have a look.

CHRISTMAS PARTY - On Thursday 12th December we are holding our final meeting before Christmas with entertainment from Dereham-based Bell Ringers and lunch. We will start at 10am as normal with the entertainment starting around 11am followed by lunch and ending with a singalong of Christmas songs and carols.

Each week we ask people where possible to make a small contribution of £2, although that is not essential but it helps with costs. On 12th December we ask that people increase that contribution to £5 as we provide lunch.



BOOK CLUB - Our **very informal** book club meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 2.30pm in All Saints Church, Mattishall. We do not all read the same book, we just bring along whatever we have been reading, give a brief description of the books and whether we recommend them, or not! Lots of chat and laughing and the chance to find out about new authors and to swap the books among the group. We have a cuppa and cake as well, so plenty to enjoy.

SINGING FOR WELLBEING - These free sessions are great fun and we have new people coming along all the time to join in. At one meeting we had 20 people attend!

We meet twice monthly, one afternoon and one lunchtime session. The lunchtime session is on the second Wednesday of the month from 1-2pm just before book club. The evening session is on the 4th Thursday of the month from 7-8pm. Sessions are normally held in All Saints Church, Mattishall - plenty of space and we arrive a bit early for a cuppa together before we start. Some meetings have been held in the church rooms when the heating has been out of action in the church but hopefully by the time this goes to print things will be back to the church.

You do not need to have a good voice or know anything about music. ***The aim is to enjoy singing, have fun and to leave with a smile on your face.***

COMMUNITY CHOIR - this has developed from the singing sessions, again, nothing formal, just a group of people who enjoy singing and we have led community singing at social events in the village.

Our next event for the choir to lead the singing is at the **COMMUNITY SUPPER** to be held on **Friday 20th December at 7pm** in the church. This will be a **FREE EVENT** for anyone in the village to come along and have a great Christmas social evening with supper, quiz, singing and entertainment. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

At the summer supper, over 65 people attended and we had a great night. It would be lovely to have even more people join us for the Christmas Social Night.

There are lots of other events happening in the church as we celebrate Christmas and we would love to see you there.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

LIZZIE

Mattishall Methodist Church

Weekly Sunday Services at 2.30 pm

Carol Service - Sunday 22nd December at 2.30 pm with our new minister Rev Derek Grimshaw

Weekly Bible Study - Thursdays 2 pm to 3.30 pm alternate weeks with Garvestone (ring Fred for details on 850750)

See Noticeboard for details. All welcome.
Meeting Rooms for hire - Enquiries to Fred on 850750.

All Saints, Mattishall

1st December – All Saints Mattishall
Christmas Fun Afternoon 2pm – 4pm

8th December – All Saints Welborne
Carols with the Salvation Army 3pm

20th December – All Saints Mattishall
Christmas Community Supper 7pm

22nd December – All Saints Mattishall
Carol Service 6pm

24th December – All Saints Mattishall
Christingle 4pm

24th December – All Saints Welborne
Holy Communion 9.30pm

25th December – All Saints Mattishall
Christmas Day Holy Communion 10.30am

29th December – All Saints Welborne
Churches Together 10.00am



Bridge Club



Scrabble



Ten Pin Bowling



Darts

Plus theatre, cinema, exhibitions, lunch

Please come and join us at our next meeting, where a friendly welcome awaits you.

7.30 pm Memorial Hall 2nd Wednesday each month

Speakers and Subjects

11 December
"Christmas Party - Martha the Monastery Maid" - *Elizabeth Scott*

8 January 2025
"Personal Estate Management"
Stuart Burrell

12 February
"Mattishall Birthday Meal"
Venue tba

12 March
"Singer"
Darrin Sore

For more information please contact either
Jackie Tooke
01362 858447
or
Pat Hamilton
01362 850286

NORFOLK

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

OF MATTISHALL

Would you like to help your community?

Mattishall Community Car scheme are looking for drivers.

It's a volunteer service so you can do as much or as little as you like, as drives are requested I would contact you to see if you are available to help with that drive. We help people who live in the village to get to their medical appointments.

