

FREE

# WYMONDHAM Magazine

ISSUE 52 | AUGUST 2021

WYM  
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*The free magazine showcasing what's  
on in Wymondham, in association with  
Wymondham Town Council*

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## WYMONDHAM IN BLOOM WINNERS REVEALED

Welcome to August's issue of *Wymondham Magazine*, with an art theme as we hear of the reopening of the Arts Centre and enjoy a look at Wymondham High Students' Art Showcase. Meanwhile the businesses of Wymondham have been 'painting' the town in beautiful flowers - congratulations to the In Bloom competition winners and well done to all who took part!

September's printed issue will go out one week earlier than normal due to holidays, so to get your news into the magazine (8,500 copies delivered across Wymondham), please get in touch by 13th August!

Kate, Editor

July was an incredibly busy month for Wymondham in Bloom, with the business competition judging day, a new fountain planter near the public toilets and a whole lot of watering rounds in town.

On 6th July, the judging panel from the Wymondham Garden Club carefully assessed the floral displays of all competing businesses. The public also had their say on paper ballots and a Facebook photo album. The results have been tallied up and the recipients of the top level of achievement, 'Outstanding' are:

- The Enchanted Willow – Most Impact
- SathuDee Thai Restaurant – Horticultural Excellence Award
- Wymondham Dementia Support Group – Most Creative
- Big C Boutique – Longevity / Sustainability Award
- 1986 Air Cadets Squadron – Best Use Of Theme

The judges felt these top five entries showed a remarkable and greatly varied visual display, with artistic flair tended with regular care and maintenance. Each had a sustainable and novel presentation with thought given to colour, texture and overall impact.

Recipients of the second-highest level of achievement, 'Excellent', included:

Fosters Solicitors, Rosedale Funeral Home, Star Throwers Charity Shop, The Green Dragon, stART-Studio, Wymondham Baptist Church, Kett's Books, The White Hart, and Mad Hatters. These displays showed many of the features noted in the 'Outstanding' category to great effect, with care and skill of a high order in evidence. >

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> Displays awarded 'Highly Commended' were: Aristocats, Jarrold, Shabby to Chic Dog Grooming, Warner's Estate Agent, Town Green Garden Café, Money Lettings, The Co-op, No5 Hair Studio, Hemstock's Jewellers, Money Properties, Windmill House, Robert Kett Court, Station Bistro, and Dirty Dogs Stop & Groom Shop. Each of these entries had above average impact and care, adding greatly to the appearance of both the premises and the town.

Businesses receiving a 'Commended' certificate include: Wymondham Motorist Centre, Sunkissed Tanning, Spire Solicitors, Natalia Tobon Beauty, Middleton's Clothing, Warner's

Financial Services, Courtyard Coffee Shop, Ultimate Touch Salon, The Coffee Shop, Cecil Amey, Keeley's Beauty, Barclays Bank, Hammond Lee Estate Agent, Wymondham Heritage Museum, Chapelfield Vets, Yum Yums Sweet Shop, RJ Bartrams Funeral Home, and Norfolk Dry Cleaners. They all showed a dedicated and considerable effort to improve the town with their floral displays.



The Wymondham in Bloom team are incredibly proud of the collective results and thankful to all the businesses who participated, including those who put flowers out despite not taking part in the competition. Hopefully the displays have brightened the days of many residents and visitors in town.

Following judging day, volunteers have also continued working on the planters, including watering the South Norfolk painted planters twice weekly and keeping them free of litter and weeds as best they can. On recommendation a new four-tiered fountain planter was installed near the public toilets by Wymondham Town Council, which has been planted with a range of perennial pollinator-friendly plants, adding a couple of annual bedding flowers for a sprinkling of extra colour. Nearly 200 litres of water were needed for >

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> the initial soaking. Thanks to Keith Benjafield for bringing several containers from home, as well as to Kieran Bullen at The White Hart for letting volunteers top up from his water supply.

Sunflower growing competitors are continuing to nurture their crops with the deadline of mid-September in sight. Wymondham in Bloom is excited to work together with Waitrose & Partners for the fabulous prizes for multiple categories. The Town Team website has all the details on how to enter.

Much more is to come from the Wymondham in Bloom team and they can always use extra helping hands - if you would like to join in get in touch. No experience is necessary and everyone is welcome. For more information contact Kim Carsok, Coordinator of Wymondham in Bloom, on [wymbloom@gmail.com](mailto:wymbloom@gmail.com). Full details are on the website at [www.wymondhamtownteam.org/wym-in-bloom-2021](http://www.wymondhamtownteam.org/wym-in-bloom-2021)



## Remembering Pete Green

Everyone in Wymondham was shocked and saddened after councillor and town crier Pete Green died following a fire in his home on Damgate Street. His family paid tribute to this popular local figure: "Peter Green, also known as Peter Travis, was taken from us on 27th June. You touched so many lives and leave us all with the fondest of memories which will carry us through the tough times ahead. A much-loved character across Wymondham, re-enactment and steampunk communities to name but a few. Father to four, grandfather to eight, and companion to Kiki the Jack Russell. You will be sorely missed."



In 2015 former Mayor Dianne Fernee asked Pete to be her personal Town Crier after her election - and the position was ratified by the whole Council later that year. Before

his appointment there had been no Town Crier in Wymondham since 1945. In 2019 Pete told *Wymondham Magazine* his favourite thing about the voluntary role: "Making noise by ringing the bell and using my loud voice to make announcements! The bell is an original used in Wymondham for over 100 years. It was lost at one point but I tracked it down to the Bridewell Museum who have loaned it to me for official use. I enjoy wearing the uniform, which is my own, and stylistically dates back to the late 17th century."

Pete also made history in 2019 when he became the first and only councillor in the country to represent a brand new political party - the Community Candidate Party, which he himself founded in 2015. He received 814 votes in the Central Wymondham Ward.

Pete's funeral will take place from 11am on Tuesday 3rd August, starting with a Victorian horse-drawn hearse driving down the High Street and ending with a toast in The Green Dragon. *Wymondham Magazine* would like to send its condolences to Pete's family and friends.

## WYMONDHAM ART CENTRE REOPENS

Wymondham Arts Centre, based in Becket's Chapel, reopened for its restricted season on 27th July. Its first exhibition in well over a year is 'A week of Watercolour', featuring Alice Boucher and David Perfect, watercolour artists who have participated in exhibitions all over East Anglia with several different art groups and societies. This is their first joint venture together.

The Arts Centre will be open from 11am to 3pm, Tuesday to Sunday, and the exhibition continues until Sunday 1st August.

From Tuesday 3rd to Sunday 8th August will be neighbouring Broadland artists Julie Woods, whose work includes seascapes and vibrant abstract canvases, and Helen Harrison, who paints in watercolour and acrylics



reflecting her delight in the changing seasons. From Tuesday 10th to Sunday 15th August the Natural World Art Society will feature work inspired by nature in two- and three-dimensions, and this will be followed by 'Flower Forms and Famous Faces' from Tuesday 17th to Sunday 22nd August.

Lastly this month, from Tuesday 24th August to Sunday 5th September, will be the Norfolk Makers Textile Show.

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## WELLBEING PICNIC RAISES OVER £1,900

Wymondham Wellbeing Picnic, which took place at the end of June, raised over £1,900 for local causes, as well as generating awareness of many local wellbeing and community services. Wymondham Rugby Club kindly allowed the event to take place for free on their ground and the Rugby Club wellbeing group ran a fun rugby-themed activity on the day, as well as helping run one of the cake stalls.

Organised by local residents Mark, Manda, Sue and Willow, the main beneficiary of the event is Nelson's Journey, a Norfolk charity who support bereaved children. Donations from the money raised on the day were also made to Wymondham Dementia Support Group (who helped run one of the book stalls), Wymondham in Bloom (who helped run the plant stall) and Norfolk's Hodmedods Hedgehog Support (donated by Wymondham Hedgehog Haven group who ran one of the cake stalls).

Mark Ahier, the main picnic organiser, said: "More important than the money raised was the opportunity for



people to start connecting together in a relaxed and safe environment as we come out of lockdown. It was lovely to see the public enjoying themselves whilst finding out about the many local groups and wellbeing services available in our area. Radio Wymondham also broadcast their afternoon show live from the picnic."

Sue Rowland, another of the organisers, added: "We were only able to raise so much money, due to the generosity of the public, the volunteers who helped on the day and also the many local businesses who donated prizes for our silent auction and tombola stalls."

Prizes and other sponsorship were donated by Reno Refills, Cavick Farm Egg Shed, Yum Yums, Kutz Rebellion, The Coffee Shop, Mad Hatters Tea Room, The Lemon Tree Café, George R Reeve, Hedgehog Haven, Wymondham Talking Newspaper, The Orange Grove, Green Therapies, Green Dragon Fitness, stART Studio, Domino's Pizza, Laura's Afternoon Tea, Hodge Podge gift shop, Jacqui Blake – the cake lady, tWacys Food, NR Health & Fitness, The White Hart, The Robert Kett, Wymondham Garden Centre, Enchanted Willow, Miraculous Me, Elementals Magical Emporium, Radio Wymondham, The Shoebox Community Hub / Hidden History of Norwich Tours, Loaf Microbakery, Morrisons, Tesco, East of England Coop, The Works, Little Sisters Kitchen and Mr Frosty's Icecream Van.

