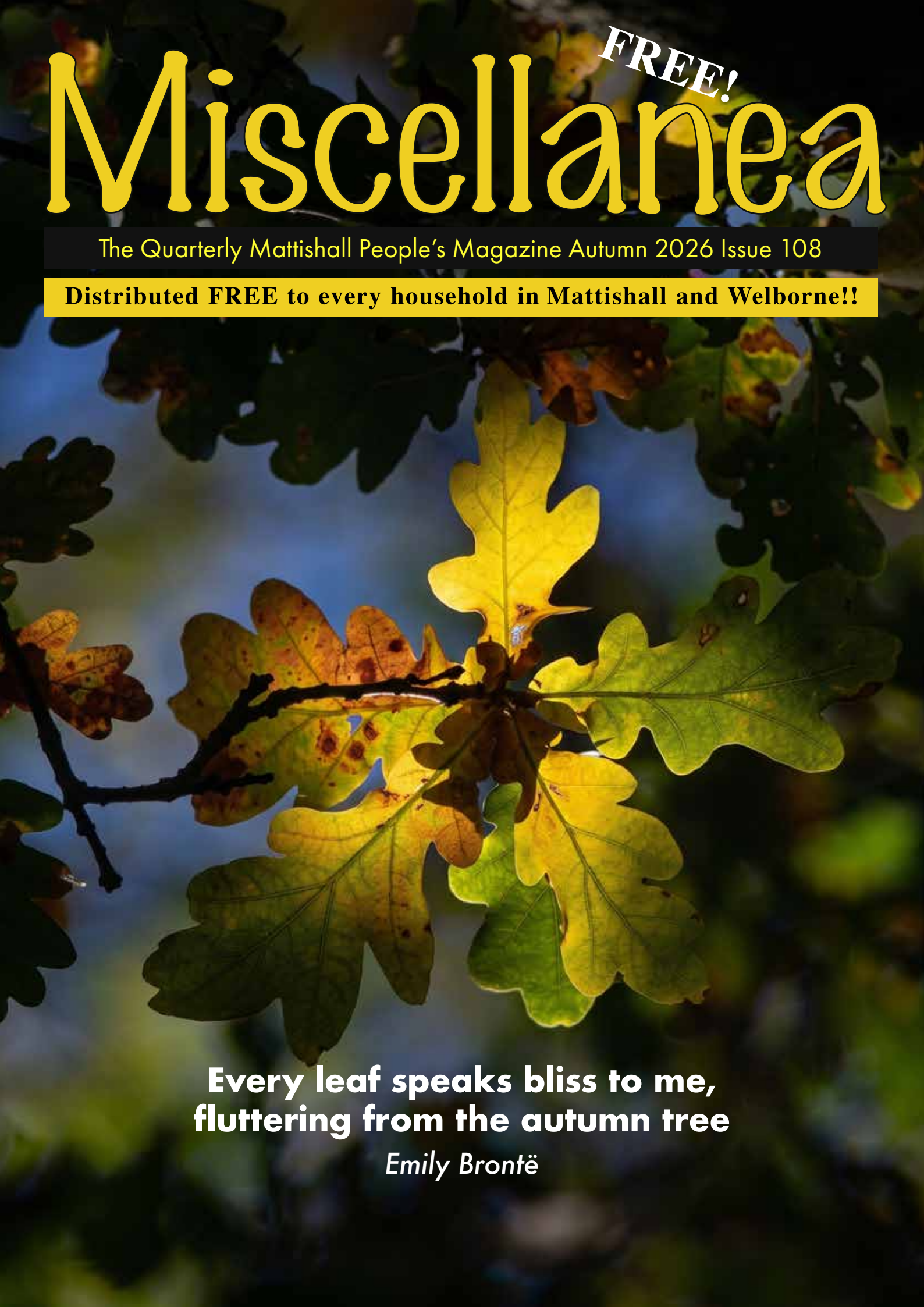
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Miscellanea

The Quarterly Mattishall People's Magazine Autumn 2026 Issue 108

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Every leaf speaks bliss to me,
fluttering from the autumn tree

Emily Brontë

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From the Editor



Anne Jackson

Very pleased to report that the summer events organised in Mattishall and Welborne were all a great success and attended by many residents and visitors. The organisers were happy with the turnouts especially as the hot weather could have deterred attendance and they are looking forward to repeat these events in future.

By the time you read this, I suspect our weather will have returned to what we would expect for this time of year. But the heat of this summer has taken its toll on our gardens, it is making us rethink what to plant if we are to experience more summers like 2026. Do you have any suggestions of drought resistant plants that our readers might consider for the future? Please send me the details and I will pass the information on.

Some of you will have attended the Summer Community Supper in June held in All Saints and will have completed the Summer Quiz but fortunately I have been given a copy for inclusion in this issue and the author is offering a bottle of wine for the winner. So, we have two quizzes to enter this issue and both offering a prize. Don't miss the deadline of 31st October.

Anne

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Tech Skills for Life offers FREE one-to-one support for anyone aged 16 and over living in Norfolk who would like help using technology with more confidence.

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Dawn Ng, Community Tech Coach

Miscellanea depends entirely on advertisers paying for their adverts which pays for the printing of each issue.

But we also rely on **volunteers** to deliver Miscellanea to all residents.

If you can spare some time to help with deliveries, only 4 times a year, **please contact Lizzie on 01362 850491**

Welborne Beer Festival 2026



On Saturday 11th July Welborne held the ninth biennial beer festival. This year it attracted 300 festival goers on a perfect summer's day. Everyone enjoyed the company of others, a favourite tipple, fantastic food either as burgers, pizzas or cakes, good music and a host of other activities. For the children there was face painting and the ever popular story teller Roisin Murray.

This year was particularly poignant as we celebrated the life of Tom Harvey who had been a massive supporter of the beer festival from the beginning when his father co-founded it with Trevor Curson. Everyone who came to the bar was served at 'Tom's bar' which he made especially for the beer festival, and we are sure he would have approved of the whole day.

The beer festival is an excellent way to bring the whole community together. It also provides funds to support the running and maintenance of the Welborne Village Hall and its grounds. This year the event made over £3700 which is an excellent result.

The festival committee wish to thank all those who attended and all those who gave so much time and effort to make it happen. We also wish to thank all our sponsors for their contributions and a special thank you to the Curson family for letting us use their meadow again this year.

Finally, we hope to put on the tenth biennial Welborne beer festival in 2028 so watch out for that and please join us then for another memorable community beer festival.

Brainteasers Issue 108

Brainteaser 1 of 5

The hotel housekeeper keeps cats to make sure the kitchens are free of mice. Three cats can catch three mice in three minutes.

How many cats would the housekeeper need to catch 100 mice in 100 minutes?

Answer on page 30

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MATTISHALL COMMUNITY HUB

Promoting social contact & community projects

Mattishall Community Hub has had a busy time since the last issue of Miscellanea.



On the 23 of June we had our coach and steam train trip to Sheringham in which some 47 residents took part. And like our two previous trips (Bressingham Steam Museum & Gardens in 2004 and Pensthorpe last year), we were once again blessed by glorious weather. It was a little hot on the main street but there was a lovely sea breeze down by the beach. Everyone seemed to have an enjoyable time, no-one got sunstroke and everyone made it back to the station for the train ride back to Holt! We will be putting our thinking caps on before long to where we might go next year.



We rounded off June with Afternoon Tea laid on as part of Matt Fest on Sunday the 28th organised by Mattishall Sports & Social Club. It was another beautiful sunny day (not too hot this time) and thanks to our brilliant Hub bakers and helpers on the day, we provided a splendid feast of sandwiches, savoury snacks and a wide range of sumptuous cakes (from which many of our customers found it difficult to choose!) in a Memorial Hall prettily decorated with colourful bunting and flowers from our own gardens. The festival was well-attended and MS&SC plan to make it an annual event which is a good way of bringing village residents of all ages together.



At our September Hub session, Dawn and Emma, Community Tech Coaches from Norfolk County Council gave a short talk about the Council's Free Tech Skills for Life programme and then chatted to people about the sort of help they would find useful. It's a completely free, friendly digital support service designed to help people build confidence with technology, no matter their starting point (see separate article for further information). One member brought along a new iPad and got help with how to set it up and use it. Dawn and Emma will be returning to the Hub to provide further help, and we'll advertise in advance when these sessions will be happening to give everyone an opportunity to come along.