If this sounds like something you are able to support please call Wendy Flew on 01362 858445

Brainteasers Issue 101

Brainteaser 2 of 5

Replace the letters with numerals (0 – 9) to make this equation work (each letter represents a different numeral)

SEND + MORE = MONEY

Answer inside back cover

Mattishall Walking Group



The walking group meet every week (alternate Tuesdays and Fridays) and the length of walk is determined by who turns up and weather conditions but generally it is about 4 miles. We meet at All Saints Church at 10.30am and are a friendly group that enjoys a chat while we walk. Each week our walk is advertised on Nextdoor but if you want further information, please email me Hazel Goodall on hazelnutmum@yahoo.co.uk.

MATTISHALL MEMORIAL HALL

South Green, Mattishall, NR20 3JT

Fully fitted kitchen, Bar available.

Ideal for any function

Includes computer access with drop down screen and projector

For bookings and/or further information contact
Sim Saunders on **07715 823131**
email: **sim-saunders@hotmail.co.uk**

Christmas Community Supper

FRIDAY 20 DECEMBER

7.00 pm

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, MATTISHALL

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG

Storytelling ∞ Music ∞ Quiz ∞ Christmas Singalong ∞ Supper

This is a FREE Event for all local people



caféverde



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Café Verde a hidden gem in Mattishall serving delicious, homemade breakfasts, lunches, Sunday roasts, afternoon teas, cakes/bakes and coffees.

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- Tailored fitness programmes created by our friendly, experienced fitness professionals
- Personal training sessions delivered by our qualified personal trainers
- Fitness assessments, nutrition guidance, fitness support and advice is provided whenever needed by a member of the team
- Free parking

Our all-inclusive membership is £27.50 per month. A 10% discount making it £24.75 per month for:

- Aged 65 Years or above
- A Fulltime Student
- A Blue Light staff member
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I gymtec-fitness.co.uk
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Mattishall & Lenwade Surgeries News

This is the season where we see an increase in coughs and colds, don't forget you can visit your local pharmacy and obtain over the counter medication.

Mattishall opening and prescription requests Mattishall Surgery & Pharmacy will close at 6pm on Christmas Eve and 6pm on New Years Eve prior to the bank holidays. We are closed for all bank holidays over the Christmas period.

The last ordering date for collection before Christmas is Friday 13th December.

The last ordering date for collection before New Year is Wednesday 18th December.

Are you struggling with work or need help getting back to work? Need some work support, advice, or just a friendly face to talk to? Working Well Norfolk Drop-In Sessions are designed to help you with whatever you need. No need to book—just stop by for a chat, resources, and guidance from our team.

- When: Every fortnight, starting 9th October
- Time: 10.00am to 12.30am
- Where: Mattishall Surgery (waiting room)
- 16+ welcome

During the drop-in, you can discuss your needs and access advice. Then you can decide whether a referral to the programme is a good next step. The Working Well Norfolk Programme offers:

- One-to-one appointments with an Employment Specialist;
- Tailored support for those facing challenges at work or during unemployment;
- Linking up with Primary Care teams and providing wraparound support;
- Job opportunities with local employers to match your skills;
- CV, cover letters & application Support.

For more information go to www.seetecpluss.co.uk/working-well-norfolk/ or call 01603 561054.

Brainteasers Issue 101

Brainteaser 3 of 5

Barnabus and Florence are in love with each other.

They have been married for 20 years.

Barnabus tells Florence that he wants a divorce and Florence is delighted.

Why?