## 'WILD WORLD HEROES' SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Children across Norfolk are being encouraged to explore reading with their local library for this year's Summer Reading Challenge.

This year the theme is 'Wild World Heroes' - helping kids between the ages of four to 11 to enjoy reading while learning about nature and discovering how they can make a difference to the environment. The Reading Agency has teamed up with WWF UK to create this year's nature-themed challenge. The library service recommends reading around six different books, but children can set their own reading challenge. This recognises that children have different reading abilities and the library service wants to help everyone get involved. During the challenge

children earn stickers and, on completion, they will receive a certificate and a medal. There is also a mini-challenge available so that pre-school children don't miss out.

Anyone can register for the Summer Reading Challenge at their local library or mobile library. Each child will receive a free map of the fictional town of Wilderville. The aim of the game is to read two books, collect a set of stickers to put on the map and solve the clues.

There will also be free nature-inspired activity sheets available every week during the summer holidays that can be picked up from your local library. There will also be a range of free online events with special guests. This includes Jess French, best-selling author, vet and Cbeebies TV presenter; Gill Lewis, award winning author and vet; and renowned storyteller John Kirk.

Further information can be found at [www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries/whats-on/summer-reading-challenge](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries/whats-on/summer-reading-challenge), which includes a link to all the events and how to book them.

## JAZZ PICNIC SCORES A BULLSEYE

Despite the forecast of heavy, thundery rain not a drop fell on the evening of Saturday 24th July when more than 1,000 people came to Becketswell meadow to enjoy three hours of traditional jazz.

In 2020 this popular annual event in Wymondham could not be held because of Covid lockdown. Its return in 2021 heralds a slow return to 'normality' as more and more people are vaccinated and social life picks up again.

Organised for the first time by Wymondham Rotary and Lions Clubs, the event provided an opportunity to help support local charities, which have struggled to raise funds during the period of the pandemic. As usual, the entry was free, but a voluntary collection at the end of the evening raised almost £1,500. Together with income from two tombolas the net result will be a surplus for charity well in excess of £2,000. All costs were covered by commercial sponsorship and by a grant from Wymondham Music.

Equally important, the 'picnic' provided one of the first real opportunities for people in the town to meet and greet one another at a social event after a very long period when this was not possible. As an outside event the risk of transmitting the virus was very low, and the organisers highlighted the need for everyone to continue to observe basic hygiene precautions.

The regular band 'DixieMix' did not disappoint. Despite the age of most of the band members qualifying them to stay at home with their feet up, they provided a vibrant mix of jazz and repartee which delighted their audience and had many on their feet dancing. As people left to go home many hoped that such evenings would continue in future.

Special mention should be made of the sponsors who enabled the event to be held. They were Fosters Solicitors, Chapelfield Veterinary Partnership, Silfield Pitch and Putt, Money Properties and Chestnut Nursery School. Many other local businesses and individuals contributed tombola prizes. In addition, grant aid was given by Wymondham Music, which is supported by a number of patrons who used to support the Music Festival.



## GARAGE SALE BRINGS COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Almost 80 families took part in the Wymondham Community Garage Sale on 4th July and it was declared a great success by the participating stallholders. It not only provided an opportunity for them to turn unwanted items into cash but it also gave them an excuse to chat with their neighbours.



Event Co-ordinator Tony Vale said he was delighted because of the community connecting outcomes that had been achieved, including the involvement of local business Abbeygate, who donated a prize for a free draw. "I was thrilled when 10 of my neighbours in Sycamore Avenue signed up. The result was a constant stream of chatting bargain hunters in the road."

Neighbours in Folly Road, Rachel Alcock, Naomi Bull and Andrew Pond, are pictured with their vast array of items for sale, which covered the three adjacent driveways.

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## SNAP UP A PRIZE THIS SUMMER

South Norfolk and Broadland Council are offering residents the chance to win a prize in their summer photo competition.

To help promote the districts' tourism offer, the councils are asking residents to send in pictures of themselves and their family and friends enjoying the local area and attractions. The winning photographer will receive a pair of binoculars from the Camera Exchange.

Whatever local adventure you decide to have, take your camera and send your photos of where you've visited to [competitions@south-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:competitions@south-norfolk.gov.uk).

Residents are asked that if pictures have members of their family or friends in them to make sure they give their permission for the councils to publish the photo.

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS PICNIC

Join members of Wymondham Royal British Legion and the 389th Bomb Group Memorial Exhibition for a picnic with family and friends on Sunday 8th August at the museum in Hethel.

The picnic is one of the events celebrating the Wymondham Branch 100th Anniversary, along with the Legion as a whole. The museum will be open 10am to 4pm, picnics from 12noon, with tea and coffee available, toilets, raffle and a BBQ.

The event will be joined by The City of Norwich Pipe Band, military vehicles courtesy of Norfolk Military Vehicles Group, Army Cadet Force and Fire Cadets. There is also a fly past and poppy drop planned for the day too.

Bring your picnic, chairs and blankets, family and friends for this special celebration.



## Pottery painting at Leisure Centre

Wymondham Leisure Centre is running Pottery Painting sessions throughout the summer holidays. Choose either a plate or a mug and become the next Picasso - all pottery will be taken away to be kilned and brought back for you to pick up the following week at the centre.

For a list of dates and further information, head to <https://leisure.south-norfolk.gov.uk/.../ClassCalendar>.

Childcare vouchers are accepted for these sessions.



## CHARITY EVENT AT RUGBY CLUB

On Sunday 1st August a Charity Fun Day at Wymondham Rugby Club is being held to raise money for the proposed new children's hospital at Addenbrookes.

In February 2021, one of the Under 14 players, Hugo Pattison, was diagnosed with stage 3 testicular cancer. From his initial diagnosis, Hugo has been adamant in sharing his experience and spreading awareness of testicular cancer with his teammates and the wider community.

East Anglia is the only part of the country not to have its own dedicated children's hospital. Based on his own experiences, Hugo has decided that he would like to dedicate some of his fundraising efforts in support of the new children's hospital so that future paediatric patients from the Eastern Counties region can go to a single centre of excellence for their care needs.

The event will be a celebration of sport and fun physical activity - split into a morning and afternoon session for organised sport (Rugby 7s and Cricket) together with a number of fun and exciting activities for all available throughout the day.

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# CELEBRATING CANINE COMPANIONS AT CENTRE PAWS

A fun dog show and open day at Centre Paws Norfolk last month was a true celebration of canine companions of all shapes, sizes and breeds. Marking the third anniversary of the canine business hub, the event saw 240 dogs entered into the 18 different classes ranging from pedigree to crossbreed, rescues to waggy tails and paw shakers.

The two judges, Diana Cruttwell and Sarah Hebden, had an almost impossible task picking rosette winners in the classes – there were 52 puppies in just the first class – and a second ring had to be hastily erected to speed the process up. Best In Show was eventually awarded to Lisa Gooderham with her 21-month-old boxer Solo (pictured), with reserve going to a black labrador called Finley, who won the hotly contested biscuit catching class earlier in the day.

Organiser Kathryn Cross said it was "completely overwhelming and wonderful at the same time". She added: "We welcomed so many friendly faces that we have come to know over the past three years plus so many new ones we hope to see again in the café and enjoying the walks and facilities. The dogs were all exceptional, so well behaved and happy and enjoying their day out with their humans which is exactly what we wanted to achieve."

Many of the visitors also took the opportunity to have a go

on the agility course with DB Dog Training and also in the new dog swimming pool run by Canine Dip and Dive Wymondham, while some of the humans enjoyed the exercise equipment courtesy of Green Dragon Fitness.

There was also a great selection of trade stands run by local businesses and Norfolk-based rescue organisations who were raising funds and awareness. Rottweiler Welfare Association raised over £600 towards vet bills, fostering and rehoming costs for dogs that come into their care. A raffle and proceeds from the dog show also raised money for Faith Animal Rescue which has had a very difficult time financially due to the pandemic.

Mrs Cross added that she wanted to thank all the sponsors, both those donating prizes and those sponsoring rosettes for the winners, particularly the Raw Dog Food Company, Wag-It, JBS Dog Photography and Oscar Pet Foods (Norwich). She said: "As well as celebrating our wonderful four-legged best friends we were also celebrating and supporting the many collaborations we have made with other local businesses since opening three years ago."

Photo by JBS Dog Photography



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# ABBEY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN

The popular Wymondham Abbey Summer fair returns bigger and better than ever this year as it launches the first of its new 'Abbey Days'.

After a year of distancing measures in response to the pandemic, Wymondham Abbey has opened its doors once again and aims to create a community event that encompasses wellbeing, art and craft, music, stalls, and fun for all ages. The Abbey has teamed up with Wymondham-based social enterprise ClearCompany with a shared focus on community integration with opportunities to socialise and enjoy a host of activities.

The Abbey Days Wellbeing and Craft fair, on Saturday 21st August from 11am to 8pm, will raise much-needed funds for the Abbey. The Rev Catherine Relf-Rennington, vicar at Wymondham Abbey, said: "It will be lovely to see the community enjoying another Abbey fair, these Covid times have been so hard and we will make sure this event is safe environment for you and your family to enjoy some classic Wymondham time. The pandemic has had a devastating effect on all of us and the abbey is no exception, but we are looking forward to a time where we can all come together and celebrate and enjoy this community."