Finally, Mattishall Community Hub organised the Mattishall Community Yard Sale on Sunday 6 September. There were an amazing 60 pitches at all points of the compass in the village. It was so nice to see people out and about perusing them, and hopefully buying, on what was a lovely day. We would like to say a big 'thank you' to all the sellers who took part. Your support will help Mattishall Community Hub to continue to promote social contact and community projects in the village.

Mattishall Community Hub meets on the first Tuesday of every month from 2-4pm at Mattishall Memorial Hall, South Green (next door to the Sports & Social Club). Free entry and refreshments. All ages are welcome. MCH is supported by Breckland Council and the National Lottery Community Fund.

Nicky & the MCH Team

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Club News & Events



Well, what a summer we've had! Firstly, we must talk about Matt Fest...what a day for our first music festival. There were many performances from martial arts, majorettes, children's dance groups, beat boxing, ukuleles, bands to a DJ ending the night with 80s music that some of us danced to until our feet were sore.

Thank you so much to everyone who came out and joined us, we think we had around 800 people attend. Thank you to all the people who made it what it was not only performers but the craft stall holders, the Hub for their afternoon teas, food vans, vintage tractors etc. Thank you also to our neighbours who were tolerant of the noise and traffic. The village really did show up and support this community event. Roll on 27th June 2027 for the next one!

The club was full of England supporters for the World Cup, with the usual high spirits and chanting to the drum, we even had fun when open all night for one of the games.

We had another great cricket season with Mattishall Cricket Club. Many enjoyed sitting outside in the endless sunshine we were lucky to have this year, watching the cricket all day.

Our refurbishment has begun; starting with our toilets. Work on the conservatory is starting this week and we're hoping the rest of the club will be finished by the end of the year.



We have a busy autumn coming up with live music...10th Final Drive, 17th Grease v Dirty Dancing with The Dynamic Duo (Abba tribute) and then our first DJ night for some time with Paul King 80s and 90s. In November we have the reggae/ska band Ten66, which we are also excited about. All welcome, tickets required for all. Members free and non-members £5.



Of course, we have our fireworks event on Friday 6th November which will include live music, children's entertainment, fairground rides and fire dancers! Tickets on sale online now with an early bird price and are available in the club too.

We are looking forward to welcoming back Easton FC Firsts and Reserves for their next season. Come along and support the boys.

Regular food vans will be available now with Wicked Seasonal Kitchen alternate Mondays from 5pm and Downing Desserts on a Friday evening. Look out for other food vans alongside events and other times too.

Darts on a Thursday evening is still popular with plans to add another 2 dart boards as part of the refurbishment. Pool on a Monday evening is a fun night with Trevor's music! Bingo with Auntie Jo is as popular as ever, usually on the last Friday of the month. Nuts League Poker on a Tuesday is very busy and all welcome to join there.

Our AGM is on Wednesday 21st October, so all members are welcome to come along and have their say. Memberships will renew



in October, new members always welcome. We almost tripled our membership last year, so we are looking forward to welcoming old and new members this year. It's better value than ever at still only £10 for the year, cheaper drinks and free tickets to most of our events. All you have to do is complete a short form and collect your card.



We are very excited to be bringing back the old-fashioned New Year's Eve party this year. We are lucky to have Lauren of Dynamo Duos being master of ceremonies AND singing. There will be food and fun and we are so looking forward to seeing you all. Tickets are on sale now £5 for Members and £10 for Non-Members, free drink included. Children are welcome and are free to enter. Grab yours while you can, limited tickets.



The Dereham Darts League 2026 season has progressed into the second half, with all three Mattishall Sports & Social Club teams competing in separate divisions.

The seasonal Singles tournament will be held on 29th October, which is always a competitive evening.

Any experienced darts players interested in joining one of the Sports & Social Club teams for next season, are welcome to come along for a practice on 19th and 26th November from 8pm. Having two dartboards side by side now, enables the Sports & Social Club to host more events and practice nights!

Mattishall Lawn Bowls Club

The club welcomed new members, some with previous experience and some were completely new to bowls. All of them played well in the league and internal matches.

Our matches in the leagues finished on the 1st September. The club played 58 matches, home and away. Overall, the matches were won but the league positions were a bit lower compared with 2025.

During the season, the members got together to play in a mix of internal competitions and more sociable games. Members enjoyed the club games and the league matches. Travelling to other clubs provides the opportunity to experience playing on other greens and very different surroundings.

The last day of the club's season was the 13th September.

In the very dry 2026 summer, a lot of hard work was needed to keep our "green" in the best possible condition. The club thanks the members who regularly put in the effort. In Norfolk most of the clubs had to work very hard to keep their "greens" playable and some matches were postponed because of high temperatures.

Please contact Gerry on 07908 205023/ 01362 289038 to talk about the club.

In this edition you can find our article describing the club's 50-year anniversary. Please read and let me have any comments.

Gerry Goldner

Bowls Club has been running since 1976

Mattishall Bowls Club celebrated its 50th anniversary on Saturday 20th June in a tournament with other local clubs. 36 bowlers played in a mixture of round robin and knockout rounds.

The finalists were the Whinburgh/Garvestone club against the King's Head Club, North Elmham. The tournament was won by Whinburgh / Garveston. Congratulations!

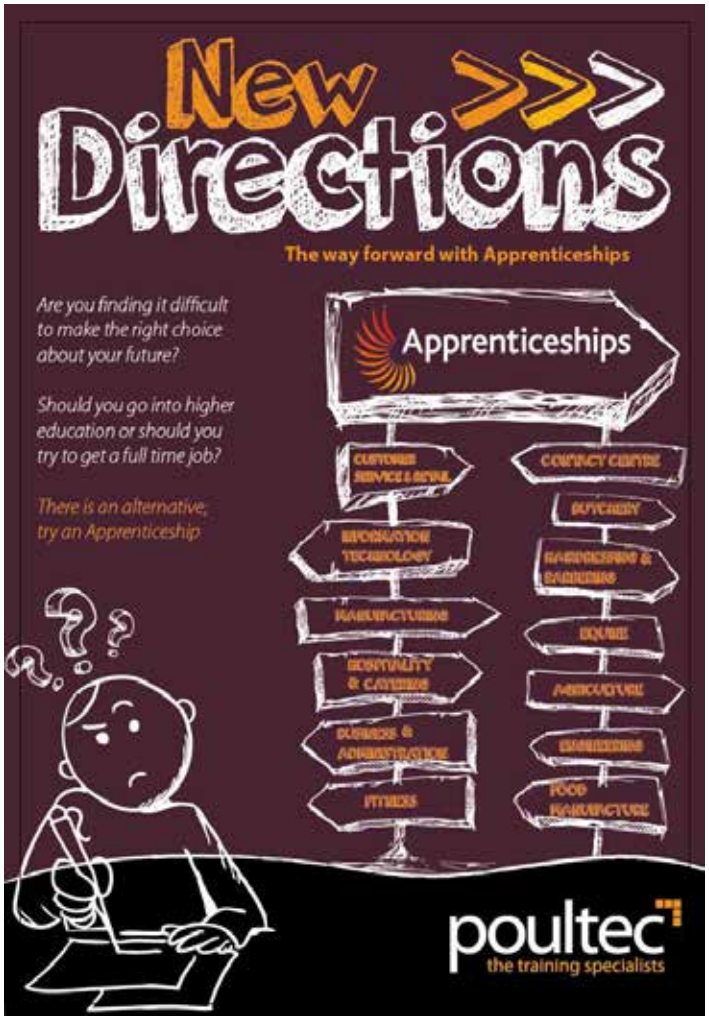
There followed a presentation of medals and the Trophy for the day.

Every player taking part was given a medal to commemorate the day. An engraved medal was presented to John Lacey who, although he no longer plays, he attends virtually every match as a supporter of the club.

A buffet followed the presentations. As well as various delicious treats provided by members. a lovely spread was obtained from Tall Orders in Dereham. The food was enjoyed by everyone. A raffle was held with a large number people winning a prize.

The club plans to reach it's Diamond celebration year in 2051, but we will need new members join us on a regular basis.