Answer inside back cover



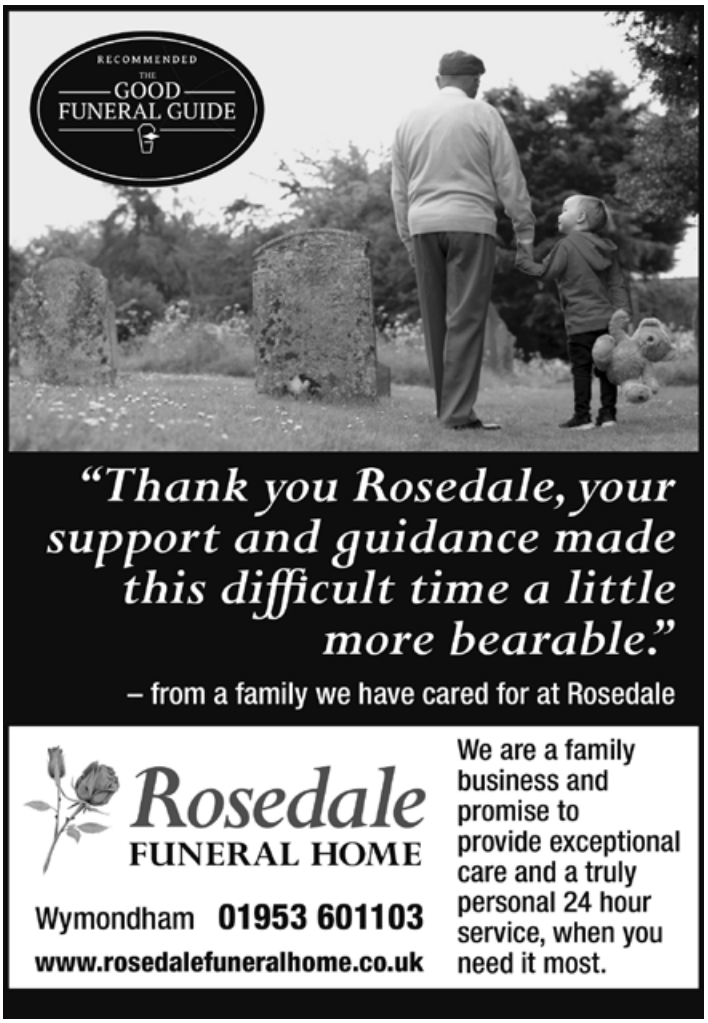
Dereham Park Run NEW

Have you all heard about the Dereham parkrun that started on Saturday July 20th this year? Since then, every Saturday at 9am, there have been patients, surgery staff, even some current and former GPs turning up regularly either to run (or jog or walk) for 5km or to help with volunteering.

You can find out more about parkruns at www.parkrun.org.uk and about our own parkrun (in the Countryside park behind Dereham Town Football Club) at www.parkrun.org.uk/dereham/aboutus.

All you need to do is sign up and get a barcode, and then just turn up on the day!

If you'd like to help with volunteering (pointing and cheering!) you can email our volunteer co-ordinators - dereham@parkrun.com



Mattishall Parish Council News

LATEST NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Upcoming events!

LITTER PICKING

Save the dates for our upcoming litter picking events!

4 January 2025
23 March 2025
3 May 2025
22 June 2025
2 August 2025
7 September 2025
25 October 2025
23 November 2025

Church Rooms, Dereham Road

YMCA YOUTH CLUB

Friday Evenings!

Junior sessions

5pm - 6:30pm

Senior Sessions

6:30 - 8pm

Held at Mattishall Memorial Hall, 47 South Green, NR20 3JY.

Mattishall Neighbourhood Plan - our important parish document used to shape the future of Mattishall to 2036

An independent planning examiner has now been appointed to consider the plan. This examination process will follow a number of stages:

Stage 1: Background Reading
The examiner will read the Plan, its supporting documents, and the various representations.

Stage 2: Visit to the Mattishall neighbourhood area
The examiner will visit Mattishall (unaccompanied) to look at specific issues and locations in the neighbourhood area.

Stage 3: Clarification Note
The examiner will send a clarification note to the Parish Council shortly after the visit. This is an opportunity for the Parish Council to respond to the representations received on the Plan.

Stage 4: Decision on the need for a hearing
The examiner will decide whether there is a need or otherwise for a hearing. Usually the examination can proceed by written representations and without a hearing.

Stage 5: The Examination Report
The report will be prepared throughout the examination period. There will be an opportunity for the Parish Council and the District Council to comment on any factual inaccuracies and / or omissions within the report. It is anticipated that the fact check report will be issued by mid-December 2024.

The examiner will decide whether the plan is acceptable (i.e. "meets the basic conditions"); is not acceptable; or can be made acceptable through modification of its policies.
A referendum is the final stage before our Neighbourhood Plan is adopted. If at referendum more than 50% of people vote in favour of the proposals, Breckland Council will adopt the plan as statutory planning policy.

The Parish Council

Graham Clarke (Chair)
David Fowler (Vice Chair)
Bob Burrell
David Piper
Janice Smith
John Pickering
Mike Onassis
Roisin Murray
Martin Goodrum
Anita Rose (Parish Clerk)

Upcoming Parish Council Meetings

2 December 2024

6 January 2025

3 February 2025

3 March 2025

7 April 2025

6 May 2025

2 June 2025

Further details of councillor responsibilities, details of meetings and minutes are on the website. If you would like to discuss anything related to the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk.