The programme of stalls and activities includes: Screwdriver artists Johnno Cornish, who will be exhibiting and running a workshop; more than 50 craft stalls will be both inside and outside the Abbey; a variety of street food; a bar; face painting, live music all day with young musicians such as Norfolk's 14-year-old rising star Ronan; workshops on plant-based cookery and medicinal herbs; willow weaving; children's model making with local author Damian Carruthers; and the Minidonks, therapy donkeys, will also be there.

The summer fair is one of two large scale 'Abbey Days' events to be held this year. The August event will be followed by a Christmas fair on Saturday 27th November with festive stalls, activities, food and workshops.



Julie Briggs, Director of ClearCompany CIC, set up to nurture Norfolk enterprise and community, said: "Collaborating with the Abbey is a delight and a privilege. The Abbey brings so much to Wymondham and beyond, offering a haven for visitors, local residents, its congregation and people of all ages. Abbey Days will be events for people to celebrate being part of this community and experience the diverse range of skills, enterprise, creativity, and support there is for each other, which we witnessed during lockdown. The mission to foster community cohesion and create a space to connect is a common goal we share with the Abbey and Mother Catherine."

ClearCompany launched pop up fayres during lockdown last year and has had regular events at Wymondham Football Club on King's Head Meadow. The organisation has cancelled its August fair at the club to collaborate with the Abbey and create an event that supports local enterprise, young musicians, artists and the community.

"Mother Catherine is keen to showcase young musicians and create opportunities denied to them during the last year of lockdowns and distancing," said Ms Briggs. "This event will bring unite vendors, artists, musicians, wellbeing practitioners in a beautiful environment for a much-needed enjoyable social occasion. We will have distancing measures and Covid-19 protocols in place to make sure people are as safe as possible."

While the event is free to attend, there will be a fee for some of the workshops with information and tickets available on the Wymondham Abbey website. Visitors will be encouraged to track and trace and sanitize when entering the Abbey and to wear a facemask.

## August at the Abbey

**Hampers for Kids** With school holidays approaching we are again sending out hampers to families on free school meals. It costs over £400 every time we do this but it is an absolute priority. If you would like to contribute in any way to these kids school holidays please contact us through the Abbey website.

**Sunday Service** The beautiful 11am Sunday service is a welcoming and authentic experience for all people of all ages. The relaxed atmosphere blended with elements of ceremony is peaceful and friendly and deepening. >

> After-service coffee is served in the Abbey grounds on the sunny south side overlooking the meadow, where we can remove our masks and stay socially distanced to enjoy each other's company. Look out for the blackboard which has upcoming events and news on it.

**Covid** We will continue wearing masks inside the abbey, keeping social distancing measures for moving around, seating and communion and keeping up the extra hand hygiene and cleaning.

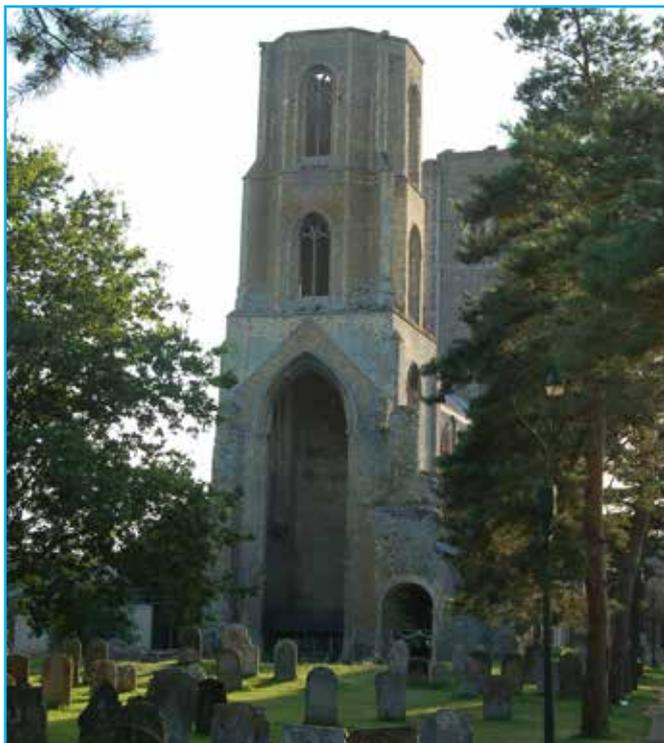
**Private Prayer** The Abbey is open for private prayer and visitors on Saturdays from 11am to 1pm when the cafe is also open. As more volunteers come forward the Abbey will open for longer hours for the town and tourists.

**Volunteering** If you are interested in volunteering please leave a message on the website or email [parishoffice@wymondhamabbey.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@wymondhamabbey.org.uk)

**Guided tours** Are now available - email [admin@wymondhamabbey.org.uk](mailto:admin@wymondhamabbey.org.uk) with your preferred date and time. £5 per adult, children under 12 free, and the tour includes a cup of tea and a biscuit. Minimum two adults per booking.

If you or someone you know is in need of a little support, please don't hesitate to speak to be in touch for confidential help. Everyone needs help from time to time, and at the Abbey it is readily available. We pray for the wellbeing of all the people and all the creatures who live here and give thanks for the life of our gardens, the verges, the rivers and the countryside. We pray for those who are sick or suffering in any way. We pray by name for people who have asked for our prayers. Prayer requests can be left on the website or in the prayer box outside St Benedict's (southside) or use either of the prayer labyrinths or spaces in the grounds.

**Art space, Tuesday afternoons in August** Come to an open and friendly creative art space in the Abbey Hall, 2pm to 4pm. You are welcome to bring your own art or craft projects to work on or a simple one will be offered for further details contact [creativespacewymondhamabbey@gmail.com](mailto:creativespacewymondhamabbey@gmail.com)



## UPDATE FROM RADIO WYMONDHAM

A small team of the volunteers from Radio Wymondham attended the Wymondham Wellbeing Picnic at Wymondham Rugby Club at the end of June. Two of the station's regular presenters, Sophie Garrod and Peter Ireland, arranged a stall complete with a small outside broadcast studio which was all set up in a gazebo and positioned near to the live music gazebo.



"For the first couple of hours of the afternoon we were busy introducing ourselves to the fellow stallholders and organisations," Peter Ireland explains. "And we were also able to answer questions from visitors who wanted to know more about Radio Wymondham. From 4pm in the afternoon, I was presenting my regular show live on air for two hours from our makeshift studio in the gazebo.

"As well as a mix of music, the show featured Sophie interviewing representatives from some of the other local organisations who were attending the event including Wymondham in Bloom, The Shed and a representative from the NHS Wellbeing service. I anchored the show and played the music between the interviews, with Sophie joining in as co-presenter for the last half hour or so.

"It was a fun event to be a part of and we would like to thank the organising team for their help on the day," continues Peter. "Thanks are also due to our own Radio Wymondham Chair Anthony Woods for his expert help on the technical side of things too."

"In recent weeks, Radio Wymondham has been happy to welcome a number of new volunteers to the organisation and to welcome back some others who were with us previously," says Anthony. "New shows are being added to the schedules all the time, and you can find full details - and listen to the station - through our website. And there's also a section on the website if you'd like to volunteer for us too - we're very keen indeed to welcome new members."

Radio Wymondham is available online at [www.radiowymondham.com](http://www.radiowymondham.com), you can also listen through Alexa and Google devices, and the station is available too on a number of leading radio streaming apps and platforms.

# SUMMER ON THE RAILWAY

The Mid Norfolk Railway's popular Heritage Bus event is returning on Sunday 1st August, which in addition to the opportunity to ride on heritage buses and trains will see the rare chance to visit the privately-owned Hardingham station.

Based at Dereham railway station, around 30 vintage and modern buses together with coaches are expected. In addition there will be free bus trips available on a variety of local routes to the stations at County School, Yaxham and Hardingham.

At County School the restored station and grounds plus the popular tea room will be open for drinks and light refreshments. The privately owned Hardingham Station will also be available to be visited courtesy of the owner, with trains stopping allowing a train and bus journey to be made. To access Hardingham Station it is only possible to arrive by either bus or train.

The railway is currently planning to run an enhanced service of steam and diesel trains, which will include one of the railway's recently acquired 'Pacer' Diesel Multiple Units which was appropriately based on the Leyland National bus design of the 1980's.

The event will start at Dereham Station at 10am, with the railway also running an earlier than usual train from Wymondham Abbey Station for visitors to access the event from the south.

Charlie Robinson, the Chairman of the Mid Norfolk Railway Preservation Trust, said: "We are delighted that this event is able to run this year, it marks another step forward as we recover from the difficult times that we have all experienced due to the Covid-19 pandemic. I would also like to thank our volunteer team that have organised this year's event and offer a warm welcome to our visitors, who will I am sure enjoy a great day experiencing the important and oft forgotten heritage of how the rural railway network was supported by a bus network in the past."



## Railway At War

On Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th August, the popular 'Railway at War' 1940s event will return. It's the 1940s, ride the train

from the Dereham to Wymondham with exhibits at Yaxham and Hardingham stations along the line. Experience the darkest days of the war and memories of the brightest victory in history. Be prepared for the live-fire battle re-enactments at the Dereham station. Take time to meet the and ask questions of those in period dress or come dressed in your best war-era outfit and feel like you have travelled in time. Visit [www.mnr40sweekend.co.uk](http://www.mnr40sweekend.co.uk) for details.