Please contact Gerry Goldner on 07908 205023 0r 01362 289038, if you have comments



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ESCAPING HITLER – a talk by Phyllida Scrivens:



I wonder if you know who Gunter Stern became? If not.....read on. Gunter was born in October 1924 in the little village of Nickernich in Germany. His father was a cattle dealer, so Gunter was used to rural life, but spent his summer holidays in Dusseldorf with his Uncle Alex and Aunt Berta.

When Hitler first came to power, little changed in this sleepy community and as the only Jewish boy in his school, Gunter was accepted and not treated any differently from the other children. Gradually, as Hitler's ideology took hold and people became afraid, Gunter's life changed. Jewish families were ostracised. Matters came to a head on what is now called Crystalnacht in 1938. Jewish premises were attacked and Gunter's father was arrested, along with many other Jewish men throughout Germany. Terrified, his mother took Gunter to stay with her parents in Koblenz. Men like Gunter's father were held in police cells and later temporarily released. The family got to hear that the British Government would take 10,000 Jewish children, but not their parents.

Gunter, now aged 14, was keen to go to England, planning to send for his parents once settled. The family applied for a place on the kindertransport, but heard nothing. German children could not be transported until a British family had agreed to take them in. Gunter began to worry that he wouldn't be accepted, so he packed a bag and left home, making the 8 day journey to Holland on foot, hoping to board a train or boat to England. Luckily for him, he was fielded by a sympathetic Dutch policeman who took him in and explained that, without the proper paperwork, he wouldn't get on any train or boat. The policeman wrote to the authorities in England, received an assurance that the paperwork would arrive and sent Gunter back to his parents to wait for it. Luckily, it did arrive and Gunter was put on the last kindertransport train out of Cologne.

Gunter's first adoptive family lived in Birmingham. His intelligence was recognised and he was offered a bursary to attend Yardley Grammar School in Lydney, Gloucestershire. However, his adoptive family thought it was too soon for him to be uprooted, so this offer wasn't taken up immediately. But, eventually, he did move to stay with the Allsopp family in Wales. He studied hard and looked forward to the occasional letter from his parents. In 1942, they wrote that they were being transferred to Poland, where they would be given a little cottage and plot of land – all lies, of course, they went to the death camp – and Gunter never heard from them again.

When he was old enough, Gunter volunteered to join the British Army, keen to fight for his adoptive country against Hitler. Some of his training took place in Scotland, where his commanding officer pointed out that Gunter Stern would identify him as German if he were to be captured and that he needed to change his name. Being near Stirling, he chose that as a surname and his army mates called him Joe, so now he was Joe Stirling. I wonder if you now know who he became?

Due to an accident in which he damaged his ankle, he never saw active service, spending his army career with the Royal Ordnance and then, after the war, teaching ex-service men how to survive in civvy street. He met his wife Jean in the army. She was from Attleborough. They had 4 children and when they moved to Attleborough, Jo became a Labour Party activist. For some mates, he organised a trip abroad and did it so well that they suggested he set up a travel agency, which he did in 1955. This enterprise was very successful and eventually employed 40 people at its various branches. Jo sold the business to the airport in 1998. As a local worthy, Joe became Sheriff of Norwich in 1975 and worked tirelessly for the Lions' charities, often representing Britain at international conventions. Photo here labelled Joe Stirling 2016

It was many years before Joe discovered the true fate of his parents and more years yet when he discovered that his Uncle Alex and Aunt Berta, with whom he used to stay as a child, had escaped to America with their two sons where they ran a jeweller's shop on 5th Avenue, New York. Before Joe died in 2020, they had an emotional reunion. Joe had thought that none of his family had survived Hitler's murderous regime. 250 people attended Gunter Stern/Joe Stirling's funeral – an indication of how he was loved and respected.

Phyllida Scrivens researched Joe's life for her MA in creative writing and became a good friend to him, helping him to revisit places from his past. Her book 'Escaping Hitler' tells the full story and she has other titles to her name.

Anna English

Brainteasers Issue 108

Brainteaser 2 of 5

Standing on the scales holding her baby and her cat, a woman weighs 102 kilos. If the woman weighs 60kgs more than the combined weight of the baby and the cat, and her cat weighs 60% less than the baby, how much does the baby weigh?

Answer on page 30

Mike's Scribblings



Mike Hamill

The Shingle Beach

I stood upon a shingle beach
and saw the sea far out of reach.
I saw the curlew and lapwing fly
as shadows in the darkening sky.

I heard the wavelets gently tap
upon the shingle. A metronomic rap.
The gentle cadence does mesmerise
And the black gull seaward flies.

I watch the sailboats luff and turn
as the daylight does adjourn.
Heading now for harbours safe.
In line astern they swiftly race.

And now to the alehouse I do go
where welcoming fires brightly glow.
To stand in company with my cup.
From which strong spirits I do sup.

And on the morn, as night fades away
and sunlight comes again to play.
I hear the sea, out of reach
play music, gently, on the shingle beach.

My Love

I felt a breath upon my face,
the softest brush, the merest trace.
I felt a touch, a soft caress,
my heart did melt and coalesce!

My eyes grew dim with tears of joy,
my soul wept and I was coy.
I smiled a smile that lit my face,
my fingers the shape did gently trace.

Could this be true? Does it exist?
Can this feeling forever persist?
Could I once more, forever sup,
hot chocolate from my favourite cup?

Friends

I'm frightened, said Teddy bear, with a slightly shaky cry
It's dark in here, and I cannot see the sky.
Don't you worry, Teddy, you're safe here with me
I will look after you, said Buzz the bumble bee.

I'm a scaredy cat said the kitten, whose name was little minx.
The noises are quite frightening. And to the corner, slinks.
Don't you worry, my little friend. I'll be on guard for you.
Thus spoke the fluffy dog, whose special name was Boo.

I'm frightened said Olive, as she called a soft twit twoo.
Mummy built the nest so high. I'm scared I will fall through.
Don't you worry, said Percy pig, with a reassuring snuffle
I will catch you if you fall, and we will have a little cuddle.

So, just remember, try not to be afraid.
As folk will protect you and come right to your aid
Their arms will surround, keep you safe and tight,
and lay down beside you, so you sleep so safe at night

A Summers Morn

I stood amongst a sea of golden corn
And turned my face unto the dawn
I see the ripple as corn-stems flutter
Like rivers of golden flowing butter

I stand upon a hill of blue
As cornflowers reflect the sky's bright hue
I see the skylarks on thermals dance
They hold me enraptured and entranced

On meadows carpeted like royal gems
With the beauty that nature now extends
I see the honey bees rise from the hive
And gather nectar to survive

All these things I do in pleasure
Memories and visions there to treasure
Each summers morn brings such sweet sights
And hearts and minds it delights

TRUE TALES FROM LONG AGO. STORY 3: HARRIET AND ALICE WADE AT SCHOOL IN BRENTWOOD 1914 – 1922

Some of you may have read the history of Mattishall Primary School in my book 'A Bun, an Orange and a Scatter of Nuts', which detailed the school regime from the 1870s to the 1970s. Harriet and Alice's experience of school in Brentwood was somewhat similar. In their case, they were in a mixed infant class from age 5 to 8 and then in a girls' junior class until they left school at 14. Alice was a rebel at school, often getting into trouble for being obstinate and this terrified her more compliant twin. On one occasion, she refused to sing and the teacher dragged Alice along to Miss Jolliffe, the fierce headteacher, with Alice hanging onto every immovable object, resisting all the way.

The girls were taught to knit and sew as soon as they started school and Harriet's knuckles were rapped for dropping stitches. Amazingly, this did not put her off knitting, which remained her favourite pastime until her last illness. Harriet's best subjects were reading and English, but 'I was bad at arithmetic'. However, not THAT bad because 'my sister was always top of the class, with me coming second or third' and she certainly knew her times tables. Harriet said 'School was always hard for me as I was always slow at grasping things, but I always remembered them after I'd learnt them. When I could read properly, I was chosen to read to the class once a week. One book I remember was Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol.''

Harriet lived in fear of getting paint on her white apron at school and she was forced to write with her right hand, though she was left-handed.