Meeting are held at Poultec, South Green 7pm

Open Spaces Working Group

The Open Spaces Working Group have been informed recently that dogs have been seen roaming freely in the play area. The Parish Council would like to remind all residents that animals are not permitted to these play areas, these are safe places for our children to enjoy.

On a positive note we are pleased to confirm that the Parish Council are now the land owners for the Allotments, Orchard and Community Woodland at Kingfishers. The Allotment Society are currently laying the turf and denoting the plots. If anyone is interested in an allotment please contact the society's secretary Roisin Murray on roisintmurray@outlook.com.

We are also excited and very pleased to confirm that the mural, created by Mattishall Primary School is scheduled for installation on 16th November.

Wild and Wood Committee

We are a new committee made up of Parish Councillors and Parishioners to create and manage a community woodland and wildflower meadow at the Kingfishers Estate over the next 3 seasons.

The Parish Council will be expecting delivery of trees between January and March. These will need planting with the help from the community.

This open space is a real asset to the community and the wildlife, offering a whole range of benefits and we are excited in seeing this project develop.

Remembrance

Thank you to all those who participated and attended the Remembrance service on 10th November. It was a great service remembering those who lost their lives fighting for our Country.

MATTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO CLOSE THIS YEAR'S NEWSLETTER

BY WISHING YOU ALL

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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- Fun quizzes
- Give & Take table
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- All ages welcome
  y15s to be accompanied by an adult
- Occasional guest speakers & performers

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What is happening to the land at Kingfishers?

Written by Roisin Murray

You may be forgiven for asking this, given the time between the announcement of plans for community areas and now, but with the paperwork completed, plans are going forward to get started on turning this into a real community asset for everyone to enjoy.

In the space between the development and Old Hall Road there will be three areas: nearest the houses will be planted with native trees, allowing pathways through them for anyone to take a stroll. The types of trees have been chosen to provide colour and interest but also to provide food and shelter to local wildlife.

The Woodland Trust will be supplying us with 210 baby trees (whips) around March so there will be one or two planting events where everyone, regardless of age, can come along and help with the planting. The Parish Council will also be buying some larger pot-grown trees to put in this area so we won't have to wait years before we start to see some woodland appearing.

The area in the middle of the green area will be mostly open space, for sitting out and picnicking or just strolling in the open.

At the far end of the site there are plans for a Wildflower Meadow – this will take a while to set up and establish and will probably look quite messy at first, but the longer term result will be a lovely area of wildflowers, full of colour and the buzz of pollinating insects, which are vital to our wellbeing. Paths will be cut through the meadows to give access to the trees and provide some lovely walking spaces.

Thanks to a grant from Breckland Council, the Parish Council has already ordered 30 local varieties of fruit trees which will eventually be planted in the meadow. These will be delivered in pots by March. As the flowering area needs to establish, the trees will initially be planted in a row along the edge of this area – to be moved safely once they have gone dormant some time next winter. Again, there will be planting sessions advertised for anyone wanting to get involved.

There will be announcements made on social media and the PC website and on Parish noticeboards, but if you want to get information on events relating to this (and ONLY this) please contact the Parish Clerk (details on the PC website) who will be keeping a mailing list for just this.

At the back of the houses there are two areas: one is a fenced area with gated access for anyone where the developers have planted fruit trees already. This will be part of the Community Orchard element of the area.

Alongside this is the Kingfishers Allotment Plots. Right now, they look rather messy as nature has taken over and sprinkled wild plants all over the area, but by the time you read this the plots will have grass paths laid out when ready; each plot will be numbered and have its own "dalek" compost bin. Once the grass is laid those on the waiting list will be choosing their plots, ready to become tenants on January 1st. If you like the idea of having an allotment plot, we do still have some vacancies, so do contact me on roisintmurray@outlook.com or 07032 794251.

Next to the allotments is a car park for the use of the allotment tenants and both of these areas will be restricted for security and safety. One tenant of the allotments will be a Community Allotment where anyone will be able to come along and take part. It will be promoted once we have some firm plans on how to move forward on that. Again, if you are interested in getting involved with that, please contact me.

Brainteasers Issue 101

Brainteaser 4 of 5

Andrea is half of her mother's age.