## Historic steam engine joins railway

The Mid Norfolk Railway has announced the arrival of a historic Edwardian steam engine for the 2021 running season.



The steam engine entered service in 1901. This means it is one of the oldest preserved steam engines still running in the UK. It was originally one of nine 0-6-0 saddle tanks that was built for the Port Talbot Railway company in Wales and originally was numbered 26. It is however the sole survivor of the nine engines and is therefore a unique engine in steam engine preservation. In 1922 the Port Talbot Railway & Docks Company was taken over by the Great Western Railway and the engine was re-numbered 813, the number that is still used to this day.

Today the engine is owned by 'The GWR 813 Preservation Fund', which is an organisation that was founded in 1966 to buy and then restore the engine. It is usually based at the Severn Valley Railway.

813, replaces the privately owned War Department Austerity 060 Saddle tank engine that has been resident on the railway for some years but has now moved to the Forest of Dean Railway.

## Kids Go Free Summer

This summer it is 'Kids Go Free' time on all services including special events. A family ticket will now allow up to four children to travel for free and every individual adult ticket sold will allow up to two accompanying children to travel for free. The age range for children for this special offer is from five to 15 inclusive. Those under five already travel free regardless and unaccompanied older children will still need to pay the child fare.

Further information including train timetables is available at [www.midnorfolkrailway.co.uk](http://www.midnorfolkrailway.co.uk)

# UPDATE FROM THE HUB

## Hooray for Hoppers!

It was with much excitement that children returned to Hoppers Toddler group on 7th June. The group, part of the work of Hub Community Project, is for parents with children up to the age of three to meet for fun, friendship and support. The group has restarted after an absence of some 15 months and is currently offering two sessions per week at The Hub on Ayton Road. The sessions are 10am to 11.30am on Mondays for children up to 12 months, and 10am to 11.30am on Wednesdays for children from 12 months to three years.

Refreshments are being offered as well as crafts and a variety of toys. Due to Covid restrictions places are limited and need to be booked in advance, the links are published weekly on the Hoppers Facebook page. Parents are required to follow normal Covid safety protocols when attending. For information please contact Debbie on 01953 798505.

## New venue for Meeting Point

It was with some sadness that Meeting Point, our weekly drop in for those in need of a chat over a cup of tea, moved out of the Catholic Church where it met since it's inception. A big thank you to the Church for making us so welcome and for all it's help over the years. The group will now meet at the Town Green Centre on Friday mornings; the start date has been delayed due to the extended Covid restrictions. For more information please contact Linda on 01603 812619.



## Caring for Carers

Cup of Caring, our support group for carers, is meeting monthly at the moment. Carers are welcome to bring their cared for person for friendship and support over a cup of tea and a chat. For session dates and more information please contact Libby on 01953 605928.

## All Aboard!

Taking place on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th August, this is an opportunity for older people feeling lonely to come along and make some new friends. We are offering refreshments and lunch and will be joined by Sarah from stArt in Wymondham and Roy McGee, England Academy Coach for Boccia (similar to indoor bowling), other activities and entertainment will also be included. Transport can be provided from Wymondham Market Place. This is a free event with limited numbers so advance booking is required. To book please call Linda on 01603 812619 or Debbie on 01953 798505.

**FREE EVENT**  
Booking Required

# All Aboard!

10.00am - 2.30pm Tues 17 & Wed 18 August 2021  
The Hub, Ayton Road, Wymondham, NR18 0QJ

## Looking to make some new friends?

This two day event offers an opportunity for seniors feeling lonely/isolated to have some fun and make new friends

**Refreshments & Lunch • stArt with Sarah Campbell**  
**Boccia (similar to indoor bowling) with England Academy Coach Roy McGee**  
.....and much more.....

Transport can be provided from Wymondham Market Place.

For more information and to book please call: Linda 01603 812619 or Debbie 01953 798505

[www.hubproject.org.uk](http://www.hubproject.org.uk)

All Aboard! is part of Hub Community Project. Registered charity no 1131485



Registered with  
FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR



# SHOWCASING CREATIVITY AT WYMONDHAM HIGH

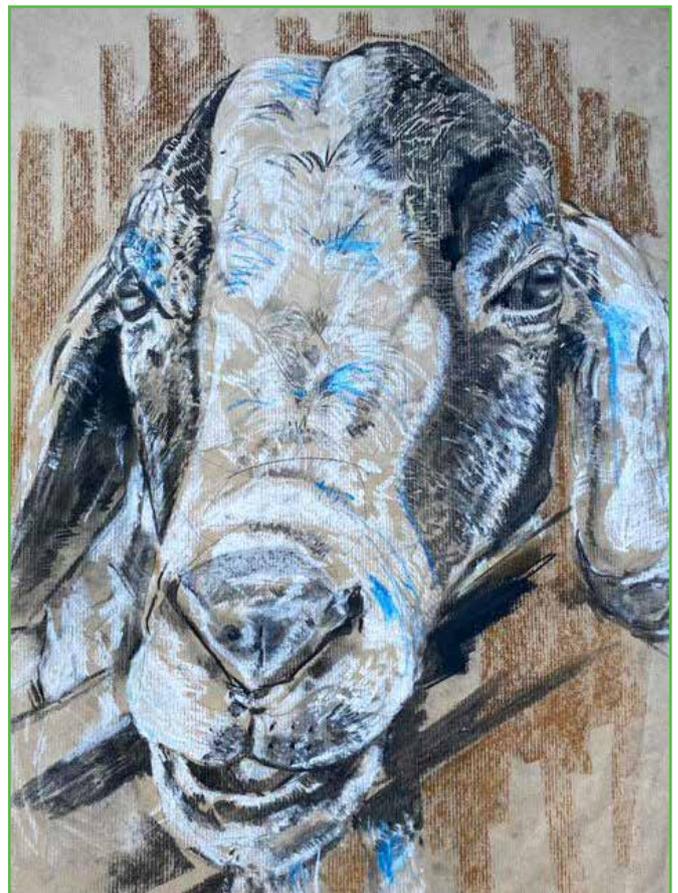
Wymondham High Academy has created another digital art gallery to showcase their students' creativity and hard work, as their annual end of year exhibition normally held at Wymondham Arts Centre was understandably cancelled again this year. The exhibition is usually very well attended by local people and is generally one of the most visited exhibitions in the Art Centre's calendar of events.

Neil Moulton, Head of Art, told *Wymondham Magazine*: "As a specialist art school with a national and regional reputation for excellence in the arts, we are absolutely delighted to present a selection of images from our digital end of year Showcase. With what has been an unprecedented academic year for students and staff we are thrilled to celebrate the creativity, talent, ingenuity, and hard work of our fantastic students from our GCSE Fine Art, Photography and Textile courses and our students from our A Level Fine Art, Art Multimedia and Textile courses. We hope you enjoy our 2021 showcase."

*Yr.11 Textiles student: "During the year we have been given the confidence to expand our skill set which has given me the opportunity to really develop and form my personal ideas and create some really exciting work I am very proud of."*

*Yr.13 Fine Art student: "It has been a challenging year due the pandemic, but the constant support and encouragement from all of the art staff has been amazing and has really helped me to enhance my painting skills and given me the confidence to develop and form my vision and pursue my creative ambitions at University."*

To visit the gallery visit <https://traynore.wixsite.com/showcase2021>



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**WYMONDHAM TO NORWICH CITY CENTRE FROM £17.00**

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**ALL MAJOR AIRPORTS AT COMPETITIVE PRICES**



# In brief...

## THANK YOU FROM TWAM

On Saturday 3rd July, Wymondham Baptist Church held a collection of tools for the charity Tools With A Mission (TWAM). This event was featured in July's edition of *Wymondham Magazine* and the response was tremendous. Thank you to everyone who took time to bring their unwanted tools, computers and sewing machines. These items will make a life-changing difference to those who receive them.



## MUDDY STILETTOS AWARD WINNERS

Ragged Robin Florist has won Best Norfolk Florist and Loaf Micro Bakery has won Best New Covid Start Up Business in the Muddy Stiletto's blog Small Business awards 2021.

## DOGGY PHOTO SHOOT

Photographer Lorrie Tallis will be at The Green Dragon between 2pm and 4pm on Saturday 30th July if you would like a professional photo shoot of your beloved pup at the pub. Just book a table and let the pub know you are bringing your pooch! There will be an online competition to choose your favourite picture, with the first prize a £25 Green Dragon voucher.

## ROOTS CLOSED DUE TO COVID

Roots cafe will be closed until Friday 13th August due to Covid isolation. The case does not affect any previous customers.

## TEENAGER ARRESTED AFTER ROBBERIES

A teenage boy has been arrested in connection with two robberies in the Wymondham area on Wednesday 21st July. The first incident happened between 5.45pm and 6pm. A teenage boy was in Postmill Close when he was assaulted by a male before a second male stole his bicycle. The victim suffered an arm injury which needed hospital treatment. The second incident happened in a play area off Admirals Way in Hetherset at approximately 7.30pm. A teenage boy was riding an e-scooter when he was stopped by two males. The victim was assaulted before his scooter was stolen. The victim suffered an injury to his hand.