Anna English

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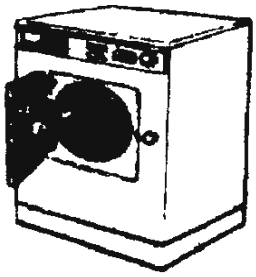
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Mattishall Community Car scheme are looking for drivers.

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

Community Supper Quiz

This "Summer Quiz" was used at the Community Supper in June but the author agreed to share it in this issue and even offered a bottle of wine for the winner.

Entries should be submitted to miscadvert@yahoo.com no later than 31st October.

1. Who composed the incidental music to a "Midsummers Night's Dream"?
2. Can you name these characters in a "Midsummers Night's Dream"
   a. a small cosy bar (parlour)?
   b. a TV comedy with Rik M and Ade E?
   c. a pear-shaped fragrant fruit?
   d. a musical pipe with finger holes & keys sounded by blowing?
   e. the projecting nose of a beast?
   f. a Wesley liaison aircraft?
   g. a rubber disc used in ice hockey?
   h. a member of the order Lepidoptera?
   i. a lean or hungry person or animal?
   j. He shared his name with the film actress Merle?
3. In the film "Summer Holiday" who played the lead role of Don?
4. Ron Moody stars in the film but was best known for which Dickensian character on screen?
5. Which actor in the film was perhaps best known for reading Old Testament stories on the radio and his being the father to rock star Paul?
6. Which band was Paul a member of?
7. Which actress in the film would later star in the TV comedy "Till death us do part"?
8. Name her three co-stars in that show?
9. "Summer Holiday" director Peter Yates also made "Bullitt" known for it's car chase. In which city was the chase filmed and what type of car did Steve McQueen drive?
10. Former "Eagles" Don _____ had a hit with "The Boys of Summer"?
11. "In the Summertime" was a hit for Mungo Jerry. Which book of poems do we find Mungo Jerry in?
12. "Summer _____" was a big hit for the Isley Brothers?
13. "As I walked out _____ _____ _____" a novel by Laurie Lee?
14. "Summertime" is an absolute jazz classic. From which opera is it taken and who wrote it?

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Brainteasers Issue 108

Brainteaser 3 of 5

Replace the letters with numbers to make this work

ABCD x E = DCBA

Answer on page 30

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 spent the last weeks of the summer term enjoying the outdoors. From doing cooking of marshmallows on a fire to doing some bouldering and looking after the tomatoes and beans they had planted. Sadly, the peas came to nothing, but we will try again next year.

We have some spaces in Beavers, so if you would like your child to experience the fun that we have please contact "Badger" - Su on 07514032678.



An Exciting Summer Term for Cubs! The Cubs had a fantastic and action-packed summer term with lots of exciting activities, new experiences and plenty of fun along the way! We started June by working towards our Athletics Badge, which we completed over two weeks. The Cubs took part in a range of activities, including skipping with ropes, running, jumping and finishing off with a fun challenge of throwing bean bags into buckets. As we moved towards the end of June the Cubs got creative with some arts and crafts for Father's Day, making some fantastic gifts to take home. We then finished our weekly meetings with a fun-filled



water activities night, which was a great way to enjoy the warmer weather and bring the term to a close.

But the excitement didn't stop there! To finish off the summer term we headed to Whittlingham Adventure for an evening of sailing and stand-up paddleboarding. The Cubs had an amazing time getting out on the water, trying something new and, of course, having plenty of fun along the way! We were also incredibly proud to present two of our Cubs with their Silver Awards.



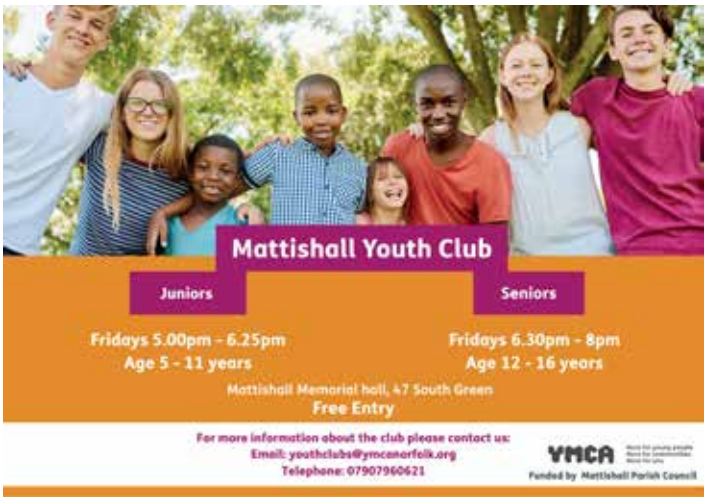


Scouts have also been enjoying the outdoors this term: paddling on the Wensum, whittling wood and a wide game at Bawdeswell; practising pioneering skills and preparing for their summer camp, which was at Coltishall this year. Whilst at camp they continued with pioneering skills building a swing and a bridge, went up in the tree tops and paddle boarded on the river Bure. They also hiked to Wroxham and caught the train back to camp for some grass sledging.

Group news: In June we held out traditional AGM and BBQ for scouting members and their families, with over 60 attendees joining in. Following local advertising in the village and Group we were fortunate to be able to appoint two new Trustees to our team and now have a new Chair in post. We have also heard from Tesco's that we had been successful in our Grant application towards the acoustic panels that we have now installed in our scout hut. These will help dampen the noise levels within the building when our lively young people are having fun, but also need to be able to hear each-other and the adults supporting them. This can be particularly important for those with additional needs or hearing impairments.



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





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NDNA

Ofsted Good rating

Mattishall Primary School

A New Chapter at Mattishall Primary School: Tom Scannell, Headteacher



It is a real privilege to have been appointed as the new Headteacher of Mattishall Primary School.

Having already spent some time in school, I have been struck by just how special this community is. I have seen happy, curious children, committed staff and a strong sense of pride in the school. Most importantly, I have felt the warmth of a community that genuinely cares about its children and wants the very best for them.

Education has always been a part of my life. My parents travelled the world teaching before eventually settling in England where my mum became a highly regarded language teacher. Watching the impact she had on the children she taught and seeing the passion and commitment she brought to education, I think I caught the bug from her.

After university, I combined my own love of travel with a career in education and, in 2003, moved to China to teach where I spent four hugely formative years. Living and working in another country, experiencing a different culture and seeing education from a completely different perspective taught me a great deal — not only about teaching, but about people, relationships, resilience and the importance of understanding different experiences and viewpoints.

Returning to England, I studied at Goldsmiths, University of London. From there, my teaching career took me into a wonderfully diverse range of schools and communities. Over the following ten years, I had the privilege of working with children and families from a wide variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

Those experiences shaped me enormously as an educator. They reinforced my belief that every child is an individual, that every community has its own strengths and that great education is built on relationships, high expectations and a genuine understanding of the children we serve.

Eventually, my journey brought me to Norfolk.

For the past nine years, beginning as a class teacher working on supply and gradually progressing through several leadership roles, I became a Deputy Headteacher and, in my most recent post, Head of Junior Phase. That journey gave me an appreciation of every aspect of school life allowing me to understand the pressures and joys experienced by teachers, leaders, children and families and strengthened my belief that the best schools are those where everyone feels they have a part to play.

It is this experience that I now bring to Mattishall Primary School.

Mattishall is built on strong foundations - a proud history, a caring culture and a community that understands that the best things happen when we work together. When we share ideas, support one another and have the courage to try new things, we create the conditions for everyone to thrive.

Our new school motto, **"Be Kind, Be Curious, Be Your Best"** captures something that I believe in passionately.

I want Mattishall to be a school that never stands still. We should never stop asking ourselves how we can be better — not because what we do isn't good enough, but because our children deserve us to keep learning, improving and striving for excellence.

I want us to build a culture together where curiosity, reflection and ambition are part of everyday life.

As part of **Synergy Multi-Academy Trust**, we are part of a wider family of schools. Being "Stronger Together" means sharing expertise, learning from one another and working collaboratively to provide the very best opportunities for our children. Our partnership with the Trust gives us access to a wealth of experience and allows us to benefit from the collective strength of our school communities.