Ten years ago, she was one-third of her mother's age.

How old is Andrea?

Answer inside back cover

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On the road with the AA
Part 4

This episode concerns the late Queen Elizabeth II, who regularly resided at Sandringham over the Christmas period. I was occasionally tasked with providing service as a car park attendant, with some of my colleagues, near the church which she went to over the Christmas period. I don't know if the AA offered this service or if the Queen requested it, but as an Inspector it was well paid. In those days overtime was paid at double time rates.

Anyway, it had been a busy morning as usual with vast numbers of cars arriving from all over the country. Eventually the car park was full and quiet as everyone had now gone to the church to await the Queen's arrival. I was on the point of setting off home when one more car arrived. It was a large estate car with three people in it, two men and a woman.

They got out and went to the rear of the vehicle. The men lifted out a wheelchair whilst the woman went across to a litter bin at the other side of the car park, to dispose of some rubbish. She came back and seated herself in the wheelchair. The men made her comfortable and covered her with a blanket and put a woolly hat on her head. Then, they pushed her across the car park and out of sight towards the church.

I began to wonder why a woman who appeared to be physically sound should need to use a wheelchair? After a minute or two it came to me. The crowds who wanted to see the Queen were large but priority was given to those in wheelchairs. They were positioned right at the front, within a few feet of passing royalty. I left the venue with my suspicions.

What do you think?

Richard Walton



How do hedgehogs communicate?
Through hedge-mail

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Brainteasers Issue 101

Brainteaser 5 of 5

Mr Mainwaring is rearranging the clerk's desks at the bank. But he has a problem.

Mr Coltart wants to sit behind Mis Armitage but Miss Armitage insists on sitting behind Mr Coltart.

How does Mr Mainwaring keep both his clerks happy?

Answer inside back cover

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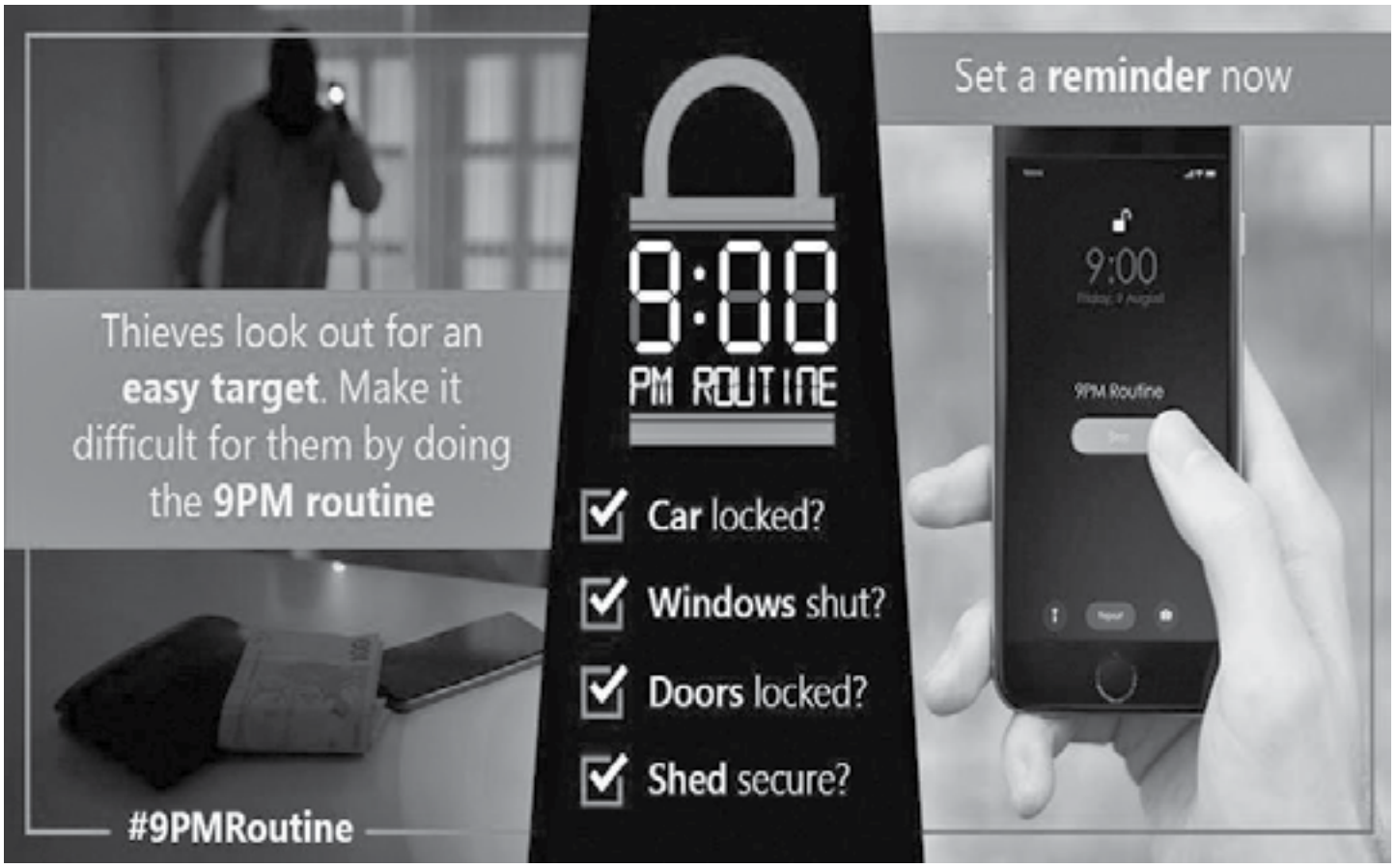
PC 898 Paula Gilluley
Breckland Community
Engagement Officer
Paula.Gilluley@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