A 16-year-old boy, from the Ipswich area, was arrested at approximately 8.30pm in connection with the incidents. Anyone who may have information should contact Norwich CID on 101 quoting reference numbers 36/52604/21 (Postmill Road) and 36/52643/21 (Hetherset). Alternatively contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Wymondham Dementia Support Group are looking for volunteers who have some spare time during the hours of 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, to visit members who are living with dementia to give their carers a much-deserved short break.

The Home Visiting Service is a new service being offered to members, who mainly live within the Wymondham area, and they are now recruiting volunteers who can offer a regular commitment of two to four hours each week. For more information email Di Jenkins at [wdsq.hvsorganiser@gmail.com](mailto:wdsq.hvsorganiser@gmail.com)

## RAFFLE PRIZES WANTED

Wymondham Rotary Satellite Group is in the process of launching a big end of summer raffle to raise much-needed funds for local good causes. The draw will be made on Sunday 26th September at the Route 11 Kitchen near Attleborough on the A11 northbound. They have put up a first prize of £100, but would like to add many more prizes. If you would like to donate a prize or buy a ticket, contact [wymrsg@gmail.com](mailto:wymrsg@gmail.com).

## KETT'S BOOKS SEEKS ARTIST

Behind the shelves, Kett's Books is busy planning for the end of the year. Last year their Christmas catalogue was designed by Jon Nice, part of the volunteer community, and it captured perfectly the location of the shop, the season, and the nature that so many at Kett's Books enjoy. The team would now like to speak to any artist who would be interested in working with the community bookshop to create artwork for the cover of the 2021 catalogue. Email [hello@kettbooks.co.uk](mailto:hello@kettbooks.co.uk) (soon!) to find out more.

## COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Wicklewood Parish Council is establishing a Community Orchard at the road end of the current allotment site beside the village hall, with 24 spaces available. Local residents are invited to apply for a space and choose their tree from those available from local fruit nursery Chris Bowers & Son ([www.chrisbowers.co.uk](http://www.chrisbowers.co.uk)).

Email the clerk at [wicklewoodpc@outlook.com](mailto:wicklewoodpc@outlook.com) with your choice of tree and you will be invoiced for the cost of the tree plus a suitable stake, tree tie and rabbit protector. A bulk order will then be placed in September so the trees can be planted in the autumn, the optimum planting time for trees. Rootstock will be selected to have an approximate height of 10ft, and the tree owner will be responsible for caring for their tree, including about a metre of land around. The site has been under-sown with wild flowers and this will be a lovely addition to the village.

## SUPPORT FOR THE SHED

The Original Factory Shop in Wymondham will be supporting The Shed as its charity of choice this year. The organisation, sited near The Original Factory Shop on Ayton Road, provides the opportunity to build friendships, social skills, share knowledge and of course enjoy company.

Read more about The Shed in September's issue of Wymondham Magazine.

# CELEBRATIONS IN A PANDEMIC YEAR

*At Robert Kett Primary School*



*'You've got to accentuate the positives...'*

**H**ere at Robert Kett we have lots to celebrate. Even in this pandemic year we found ourselves still 'achieving together'. We are immensely proud of our remote learning provision where teachers and teaching assistants delivered 'live' lessons throughout the day. This meant that the children could see, hear and engage with their adults, their friends and their learning.

For some children, Robert Kett was able to secure laptops for those who did not have their own devices - or were struggling to share with their siblings or working parents/carers! The laptops were sourced from various places, including the local authority, a 'JustGiving' page and donations from the local community.

Some children still attended school during the school lockdown period. They entered into a whole new world of 'bubbles' receiving small-class teaching and getting to grips with Covid routines and restrictions.

But it's not just the teachers and teaching assistants that ensured that the children received the best possible learning and support during lockdown - the running of a school relies on other key staff, such as office staff, cleaners, MSAs, kitchen staff and site staff.

At Robert Kett, we feel strongly that children should receive healthy and nutritious food. As such, our in-school 'Kett's Kitchen' chefs created food parcels using funding from pupil premium and generous donations from our local supermarkets (thank you to Morrisons, Waitrose, M&S).

Neither did we let the pandemic prevent us from continuing with some of our annual calendar events. Our 'Robert Kett's Got Talent' event still went ahead - albeit in the virtual world. Together, we rallied round to make this happen; unearthing some hidden talents amongst our staff team in the process; chef turned 'technical support', support staff turned audition 'judges', parents/carers turned finalist 'voters'... and most importantly of all, children turned 'superstars'.

Robert Kett also became the local 'hub' school, welcoming children from Wymondham and the local area to attend our 'Extra Time' club during the school holidays. We were proud to support workers in our local community who provided essential frontline services during Covid-19.

We would like to thank our children, our school, our parents/carers and our local community who supported Robert Kett Primary School during this academic year.





## WYMONDHAM WOMEN'S WAR EFFORTS

**R**ead about the lives of two Wymondham sisters Violetta and Hartie Elvin and the work they engaged in during the First World War...

Whilst the country was at war against Germany from 1914 to 1918, with many of the young men far from home and serving with the armed forces, sisters Violetta and Hartie Elvin of Wymondham both came forward to help the war effort.

Their parents were Zachariah and Mary Ann Elvin and, along with another sister and four brothers, they grew up on The Fairland and Wellington Terrace.

Violetta Alice Elvin was born on 12th February 1887. She was affectionately called Lallie by her family and friends. Lallie started working as a domestic servant in the early 1900s at The Elms on Norwich Road, home of local ironmongers, the Clements family. She then worked in service at Northwold near Brandon and then in Sheffield.

During the First World War, Lallie felt she should return to Norfolk for war work and she went to the Royal Flying Corps aerodrome at Narborough, where she worked in the canteen, serving and looking after the young men who were training in the early years of aerial combat.

Following the first Zeppelin attacks of January 1915, the Royal Naval Air Service took over a field at Narborough for patrolling the countryside for enemy airships. With no sightings they moved out in early 1916. The Royal Flying Corps swiftly took over the site as a training station for flying missions to France and it expanded to

seven hangers and 150 buildings. By 1918, 1,000 personnel were based at Narborough with up to 60 aircraft. It was the largest fixed wing aerodrome in Britain at 908 acres and included personnel and airmen from America, Australia, Canada and New Zealand. There was also a German Prisoner of War camp on the site and in 1918, 30 women from the Women's Royal Air Force arrived. All these servicemen and women needed to be fed, have clean accommodation and clothing and it was women like Lallie who helped to make this possible and contribute to the war effort.

Narborough Aerodrome closed in 1919 and today nothing remains to show of the hustle and bustle of the war years; however, there is a memorial to the men and women who served there, on the site.

After the war, Lallie came home to Wymondham and her family, living together for a time in Sycamore House, Back Lane. She had a daughter Betty and worked for a few years for William Goffin at The King's Head pub on the Market Place, where she was housekeeper, cook and barmaid. After leaving The King's Head, Lallie became housekeeper for Mr Charles Hammond, director of Barclays Bank at Sprowston Grange. Lallie had three maids working under her and she stayed there for several years until 1940; as on 9th July 1940, Mrs Kate Lovett became the first person to be killed in a bombing raid in Norwich. Mrs Lovett's husband was a gardener at Sprowston Grange, where they were living, and she died after the Grange was hit by a bomb from a raid on Barnard's factory on Mousehold Heath. After this traumatic event at Sprowston Grange, Lallie felt she wanted to come home to Wymondham and be with her daughter Betty.

Lallie stayed in Wymonham for the remainder of her life and died on 18th February 1954 - she is buried close to her parents in Wymondham Cemetery.

Lallie's youngest sister was Hartie Rebecca Elvin born on 14th September 1896. Hartie went to Browick Road School like many of the town's children. After leaving school, Hartie worked in service for Mrs Pollard at the Red House on Church Street, which later became The Abbey Hotel. This building would be used as a Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital for a time at the outbreak of World War One, before further hospitals were opened at The Tin Tabernacle also on Church Street and Abbotsford on Vicar Street.

In the pre war years of 1911 to 1914 Hartie also spent some time working at Rose Cottage, Russel Terrace, Mundesley. >



*Violetta (Lallie) Elvin outside the family home on Wellington Terrace, Wymondham, around 1905. The cottage is still there today.*



Hartie Elvin, Wymondham Post Lady, in uniform, in World War One

> A few months after the outbreak of war, Hartie then became employed as a domestic servant at Geldeston Hall near Beccles.

However by 1916, Hartie was missing home and decided she wanted to return to Wymondham and be with her family in those hard times. Once back in Wymondham Hartie signed up to be a postwoman, a role which had been dominated by men prior to the war.

Between 1914 to 1916, 35,000 women went to work for post offices across the

country and they got to ensure day to day correspondence and letters from soldiers at the front reached home. Mail deliveries by ladies like Hartie were made three times a day often including heartbreaking news, birthday greetings and love letters.

Once war was over and the men returned home, Hartie like many women gave up their war work to enable the men to return to their pre war jobs, so of course these women returned to their previous work too. Hartie stayed in Wymondham and worked in service at the Vicarage on Vicar Street, where she lived.