At Mattishall, we will endeavour to provide a calm, safe and inspiring environment where children feel valued, listened to and confident to be themselves. We will offer a rich and ambitious curriculum that encourages children to become enthusiastic learners, creative thinkers and resilient individuals, ready for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Our staff are central to making this happen. I am incredibly proud to be joining such a dedicated team and look forward to working alongside them as we continue to develop and improve our school.

Parents and carers are equally important partners. I want families to feel part of school life, to share in their children's successes and to know that their views and ideas matter. Our wider community, governors and volunteers all play an important role in making Mattishall the school it is today, and I look forward to strengthening these relationships further.

Looking back, I feel that each stage of my journey has prepared me for this next chapter — from growing up with passionate educators as parents, to discovering teaching for myself in China, continuing my studies in London, working in diverse communities and schools, and eventually making my home and career in Norfolk.

Now I have the opportunity to bring those experiences together at Mattishall Primary School.

I feel incredibly fortunate to be joining Mattishall and cannot wait to see what we can achieve together.

"Be Kind, Be Curious, Be Your Best."

I look forward to the journey ahead.

Tom Scannell

Art & Craft Group

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www.DerehamWaW.org.uk/

The next First Friday walk is on 2 October, for no more than 4 miles. By way of a change, this walk will start in the Market Place at 09:45, catching the 10:00 Central Connect (formerly Konnect) service 21 to Gressenhall, then walking back to Dereham. If everyone agrees, we will call in at Gressenhall Museum for coffee and cake about 15 minutes after starting. As a short walk, there is not any other programmed refreshment stop, but there is usually a number of short halts for people to collect and catch breath, so if you want to bring something to eat and/or drink, there will be opportunity to consume it. The walk will be led at a reasonable pace - we do not rush, but we do need to make progress for the group as a whole; if you have any questions about our speed, please raise them with us. There's no need to book, just turn up. For more details, contact Ken Hawkins, ken-hawkins@tiscali.co.uk or 07561 813243.

The Easy Second Tuesday walk for 13 October will be starting as usual at 10:00 outside Dads and Lads (Cherry Tree car park). It will be no more than two miles, on good surfaces and will take about an hour. The pace will be steady with regular pauses to catch breath and afterwards there will be an opportunity to have some refreshments (bring your purse). For more details or any questions, please contact Sue at sue.rothwell@outlook.com. Please note that if you need personal support in order to take part, you will need to arrange this yourself; we regret that we are unable to provide it.

Mattishall & Lenwade Patient Participation Group



Two members of our group attended a meeting at the Mattishall Community Hub on Tuesday 7th April to explain the role of the PPG which is primarily to be a critical friend to our surgery. The talk was well received and several questions were asked and answered. Members of the meeting were interested to hear about what we do and some of the points they raised have been fed back to the surgery.

On Monday 27th April we attended the Mattishall Parish Council Annual Meeting. Although a formal presentation wasn't made, we announced our presence and suggested that people might like to ask questions or offer comments, which some of them did. We felt our presence and the role we have taken on as members of the PPG was appreciated. If you are running a group in Mattishall or Lenwade and would like us to visit please let us know via our Facebook page.

One recent post that sparked a lot of comments was about the fish tank in the waiting room at Mattishall surgery. The question was: do people like the fish or are they not fussed? The response was loud and clear. Patients, especially children, are very fond of the fish! A number of people did mention one small concern though. Sometimes excited little visitors tap on the glass, which can upset our underwater residents. If you spot this happening a gentle reminder to 'look don't tap' is always appreciated.

To contact us please use our Facebook page: Mattishall and Lenwade Surgeries PPG

Sue Pendlebury - Chair







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

2nd Wednesday each month - 7.30 pm at Mattishall Memorial Hall

Next meeting dates:
14 October … 11 November … *9 December*

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For more information please contact Jackie Tooke 01362 858447 or

Pat Hamilton 01362 850286

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN OF MATTISHALL

The Emperor Hoverfly

I woke feeling cold and damp. I was based in a box. The box broke and I could crawl forward. It was warmer and I could feel my body grow. I had knots on my shoulders; I shook them and found I could fly.

I flew to the lake nearby; on the bough of a tree I could see my reflection in the water below. My body was a shimmering blue, my wings glossy with blue and green in them. I heard a young voice say "Look mummy – an Emperor Hoverfly; you don't see many of those. They are very rare." An answer: "Yes dear, very lovely". But the voices faded.

So that's what I was – an Emperor Hoverfly. I flew round that lake for four days, then felt a weight on my back. The male turned me over gently then emptied his seed into me; it seemed to take a long time. He left me bruised, heavy and tired. I struggled to reach the bank where a tree had a big space behind the bark. "Safe enough" I thought; no predators can enter that easily. I went in and divested his seed.

I was very cold and damp as I limped outside – and then I died.

Doris Rich



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Swaffham Area
Are you a Veteran?

The **Veterans Central** Swaffham drop-in centre is now well established (and popular). We have now fixed dates for the rest of 2026.

Join us for hot drinks, cakes and conversation every 4th Tuesday of the month.

Come along for a FREE hot drink, cake, chat and a spot of banter, or to ask questions about veterans support.

Venue: The Pedlars Suite, The George Hotel, 1000 to 1200.

The George Hotel is located on the corner at the traffic lights of Swaffham and there is free parking and easy access.

Dates:

Tuesday October 27th
Tuesday November 24th
Tuesday December 22nd

You are welcome to bring partners or carers.

Please spread the word to any military colleagues in the area.

For more information contact:

Email: ops@veteranscentral.co.uk
Mobile: 0771 3860040

Veterans Central

The Veterans Central charity (#1208763) is based at **West Raynham SHQ** (NR21 7PL) and is a facility for Military veterans, serving personnel and families, to support activities, wellbeing and social engagement.

Veterans Central is open every Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 1000 to 1500.

Brainteasers Issue 108

Brainteaser 4 of 5

Annabel has three sisters. All four women are mothers. Her sister Beatrice has two nephews and three nieces. Her sister Carla has one nephew and three nieces. Her sister Davina has one nephew and five nieces. Annabel herself has one daughter and no sons.

How many nephews and nieces does Annabel have?

Answer on page 30

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.

LATEST DOINGS ON OUR FOOTPATHS

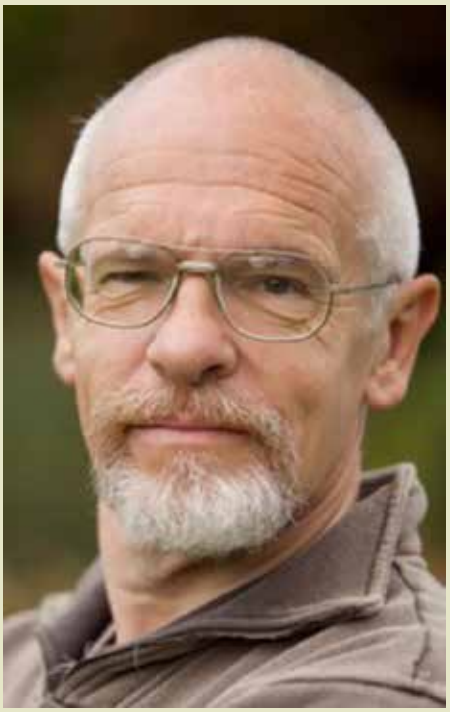
You never know where or when you're going to find out about a problem. I was at Mattishall Community Hub, and heard of no less than three problems on the parish footpaths. Funnily enough, all three were about bridges!



The first concerned the new bridge in the first field leading from Greg's Close towards Welgate (my private name for that one is Herbie's Bridge, as a nod to the injuries sustained by Herbie the Labrador last year). I was told it was creaking and moving on its moorings. That didn't sound good, so I went round and walked across it, jumped up and down on it, and lastly leant hard on each handrail in turn. Nothing! But then I rocked side to side at each end of it and found that the easterly end (nearer Greg's Close) does indeed move from side to side by about an inch. It shouldn't do that, so a report is on its way to Highways. With luck, they'll be as prompt to repair it as they were when Herbie got injures. It's perfectly safe to use, but it would be good to have it mended.