I can't believe that we are already in November and with the clocks going back an hour, we cannot help but notice that the nights are starting to draw in earlier. This is the time of year when we start to see an increase in reports of thefts from cars, sheds and outbuildings. We can all be guilty sometimes of settling down for the evening and neglecting to check if our outbuildings, vehicles, and homes are properly secure and these lapses can be seized upon by opportunist thieves taking advantage of insecure doors, windows and stealing valuables which are left out or on show in vehicles. The #9pmRoutine is an initiative backed by many Police Forces both in the UK and abroad which seeks to encourage us all to get into the habit of completing routine security checks. By setting a reminder on your phone or your alarm for 9pm, get into a routine of checking your home, vehicle and any outbuildings are secure, and valuables removed or hidden out of sight. Opportunist criminals look for an easy target.

By completing the following checks, life will be made all the harder for criminals

- Check your vehicle is locked and valuables (including tools from work vehicles) are removed.
- Shut your windows.
- Lock your doors.
- Check your outbuildings.

Don't forget you can visit our webpage Crime prevention advice | Norfolk Constabulary (www.norfolk.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/) for lots of other crime prevention advice on a range of topics.



Mattishall Sports & Social Club

The Club has had a busy few months. The weekly events of book club on Monday and music nights on Wednesday are going strong. We also have two great pool teams headed by Trevor, who play on a Monday and our magnificent darts teams headed by Matt on a Thursday. We have Anglian Combination football again this season, with Easton First Team and Central and South League with Easton A Team. I hope you can get up to cheer them on.

On 29th August we had a great singer, **Juzzy,** back to the club. It was his second visit, and do not think it will be his last! At this event we sadly said au revoir to Jo as bar person as she stood down to concentrate on other outlets. We are pleased to say, however, that she will still be at the front of our dog show, children's activities and, of course, the monthly **Playing Card Bingo.** which, can I remind you, the next one will be on 13th December. Two members of the club committee, Pam Kelly and Ros Culyer, presented her with a gardening voucher, wine, flowers and chocolates (a bribe, to make sure she still carries on with her other events.)



On 15th September we held our annual dog show. This was to raise funds for our children's play area, which should be started very soon. We raised an amazing £900. Our famous duo, Jo Bishop and Ros Culyer, made sure it was an event that, hopefully, the dogs enjoyed….I think their owners enjoyed it too, ha ha. We also had a BBQ, tea, coffee and cake stall and a raffle. We are hoping to make this an annual event, as long as Jo and Ros don't run out of steam!!





The **John Letterinham Dart's Memorial** was held at the club in October. John's brother presented the trophy. The winner was Jamie Baxter and Darren Maidment runner up.