Hartie still found time for sweethearts but was left broken hearted on more than one occasion. However she was known as 'Hartie by name, Hearty by nature' and overcame sad times to marry William 'Billy' Clover in 1930, receiving a china dinner service from her employer Reverend Martin-Jones, who obviously held her in high esteem. Hartie and Billy had met when he took lodgings with Hartie's family when he came to work for King's furniture makers. Billy would become master bellringer at Wymondham Abbey and his name is engraved on one of the church bells.



Wymondham Post Office in Market Street around the time Hartie was a postwoman. Savers is now on this site.

Hartie and Billy had two children Mary and John, and the family lived at Belmont, on Silfield Road. Hartie passed away on 17th October 1967, five months after Billy had died.

If you wish to learn more about the lives of Wymondham's women in the First World War, you could pay a visit to Wymondham Heritage Museum, which has an interesting display with more stories and photos.

## What's in a photo?

### MIDDLETON STREET POST OFFICE

By Philip Yaxley

Tastefully decorated for the Queen's Coronation, the town's purpose-built post office in Middleton Street stood proud in June 1953. It was opened in May 1940 to replace the previous post office, which had occupied a building on the site where Savers now stands in Market Street. After the new post office was opened the Market Street building housed the once popular Mary Elizabeth Tea Rooms, but was demolished in the early Sixties.



From its opening the new Middleton Street post office was kept busy with several counter clerks dealing with a wide range of services ranging from paying pensions and other benefits to issuing postal orders and dealing with telegrams. Many letters and cards, together with parcels ensured high sales of stamps.

In May 1990 a special party and competition for townsfolk were held to celebrate the Middleton Street post office's 50th anniversary, with even Postman Pat and his cat Jess putting in an appearance. But the times were changing. The town's post office had looked after its own stamp sorting and franking, but this work was moved to Norwich in 1976, the same year that Sunday collections ceased. In 1980 the government split the postal service from the telephone network and soon after the telegram was scrapped. Just about everyone had a telephone! Then in the early 1990s the Royal Mail was separated from the counter work. Pensions and the like were being paid direct into bank accounts and the internet was being used more and more with emails and payments.

In March 1995 Post Office Counters moved into the Paper Chain newsagents in Market Street, later the One Stop shop. This happened despite protests from Wymondham Town Council, the then vibrant Chamber of Trade and Commerce, as well as a petition from the Wymondham Pensioners Association.

After the One Stop closed in August 2019 Wymondham was without a central town post office – until The White Hart came to the rescue about a year later – and it seems



things have turned full circle. Pigot's Norfolk Directory for 1822 records the post office as being in The White Hart with James Storey, the innkeeper, listed as the postmaster!

# TOTALLY LOCALLY WYMONDHAM

We know that the shops in the high street are one way that Wymondham looks after its people, but who are the people behind the counter? In a new feature the Totally Locally team are going to be getting to know the people that give our shops the personal touch. How did they get where they are? What's important to them? And what makes someone give up the security of a regular wage in a big company, to go it alone doing what they love? Here's your opportunity to find out.

## Sam & Gary Wootton | Elementals Magickal Emporium

### What does your shop sell?

At Elementals we have lots of different products for the mind, body and soul. We have crystals, jewellery, alternative clothing, books, potions and lotions, even Viking drinking horns and an extensive selection of mead, which is the oldest known fermented drink, made from honey. Although some of our stock is unavoidably imported, we try to support other small, local businesses by stocking a large range of locally produced items including candles, wax melts, glassware, pottery and leather goods.

### How did you get into this business?

We are intrigued by the many different traditions, folklore and mythologies that have been introduced to this island over many hundreds of years and we wanted to bring these to life and share them through the products we sell.

### What made you feel opening a shop in Wymondham in 2020 was a good idea?

We wanted to bring some magick to Wymondham and support our local high street rather than just become another online shop, so we took a chance. We've had so much support from our customers that the difficulties we've faced, and continue to face, are all worth it.

### Running a business is hard anyway, and in present times things are so changeable. How do you respond to pressures?

We like to remain optimistic and have belief in all that we do, I think that way you can always find the positives in any challenging situation.

### What has been the best bit of running a shop in Wymondham?

Being a traditional English market town, Wymondham has a very interesting past and its people embrace its history and character, we are proud to be a part of that community.



We would also have to say what a pleasure it is seeing such a wide demographic of customers enjoying their visits to our shop. We have schoolchildren brought up with Harry Potter coming in after school buying crystals and magic wands, we have more mature folk chatting about their youth, excited by the clothes and fragrances, and those simply wanting to learn about Norse mythology or the Pendle witch trials for example. Finally, we'd like to say a huge thank you to our customers for their continued support.

*Sam and Gary are just two of dozens of local experts who go it alone every day, to bring you the products and services that make shopping in Wymondham a great experience, and they're great supporters of Totally Locally, a national campaign to celebrate independent businesses exactly like theirs.*

*Remember: if every adult in Wymondham spent £5 a week in their local independent shops, we would inject £2.8 million into the local economy - creating jobs, better social care, and a better environment. You can make a difference just by shopping on your own doorstep!*



# An update from Star Throwers Holistic Cancer Support Charity

By Victoria Pigg, [www.starthrowers.org.uk](http://www.starthrowers.org.uk)

Calling all golfers! We are holding a Golf Day with local charity Finnbar's Force on Wednesday 13th October at Bawburgh Golf Club. So why not 'club' together and get a team of four ready for a fun day out to support two local cancer charities.

- Stableford Team Event – Best 2
- Teams of 4 – £200 per team
- Coffee and bacon roll on arrival 11am
- Two course meal and coffee

We are also looking for corporate sponsors - with opportunities starting from £50! Full details on our website or contact us for an entry form at [victoria@starthrowers.org.uk](mailto:victoria@starthrowers.org.uk).

Save the date – Saturday 26th February 2022 we will be holding our second Charity Ball at Barnham Broom, tickets will be £49 per person and include three-course meal and entertainment.

We have been busy at the centre in the past weeks with a new heating system, decorating and gardening – we will be looking very clean and refreshed for when we are ready to open again. Contact us to find out about the support services we are currently able to offer.

Charity Golf Day in aid of  
Star Throwers and Finnbar's Force  
at Bawburgh Golf Club  
Wednesday 13th October 2021

**BAWBURGH  
GOLF CLUB**

**Star Throwers**  
Cancer Support Charity

**FINNBARS  
FORCE**

Join us in October for a Charity Golf Day to support two local cancer support charities - Star Throwers and Finnbar's Force. This promises to be a very enjoyable day with the chance to take part in fun competitions along the way, in the beautiful setting of Bawburgh Golf Club, to support two very worthy local charities.

*Somebody  
Opportunities Available  
- please contact us for  
more details!*

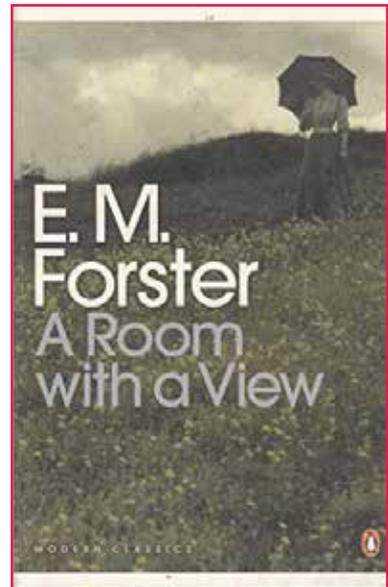
Stableford Team Event - Best 2 from 4  
Teams of 4 - £200 per Team  
Coffee & Bacon Roll on Arrival 11.00am  
Shotgun Start 12pm  
Two Course Meal & Coffee  
Followed by Charity Silent Auction & Raffle

To enter - fill in the entry form on reverse or contact: [victoria@starthrowers.org.uk](mailto:victoria@starthrowers.org.uk)  
[www.starthrowers.org.uk](http://www.starthrowers.org.uk) Charity No: 1142297

[www.finnbarsforce.org](http://www.finnbarsforce.org)  
Charity No: 1171956

# BOOK REVIEW

## A Room with a View By E M Forster



For any reader – irrespective of their level of confidence with classic novels – E.M. Forster's *A Room With a View* is an utter delight from start to finish. The pages will fly by and you will not feel at all intimidated; at its simplest, it is a charming love story, and at its most complex, a poignant and stunning comic tragedy.

The novel opens with Lucy Honeychurch (possibly the sweetest girl ever portrayed in fiction) on holiday in Italy with her cousin Charlotte Bartlett. The first chapter sees Mr Emerson (a charmingly

opinionated bat) and his son George offer them an hotel-room-swap, on the basis that theirs has a better view for the ladies. Thus is George Emerson instantly associated with rooms with views: rooms which offer us (literally and metaphorically) freedom of perspective, beauty, and openness.

Upon return to England, she meets and gets engaged to the interminably dull Cecil Vyse. Lucy also associates him with a certain kind of room: "a drawing-room...with no view", far away from the open air. Where George is associated with freedom and open air, Cecil is associated with dreariness and segregation: the perfect contrast between the two men. Her struggles to balance her head and her heart are chronicled throughout the rest of the novel.