Secondly, the handrails have gone missing from the bridge further along the same path, in the middle of the field accessed from Welgate. It's a pretty wide bridge, so is in my view still OK to use. I suspect I know where they've gone. I'm not sure what it's meant to be, but a crude barrier has been put across the ditch running alongside the edge of the Cedar Rise development. It's essentially fly-tipped bits and pieces plus three traffic cones and some broken branches. Not to get heated about anti-social behaviour, vandalism and plain theft, I reckon the blocked ditch could cause localised flooding over the winter. When a similar thing happened last year, neither Highways, Breckland nor the Police were particularly interested, but I'll see what I can do.

The third problem was a bit of a head-scratcher. I'd been clearly told it was in the field with the donkey and two horses. I must have misunderstood because I thought it was on the North side of Thynnes Lane. Could I find the blessed donkey? Never mind the two horses! I bumped into my "informant" walking along Dereham Road and found my mistake – I should have been to the South of Thynnes Lane, on the footpath roughly opposite the telephone exchange. Through the field gate next to the house and across the field actually inhabited by the donkey and two horses, the bridge across through the hedge into the next field is in a parlous state. It is made up of three "railway sleepers" with chicken wire on top to make it less slippery. The right-hand plank has rotted through and is pretty much only hanging there because it's nailed to the chicken wire! My report to Highways will hopefully provoke prompt action on this one. Meanwhile, if you go up that way, do take extra care.



Remember, if you find a problem on the Public Rights of Way anywhere in Mattishall, you can report it direct to Highways on the Norfolk County Council website. It does take about half-a-dozen clicks to get to the right place, and the "journey" through the website refers to "roads" until the last minute, but it is there, and Highways WILL get back to you. If you lose the will to live with that, please do contact me (Wallace Murray) by email on fpw.mattishall@gmail.com and I'll report the problem and keep checking for progress.

Do take care if you're out and about on our footpaths.

Wallace Murray

Footpath Warden

Country Buses

Whilst resident one summer at my sister's home in Norfolk upon returning from one of our nation's former Colony's, I became aware that the Norwich cathedral authorities arranged a series of weekly organ recitals for the enjoyment and edification of their musically appreciative citizens. Held each Wednesday evening at 7.30 pm, lasting for about an hour and a half, rarely more than a hundred of us devotees of the renowned organ works of the great masters Bach, Buxtehude, Messiaen, et al would gather in the soaring nave of Norwich's imposing cathedral.

Arriving on time for the evening's concert presented no problem – it was the return journey to my sister's northern outlying village which had the tendency to sully this rare surfeit of cultural fulfilment. After the concert finished at about nine o'clock I had to kill time until about twenty minutes to eleven to catch the one and only evening bus.

My first return trip was an unmitigated disaster; my second bordered on hilarious farce!

After a pleasant stroll about the quaint hilly streets of old central Norwich, and quaffing a beer or two in one of its picturesque taverns, I arrived at the bus stop opposite the cathedral's Erpingham Gate with a good ten minutes to spare. A flurry of buses raced up, paused briefly and took off with a smattering of new passengers from my stop. But where was my mine? Some five minutes after the last scheduled bus went by, a lone bus, its destination signboard unlit, careered towards the stop, barely checked its speed and raced off into the night.

My bus?

Yes, dammit, my bus!

For there were no others – not one passed the stop for the next quarter of an hour. I was stranded!

Working up a fine lather of rage is a pointless exercise in most such circumstance but it does relieve one's tensions of the moment. However, the incipient anger gradually taking hold of my emotions was brought to an abrupt halt by the realisation of the need to alleviate my immediate distress. Eventually, after dismissing the idea of phoning my elderly sister and asking her still more elderly husband to rescue me from my catastrophe, I hailed a taxi to take me the ten-mile journey into the nether regions of rural Norfolk, parted with a precious £20 for the fare, had the driver furnish me with a detailed receipt and high-tailed off next morning for the bus station in Norwich.

The lengthy saga of redress which my complaint ultimately achieved need not be told here. Suffice it to say, some two months later a full reinstatement of my expenses, a letter of apology and an assurance that the errant driver had been duly admonished were the eventual fitting outcome.

At the conclusion of the next recital, I was resolved to leave no possible chance of a repetition occurring. I walked to the bus station. And with a half hour to spare.

The Norwich city bus station in that era, 1997, was a

an utter disgrace to the civic pride of an otherwise utterly charming city. To call it antediluvian would be a compliment. It was an enduring disaster zone for buses, their harassed drivers and passengers alike. Down the decades, many schemes had been promoted for its replacement and all had become mired in bureaucratic red-tape, arguments over costs, or just sheer bloody-minded intransigent squabbling by the powers-that-be responsible for its relocation and/or renovation. Apart from being an eyesore, it was located asininely on a narrow, steep hillside



Norwich Bus Station 1997

and thus fraught with peril for the daily throng of abundant patrons, and was never free from noxious diesel and petrol fumes.

At ten-fifteen on a dark moonless evening with a bare minimum of obligatory lighting still on, it becomes an even more unsavoury place to be in than during the daytime. Its office buildings shuttered, virtually empty of buses and would-be passengers, and prone to the depredations of sauntering drunks and beggars, it acquired an intimidating presence. Here I awaited the arrival of my bus.

At ten-thirty the lights went out!

I was now in pitch darkness and utterly alone. Another ten agonising ten minutes passed uneasily by and then, low and behold, a little country bus trundled into the far end of the bus station and pulled up near my designated stop at the top of the hill. Could this be the one? I wandered over to see.

The tousle-haired young fellow in the driver's seat looked up from a sheaf of papers he appeared to be studying intently and opened the door for me.

"Is this the bus for Horsham St Faiths?" I enquired tentatively.

"I think so" he replied, "I've never done this route before. Come on in." And with that went back to his studies. Passing by him on the way to a seat, I saw that the papers he was so engrossed in were a bus time-table and a map of the countryside bordering the northern environs of Norwich.

It was fortunate indeed when we set off through the by now near-deserted streets of the great city that we picked up a few more passengers along the way, mainly young local country lads homeward bound from a night on the town who were able, despite being collectively several sheets to the wind, to provide our novice bus driver with guidance throughout the confused medley of ink-black meandering country lanes and innumerable villages. At every stop and intersection he would consult his papers assiduously once more, invariably turning bemusedly to us, his passengers, for further enlightenment as to the proper direction to take.

Sitting at the front, I myself, an almost total stranger to the region, was at least able to guide him successfully to my own destination. After I alighted of course, he was left in the unsteady hands of my semi-inebriated fellow passengers who by this time had come to regard our ludicrous night-time ramble about the English countryside with outright merriment.

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SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER

WHO CAN APPLY?

SINGLE PERSON / WIDOW / WIDOWER
- Income under £240 per week
- Income between £241 and £280 per week
- Income between £281 and £300 per week

MARRIED COUPLES / UNMARRIED COUPLES
- Combined income under £365 per week
- Combined income between £366 and £395 per week
- Combined income between £396 and £425 per week

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

TO REQUEST AN APPLICATION FORM, EMAIL:
mattishall&burghcharity@gmail.com

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED BY
31ST OCTOBER 2026

If you think you may qualify, we encourage you to apply.
We're here to help our community thrive.



Roundabout

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



Loades from Lizzie 01362 850491

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - Mattishall Christmas Community Supper with craft stalls.

Our next supper takes place on Friday 11th December and will be another cheese and wine evening with Christmas entertainment and a selection of craft stalls. Last year over 100 people attended this FREE EVENT and we had a lovely evening together in All Saints Church so hope you can come along this year. More details in the next edition of Miscellanea.

By the time you receive your magazine we will have held a MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING on 24th September. We are hoping to raise lots of money for this wonderful cancer charity and if all goes well, we will repeat it next year.

As well as being a social event we can also offer support to people about lots of issues and can point people in the direction to get help when needed. Just come in and see me LIZZIE, I am always available to chat.

DROP IN



Every Thursday morning we have between 30 and 40 people come to All Saints Church 10am until midday to enjoy a pleasant social morning chatting, drinking tea and coffee and eating cake and biscuits.

We also have a community jigsaw puzzle which anyone can have a turn at as well as a jigsaw swap. Bring along a puzzle you have finished with and take a new one. Our first completed puzzle has now been framed and is on display in the church.

There are games and wordsearch for anyone who likes a challenge. All ages welcome. This is a nice way to meet new people, have a chat and as the weather gets cooler be in a warm place. Some of us bring our knitting and crochet and we usually have lovely homemade cakes from one of our ladies.