On 1st November, we brought back our much-missed firework night. What a great occasion this was. The last time this was at the Social Club was 2005, so we wanted it to go with a 'bang', and it did. It was very well attended and everyone had a great time. As well as the fireworks, we had a children's entertainer, a good band out front, and lots of food stalls, which were greatly attended. This event did take a long time to put in place, and thanks to Nathan, Marc, Micky, the bar staff, committee members and all the volunteers, we could not have wished for a better night.

The club is holding a **Children's Christmas Party** on 8th December 3pm-6pm, ages 4-8 years, this will be held in the adjacent Memorial Hall . This is a free party but you will need to have a ticket so we can work out numbers to cater for and gifts. There will be a children's entertainer, finishing up with a visit from Father Christmas. Don't forget to pop in and get your tickets.

It will be our **35th anniversary** in December and we are organising an event on 21st December. Watch our website and ads for more information. It will be a good night. **Pam Kelly**

Darts

The third annual *John Ketteringham Memorial Cup* took place at Mattishall Sports & Social Club at the end of October. Sixteen participants took part, a mixture of current players and former team mates of John from the village Sports & Social club and Dereham Football Club darts teams. Three dartboards were used to enable the night to run smoothly and in good time.

Last year's winner, Brian 'Meaty' Head was defeated in the quarter finals.

John's brother presented three trophies: to this year's tournament winner Jamie Baxter, the runner-up Darren Maidment and to Mark Jeffries, for the highest three dart outshot of the night - a 114 finish. A trophy engraved with the names of the winners, from the three annual stagings, is displayed at the Sports and Social Club.

John played in the current Dereham Thursday Darts League between 2007 and 2018, he sadly passed away in 2022 and is fondly remembered by team mates and friends.

The thursday Dereham Darts League has just reached the halfway point of the 2024/2025 season and continues until April. **Daniel Platt**

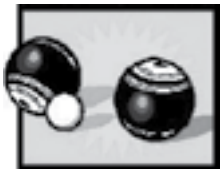






Message from

Mattishall Lawn Bowls Club



To everyone in the village and surrounding neighbourhoods.

Over the last few years, we have noticed a gradual reduction in membership, and we now want to remind and inform residents of a great sport and facility in the village.

The club is located on the west side of South Green Road, next to the Memorial Hall. Car parking and access all on the flat. The clubhouse provides a changing area, toilets and kitchen.

Between April and September, the club members can use the 8-rink green, which visitors tell us is one of the best-kept greens in Norfolk.

Potential and experienced players, from all adjacent villages and towns, are welcome to try out the game of bowls. It is a great sport and relaxing. Ages from 16 to 100+ can all play. We are planning to get the 2025 season started on the 16th April. This date and two further dates of the 23rd and 30th will be when we welcome people to try the sport of lawn bowls. It is a great sport to be played at whatever level you want to.

So we can get an idea of numbers, please contact us as soon as you can.

Looking forward to seeing you in 2025

Regards from the Club and Gerry Goldner
Gerry Goldner 07908 205023/ 01362 289038

Dereham Walkers are Welcome

07561 813243

www.DerehamWaW.org.uk/

As the year approaches its end, we have reviewed our programme and are pleased to confirm that we plan to continue with our regular walks throughout 2025. The First Friday walks (not more than 4 miles) will start at 10.15am, usually at one of three locations - the bottom of Church Street, the Neatherd play area or Greenfields Road near the Windmill. There's generally no need to book, just turn up.

The Easy Tuesday walks take place on the second Tuesday of each month and are no more than 2 miles on good surfaces, ending with refreshments (optional). They all start at 10.00am at Dads and Lads (Cherry Tree car park). For more details, contact Sue at sue.rothwell@outlook.com.

This basic pattern will be supplemented by other walks, many of them a bit longer, on various days during the year. Current plans, not fully finalised, include

- our Annual Public Meeting on Saturday 26 April - a shortish walk then refreshments and a chance to discuss our activities
- a bus ride to Mattishall and walk back on Wednesday 21 May
- an evening walk on the Neatherd and the developing country park on Saturday 21 June
- a train ride to Thuxton and walk back mid-week (probably 23 July, depending on the Mid-Norfolk Railway schedule)
- a shortish walk and garden party refreshments on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August
- a Heritage Open Days related walk on Saturday 20 September

But before any of these, we start the year with our traditional New Year's Day walk (6¾ miles), which will start at 10.00am at Church House on the morning of 1 January 2025 and end with seasonal refreshments - book the date now! Refreshments will be provided at the end of the walk, so if you're thinking of joining us (I hope you are!), it would help to know that, so we can arrange the right quantities.