Forster's novel provides vital reading for those with an interest in Italy. His larger-than-life characters and irresistible portrayal of Florentine passion and energy form an hilarious but probably not inaccurate foil to Lucy's blander life in Victorian England. Those interested in the Victorian role of women will also have plenty to chew on. Lucy does not passively endure what people expect her to, and Forster's feistily intelligent portrayal of her provides much insight for a modern reader. Comedy abounds, and yet also tragedy, for the story is just as much about a search for truth as it is a search for love. "...We fight for more than Love or Pleasure; there is Truth. Truth counts, Truth does count." The final act (not that I would dream of spoiling it) provides as much poignant soul-searching as the opening's comedy. That is the reader's ultimate takeaway from *A Room With A View*: living life according to your instinctive truth.



# From my perspective

By Councillor Suzanne Nuri-Nixon

**A** few weeks ago, councillors sat through a presentation by District Council on how to draw more people into Wymondham and help our local economy.

While I sat through the presentation, I have to say the ideas put forward (e.g. have a local website where customers could click online and have items delivered, etc.) didn't really enthuse me and lacked imagination. It seems to me that District Council, as is often the case, are barking up the wrong tree.

We can all agree that footfall in any town, not just one as pretty as ours, is needed for the survival of our many of shops and businesses. After the huge challenges everyone faced in the pandemic, it is more vital than ever that we look at ways to support local business and their sustainability. But the website idea is one which would be handled by a commercial enterprise which would eventually make its money by getting business to subscribe. In other words, another cost to Wymondham businesses.

Our local retailers have adapted and evolved in the face of the pandemic to carry on trading and survive. The shops we see in Wymondham are those resilient enough to know it was adapt or close and thankfully most of them are still here after the most difficult trading conditions ever.

While we know there are many Wymondham residents who do not actually shop or use services in town and would prefer the 20 mins or so journey into Norwich. The thing is, they are not only missing a trick, but should we be focusing on them at all?

Given that many of us will not be travelling overseas on holiday this year and are looking or have already booked holidays here in the UK, wouldn't money be better spent on enticing visitors to Wymondham? We sometimes take for granted what a lovely place we live in: lush countryside, 900 year-old Abbey, heritage railway, museum, arts centre, historic streets, award-winning pubs and shops and a splendid Market Cross building.

In other words, why are we trying to sell Wymondham to Wymondham? Why is there not publicity further afield, to bring people from further afield? Think of the places you love to visit here in the UK and then wonder how many people could be visiting our little market town, bringing a much needed boost to the economy and ensure the sustainability of Wymondham business.

It just needs a bit of imagination because it's certainly not rocket science.

## Councillor Pete

In other news, we mourned the death of Councillor Pete Green/Travis who tragically died in a house fire recently. Pete was the Town Crier but was also much more than that. He was a loved, colourful, larger than life Wymondham character and he frequently made us chuckle at council meetings with his quips. He was also astute in discussions and often brought a point of view not already considered. RIP Pete, you left far too early.

## A COMPREHENSIVE ACCOUNT OF THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE HEDGEHOG...

Book review by Nicola Maunders, Greening Wymondham

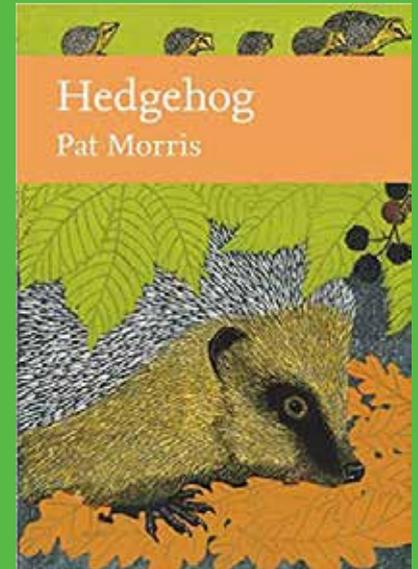
*Hedgehog* by Pat Morris  
ISBN number: 9780008235703  
Paperback £35

Alongside the badger, the dolphin and the red squirrel, the hedgehog is one of Britain's favourite mammals but we know surprisingly little about its life, due to few scientific studies being carried out until more recently. In his book, *Hedgehog*, Pat Morris tells us more about our only spiny mammal, having spent 50 years studying them.

We learn about how long hedgehogs have been around, millions of years, surviving woolly mammoths and sabre-toothed tigers, how they have gone down their own evolutionary path and how they are unrelated to other species, even porcupines. We also learn about the decline of the hedgehog population, listed as vulnerable on the Red List for Endangered Species. It appears numbers are reducing due to loss and fragmentation of habitat in British town and countryside. Effects of pesticides and intensive farming have made it harder for the hedgehog to find foraging and nesting sites. The book encourages us with ideas for conservation and how to help.

This is the first fully comprehensive review of the life of the hedgehog, covering activities, hibernation, reproduction (a very difficult process apparently), behaviour, numbers, care and the relationship with humans. It is a recommended read and reference for all hedgehog lovers.

It is available to order in Kett's Books, Wymondham's community bookshop.



For information on how people in Wymondham are coming together to help our hedgehogs, visit [www.facebook.com/groups/wymondhamahedgehoghaven](http://www.facebook.com/groups/wymondhamahedgehoghaven). This group is part of a hedgehog conservation project run by Greening Wymondham ([www.greeningwymondham.org](http://www.greeningwymondham.org))

# HOW CAN I GET MY HOME READY FOR A PROPERTY VALUATION?

By Spire Solicitors LLP

**T**he Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns have meant most of the population has been spending a lot more time at home. This is set to continue as many businesses are encouraging staff to work from home permanently.

This extra time in the house and the additional space and requirements that many need to be able to do their job effectively has meant many are looking to sell their current home and look for another.

If you are looking to sell your current home, there are a few steps you can take to prepare for the property valuation and maximise the value of your biggest asset.

## What is a property valuation?

A property valuation is an estimate of the value of your home if you were to sell it. Usually, this is the first step in the process of selling a house. As a seller, you will want to do everything you can to maximise the value of your home as this will allow for extra spending power for your next home purchase.

## How can I get ready for a property valuation?

There are a few simple things you can do to get your home ready for your property valuation and maximise its value.

## Clean

This may be an obvious one, but it can be surprising how much added value a deep clean can add to your home. Ensure you clean places such as interior cupboards, skirting boards, corners of ceilings and any other places you may usually overlook.

## Paint

A fresh coat of a neutral colour paint, such as white or cream, can really clean up the look of your home. Ensure the painting is done to a high standard and the appropriate type of paint is used, for example, it is important to use bathroom paint in a bathroom to avoid mould.

## Maintenance

Many of us usually have some small home improvements that we have just never got round to doing. That dripping tap, the faulty cabinet, or the lightbulb that never got changed. Well now is the time to fix these and ensure that the overall home experience is a positive one.

## Benefits

It is also important to let your property valuer know of all the benefits and features of your home that they may not be aware of. For example, if you have just refurbished the kitchen or upgraded an appliance that will stay with the sale, make sure you mention these.

## Instructing a solicitor for the sale of my home

After ensuring your home value is maximised and you are ready to sell your house our highly regarded, friendly residential conveyancing team can assist you. The team will be on hand to guide you throughout your property sale as well as your property purchase. Get in touch with us today on 01953 606351.

*If you would like to discuss any points in this article further, please contact Spire Solicitors LLP on 01953 606351 for all your legal needs.*



# WHAT'S ON?

## Saturday 31st July

Dog Photo Shoot  
2pm to 4pm, The Green Dragon  
[www.facebook.com/  
events/597773564751513](https://www.facebook.com/events/597773564751513)

The Hedge At Home  
8pm, by Rob Duhig, with guest Elly Kellner  
[www.facebook.com/thehedgeathome](https://www.facebook.com/thehedgeathome)

## Sunday 1st August

Sunday Service Livestream  
11am, by Wymondham Abbey  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UC-  
egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live)

Charity Fun Day  
10am to 5pm, Wymondham Rugby Club  
[www.wymondhamrfc.com](https://www.wymondhamrfc.com)

Heritage Bus Event  
10am, Mid Norfolk Railway  
[www.midnorfolkrailway.co.uk](https://www.midnorfolkrailway.co.uk)

Sunday Worship - Introduction to our  
verse of the year (Isaiah 54:2)  
10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist  
Church. Open for worship but with  
restricted numbers, or via Zoom  
[www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk](https://www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk)

Church Service  
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist  
Church. Via Zoom  
[www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com](https://www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com)

Sunday Service Livestream  
10.30am, by Hope Community Church  
[www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk](https://www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk)

Family Fun Day  
12noon to 5pm, Dog Show at 12.30pm,  
Dykebeck Hall Farm, Wymondham,  
NR18 9PL. £2 per car

WTFC Quiz  
8pm, Wymondham Town Football Club  
[www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk](https://www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk)

## Monday 2nd August

Family Art and Craft  
10am to 11.30am, stART Studio  
[www.start-studio.co.uk/book-online](https://www.start-studio.co.uk/book-online)

Pabulum Café  
10am to 12noon, Fairland Church Centre  
[www.wymondham-dementia-support-  
group.org.uk](https://www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk)

## Tuesday 3rd to Sunday 8th August

Broadland Studio Artists  
11am to 3pm, Wymondham Arts Centre  
[http://wymondhamarts.org/2021-  
season](http://wymondhamarts.org/2021-season)

## Thursday 5th August

Summer Art Camp  
9.45am to 2pm, stART Studio. For ages  
five+, £32 per child; £55 with sibling  
[www.facebook.com/  
events/240817730874600](https://www.facebook.com/events/240817730874600)