There is no set charge for anything but if you are able to make a suggested donation of £2 that is appreciated but NOT essential. It just helps to cover the cost of heating the church in the winter and some of the extra treats we have.

We are also a Drop Off Point for DEREHAM FOODBANK so non-perishable items can be placed in our box and will be taken to Dereham from the church.

DATES COMING UP at Drop In

Thursday 1st October - we have WYMONDHAM UKULELE BAND entertaining us followed by lunch.

Thursday 29th October - we have a CINEMA REMINISCENCE SESSION by a lady from the JOHN HURT CINEMA TRUST, again followed by lunch.

Both these events promise to be really good. They are returning because we enjoyed them so much previously. If possible, on the mornings when we have lunch, we suggest the donation is £5 but again, this is not essential. The main thing is for you to come along and join in.

SINGING FOR WELLBEING

Singing is good for you in many ways. It can help with breathing, improve your mood and wellbeing and by being part of a group people feel included. We sing all sorts of songs ranging from Land of Hope and Glory, The Beatles and Rock n Roll. We are about to start practising our songs which we will sing at the Community Supper in December. We will lead everyone in the Christmas songs and carols that you all know.

Sessions take place on the second Wednesday of every month from 1-2pm in All Saints Church, Mattishall. We also hold a session on the fourth Thursday of the month in the evening from 7-8pm to include those unable to come during the day. When the weather is colder, we move the evening session to the church rooms which is easier to heat for a short while. Notices will be on the church door and on Nextdoor to let you know where we are meeting.

We always arrive early to have a cuppa before we start. These sessions are FREE and anyone is welcome to join us.

LIZZIE'S BOOK LOVERS CLUB



Our book club goes from strength to strength and at our August meeting we had 17 members there. We are NOT A CONVENTIONAL BOOK CLUB!! We do not have any set reading and then discuss the book. Instead, we tell each other about the books we have been reading and usually bring them for others to read. We learn about new authors that other members have come across and we often have a series of books which we pass around the group. We chat over a cuppa and cake on the SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH in ALL SAINTS CHURCH, MATTISHALL from 2.30PM after singing for wellbeing. The sessions are FREE and everyone is welcome to come along and join us.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

Drop In and Singing for Wellbeing are both Dementia Friendly. They are ideal for anyone to come to who has memory problems. Singing is great for helping people who struggle with memory, music is something that people can often recall. At Drop In we have activities that people with memory issues can do while carers can have a chat with others over a cuppa giving you a bit of a break.

On Sunday mornings at 9am there is a TRADITIONAL CHURCH SERVICE in All Saints Mattishall, everyone is welcome to join us and again, we have a cuppa after the service!

If you want to ask me about any of our activities then give me a call on 01362 850491 - Lizzie

Hope to see you at one or more of these activities.

Lizzie



MATTISHALL METHODIST CHURCH

Weekly Sunday Services at 2.30 pm

Weekly Bible Study - Thursdays at 2.15 pm. alternating with Garvestone Methodist Church - Contact Fred on 01362 850750 for venue.

Sunday 27th September - **Harvest Festival Service** led by Rev Neil Vels at 2.30 pm.

See Noticeboard for details. All welcome.

Meeting Rooms for hire - Enquiries to Fred on 01362 850750.

All Saints Mattishall Church

Services every Sunday at 9am & 10.30am

including HARVEST 4th October (taking donations for the local Foodbank).

REMEMBRANCE 8th November at 10.40am starting on the Village Green.

Annual MEMORIAL SERVICE 22nd November at 4pm.

Join us for **Monthly Prayers** for the community in the church,

9am Monday - 19th October, 16th November and 21st December.

All Saints Welborne Church

Services every Sunday at 9am

including **REMEMBRANCE 8th November 10.40am in the church.**

Join us for **Monthly Prayers** for the community in the church

9am Tuesday - 13th October, 10th November and 8th December.

Monthly **Midweek Communion** 10am – Everyone Welcome,

27th October, 24th November and 22nd December.

Reverend Kirsty Long – The Vicarage, Back Lane, Mattishall

01362 562227 kirsty.long@matvchurch.uk

Benefice Church Office, Dereham Road, Mattishall

01362 858873 contact@matvchurch.uk



ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE

You do NOT have to pay to apply for the Attendance Allowance.

Recently a pensioner was contacted unexpectedly and told she could receive up to **£114.60 per week*** and that their company could complete an application for her.

A little research revealed that some businesses charge between **£250 and £650 + VAT** to help with Attendance Allowance claims, while others work on a "No Win, No Fee" basis or take a percentage of the award.

Before paying anyone, remember:

1. You can apply yourself online or by requesting an application form.
2. Free help is available from trusted organisations, including:
   - Age UK – 0800 678 1602 or local branches
   - Independent Age – 0800 319 6789
   - Your local Citizens Advice branch

Advice organisations consistently point out that you do not need to pay for assistance with an Attendance Allowance application.

Please share this information with older relatives, friends, and neighbours who may benefit.

*Lower rate is £76.70

Information provided by Able Community Care Ltd.

HOW TO KNOW WHEN YOU'RE GETTING OLD

Everything hurts! What doesn't hurt, doesn't work.

The gleam in your eye is the sun shining on your bifocals.

You feel like the morning after but haven't been anywhere.

Your children begin to look middle-aged.

You join a health club but don't go.

A dripping tap causes an uncontrollable rage.

You have all the answers but nobody asks you the questions.

You look forward to a dull evening.

You need glasses to find your glasses.

You turn out the light for economy instead of romance.

You are in a rocking chair but can't make it go.

Your knees buckle but your belt won't.

Your back goes out more than you do.

Your house is too big; your medicine box is not big enough.

You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there.

Your birthday cake collapses from the weight of the candles.

Doris Rich

Desert Island Discs



Eric and Ann Stone

When Anne asked us to write a piece for Miscellanea and then choose our 10 favourite songs, we thought it would be fun! Not so! As anyone who has previously done it will no doubt testify, picking 10 songs from over 50 years together is very difficult! We are Ann and Eric Stone and having lived around Thorpe St Andrew for about 45 years, we moved to Burgh Lane, Mattishall just over 4 years ago to downsize to a bungalow and to be nearer to our daughter and son who live nearby in Bawburgh and Mattishall respectively. We have spent the last few years renovating and extending our property (having downsized a bit too much!) and now feel very settled. We love the village and its convenient location has made 'babysitting' our grandchildren so much easier. Between us we have joined the golf club, singing group, book club and community hub and it has been good to make new friends.

So down to songs – we compiled the quiz for the Village Norfolk Day celebrations last year but this is much harder. We decided to pick 5 each which should have made it easier but didn't as Eric has over 1000 songs on his phone! Anne asked us to also to say our reasons for each choice and what they mean to us. So here goes!

We both love songs from many eras and decades including, not in any order, many tracks by Coldplay, Travelling Wilburys, Queen, Rod Stewart, Elton John, ELO, Bonnie Tyler, Blondie, Beatles, Dolly Parton, Rag n Bone Man, George Ezra, Meatloaf, Adele, Simon and Garfunkel, Barry Manilow, Bon Jovi, Eric Clapton, Roy Orbison, Dire Straits / Mark Knopfler, Cat Stevens, Status Quo, Mumford and Sons, T Rex, REM, T'Pau, Beautiful South, Bruce Springsteen and Bryan Adams to name but a few. We also like some classical music such as the Four Seasons by Vivaldi, Mozart, Holst, Pachelbel, Faure etc etc.

So, it was very hard to narrow it down to the following:

For Ann

1. You are the Reason by Calum Scott with Leona Lewis – At the moment this is my favourite song of all time - 'an absolutely perfect love song '.
2. 'Wuthering Heights' by Kate Bush – I was blown away by this track and video when it was first released in 1978 and loved it ever since.
3. Morning has Broken by Cat Stevens – a lovely version with a beautiful instrumental.
4. I will always love you by Dolly Parton – just a lovely song.
5. Canon in D by Pachelbel – my all-time favourite classic.