All walks will go ahead unless the weather is really bad (we've cancelled just one walk in the last 7 years) but do check if you're in any doubt or want more information. In all cases, you should come with decent footwear (especially when it's been wet) and suitable clothing.

For more details, contact **Ken Hawkins, ken-hawkins@tiscali.co.uk** or **07561 813243.**

To all users of PAYG (Pay as you go) phones

The magazine Which? TECH has reported concerns from users of PAYG mobiles and alerted readers in their October 2024 edition. I have put this note together for readers of Miscellanea as many of you have this type of mobile service.

Many mobile networks have policies that terminate your contract, if the number is not used regularly, even when there is credit on the account.

Which? TECH sent 8 questions to 16 licensed operators, 12 of these replied. Which? found that there are a number of reasons why a service is terminated. In many cases without contacting the customer.

I do not use a PAYG mobile but I would strongly advise that any of you with a PAYG service contact the company and ask them to confirm their policies. The same advice applies to any reader who provides their relatives with a PAYG arrangement.

If you would like to ask questions, please call me on 01362 289038

Gerry Goldner



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Welborne Village Hall (beside the back door)

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Community Car Scheme (Wendy Flew)	01362 858445
Parish Council Clerk (Anita Rose)	07831 422700
Pharmacy	01362 858540
Post Office	01362 850232
Primary School	01362 858451
Surgery	01362 850227

District Councillors

Paul Claussen	01603 880454
Paul Plummer	07717 690938
Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital	01603 286286
Norfolk Swift Response	0344 8008020
Breckland Council Offices	01362 656870
Dereham Library	01362 693184
Dereham Police Public Enquiry Office	01953 424242
Konectbus (No 4)	03300 539358
AGE UK Advice Line	0800 6781602

Norfolk County Council

Mobile Library Timetable–Mattishall

Wednesdays–normally every 28 days

Location	Arrival Time	Departure Time
Orchard Road	11.50	12.05
Daffodil Way	12.10	12.30
Willow Close	12.35	12.50
Thynnes Lane	12.55	13.10
Hunter Avenue	14.45	15.00
Smithson Drive	15.05	15.20
Cedar Close No 3	15.25	15.40
Parkers Road	15.45	16.05
Burgh Lane	16.10	16.25
All Saints Walk	16.30	16.45

NEXT DATES:
22nd January, 19th February, 19th March, 16th April

Please note this information is subject to change or amendment both on a permanent and temporary basis. For all enquiries about this route please call 01603 222303

Answers to Brainteasers

1 £5

2 9567 + 1085 = 10652

3 They are both married but not to each other.

4 Andrea is 20 years old, her mother is 40.
Ten years ago, Andrea was 10 and her mother was 30

5 He seats the clerks back to back.

WINTER Quiz

Answers from the last issue

Answers from the last issue: (1)24 (2) Closest star to us after the Sun (3) Kent (4) Q (5) 33rpm (6) Graveyard (7) Drives a dog sled (8) Mercury and Venus (9) Neither, they are both the same (10) Pope

Congratulations to **Helen Lloyd** who won our voucher for Café Verde.

With a chance to win the next voucher, email your answers to miscadvert@yahoo.com by 31st December.

1. How many boxes are there in the original game of Deal or No Deal?
2. Who was the previous president to have two separate terms in office in America?
3. Which monarch created the Royal Mail?
4. Tourist attractions have what colour road signs?
5. The Isle of Wight is associated with which county?
6. What line goes from one side of a circle to another?
7. What colour is the circle line on the London Underground?
8. How many junctions are there on the M4?
9. Derby County FC are nicknamed what?
10. Steve Jones and Paul Cook were the lead guitarist and drummer for which band?

Miscellanea Production Schedule

to be ready for w/c	Adverts and payment submitted by	Reports & articles submitted by:	Printed and ready for delivery
March 2025	Fri, 7th Mar	Wed, 12th Mar	Fri, 28th March
June 2025	Fri, 30th May	Wed, 4th June	Fri, 20th June
September 2025	Fri, 5th Sept	Wed, 10th Sept	Fri, 26th Sept
December 2025	Fri, 7th Nov	Wed, 12th Nov	Fri, 28th Nov

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