Wymondham u3a Coffee Morning  
10am, Tiffey Room, Central Hall  
[https://u3asites.org.uk/wymondham/  
home](https://u3asites.org.uk/wymondham/home)

Wymondham u3a Monthly Meeting - The  
Norwich Shoe Trade by Barbara Miller  
2pm, Central Hall  
[https://u3asites.org.uk/wymondham/  
home](https://u3asites.org.uk/wymondham/home)

## Friday 6th August

Pabulum Café  
10am to 1pm, Fairland Church Centre  
[www.wymondham-dementia-support-  
group.org.uk](https://www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk)

## Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th August

Railways at War- the 1940s  
Mid Norfolk Railway  
[www.mnr40sweekend.co.uk](https://www.mnr40sweekend.co.uk)

## Sunday 8th August

Sunday Service Livestream  
11am, by Wymondham Abbey  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UC-  
egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live)

Sunday Worship - Enlarge the place  
10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist  
Church. Open for worship but with  
restricted numbers, or via Zoom  
[www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk](https://www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk)

Church Service  
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist  
Church. Via Zoom  
[www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com](https://www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com)

Sunday Service Livestream  
10.30am, by Hope Community Church  
[www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk](https://www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk)

Family and Friends Picnic  
12noon, 389th Bomb Group Memorial  
Exhibition, Hethel. By Wymondham  
Royal British Legion

[www.facebook.com/  
events/224165009310355](https://www.facebook.com/events/224165009310355)

Wicklewood Windmill Open Afternoon  
2pm to 5pm, Wicklewood

## Monday 9th August

Family Art and Craft  
10am to 11.30am, stART Studio  
[www.start-studio.co.uk/book-online](https://www.start-studio.co.uk/book-online)

Pabulum Café  
10am to 12noon, Fairland Church Centre  
[www.wymondham-dementia-support-  
group.org.uk](https://www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk)

## Tuesday 10th to Sunday 15th August

Natural World Art Society  
11am to 3pm, Wymondham Arts Centre  
<http://wymondhamarts.org/2021-season>

## Wednesday 11th August

A Night of Clairvoyance with Steven  
Treadaway  
7.30pm, Morley Village & Sports Hall.  
Tickets £12, bring your own beverages  
07864 827094

Kemp's Men of Norwich Morris Dancers  
7.30pm, The Green Dragon  
[www.facebook.com/  
greendragonnorfolk.co.uk/events](https://www.facebook.com/greendragonnorfolk.co.uk/events)



## MARKETS

Every Friday

Charter Market  
8am to 5pm, Market Place  
01953 603302

Third Saturday  
(21st August)

Farmers' Market  
9am to 1pm, Market Place  
01953 603302

WHAT'S ON, continued...

## Thursday 12th August

Summer Art Camp  
9.45am to 2pm, stART Studio. For ages five+, £32 per child; £55 with sibling  
[www.facebook.com/events/240817730874600](https://www.facebook.com/events/240817730874600)

Wymondham u3a Coffee Morning  
10am, Tiffey Room, Central Hall  
<https://u3asites.org.uk/wymondham/home>

## Friday 13th August

Pabulum Café  
10am to 1pm, Fairland Church Centre  
[www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk](http://www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk)

## Sunday 15th August

Sunday Service Livestream  
11am, by Wymondham Abbey  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live)

Sunday Worship - Stretch out your curtains  
10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist Church. Open for worship but with restricted numbers, or via Zoom  
[www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk](http://www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk)

Church Service  
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist Church. Via Zoom  
[www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com](http://www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com)

Sunday Service Livestream  
10.30am, by Hope Community Church  
[www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk)

WTFC Quiz  
8pm, Wymondham Town Football Club  
[www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk](http://www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk)

## Monday 16th August

Family Art and Craft  
10am to 11.30am, stART Studio  
[www.start-studio.co.uk/book-online](http://www.start-studio.co.uk/book-online)

Pabulum Café  
10am to 12noon, Fairland Church Centre  
[www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk](http://www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk)

## Tuesday 17th to Sunday 22nd August

Flower Forms & Famous Faces  
11am to 3pm, Wymondham Arts Centre  
<http://wymondhamarts.org/2021-season>

## Tuesday 17th to Wednesday 18th August

All Aboard!  
10am to 2.30pm, The Hub, Ayton Road  
[www.hubproject.org.uk](http://www.hubproject.org.uk)

## Thursday 19th August

Summer Art Camp  
9.45am to 2pm, stART Studio. For ages five+, £32 per child; £55 with sibling  
[www.facebook.com/events/240817730874600](https://www.facebook.com/events/240817730874600)

Wymondham u3a Coffee Morning  
10am, Tiffey Room, Central Hall  
<https://u3asites.org.uk/wymondham/home>

## Friday 20th August

Pabulum Singing Café  
10am to 1pm, Fairland Church Centre  
[www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk](http://www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk)

## Saturday 21st August

Abbey Days Wellbeing and Craft Fair  
11am to 8pm, Wymondham Abbey  
[www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk](http://www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk)

Ska Souls  
8.30pm, The Robert Kett  
[www.facebook.com/PubRobertKett](https://www.facebook.com/PubRobertKett)

## Sunday 22nd August

Sunday Service Livestream  
11am, by Wymondham Abbey  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live)

[egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live)

Sunday Worship - Lengthen your chords  
10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist Church. Open for worship but with restricted numbers, or via Zoom  
[www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk](http://www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk)

Church Service  
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist Church. Via Zoom  
[www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com](http://www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com)

Sunday Service Livestream  
10.30am, by Hope Community Church  
[www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk)

## Monday 23rd August

Family Art and Craft  
10am to 11.30am, stART Studio  
[www.start-studio.co.uk/book-online](http://www.start-studio.co.uk/book-online)

Pabulum Café  
10am to 12noon, Fairland Church Centre  
[www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk](http://www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk)

## Tuesday 24th August to Sunday 5th September

Norfolk Makes - The Textile Show  
11am to 3pm, Wymondham Arts Centre  
<http://wymondhamarts.org/2021-season>

## Thursday 26th August

Summer Art Camp  
9.45am to 2pm, stART Studio. For ages five+, £32 per child; £55 with sibling  
[www.facebook.com/events/240817730874600](https://www.facebook.com/events/240817730874600)

Wymondham u3a Coffee Morning  
10am, Tiffey Room, Central Hall  
<https://u3asites.org.uk/wymondham/home>

## Friday 27th August

Pabulum Café  
10am to 1pm, Fairland Church Centre  
[www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk](http://www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk)

# !! EARLY DEADLINE ALERT !!

September's issue of *Wymondham Magazine* will be another printed edition, delivered to 8,500 homes in Wymondham. The deadline for this issue will be earlier than usual - **Friday 13th August**, so to submit your news and event details please get in touch as soon as possible!

*Thank you*



WHAT'S ON, continued...

Disco  
9pm, The Robert Kett  
[www.facebook.com/PubRobertKett](http://www.facebook.com/PubRobertKett)

Sue's Acoustic  
9pm, The Green Dragon  
[www.facebook.com/greendragonnorfolk.co.uk/events](http://www.facebook.com/greendragonnorfolk.co.uk/events)

### Sunday 29th August

Sunday Service Livestream  
11am, by Wymondham Abbey  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live)

Sunday Worship - Strengthen your stakes  
10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist Church  
[www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk](http://www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk)

Church Service  
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist Church. Via Zoom  
[www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com](http://www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com)

Sunday Service Livestream  
10.30am, by Hope Community Church  
[www.hopemethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.hopemethodistchurch.co.uk)

### Monday 30th August

Pabulum Café  
10am to 12noon, Fairland Church Centre  
[www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk](http://www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk)

## Norfolk Libraries online

### Every day

Virtual Just A Cuppa  
10.30am, via Zoom  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

### Tuesdays

Bounce And Rhyme  
10am, via Zoom  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

Just A Cuppa (Babies & Toddlers)  
11am, via Zoom  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

Reading Friends  
2pm, 6pm & 7pm, via Zoom  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

Shut Up and Write  
4pm, via Zoom. For young people aged 13-16  
[www.facebook.com/events/356479102243391/](http://www.facebook.com/events/356479102243391/)

Young Reading Friends  
4.30pm, via Zoom. For people aged 13-16  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

### Wednesdays

Just A Cuppa

10.30am, via Zoom  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

Digital Health Hub  
12.30pm, via Zoom  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

Knit And Knatter  
2pm, via Zoom  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

### Thursdays

Just A Cuppa (Bumps & Babies)  
11am, via Zoom  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

Reading For Wellbeing  
7pm, via Zoom. Fortnightly (12th August and 26th August)  
[libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

### Fridays

Drop In And Craft  
3pm, via Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/NorfolkLibrariesUK](http://www.facebook.com/NorfolkLibrariesUK)

[Click here to see Norfolk Libraries online events for children this summer](#)

To include your event date (online or 'in person') for free, email the details to [news@wymondham-mag.co.uk](mailto:news@wymondham-mag.co.uk)



# WYMONDHAM Magazine

Next issue (print/digital):  
Out 20th August. Copy deadline: 13th August

Subscribe to the monthly digital magazine for free online at [www.wymondham-mag.co.uk](http://www.wymondham-mag.co.uk)

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