For Eric

1. Bridge over Troubled Water by Simon and Garfunkel – the title track of the very first LP that I ever bought.
2. Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen – a masterpiece of music and video production.
3. Chasing Cars by Snow Patrol – an invitation to escape the daily grind.
4. Shotgun by George Ezra – time has certainly flown by, watching the Yellow and Green!
5. Fix You by Cold Play – poignant words

Ask us again in a week or so and we might choose 10 different songs!

Would you like to choose your favourite songs?

Let me know and you can be included in a future issue of Miscellanea

Brainteasers Issue 108

Brainteaser 5 of 5

A man and his son carrying a pig to market with its feet all tied together at one point on a pole. The man puts the front of the pole on his shoulder while his son takes the back. The distance from shoulder to shoulder is 1.5metres.

Where should the pig's feet be tied on the pole if it weighs 100kgs, the stronger man should be bearing 60kgs and his boy 40kgs?

Answer on page 30

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250

Do you remember when Gressenhall workhouse was a care home?

We're collecting memories of our site during the 1940s-70s. If you lived, worked or visited here, or know someone who did, we want to hear from you!

Email: gressenhall.museum@norfolk.gov.uk
Or call us: 01362 869263 for a friendly chat.

To mark Gressenhall's 250th anniversary we'd love to hear from anyone with memories or photographs of the site from 1940s-70s when it was Beech House Care Home and family accomodation. No story is too small!

GRESSENHALL FARM AND WORKHOUSE MUSEUM OF NORFOLK LIFE

Heritage Fund

Charity Coffee Morning

Priscilla Bacon Hospice Charity



My name is Sharon, I live in Mattishall and I am running the London Marathon in April 2027 to raise vital funds for Priscilla Bacon Hospice. As a volunteer and supporter of the hospice, I have seen first-hand the incredible support and care they provide, making this charity especially close to my heart.

VENUE: MATTISHALL MEMORIAL HALL

DATE: MONDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2026

TIME: 11:30 - 2:30PM

TASTY CAKES, SAUSAGE ROLLS, A LOVELY CUPPA, CHAT WITH FRIENDS AND HELP ME TO RAISE VITAL FUNDS!

Raising funds for Priscilla Bacon Hospice Charity

My online fundraising page:
https://2027tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/sharon-bradfield

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

Mattishall Parish Council News

LATEST NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

UPCOMING EVENTS!

LITTER PICKING
There are NO upcoming litter picking events, although equipment is available to use.
Contact Cllr Murray roisin.murray@ mattishallparish.gov.uk

REMEMBRANCE
Sunday 8th November

MATTISHALL'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
Sunday 7th December

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.

FREE!
fully funded by
Mattishall Parish Council

PLANNING MATTERS

Breckland Council has now published its latest version of the Local Plan (known as Regulation 19). The comments of our residents and the Parish Council has been listened to and the proposal for 150 houses on Thynnes Lane and Dereham Road have been dropped.

There is however a new proposed 'windfall' policy which, in certain circumstances, could allow for additional housing to take place. The Parish Council has responded to this latest consultation, as always reflecting the views of our local residents. We will find out more when Breckland submit their final version of the Local Plan to government by the end of December.

Just a reminder to everyone in the village - all Mattishall planning applications and Local Plan proposals are discussed openly at our monthly Parish Council meetings. All are welcome.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Breckland District Council is currently conducting a Community Governance Review following a request from Mattishall Parish Council to increase the number of parish councillors from 9 to 11.

The review will consider whether the proposed increase is appropriate and reflects the needs, population and governance requirements of the parish. Breckland have published their Terms & Reference which can be viewed on their website. www.breckland.gov.uk/elections/community_governance_review/parish_of_mattishall

Consultation is from 1 September 2026 to 13 October 2026.

If successful the new councillors would be elected or co-opted in the May 2027 parish council elections.

THE PARISH COUNCIL

Graham Clarke (Chair)
David Fowler (Vice Chair)
Bob Burrell
David Piper
Janice Smith
John Pickering
Roisin Murray
Martin Goodrum
Lloyd Frosdick

Anita Rose (Parish Clerk)

Upcoming Parish Council Meetings

5 October 2026
2 November 2026
1 December 2026

Further details of meetings and minutes are on the website.

Meetings are held at Poultec, South Green at 7pm.

OPEN SPACES UPDATE

On 3rd September, the Parish Council Open Spaces Working Group inspected All Saints Churchyard, Burgh Lane Cemetery and Kingfishers Open Spaces and found them generally coping well after the dry summer. Some mowing and weed cutting will follow, and the Kingfishers meadow will be scythed, with cut plants left until 18th September before being cleared for wildlife habitat. Most woodland and fruit trees remain healthy thanks to volunteer watering, and the village was also fairly litter-free, with thanks to bin users, the handyman and local groups borrowing the litter-picking kits.

YOUTH CLUB

The YMCA has continued to deliver the Junior and Senior clubs on Friday evenings throughout the Summer. Taking advantage of the lovely weather, much of their activity has been outdoors, including supervised use of the new play park at the Sports and Social club.

In the previous edition of Miscellanea we reported that the Parish Council had been successful in securing a grant of £2,500 to support the work of the club. The children were asked what this should be spent on, and as a result a new TV screen (75”) has been purchased to use with a new Nintendo Switch 2 console and games - these will come into great use in the Winter months. Chosen films will also be much more easily viewed on a large screen. In addition, purchases of the following were acquired: netballs and posts, pop up goal posts and football balls, rugby balls, crayons, pencils, felt tip pens. Still to come are bean bag chairs and a football table.



Pictured left to right: Salman Leader of YMCA, Councillor Piper and Junior youth club members

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Caroline DeWilde BSc (Hons) Ost
01362 - 858530



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Answers to Brainteasers

1. Just the three

2. The baby weighs 15kgs
   The cat weighs 6kgs and the woman weighs 81kgs

3. 2178 x 4 = 8712

4. She has two nephews and four nieces.
   Beatrice has two daughters.
   Carla has one son and two daughters.
   Davina has one son.

5. The boy should carry 40/100 of the whole weight, so the pig should be hung 60.100 the length of the pole from the boy's shoulder. This means it should be hung 90cm from the boy's shoulder and 60cm from the father's shoulder.

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USEFUL LOCAL PHONE NUMBERS

Mattishall's:

All Saints Church Office	01362 858873
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:
30th September 28th October 25th November z 23rd December
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

KNOW WHERE THE DEFIBRILLATORS ARE

YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU MIGHT NEED ONE.

Poultec x 2
(one in the Gym the other outside Café Verde)

Memorial Hall (playing field side of the hall)

Village Green (opposite the surgery)

Mattishall Primary School
(only available during school hours)

Mattishall Golf Club (outside the clubhouse)

Welborne Village Hall (beside the back door)

Bob Carter Court (outside front entrance)

SUMMER Quiz

Answers from the last issue

1) Uruguay 2) Potassium 3) 4 4) Red 5) Northamptonshire 6) 2 (1.912) 7) Namibia 8) 5 9) Delta 10) Eye and ossicles

Congratulations to **Jill Cushing** who won our voucher for Café Verde.

With a chance to win the next voucher, email your answers to miscadvert@yahoo.com by 31st October 2026

1. How many elements are there on the periodic table?
2. How many kings of England have been named James?
3. Where is a shrimp's heart located?
4. How long does it take for a pineapple to grow?
5. Which two cities are linked by the M27 motorway?
6. What is a group of butterflies called?
7. Which planet spins clockwise?
8. What was the first computer mouse made of?
9. How many James Bond films did Roger Moore star in?
10. How many seconds are in a day?

Miscellanea Production Schedule

to be ready for w/c	Adverts and payment submitted by	Reports & articles submitted by:	Printed and ready for delivery
December 2026	Fri, 6th Nov	Wed, 11th Nov	Friday, 27th Nov
March 2027	Fri, 5th Mar	Wed, 10th Mar	Friday, 26th March
June 2027	Fri, 30th May	Wed, 5th June	Friday, 21st June
September 2027	Fri, 3rd Sept	Wed, 8th Sept	Friday, 24th Sept

Our advertising rates per issue are:

size	colour
1/8 page	£31.35
1/4 page	£55.00
1/2 page	£101.80
Full page	£195.50

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Contact details: Telephone Anne on 01362 858744 or 07515417225 Email miscadvert@yahoo.com

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